

BODENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE
at 7.30 pm on Monday, 7th March 2016**

Present: Cllr Alec Avery, Cllr Jim Crane, Cllr Stan Davis, Cllr Pam James-Moore (Chair), Cllr Richard Layton, Cllr Tony Mitcheson, Cllr David Tilford.

District Councillor Bruce Baker was also in attendance.

8 members of the public were present at the start of the Meeting.

1. **Introduction:** John Clark, Development Director of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, gave a presentation on the New Leaf/Herefordshire Wildlife Trust takeover of Queenswood and Bodenham Lake. He confirmed that no parking charges will be imposed at Bodenham Lake and that events are being planned, such as guided walks, bird-watching tours and tours of the Lady Close Orchard. Mr Clark also confirmed that parking charges will begin at Queenswood on 15th March, though volunteers will be given concessions, if they work a certain number of hours. He said that community representatives are needed for the Bodenham Lake Management Group, including a representative from the Parish Council.
2. **Apologies for Absence.** Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Roger Austin and Dennis Jackson.
3. **Declarations of Interest.** Cllr Mitcheson declared an interest in Item 14 on the Agenda.
4. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting.** The previous Minutes were accepted as a correct record and the decisions of the previous inquorate meeting were ratified (Proposer; Cllr Tilford; Seconder; Cllr Avery).
5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes.**
 - 5.1 **Minute 4.1.** The Clerk reported that he had met Mr Ray Taylor at the Orchard Close bus stop to discuss the slabbing of an area around the bus stop, but had yet to receive a quotation from Mr Taylor.
 - 5.2 **Minute 5.2.** See Item 8 below.
 - 5.3 **Minute 5.3.** The Clerk reported that the Locality Steward had told him that the short length of hedge by the Surgery was to be removed and that the property owners in Brockington Road responsible for the remainder of the hedge between the Surgery and England's Gate Inn had been contacted.
 - 5.4 **Minute 5.4 and 5.5.** The Clerk confirmed that he had reported the matters to the Lengthsman.
 - 5.5 **Minutes 5.7.** The Clerk confirmed that he had reported the issue to the Locality Steward.
 - 5.6 **Minute 11.** See Item 7 below.
 - 5.7 **Minute 12.** The Clerk reported that he had contacted Marden Parish Council about the issue of solar farm benefit payments and that Marden PC had replied requesting arbitration. After discussion, it was agreed that Bodenham Parish Council did not wish to go to arbitration.
6. **Opportunity for Members of the Public to Address the Parish Council.**
 - 6.1 Mrs Gwen Bowden thanked the Footpath Officer for the installation of the kissing gate in Smeadals Lane.
 - 6.2 Mrs Bowden asked whether the Lengthsman could remove the rubbish from the bus shelters. The Clerk was instructed to ask the Lengthsman to do so. **ACTION: CS**

6.3 Mrs Bowden asked whether riding a horse on a pavement was permitted. Cllr Tilford suggested that the Clerk should put an item in the *Newsletter* requesting horse riders to ride only on the roadway. **ACTION: CS**

6.4 Mr Tony Clark said that acts of vandalism had taken place in Bodenham Moor recently. Cllr Tilford replied that the culprit had been identified and admonished by his father.

6.5 Mr Clark also mentioned that there is a missing fingerpost on footpath MR5. The Clerk was instructed to inform the Footpath Officer about this. **ACTION: CS**

7. **Deeds.** The Clerk reported that he had asked Mrs Sue Newbould of Okelly FrancisLaw to retain the deeds.

8. **Dog Fouling Signs.** After discussion, the Clerk was instructed to find details of the size, materials and fixing methods for dog fouling signs for discussion at the next Meeting. **ACTION: CS**

9. **Quotations for Slabbing Around the Orchard Close Bus Stop.** The Clerk reported that he had met Mr Ray Taylor at the Orchard Close bus stop to discuss the matter, but Mr Taylor had not yet provided a quotation. **ACTION: CS**

10. **Purchase of Local Plan Core Strategy.** Cllr Avery proposed and Cllr Tilford seconded that the Clerk be instructed to purchase a copy of the Local Plan Core Strategy at a cost of £20 plus £2.50 postage. This was agreed unanimously.

