

BODENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY, 5th NOVEMBER 2012****Attendance**

Cllr Roger Austin
 Cllr Stan Davis
 Cllr Dennis Jackson
 Cllr Tony Mitcheson
 Cllr Jeff Pollard
 Cllr Rhian Powell
 Cllr Robin Knott (Chair)

Cllr Jeremy Millar (District Councillor)

Mr Chris Smith (Clerk)

10 members of the public were present.

ITEM	ACTION
<p><u>INTRODUCTION</u> CSO Steph Annette reported that West Mercia Police (WMP) are targeting farmers about mud left on roads and that one farmer is already being prosecuted. CSO Annette further reported that thefts of jewellery and other valuables had occurred at Stoke Prior and near Bromyard from isolated detached houses. She added that an operation against the thieves by WMP (called Operation Citadel) was ongoing and urged householders to keep outbuildings locked and to leave a light on in the house at all times after dark. Following a Bodenham resident having had more than £1,000 stolen by a conman, CSO Annette asked residents to be extra vigilant about oddly parked cars and suspicious behaviour.</p> <p><u>AGENDA ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> 1. Apologies were received from Cllrs Clarke and James-Moore.</p> <p><u>AGENDA ITEM 2 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> 2. Cllr Powell declared an interest in Item 10.</p> <p><u>AGENDA ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u> 3. Two corrections were made to the Minutes of the previous Meeting. Cllr Powell had declared an interest in Item 9 and the action point against the Clerk in Minute 17 should have been against Cllr Knott. The Minutes were then accepted as a true record. (Proposer: Cllr Davis. Seconder: Cllr Mitcheson).</p> <p><u>AGENDA ITEM 4 - MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u> 4. Minute 5: Speeding Traffic on the A417 The Clerk reported that he had made a further request for Mr Lee-Jones to visit Bodenham and had received a reference number for the request, which would be followed up. 5. Minute 6: Community Technology Grant. Cllr Powell reported that Bodenham Parish Council had been awarded £1,264, which is £120 less than requested, because a TV aerial and some software would not be funded. Cllr Powell said that the Parish Council would need to fund the software, while the aerial should be funded by the Parish Hall. Cllr Knott said that he would ask the December Parish Hall Management Committee meeting to consider this. Cllr Mitcheson said that it was not clear how the equipment would be managed. Cllr Knott said that he would also ask the Parish Hall Management Committee to consider this in December and that both matters could then be considered at the January Meeting of the Parish Council. Cllr Powell suggested that a meeting should be held between herself, the Clerk, Mr Bob Bowden and Cllrs Mitcheson and Jackson to make recommendations about running costs and management of the equipment. 6. Minute 7: Neighbourhood Planning. The Clerk tabled an email from Mr David Tilford requesting that the Parish Council move forward towards creating a Neighbourhood Plan</p>	<p>CS</p> <p>RP</p>

for Bodenham. Having been asked by Cllr Knott for their views, most of the members of the public who were present expressed support for Bodenham creating a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Jackson cautioned that creating a Plan would involve a large amount of work, but Cllr Powell pointed out that that without a Neighbourhood Plan Bodenham would be controlled by Herefordshire Council on planning matters. Cllr Mitcheson added that, if other parish councils had Neighbourhood Plans and Bodenham did not, Herefordshire Council might follow the line of least resistance and tend to target Bodenham for planning purposes. Cllr Millar added that only about 20 parish councils in Herefordshire had expressed an interest in preparing Neighbourhood Plans, so Bodenham was not unusual in not having started to create one. Cllr Knott suggested that an item be placed in the next *Newsletter* to try to attract public support for Neighbourhood Planning and to call for volunteers, especially those with expertise in planning, to assist in the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

7. **Minute 9: Winter Maintenance Scheme.** The Clerk reported that, following contact with other parish clerks about their experience of the Scheme in 2011-12, he had ordered 5 tons of bagged salt. The Clerk added that, from his contacts with other parish clerks, having more than one site for storing the salt would facilitate operation of the scheme. Cllr Knott suggested seeking approval from Amey for storing salt at the Siward James Centre and on the car park at the School. The Clerk was instructed to do this. Cllr Pollard suggested identifying sites where salting was most likely to be needed. Cllr Powell suggested that an item be placed in the *Newsletter* asking for this information. The Clerk was instructed to do this.

