

DEERHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 12 July 2023 in Apperley Village Hall

Present: Len Attard – Chairman
Laura Bromberg
Matt Dimond-Brown
Jim Pollard
John Rutter
Fiona Wallbank – Clerk
CC P McLain (partial attendance)

Parishioners: 0

1 APOLOGIES: BC McLain and Councillor Smith

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held on the Wednesday, 14 June 2023, having been circulated with the agenda were agreed and signed

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MCLAIN who submitted a report in her absence:

Fly Tipping: TBC has increased their investment in the fly tipping project. The pilot of which was very successful. It is going to Executive shortly or maybe already have done.

Land Supply: The planning inspectors ruling is very concerning. TBC were assured they had a 6+ year housing supply. The inspector has suggested that any site set aside for Cheltenham and Gloucester cannot be considered as a part of the Boroughs allocation. This leaves TBC open to speculative development. Tewkesbury is a dumping ground for Cheltenham and Gloucester development, who appear to be getting first call on any sites.

Current government have stated housing numbers can be determined locally. However, post-election it is difficult to know, particularly as they have announced that they will allow compulsory purchase of farmland.

Food Projects: Residents across Tewkesbury Borough will benefit from £20,000 investment in community-based food projects.

Capital Funding: was requested for waste vehicles. Specifically, for picking up dog waste, street cleansing and how these could be EV powered or alternative fuel with IT sensors.

Councillor Dimond-Brown gave some background information re the Land Supply situation. **It was agreed that the Clerk would email the Chief Executive at TBC registering DPC's concerns of clarity around the 6-year land supply. Councillor Dimond-Brown declared an interest.**

The Chairman asked the **Clerk to send a thank you email to Councillor McLain re fly tipping as there has been no tipping along Wainlodes Lane since the camera was put up.**

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MCLAIN:

- Highways Transformation Programme including a review of work streams to focus on the approach to potholes, minor works and comms. Find and fix 'dual repair' gangs will focus (where practical) on doing entire roads so that teams doing safety defects will also identify and fix non-safety defects at the same time. Jet patching to be trialled on dedicated areas.
- Mowing programme has been brought forward.

- Grips cutting – planned for November
- Winter – out of season, preparing grit bin guidance
- Ash die back – 23/24 programme getting underway now. In the 3 previous years 11660 trees felled, 40597 planted within ash die back programme. Dedicated webpage information here: [Ash Dieback - Highways \(gloucestershire.gov.uk\)](http://gloucestershire.gov.uk)
- Adult Education service has had an Ofsted inspection, the service has been praised by the inspectors who have awarded a Good rating.
- Community and Adult Skills Programmes. A funding agreement has been approved with the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) for £2.67 million to deliver our Community Learning and Adult Skills Programmes for the academic year 2023/2024. All told we'll be helping around 6,000 adult learners across the county. There's an emphasis on English, mathematics and language skills, and the programmes are focused on meeting the needs of the low skilled and those most economically disadvantaged, enabling them to re-engage with education and thus progress into vocational training and subsequently, employment.
- AIM Supported Internship Programme. This programme helps young people with learning disabilities and/or autism into employment. This year's cohort of 29 young people received their certificates and at least 17 of the 29 have already been offered paid work by their host employer and the scheme continues to be a great success
- As mentioned in the introduction, GCC have plans to enter the market for provision of placements for looked after children. We have started to consult on a facility on London Road and await a report on Trevone House before proceeding with the Southfield development. We continue to work hard to recruit and retain staff, and there remains strong evidence that the morale in the organisation remains high.
- GCC has launched the Summer Holiday Activity Fund
- Extension of Unpaid Carers Support. GCC has extended two contracts for the provision of support services for unpaid carers. 1 in 10 people in Gloucestershire are carers, but many are not aware of it. We have been doing our bit to make sure that people are aware of the services available. These contracts, which we have extended for 2 more years, are a key part of the support on offer.

