

DEERHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 11 September 2024 in Apperley Village Hall.

Present: Laura Bromberg - Chair
Matt Dimond-Brown
B Oldham – Vice- Chair
Jonathan Smith
CC P McLain (partial attendance)
Fiona Wallbank – Clerk
Selina Holder – New Clerk

Members of the Public: 0

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Rutter and BC McLain

2 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR:

Councillor Oldham proposed Councillor Bromberg as Chair and Councillor Smith seconded the proposal. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal and Councillor Bromberg accepted the position. Vice Chair – Councillor Bromberg proposed Councillor Oldham, Councillor Smith seconded the proposal, and all Councillor voted in favour of the proposal.

3 MINUTES OF MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 10 July 2024, having been circulated with the agenda were voted as a true record by everyone who has been present, and signed by the Chair.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

5 PUBLIC COMMENT: None

6 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MCLAIN:

- Cyber Incident at TBC – systems are all off-line however TBC are endeavouring to deliver critical services. The Planning system is down.
- TBC new name change to North Gloucestershire Borough Council be enacted in December.
- Currently in a new cycle of meetings at GCC
- Curse Lane has now been resurfaced. This was welcomed as it has been needed for some time.
- 80% of current road works are for utilities – Glos Highways are receiving 500 requests a week.
- Junction 10: A proposed £229m upgrade to a road junction has been given the initial go-ahead by planning inspectors. Gloucestershire County Council hope the developments to the M5 Junction 10 will unlock housing and employment opportunities. The improved junction would provide access in all directions, on and off the motorway. The scheme is being funded through the council's successful bid to UK Government's Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF), administered by Homes England. GCC has signed off for the commencement of widening the road for pedestrian facilities. Approximately 10,000 homes are expected to be built around Boddington.
- Junction 9: Council helps to optimise infrastructure delivery within Garden Communities. In September/October there will be a major consultation regarding the infrastructure and it is essential that Parish Councils and individuals voice their thoughts and concerns regarding potential flooding issues, traffic going forward. Approximately 25,000 homes are proposed.

- Ash dieback: In June 2020 GCC Highways launched the Ash Dieback Project to start to tackle the effects of the disease within the county. The disease also known as Chalara is caused by a fungus which affects the vascular system of Ash trees and can kill young specimens very rapidly. Older trees can resist for longer but are likely to shed limbs, become unstable and are extremely likely to die. During the three years, GCC Highways managed to remove 12,640 infected Ash Trees which posed a danger to highway users. With an aim of replanting at least two trees for every diseased tree felled. During the last three planting season a total of 40,597 trees were planted by March 2023, either by our Ash Dieback team or through providing young trees to Parish Councils. **Local Parish Councils Replanting:** The replanting season runs between November and March, GCC encourage local parish councils to use their local knowledge and expertise to assist us in identifying suitable areas within your community where replanting can be undertaken. If practical we would be looking at planting in groups of mixed native whips (young tree seedlings 2-3 years old) rather than larger specimen trees, but we can consider all requests.

Within the capacity of the Ash Dieback Project, we currently have two options available.

1. Submit areas to be considered for replanting on highways land by the Ash Dieback Team.
2. Submit a request for whips / trees to be donated to the parish council, to plant themselves within the community.

The Chair said that some pothole patching was poor – CC Mclain would raise with this Max Kelly.

REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MCLAIN: None

7 PLANNING

7.1 Applications: 24/00607/FUL Greyhill House, Lower Apperley: Erection of a single storey rear extension and alterations to the fenestration.

It was agreed that due to the cyber incidence at TBC no planning matters would be dealt with as the planning portal cannot be accessed.

7.2 Decisions: 24/00330/FUL Manor Cottage, Walton Hill, Deerhurst: Erection of a sprayer store - **Granted.**

7.3 Appeals: None Appeal Decisions: None

7.4 Neighbourhood Plan: Councillor Bromberg reported as follows:

- A first draft of the NDP has been circulated to all Councillors after 5 years in the making
- Councillor Diamond-Brown and the Chair recently met with Lisa Dixon and Ian Bowen (Interim Head of Planning at TBC). They have agreed to look at the plan for any ‘major changes which may need making’, prior to Regulation 14 consultation. Their initial comments were that they ere impressed by what they had seen and were not expecting any major changes to be needed.
- **It was agreed the Chair along with Lee Searle would give the Councillors a “walk-through” of the draft NDP to enable them to take the NDP away and read. Chair to action.**