8. **Minute 10: Damage to the Field Entrance Near C1121 Bridge.** The Clerk reported that he had spoken to a manager at Lugg Valley Travel and had been told that the bus parked at the field entrance only once a day and that this was to avoid two buses being at the School simultaneously. The buses had previously parked in Millcroft Road, but residents had objected to this. A member of the public said that there is room for two buses to park at the School and that this sometimes happens. He also said that parking at the field entrance happens more than once a day. Cllr Mitcheson confirmed this, but proposed that the matter be dropped because the proposed source of the material required to strengthen the entrance no longer existed. This was agreed unanimously.

9. **Minute 11: Bodenham Newsletter Website.** An email from Cllr Clarke was tabled listing conclusions from a meeting on 8th October between himself, Cllr James-Moore and Mrs Susan Haworth, the editor of the Bodenham *Newsletter*. Cllr Knott said that the email seemed to have addressed the Council's main concerns. Cllr Mitcheson noted that, while the *Newsletter* website contains the printed version of the *Newsletter*, the website as a whole is not being regularly updated, which gives the impression that nothing is happening in Bodenham. Furthermore, the copyright notice on the website had not been changed to show Bodenham Parish Council as the copyright owner.

10. **Minute 13: Ownership of a Patch of Ground near to England's Gate Inn.** The Clerk reported that Cllr Clarke had established that the patch of ground belonged to England's Gate Inn. Mrs Gwen Bowden volunteered to contact the owner about the matter.

11. **Minute 17: No Fly-Tipping Sign.** The Clerk reported that the sign had been delivered and would be passed to Cllr Knott, who had agreed to install it.

12. **Minute 19: Playground.** Cllr Davis reported that he had obtained one quotation for the drainage work at the playground and one quotation for the repainting of the equipment. The Clerk was instructed to obtain a second quotation for each piece of work.

13. **Minute 29:** The Clerk reported that he had contacted Amey and BT about the branches left in the ditches at Chapel Lane and elsewhere and that the branches had been removed.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

14. Mr Ayshford Sanford read a statement on behalf of several residents reporting an incident at Bodenham Manor on 3rd/4th November when loud music was audible over a wide area. Cllr Jackson reported that he had rung the police about the same incident. Mr Ayshford Sanford also expressed concerns over the large number of people living at Bodenham Manor. A member of the public reported that the Bodenham Manor website listed a schedule of raves as far ahead as the end of May 2013. Cllr Knott advised that a full record of incidents be kept and that Herefordshire Council should be contacted about noise abatement. Cllr Mitcheson said that Bodenham Manor had advertised a Halloween event in the Bodenham *Newsletter*. However, he had received a complaint from a resident who had gone to the Manor to attend the event only to find that nothing was taking place and subsequently being invited to leave in rather an abrupt manner. Cllr Millar said that, if the event had been advertised, it was a public event, for which a licence was needed. He undertook to take the matter up with relevant departments at Herefordshire Council.

15. Mrs Liz Davies reported concerns about bonfires. Cllr Millar said that Herefordshire Council has asked that no bonfires should be lit between dawn and dusk and that the maximum

