

# **LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 2 MARCH 2020 AT CAWLEY HALL, EYE, LUSTON

**PRESENT: G POULTON (CHAIRMAN), A BRANDISH (VICE CHAIRMAN), R BENNETT JONES, P EDWARDS, K WOOD, E COATES, J COATES, I STEVENS AND W TALBOT-PONSONBY**

**IN ATTENDANCE: WARD COUNCILLOR S BOWEN; R HEWITT (CLERK); AND FIVE (5) MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

**1. Acceptance of apologies for absence – C Pearson.**

**2. Co-opt a new member for Luston Parish on the Group Parish Council**

**DECISION:** Mr W Talbot-Ponsonby was co-opted. The acceptance of office was signed, and the co-opted member joined the meeting.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

**3.1** Disclosable Pecuniary. None.

**3.2** Non-disclosable Pecuniary. None.

**3.3** Non-Pecuniary. None.

**3.4** Written requests for dispensation. None.

**4. Approval of Meeting minutes from 3 February 2020**

**DECISION:** The minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed.

**5. Ward Councillor S Bowen's Brief Report (for information only)**

Ward Cllr. Bowen said potholes are being repaired on an emergency basis until warmer weather when the velocity patcher will be in operation. Gigaclear needs to remove their cables before the drainage pipe can be repaired on the B4361 by Tremezzo at Luston.

It was agreed to request a tour of the Envirosort recycling centre in April 2020, and Ward Cllr. Bowen kindly offered to facilitate this. A tour of the waste to power facility at Hartlebury will be organised in June or July 2020.

Herefordshire Council has responded well to the recent floods. A £500 grant is available for affected households, and officers have worked some hours on a voluntary basis. Council tax is to increase by 3.9 percent with 2 percent of the increase ring fenced for social care. Government has provided some additional funding for the county's roads.

A member of the public called for proper flood protection of houses.

**6. Clerk's Report and reports on meetings attended by parish councillors**

The Clerk's report was noted. Welsh Water has said there are no plans to enlarge the pipe to the treatment works. The newly upgraded pump was airlocked in early January 2020, but this has been cleared.

## 7. Matters raised by local residents

A member of the public reported that the road drain on the B4361 at The Willows, Luston blocks regularly and causes the road junction to flood and block the road. A community speed watch volunteer said they would have to disband without more people to help operate the equipment on a regular basis. Members of the public who'd like to help with the community speed watch should contact the Clerk.

## 8. Flooding

Ward Cllr. Bowen said Balfour Beatty has cleared drains by The Willows and Westland View. Concern was raised that ditches, including those to the rear of new housing at Luston, need to be maintained. A member of the public asked for sandbags to be stored closer to Luston. It was felt that the current storage location at Cawley Hall is too inaccessible.

**DECISIONS:** A community resilience plan, based on the template provided by HALC, will be developed. A hydrologist report is to be commissioned to understand water flows and drainage at Luston and quotations will be obtained for the parish council to consider. The Lugg Internal Drainage Board will be asked for an explanation of the flooding experienced at Eyton, and what measures have been put in place to address the underlying causes. The regular reports of sewage leaking out of the manhole cover by the culvert on the B4361 at Luston will be raised with the Consumer Council for Water. In the absence of parish council owned land at Luston, an alternative location for sandbags at Luston will require the co-operation of a landowner, which may or may not be forthcoming. The Natural Flood Management coordinator will be asked when the water gauge depth indicator is to be installed by the B4361 culvert at Luston.

## 9. Planning

**9.1** 200188 The Steppes, Luston, HR6 0EA. Proposed replacement of back door and install a canopy porch. Proposed fence and gates by the garage and outbuilding. Repair wall at front of grounds. **COMMENT:** The parish council supports the planning application.

**9.2** 200189 The Steppes, Luston, HR6 0EA. Proposed replacement of back door and install a canopy porch. Proposed fence and gates by the garage and outbuilding. Repair wall at front of grounds. Listed Building Consent. **COMMENT:** The parish council supports the application for listed building consent.

**9.3** 200478 10 Lilac Grove, Luston, HR6 0EF. Weeping Willow (T1 on sketch) crown reduction. Branches trailing on ground making mowing grass impossible. **COMMENT:** The parish council supports the proposed tree work.

**9.3** Update on planning decisions/ enforcement. Herefordshire Council has granted planning permission for 194416 Berrington Hall, 194047 Brookfield Farm, 93738 Dev 1 Land adjacent to Lustonbury and 190032 Land to the West of B4361. Listed building consent has been granted for 194417 Berrington Hall.

## 10. Highways and environmental matters

**10.1** Appointment of lengthsman, and expression of interest in lengthsman and P3 partnership scheme 2020-21. **DECISION:** It was agreed to re-appoint the current lengthsman and P3 footpath contractor for 2020-21 and submit an Expression of Interest to Balfour Beatty to participate in both schemes.

**10.2** Road name signs: A draft layout for the proposed traditional signpost and fingerposts at Lydiatts crossroads was agreed. Proposed locations for more road name signs were reviewed.

**DECISION:** The highway authority will be asked to confirm that the traditional signpost and fingerpost at Lydiatts crossroads meets the appropriate highway regulations. Two signs for Eye Lane (A49 end) and two signs for Tunnel Lane will be requested from Balfour Beatty under community commissioning.

**10.3** Installation of broadband cabling. **DECISION:** Gigaclear to be contacted to complain at the poor condition in which they left the B4361 at Luston, and outstanding requirement to properly reinstate the public green spaces and verges through the village.

**10.4** Appointment of new tree officer: Deferred.

**10.5** Highways – Matters to bring to the attention of Balfour Beatty. **DECISION:** Follow up report of blocked highway drain by the Holy Well on the B4361, Luston. Potholes on B4361 just before turning to Hill Road towards Eyton, and on B4361 by the farm shop.

**10.4** Lengthsman and P3 footpaths. There were no matters raised.

## **11. Finance**

**11.1** Payments for consideration:

D C Gardening Services, lengthsman and P3 footpaths (Jan. & Feb. 2020) – £933.48

Morelock Signs, Eye Lane (x2) and Croft Lane (x1) – £95.65

Clerk, wages (February 2020)

**DECISION:** Payments were approved, and cheques signed.

**11.2** Review direct debit payments:

Airband, broadband service, March 2020 – £60.00

**DECISION:** The direct debit payment was noted.

## **12. Dog fouling**

Consider reports of an increase in incidents of dog fouling and agree next steps. Deferred.

## **13. Annual Parish Meetings 2020**

**DECISION:** It was agreed to hold the annual parish meetings in May 2020 and to fund a hog roast and refreshments for members of the public attending the meetings.

## **14. Matters for consideration at the next meeting (no discussion)**

There were no matters raised.

## **15. Date of Next Full Council Meeting**

**DECISION:** The next group parish council meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 6 April 2020 at Cawley Hall, Eye.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.38 pm.

Signed as a true record \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_