

BODENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES
CENTRE AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY, 14th MAY 2012****Attendance**

Cllr Derek Ling (Chair)
 Cllr Bob Clarke
 Cllr Stan Davis
 Cllr Pam James-Moore
 Cllr Robin Knott
 Cllr Tony Mitcheson
 Cllr Jeff Pollard
 Cllr Rhian Powell

Cllr Jeremy Millar (District Councillor)

Mr Chris Smith (Clerk)

8 members of the public were present.

ITEM	ACTION
<p><u>AGENDA ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES</u> 1. Apologies were received from Cllrs Jackson and Wrathall.</p> <p><u>AGENDA ITEM 2 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> 2. No declarations of interest were received.</p> <p><u>AGENDA ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u> 3. Cllr James-Moore proposed and Cllr Davis seconded that the Minutes be accepted. The Minutes were then approved unanimously.</p> <p><u>AGENDA ITEM 4 - MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u> 4. Minute 5: Dog Fouling. The Clerk reported that he had received and circulated a reply from the Chair of the North Herefordshire Hunt and had spoken to a member of the Hunt Committee, who had described changes made by the Hunt, which should lead to less fouling of public roads. The Clerk also reported that he had received no complaints about the Hunt's hounds from Bodenham residents for some time. Cllr Clarke noted that the Hunt Chair's letter asked for suggestions for improving relations between the Hunt and residents of Bodenham. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Chair of the Hunt acknowledging receipt of his letter.</p> <p>5. Minute 10: Matters Raised by Members of the Public. Mrs Liz Davies had reported that dog fouling had occurred on the car park opposite the School. Cllr Ling suggested placing a litter bin near the School, but said that it would be best to wait until more information was available about dogs fouling near the School.</p> <p><u>AGENDA ITEM 5 – MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</u> 6. Mrs Gwen Bowden asked about putting doors on the noticeboard by the surgery and who would have the key. Cllr Ling said that the Clerk would have the key. Mrs Liz Davies said that non-parish council notices attracted readers to the noticeboard. Cllr Ling said also that one half of the noticeboard would be for non-parish council notices, which should be as small as possible and should be sent to the Clerk.</p>	<p>CS</p>

AGENDA ITEM 6 – MUSEUM ON THE MOVE: POSSIBLE VISIT

7. Cllr James-Moore suggested that Museum On The Move be requested to visit in the autumn term outside St Michaels School. It was agreed that Cllr Ling should contact St Michaels School about this.

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AGENDA ITEM 7 – DIAMOND JUBILEE: GIFT FOR CHILDREN

8. Cllr Ling reported that 97 children attended St Michaels School, of whom 64 are resident in Bodenham. Cllr Ling suggested that the Parish Council should make a contribution towards a commemorative mug for all the children at the School. Cllr Davis proposed and Cllr James-Moore seconded that the Parish Council should donate 50% of the cost of a commemorative mug for all 97 children. This was agreed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – PLAYGROUND LEASE RENEWAL

9. The Clerk reported that the matter of the renewal of the playground lease is in hand. Cllr Ling proposed that the Parish Council should request that the lease be renewed for another 15 years. This was agreed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 9 – PLAYGROUND ROPES RENEWAL

10. Cllr Ling reported that a quotation had been received from Mr Robert Parker for the renewal of the ropes on the playground rope climber. Cllr Knott proposed and Cllr Davis seconded that the quotation should be accepted. This was agreed unanimously. It was also agreed that the new ropes should be red in colour.

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AGENDA ITEM 10 – LENGTHSMAN SCHEME AND GRASS CUTTING

11. Cllr Davis reported that there was a puddle beneath the swings in the playground. The Clerk was asked to contact the lengthsmen about this. Cllr Ling reported that no contract for Mr David Griffiths' work had been found. Cllr Knott suggested that Mr Griffiths' services be retained for 2012. This was agreed unanimously. Cllr Mitcheson suggested that the Lengthsman Sub-group should meet to discuss the progress of the scheme. The Clerk was requested to arrange a meeting.

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AGENDA ITEM 11 – TELEPHONE KIOSK ADOPTION

12. Cllr Ling reported that the Parish Council now owns the telephone kiosk. Cllr Pollard agreed to repaint the kiosk. Cllr Ling suggested that it be used as a book exchange with, in addition, a noticeboard for business cards. It was agreed that the Clerk should put an item in the June *Newsletter* asking for suggestions for the future use of the telephone kiosk.