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fine for having a dangerous or unattended bonfire was £5,000. The Clerk was instructed to place an item about bonfires in the Newsletter.	CS
16. Mrs Gwen Bowden reported that the road signs on the A417 were very dirty. The Clerk was instructed to ask Amey to clean them.	CS
<u>AGENDA ITEM 6 – LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN CONSULTATION</u>	
17. Cllr Davis supported the full retention of the 426 bus service, even though most passengers travelled between Bodenham and Hereford. Cllr Mitcheson noted that the purpose of the consultation was to invite the public to rank their transport priorities in order and that the consultation could be completed by both individuals and organizations.	
<u>AGENDA ITEM 7 – SETTING THE 2013-14 PRECEPT</u>	
18. Cllr Knott suggested that the next Parish Council Meeting and the meeting on the Parish Plan to be held on 22 nd November might identify issues affecting the precept. Cllr Powell said that the Community Technology Grant and drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan might do the same. Cllr Knott suggested that the Clerk should find the likely Neighbourhood Plan costs for 2013-14. This was agreed unanimously.	CS
<u>AGENDA ITEM 8 – STANDING ORDERS</u>	
19. Cllr Mitcheson suggested that this item be deferred to the next Meeting, by which time he, Cllr Powell and the Clerk would have drawn up and circulated an updated draft of the Standing Orders.	CS
<u>AGENDA ITEM 9 – FOOTPATHS</u>	
20. The Clerk had circulated an email from Mrs Michelle Clayton of Bodenham Hall asking for the assistance of the Parish Council in persuading Herefordshire Council to restore the footpath sign at the bottom of Ladywell Lane. Cllr Powell supported the restoration of the sign, but said that the matter was not one in which the Parish Council should be involved. Cllr Mitcheson agreed that the matter was for the people concerned to resolve, but suggested that Bodenham Ramblers might be involved. Cllr Powell proposed that the Bodenham Ramblers be invited to a meeting of the Parish Council. Cllr Knott suggested that the Footpaths Officer might also be invited. The Clerk was instructed to invite both Bodenham Ramblers and the Footpaths Officer to a meeting.	CS
<u>AGENDA ITEM 10 - FINANCE</u>	
21. Cllr Knott presented the accounts. Cllr Mitcheson proposed and Cllr Davis seconded that the accounts be accepted. The proposal was carried unanimously. The accounts are attached as Annex A.	
22. Outstanding Invoices:	
- Clerk's Expenses (printer cartridges; stamps)	£31.00
- Leominster Community Resource Centre (October Newsletter printing: includes £67 for Parish Plan insert)	£258.25
- Siward James and Arkwright Trust (room hire)	£117.00
- ABC Print (Parish Plan printing)	£427.00
- Alpha Web Design (website update)	£200.00
- Alpha Web Design (annual website and email hosting)	£200.00
23. The Clerk reported that an additional invoice had been received, namely:	
- Mrs Veronica Howell (in lieu of the Remembrance Day wreath)	£50.00
24. Cllr Austin proposed and Cllr Davis seconded that the invoices be paid. This was agreed unanimously.	
<u>AGENDA ITEM 11 – PLANNING</u>	
25. The following applications were considered by the planning sub-committee, which had no objection to either:	
- N121463/FH: Maund Farm, Bodenham, Hereford, Herefordshire HR1 3JA. Erection of three wooden outbuildings (1) tractor and implement store (retrospective) (2)garage (3) stable and store	
- N123011/F: Upper Maund Farm: proposed muck store.	
<u>AGENDA ITEM 12 - UPDATES</u>	
26. Bodenham Flood Protection Group. Cllr Mitcheson gave a report which is attached as Annex B.	
27. Parish Plan. Cllr Mitcheson said that 100 copies of the Parish Plan had been printed. The Plan was available on the Parish Council Website and copies could be obtained from the	

	July 12	Aug 15	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Balance										
BFPG Inc	146.00	33.81								
BFPG Ex	130.00	33.28	50.00	20.25						
BFPG Closing Balance	1737.00	1737.53	1687.53	1667.28	1667.28	1667.28	1667.28	1667.28	1667.28	1667.28
Lady Close Orchard	158.00	158.00	158.00	158.00	158.00	158.00	158.00	158.00	158.00	158.00
Total Closing Balance	7552.00	7309.50	6206.79	9282.33	8475.47	7068.86	7852.25	7675.64	7926.03	7749.42

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP REPORT
(5 NOVEMBER 2012)

1. **“Project Bodenham” Update.** Although Project Bodenham is officially complete, there are still two issues to be resolved, one relating to a UK Flood Barriers Limited patio barrier and the other to the water-tightness of doors made by Flash Flood Doors Limited. We have a meeting about this tomorrow morning (6 November).
2. **Severe Weather.** Although we have not had the Indian Summer we hoped for, it has been a good month from the BFPG perspective. The only serious downpour we had during the month was on Thursday, 11 October when the Brook rose to 0.924m at about 10.00pm. That was only just enough to get some water into the first part of the relief channel and certainly not enough to cause anyone any concern.
3. **Meeting and Working Parties.**
 - a. Our most recent Meeting was on Tuesday, 30 October, which was as well attended as ever.
 - b. We had very good working party session at the Ketch Lane junction on Friday, 5 October when we discovered that the old (East) culvert was unexpectedly clear of silt. We therefore did not need to do any work on it and we were able to concentrate on clearing the water course further downstream.
 - c. Because the Ketch Lane culverts were clear we were able to cancel the final working party session of the year which was to have been on 19 October.
4. **BFPG Bonfire Party.** The annual Bonfire Party was held at Millcroft Farm on Saturday, 6 October with about 30 members present and a lot of food and mulled cider consumed.
5. **BFPG Quiz Night.** This is a final reminder that the BFPG Quiz Night is on Saturday, 17 November in the Parish Hall and we would welcome one or more Parish Council Teams!

K.A.M.