Councillor Dimond-Brown said that the litter along the B4213 was very bad and following the visibility splay cut the plastic rubbish has been shredded which is harmful to the environment. CC McLain would take this up with Glos Highways.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT: None present.

6 PLANNING:

6.1 Applications: None

6.2 Decisions: **22/01177/FUL** Bushey House, Court Drive, Apperley: Approval of reserved matters pursuant to 20/00999/FUL & 19/00767/OUT - Granted

6.3 Appeals/Appeal Decisions: None

6.4 Neighbourhood Plan: Councillor Bromberg reported as follows:

- Stuck on Policies 1 and 3 and she is meeting with Councillors Pollard and Dimond-Brown the next evening to try and sort them out.
- The Settlement Boundary needs to be agreed.
- Plans to hand the draft NDP to TBC in whatever state it is as their input is required.
- The window for NDP grants is still not open and Alison Beddoes will be applying for the full grant.
- She has re-written the NDP post covid which took well over a week.

It was agreed that to move this on the NDP needs to be 80% there and not 100%

7 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

7.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

	Item	Expenditure	Income	Comment
1	Clerk's salary – July Less Tax	423.39 <u>27.00</u> 396.39		Paid
2	Inland Revenue	27.00		Paid
3	AVH – Hire of hall on 14.6.23	10.00		Paid
4	Countrywide: Grass cutting on the 31May & 13 June	250.00 <u>VAT 50.00</u> 300.00		Paid
5	System Force Ltd: Hosting domain name for Community Website	25.00 <u>VAT 5.00</u> 30.00		Paid
6	J Preece & Sons: Carrying out verge cut	370.00 <u>VAT 74.00</u> 444.00		Paid
7	System Force Ltd: Renewal of contract for web hosting domain deerhurstpc.org for period 1.7.23-30.6.24	99.00 <u>VAT 19.80</u> 118.80		Paid
8	Apperley Church Clock: Donation towards maintenance costs	250.00		Paid
9	Wa+erplus 10.6.23-10.7.23	18.66		Paid
10	Community Heartbeat: Replacement adult pads	52.00 P&P 4.95 <u>VAT 11.39</u> 68.64		Paid
11	County Building Supplies – sand for play area sandpit	71.51 <u>VAT 14.30</u> 85.81		Paid
	Total	£1749.00	£0.00	

7.2 Financial Statement: Circulated with the agenda - the acting Chairman signed this.

8 MATTERS ARISING

8.1 Apperley Village Hall: Councillor Dimond-Brown is due to meet with Chris Freeman to assist with the plans to enlarge the Village Hall.

Allotment: Councillor Dimond-Brown reported that the provision of a “uniform” storage chest by allotment holders, was ongoing.

Play area: The sand has been delivered.

Playing Field: The Clerk had recently emailed Mr Tim Morris to try and arrange a meeting with the Chairman and Mr Oldham.

8.2 Highways:

Inghams Corner: During the recent heavy rain gravel was washed onto the road. Drains cleared on the left when going towards Wainloades however the pipes into the kerb are blocked.

Accident at the Traffic Lights at B4213: The first one was apparently due to traffic light malfunction however thankfully no one was seriously hurt. Who is responsible for clearing up after RTAs?

Overhanging Vegetation on Footways: Councillor Rutter had viewed the reported problem and felt that no action was required.

8.3 Public Rights of Way: Councillor Pollard said there was nothing to report.

8.4 Community Speedwatch Camera: Councillor Pollard reported that Matt Parker had left GCC, and he was in touch with Matt's replacement who will now arrange for the camera to be sent.

8.5 Willow Trees at Village Pond: The Chairman had looked at the trees and reported that it was 3 willow trees and 1 cherry tree that require works that are causing a problem on the edge of the pond. **It was agreed that the Clerk would ask 3 tree companies for quotations.**

8.6 River Severn to River Severn Transfer (SST) – Nothing further to report.

9 CORRESPONDENCE: None

10 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION: None

11 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 13 September 2023 at 7.15pm

Close of meeting 20.26pm