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AGENDA ITEM 12 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13. The Clerk reported that two planning applications had been received:

1. N120955/FH: Maund Farm: Installation of 12m x 6m outside swimming pool and wooden plant room/changing room
2. N120632/U: Dewdale Hope Farm: Lawful Development Certificate for existing use of mobile home accommodation for stockman for welfare of livestock

14. It was agreed that both applications should be supported. Cllr Clarke asked about the log cabin which had been installed at 2 Railway Cottages. Cllr Millar said that the log cabin conforms with planning criteria, but that enforcement action was still ongoing about the damage to the hedge, which had been caused by the alterations to the entrance to the site. Cllr Mitcheson asked about the slurry pit on the Bodenham/Marden boundary. Cllr Millar reported that Cllr Kema Guthrie now leads on this, because the site is in Marden. Cllr Millar further reported that no planning application had been received by the required date, but he understood that an application would be submitted shortly.

AGENDA ITEM 13 - FINANCE

15. **Monthly Accounts Statements:** Cllr Ling presented the monthly accounts statements, which were accepted and are included as Annex A.

16. **Outstanding Invoices:** The Clerk reported that the following invoices had been received. It was agreed that the invoices should be paid.

- Hoople (Production of Parish Plan Map)	£43.20
- Bodenham Parish Hall (room hire)	£20.00
- Came and Co. (Parish Council insurance)	£586.13
- Clerk's expenses	£27.99
- DC Gardening Services (Lengthsman)	£80.00

AGENDA ITEM 14 - UPDATES

17. **Parish Plan.** Cllr Ling reported that the Plan was complete and that two quotations for printing had been received.
18. **Bodenham Flood Protection Group.** Cllr Mitcheson gave a report on the activities of the Group, which is included as Annex B.
19. **Parish Hall.** Cllr Knott gave a report, which is included as Annex C.

AGENDA ITEM 15 – CORRESPONDENCE NOT PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED

20. The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Herefordshire Council stating that the water at Dinmore Spout was still undrinkable.

AGENDA ITEM 16 – OTHER BUSINESS (including District Councillor's comments)

21. Cllr Millar gave a report, which is attached as Annex D.
22. Cllr James-Moore reported that Bodenham Lake was closed for two days because of two fallen trees and that there has been an increase in the number of people adopting trees.
23. Cllr James-Moore reported that she had received £440 in cheques for *Newsletter* advertisements, but some advertisements had not been paid for. Cllr Powell said that the issue is whether there is a difference between information and advertising. Cllr Powell then asked whether, were the non-paid for advertisements to be paid for, there would be any reduction in printing costs. Cllr James-Moore said that there would be no difference. Cllr Ling reported that the *Newsletter* breaks even financially.
24. Cllr Davis reported that he had been told of two incidents of near-collisions on Godallmighty Hill and had been asked whether traffic calming measures could be introduced there. The Clerk was instructed to request such measures from Herefordshire Council. Cllr Pollard reported that there had been a 'near miss' near to where he lives. Cllr Mitcheson reported that the top speed recorded by the SID near the war memorial was 54mph. Cllr Ling asked whether the SID could be left in overt mode, since this reduces the speed of traffic. Cllr Mitcheson said that it could be left in overt mode. Cllr Ling suggested that a meeting with Mr Andrew Lee-Jones of Herefordshire Council was needed. The Clerk was instructed to request a meeting. It was also agreed that the Clerk would put an item on traffic speed in Bodenham in the *Newsletter*.
25. Cllr Clarke reported that the Parish Hall Committee have organized a celebratory event on Sunday 3rd June for the Diamond Jubilee. Cllr Clarke requested £350 towards the expenses incurred in arranging the event. Cllr Knott proposed and Cllr James-Moore seconded this, which was agreed unanimously.

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AGENDA ITEM 17 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

26. The next Meeting will be held in the Seward James Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 11th June 2012.

The meeting closed at 9.37pm.