11. **Commemorative Medal.** The Clerk had circulated details of a commercially-produced commemorative medal for HM The Queen's forthcoming 90th birthday, which councils might wish to purchase for local schoolchildren. Cllr Mitcheson queried the basis of this. Cllr Layton suggested that it was a matter for Bodenham School. This was agreed (Proposer; Cllr Avery: Seconder; Cllr Mitcheson).

12. **Footpath Officer's Report.** Mr Mike Darley had sent a request for permission to carry out repairs to a number of local footpaths (see Annex A). Cllr Mitcheson asked Mr Darley to provide quotations wherever possible for jobs which were not covered by his standard charges. Mr Darley agreed to do this in future. It was agreed that £100 be made available to Mr Darley for the jobs he had already identified.

13. **Caldervale.** Cllr Baker explained that confusion had arisen between Caldervale and the house named Coverdale over postal deliveries. Cllr Baker said that he would assist the owner of Coverdale to install a nameplate for the house.

14. **Finance**

14.1 **Monthly Accounts.** The monthly accounts were approved (Proposer; Cllr Tilford: Seconder; Cllr Avery) and are attached as Annex B.

14.2 **Invoices.** Cllr Tilford proposed and Cllr Avery seconded that the following invoices be paid and this was agreed:

- Leominster Community Resource Centre (<i>March Newsletter</i>)	£194.25
- Herefordshire Council (Election expenses)	£52.40
- Mrs Babs Mitcheson (Litter pick expenses)	£45.62
- Mike Darley (Footpath Officer's invoice)	£188.00
- Clerk's expenses (printer cartridge)	£7.00

15. **Planning.**

15.1 **Planning Applications Ratified.** The following planning applications were ratified:

- 153090: Bodenham Manor. Proposed erection of new 5 no. bedroom house and detached garage to replace Bodenham Manor (following demolition *via* separate application ref: 151607).
- 160241: The Hollies. Conversion of existing outbuilding to annexe residential accommodation.

15.2 **Planning Applications Considered.**

15.2.1 The following planning applications were considered:

- 153600 - New House Farm. Proposed conversion of cowshed to granny annex.
- 160467: Pump Cottage, Bodenham. Propose to remove Western Red Cedar (*Thuja plicata*) tree.
- 160539: Hollybush Cottage, Pencombe. Proposed demolition of garage and extensions. Construction of new garage and extensions complete with associated external works.

15.2.2 No objection was raised to any of these planning applications (Proposer; Cllr Tilford: Seconder; Cllr Crane).

15.3 **Planning Applications Objection.**

15.3.1 The following planning application was also considered:

- 160494: Ashgrove Croft, Marden. Proposed change of use of land from a one pitch traveller's site to a 5 pitch travellers' site, including stationing of 4 additional mobile homes, 4 touring caravans, ablution block and hard standing, parking, sheds and access track.

15.3.2 Cllr Tilford had submitted a planning statement about the application. It was agreed that the Parish Council should object to the application on the basis of the points raised in Cllr Tilford's statement (Proposer; Cllr Tilford: Seconder; Cllr Crane).

16. **Updates.**

16.1 **Bodenham Flood Protection Group.** Cllr Mitcheson gave a report, which is attached as Annex C.

16.2 **Parish Hall.** Cllr Layton reported that no meeting of the Parish Hall Management Committee had taken place since his appointment as the Parish Council representative on the Committee. He requested that any items for the agenda be passed to him.

16.3 **Lengthsman.** The Clerk reported that he had expressed an interest on behalf of the Parish Council in joining the 2016-17 Lengthsman Scheme and would submit an annual plan by the end of March as required by Balfour Beatty.

16.4 **Neighbourhood Plan.** Cllr Mitcheson said that he and Cllr Tilford have been working on the Neighbourhood Plan, in particular on the non-housing related parts of the Plan, such as Bodenham Lake and other valued local spaces, vistas, views and landscapes.

17. **Correspondence Not Previously Circulated.** The Clerk reported that he had passed the latest copy of Clerks and Councils Direct to Cllr Mitcheson.

18. **Other Business (including the District Councillor's Report).**

18.1 Cllr Baker reported that Herefordshire Council would receive £87m less income by 2020.

18.2 Cllr Baker reported that progress was being made on the construction of the Edgar Street to Aylestone Hill link road and towards construction of the Western Link Road. Cllr Avery asked about the canal running through Aylestone Park. Cllr Baker was unable to provide information about this.