8 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

8.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

	Item	Expenditure	Income	Comment
1	Clerk’s salary – September Less Tax	460.42 <u>34.60</u> 425.82		To be paid
2	Inland Revenue	34.60		To be paid
3	Countrywide Grass Cutting 2 x August	236.66 <u>VAT 47.33</u> 283.99		To be paid

4	Office of the Police & Crime Commissioners Community Speedwatch letters 1.4.24-30.6.24 – 106 @0.70p per letter 1.4.24-30.6.24	74.20 <u>18.20</u> 92.40		To be paid
5	F J Wallbank – Working from home allowance 1.7.24-30.9.24	62.49		To be paid
6	Andrea Pellegram Ltd: Technical and professional support for the preparation of a NDP	4602.00 <u>VAT 920.40</u> 5522.40		To be paid
7	Cil payment for flood pump, pipes etc	3288.00		To be paid
8	Water plus: Water bill for the period 12 August to 12 September	53.44		To be paid
9	Interest – 90 Day Lloyds Account for August		76.02	
	Total	£9763.14	£76.02	

Notice has been given to Lloyds Bank to withdraw £10,000 at the beginning of December.

It was agreed that the fencing works proposed for the playing fields would have to be delayed until November – weather permitting or March. Councillor Smith to speak with Tim Morris and explain the situation and Clerk to email Ridley Fencing accordingly. An agenda item for October is “Bank Account – Review”.

Councillor Dimond Brown is to work with the Chair to consider the Governance and Structure of Deerhurst Parish Council. This will be presented at the November meeting.

8.2 Financial Statement: Was agreed and signed by the Chair.

8.3 CIL Application: The sum of £3288 was being sent to Deerhurst Flood management for flood pump works. A further application had been received by the PTFA of the School for a reading hub at the School. **It was agreed that the Clerk would prepare an audit trail for the CIL money. Clerk to reply to the email from the PTFA saying that the PC would report back after further discussion at the October meeting.**

9 MATTERS ARISING

9.1 Apperley Village Hall: Nothing to report.

Dog Waste Bin – Carpark: Councillor Oldham reported that unfortunately, TBC appear to have replaced the wrong bin. The PC had a waste bin next to the playground entrance that has been removed, while the original red dog waste bin is still in place. Councillor Oldham had emailed TBC however due to the cyber incident he will follow up once the cyber incident has been cleared at TBC/NGBC.

Allotment: Clerk reported that a parishioner wanted allotment no 13 which was great news. Also Heather Remblance had kindly agreed to act as the Allotment Representative as Jean Scorer was given up her allotment.

Play area: Nothing to report.

Playing Field: Nothing to report

9.2 Highways: Nothing to report.

9.3 Public Rights of Way: Councillor Oldham reported that some of the stiles around the playing field were overgrown and he had cut back the vegetation.

9.4 Risk Assessment for Pond at Village Hall: **Councillor Oldham said he would forward for consideration at the October meeting.**

9.5 Housing Needs Survey: The Chair said she would arrange a meeting with Tim Gwilliam along with Councillor Dimond-Brown.

9.6 Emergency Plan: Defer to the October meeting.

9.7 Community Speedwatch Group: To be discussed at the November meeting (alongside Governance and structure of the Council).

9.8 Asset Register: It was agreed that the Parish Council would adopt the draft circulated by the Clerk.

9.9 Vacancy for Councillors: There are two vacancies for Councillors. It was agreed that the Clerk would advertise these posts on the Community Website.

10 CORRESPONDENCE:

10.1 GAPTC Website – Training Tuesday 8 October 6-8pm: Councillor Bromberg would attend the on-line training session. The new Clerk would attend on a different date.

11 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

.gov.uk address: The Clerk reported that she attended an online seminar about this matter. For a .domain.gov.uk address would cost £50 and email addresses for the Councillors and Clerk would be £50. Currently there is a grant of £100 is PCs go through an approved registrar. **It was agreed that gov.uk email addresses were needed, and that Councillor Oldham would assist in this matter.**

Legionella Disease: The Parish Council do not own any buildings. **Clerk to ensure that Chris Freeman has received the email.**

Thriving Communities Grant: This fund is managed by Gloucestershire County Council and applicable to projects within the county of Gloucestershire.

Up to £7,500 is now available for projects that meet at least one of the below criteria:

- Helping adults to stay well and supporting them to live independently
- Developing community connections/social networks and building resilience
- Promoting inclusive independence and wellbeing in adults
- Providing place-based activities (activities in residential communities) e.g. community hubs

12 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 9 October 2024 at 7.15pm

Close of meeting 21.03pm