PARISH ACCOUNTS

BALANCE AT 5 APRIL	05-Apr-11		BALANCE AT 16 MARCH
LLOYDS		4147	5958
TOTAL BALANCE		4147	5958
INCOME			
ADVERTISING		2176	0
VAT REFUND		1788	102
CAR PARK LOAN		750	0
COMMUNITY PLAN		0	0
PRECEPT		8150	0
FLOOD GROUP		1423	264
TOTAL INCOME		14287	366
EXPENSES			
CAR PARK LOAN		1500	0
COMMUNITY PLAN		551	0
CHURCH GRANT		1050	0
CLERK SALARY		1786	151
CLERK EXPENSES		333	0
CAR PARK		1020	0
INSURANCE		610	0
WEBSITE		240	0
NEWSLETTER		1786	320
FLOOD GROUP		1544	605
ADVERT		0	
HALL RENTAL		196	0
BIN STICKERS		20	20
PLAYGROUND INSPECTION		53	0
AUDIT		504	0
PARISH HALL GRANT		800	0
BUNTING		26	
GRASS CUTTING		0	
OAK POSTS		842	
BRITISH LEGION GRANT		50	0
ELECTION EXPENSES		61	0
SID		45	0
HANDRAIL		189	0
TOTAL EXPENSES		13206	1096
BALANCE AT 11 APRIL		5228	5228
CHEQUES RAISED NOT BANKED			
PC ROOM HIRE		63	
TOTAL		63	

CHEQUES/INCOME NOT BANKED	
FLOOD GROUP	232
TOTAL	232
BALANCE	5165
INVOICES AWAITING APPROVAL	
PARISH PLAN	43
PC ROOM HIRE	20
INSURANCE	586
CLERK EXPENSES	28
LENGTHSMAN	80
TOTAL	757
BALANCE	4408
REPRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS	
LADYCLOSE ORCHARD	158
FLOOD GROUP	1791
COMMUNITY PLAN	0
PARISH COUNCIL	2459
FUTURE COMMITTED EXPENDITURE	
COMMUNITY PLAN	750
GRASS CUTTING	610
CLERK SALARY	152
COMMUNITY PLAN PROJECTS	0
TOTAL	1512
FUTURE INCOME	
COMMUNITY PLAN	750
PRECEPT	4890
LENGTHSMAN	80
TOTAL	5720
REMAINING FUNDS	6667

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP REPORT
(14 MAY 2012)

“Project Bodenham” Update.

1. As a result of our correspondence with Amey Herefordshire in March and April the Project appears to be back on track, albeit running about two months late and subject to the manufacturing and installation delays which we had always hoped to avoid.
2. We understand from UK Flood Barriers Limited that they should have all the remaining equipment by 21 May and that they hope to complete all the installations during that week.

ITV’s *Tonight* Programme.

3. On Friday, 11th May 2012 we received a visit from Jonathan Maitland and a team from ITV who were preparing a programme on climate change. They spent the afternoon filming the installation of flood protection measures at 40, Brockington Road by UK Flood Barriers Limited, where they met the CEO, Mrs Sarah Vaughan. Also in Brockington Road they met Mr Rod Hawnt of Hydro-Logic Limited, who had just finished commissioning the flood warning telemetry system there. At The Forge they interviewed Mrs Dhonau on flood insurance issues and at Millcroft Farm Mr Maitland interviewed the Secretary at some length on the origins and work of the Group. The team were also introduced to the Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Derek Ling, and to our District Council, Cllr Jeremy Millar. Finally, they filmed the regular Friday evening work party session at the Ketch Lane culverts where Mr Maitland donned a set of waders and personally contributed to the removal of silt from the brook.
4. The results are due to be shown on ITV’s *Tonight* programme at 7.30pm on Thursday (17 May 2012) and, given that the 24 minute climate change ‘slot’ will be covering other places at risk of flooding besides Bodenham, it will be interesting to see how much of our work makes it to air and how much ends up in the editing room recycling bin.

Flood Warning Telemetry System.

5. The Hydro-Logic telemetry system generously donated to the Parish by Mr Rod Hawnt was installed in the Millcroft Brook at the Brockington Road bridge on 9th May and, as already mentioned, was commissioned two days later. Some further work will no doubt be required to calibrate it and test it, but it should soon be fully operational.

UK Flood Barriers Shopping List.