18.3 Cllr Baker reported on a proposal that a new Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) should replace Section 106 agreements, and that a consultation is being held about this.

18.4 Cllr James-Moore thanked all the participants in the litter pick held on Saturday 5th March for their hard and successful work.

18.5 Cllr James-Moore proposed that a letter should be written to Cllr Jackson expressing councillors' sympathy about his wife's illness. The Clerk was instructed to do so.

ACTION: CS

18.6 Cllr Mitcheson asked about the installation of 'gateways' on the A417. It was agreed that the issue should be discussed at the next Meeting.

18.7 Cllr Mitcheson asked whether a reply had been sent about the Civilians World War 1 memorial celebrations. The Clerk said that no reply had been sent. It was agreed that the issue should be discussed at the next Meeting.

19. **Date of Next Meeting.**

19.1 The next Meetings will be on 4th April and 9th May (includes Annual meetings).

19.2 There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Bodenham PFO Report**Mike Darley****07/03/16**

Results of today's meeting with Donna. Can this be passed to the PC for approval at tonight's meeting please.

BM 1 - gate drops when opened

BM 1 - by-pass gate for cattle grid dropped making latch un-usable

BM 12 - restrictive gap

BM 13 - X- steps missing. Stile has extra top rail making it awkward to cross.

BM 22 - finger post missing

BM 26 - hedge needs cutting back (landowner responsible - Maund Bryan end)

With regard to the collapse of BM 26, it was suggested that the PC may want to look at ways of protecting the bridleway from further collapse, as BBLP won't be able to help.

Annex B**February 2016 accounts****18th JANUARY 2016: OPENING BALANCE = £20980.13**

Date	Income	Expenditure	Comment
20th January 2016		£37.84	Clerk's PAYE
20th January 2016		£200.00	Website updates
1st February 2016		£151.67	Clerk's salary
8th February 2016		£21.48	Clerk's expenses
8th February 2016		£100.00	Footpath Officer
9th February 2016		£44.00	Car park registration
9th February 2016	£69.00		Newsletter advertising
9th February 2016	£364.00		BFGP coffee morning
10th February 2016		£252.00	Lengthsman
TOTALS	£433.00	£843.99	

CLOSING BALANCE = (£20980.13 + £433.00 - £806.99) = £20606.14



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP REPORT **(7 MARCH 2016)**

1. **Summary of the Past Month.**

a. None of the storms which passed across the country during the past month delivered sufficient rain to cause any real concern about flooding, although the Ketch Lane junction was flooded for a short time on 8 and 9 February and at least one car come to grief there. This was despite the warning signs which had been put out on all four approaches to the junction.

b. Since the last Parish Council Meeting the telemetry system has issued a 0.5m alarm on one only occasion. This was on 6 February when the water level then rose just far enough to deliver two alarms at 0.9m before gradually falling over the next three days.

2. **Monthly Meeting.** The Group's monthly Meeting was held on Tuesday, 23 February and, being a particularly cold night, was attended by only 21 members.

3. **Annual Coffee Morning.** The Group's Annual fund-raising Coffee Morning was held in the Siward James Centre on Saturday, 6 February 2016. It was a very successful and enjoyable event and raised £364 for the Group's funds. I should like to thank all those who supported it, whether in person or with a donation.

4. **Future Events.**

a. The dates of the Group's social events for the 2016-17 'season' have now been agreed and are:

(1) **Annual Barbecue.** Mr and Mrs Stephens had kindly offered to host the Annual Barbecue on Saturday, 30 July 2016.

(2) **Annual Bonfire Party.** The Bonfire Party will be held on Saturday, 1 October 2016 at Millcroft Farm, starting at 6.00pm.

(3) **Annual Quiz Night.** The Quiz Night will be in the Parish Hall on the evening of Friday, 25 November 2016.

(4) **Annual Coffee Morning.** The Annual Coffee Morning will be from 10.00am to 12.00 noon on Saturday, 4 February 2017 in the Siward James Centre.

b. Parish Councillors are, of course, welcome to attend any, or all, of these occasions.

K.A.M.