6. You will recall that we asked members of the Group and other local residents who are not covered by the Environment Agency Grant whether they would like to purchase flood protection equipment, such as toilet bungs, privately. There was a good response to this and we managed to secure a sizeable discount by placing a bulk order. All the items have now arrived, been distributed and payment made.

Monthly Meeting.

7. Our most recent monthly meeting was held on 24th April, the main subject being the state of 'Project Bodenham'.

Working Parties.

8. Working Party sessions were held on:

- a. Friday, 13th April when we completed clearance work on the drainage system in Mr Pugh's field which takes water from Orchard Close to the Moors Brook.
- b. Friday, 27th April when we began clearing the ditch along Ketch Lane, starting from the Millcroft Road junction.
- c. Friday, 11th May which was filmed by ITV. This rather disrupted our normal schedule, but we managed to get some further work done along Ketch Lane, as well as in the Millcroft Brook downstream of the Ketch Lane culverts.

K.A.M.

District Councillor's Report

- **12 months on**

My first 12 months as Councillor for Hampton Court Ward seem to have rushed by. So much has happened in the county and in the absence of any big news this month I thought I'd reflect on some of these events – both locally and within the county as a whole.

- Locally in Bodenham, the year started with the great news that nearly 40 properties flooded in 2007 would be provided with individual flood prevention equipment funded by a grant of nearly £145,000 (later increased to £160,000), from the Department of the Environment. This work is almost complete. The Bodenham Flood Protection Group, (BFPG) which has worked so hard since 2007 to clear and maintain local ditches and waterways was honoured with a Pride of Herefordshire Award in 2011, and the Group's officers are now being recognised for their expertise throughout the county. Since 2007, the BFPG has been a superb example of the Big Society in action – even before the term was in common political usage!
- Concern was expressed last year when proposals to reintroduce parking charges at Queenswood Country Park were published. Local Parishes supported by their District Councillors fought this move successfully, and I, together with Cllr Guthrie, (Sutton Walls Ward) am now developing a range of future options to provide Queenswood with a sustainable future against a background of increasing financial risk.
- On planning, there have been a number of enforcement decisions taken, as we try and ensure that our historic and beautiful county remains so.
- And, with the passing of the Localism Act during the year, all five Parish Councils in the Ward are working together to see how they may best ensure that local voices are heard, and needs are reflected in future decisions. All Parish Councils are considering the opportunities and threats - particularly in terms of resources, both in time and money - which delivering a localism agenda might create.

More widely – outside the Ward and within the county as a whole, the Conservative administration of Herefordshire is forging ahead with its manifesto promises – to deliver for the county those things for which a majority of electors voted last May.

Increased prosperity for the county and its residents was high on the agenda, and in 12 months we have seen:

- The opening of a new livestock market – now busier than ever.
- The creation of an enterprise zone in Rotherwas, (the only new enterprise zone in the Midlands) planned to create thousands of new jobs and opportunities.
- Consultation has started on the new Local Development Framework for the county – a journey not yet complete - but which is designed to create the backdrop for further developments in housing and infrastructure across the county over the next 20 years. Locally, representatives from all the Parish Councils in the Ward met with planners last October to ensure that local needs are taken into account as the Framework is further developed and finalised.
- In Hereford, further work to revitalise the city has started with the new Cathedral Close improvements completed, plans to improve the Butter Market making progress, and the Contract to redevelop the old cattle market with a multiplex cinema, major stores and new cafes and restaurants has been signed.
- New locality management has been implemented bringing services closer to the communities they serve.

All this has of course been started or achieved during a time of tight financial constraint – nationally and internationally, so it is a credit to the Council that it has been able to deliver so much without seriously damaging front line services, and without increasing the Community Charge in 2012.

The mobile library service has ceased, to be replaced by more focused facilities for the housebound, and new voluntary libraries are springing up in villages all over the county.

Many services provided by the Council are being reviewed this year, to ensure those most vital to our population are maintained and improved.

For the future, in our mainly rural Ward, I believe that tourism, transport, affordable housing and maintaining rural industry are priorities, as well as identifying and supporting the increasing numbers of frail and elderly members of our community.

If you need to contact me please either email me at jmillar2@herefordshire.gov.uk or phone me on 07767 441003, and I'll get back to you as soon as I can.

Jeremy Millar
District Councillor, Hampton Court Ward
May 2012