

LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT CAWLEY HALL

Present: I Stevens (Chairman), C Pearson (Vice Chairman), E Coates, A Brandish, P Edwards, K Wood, G Poulton and W Talbot Ponsonby.

In attendance: Ward Councillor S Bowen; and R Hewitt (Clerk). Five members of the public were present.

1. Receive apologies for absence – R Bennett Jones and J Oatley.

2. Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 Disclosable Pecuniary. None.
- 2.2 Non-disclosable Pecuniary. None.
- 2.3 Non-Pecuniary. None.
- 2.4 Written requests for dispensation. None.

3. Approval of minutes from 5 July and 2 August 2021

DECISION: The minutes of the meetings were agreed and signed.

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

Ward Cllr. Bowen reported on children's services, Shire Hall and the Town Hall. Cllr. Bowen said he has strongly recommended that the council borrow funds to improve the roads in the county. A new patching machine has been purchased and the velocity patchers are also operating.

5. Flooding matters

It was noted that the hydrologist report has yet to be completed and that work to fix drainage at the A49 end of Eye Lane remains outstanding. The Environment Agency has yet to schedule a walk along the Lugg in Eyton with Cllr. Talbot Ponsonby. Welsh Water is to provide a report to the parish council in late September 2021. **DECISION:** The hydrologist will be asked to provide the report by the next meeting. The locality steward will be asked for an update on the timing of drainage work on Eye Lane.

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

The litter pick agreed earlier in the year will be held on Saturday 30 October 2021. Ward Cllr. Bowen kindly agreed to bring 15 Balfour Beatty litter pick kits. The parish council strimmer has been provided to the footpath officer. The priorities for the police charter have been submitted. The missing road name sign at Townsend Park has been reported. Other road defects reported at the last meeting have been raised with the highway authority. Fly tipping has been reported between Crowards Mill and The Broad. The lengthsman has been asked to clear moss from the pavement by the Willows. Balfour Beatty have been asked to reconsider the decision not to support road name signs on the A49 end of Eye Lane. The locality steward has offered to meet in early October to review the signpost and fingerposts proposed for Lydiatt's crossroads.

7. Matters raised by local residents

A member of the public was thanked for regularly litter picking on Eye Lane, and it was proposed to write a formal letter of thanks. A member of the public said riparian owners are doing a 'wonderful job'. Road name signs should be cleaned where possible.

8. Planning

8.1 212938 Elmshade, Luston, HR6 0BX – Proposed alterations and extensions to dwelling and garage. **COMMENT:** The parish council recommends approval subject to taking due account of the

setting of the neighbouring listed building and privacy/ overlooking concerns. The proposed plans will raise the roof line of the bungalow and significantly increase the size of the window facing the neighbouring property. In addition, the parish council requests that any safety concerns raised in public representations are properly assessed and appropriate measures taken.

8.2 212997 25 Townsend Park, Luston, HR6 0DZ – Proposed to fell 1 Ash tree. Remove due to suspected Ash die back disease. Remove for safety reasons due to proximity of public footpath and property. Replace with appropriate hedging eg. hawthorn. **COMMENT:** The parish council supports the proposed tree work.

[Cllr. E Coates joined the meeting.]

8.4 Update on planning decisions. Herefordshire Council granted planning permission for 211827 The Willows. Works to trees are allowed for 212170 14 Townsend Park.

9. Highways and environmental matters

9.1 SIDs – The Clerk reported that the manufacturer of the SIDs kindly provided structural calculations following the retro-fit of the devices for solar power, which have been shared with the highway authority. As recommended, a proposal for a post with a 5mm wall thickness is to be reviewed by the manufacturer of the sockets. **DECISIONS:** Await the outcome of the review by the socket manufacturer and subsequent response from the highway authority. Call for Community Speed Watch volunteers in the next Council Matters article in the Eye. Request speed enforcement from West Mercia Police’s safer neighbourhood team.

9.2 Highways – Matters to bring to the attention of Balfour Beatty. **DECISIONS:** Pollarding required for county council-maintained trees by entrance to the Willows. Request update on highway authority’s ranking of the TRO to extend the 30mph speed limit on Eye Lane. Potholes on Townsend Park. Outstanding potholes on Lilac Grove. Pothole on Croft Lane just past Riddle Common. Maintenance of grips on B4361 between Luston and the farm shop. Weeds on pavement just before the bridge on the B4361 at The Broad.

9.3 Lengthsman and P3 footpaths. An update on maintenance plans by the footpath officer was noted. Landowners are primarily responsible for public rights of way. **DECISION:** Wash and clear foliage from highway signs in the parishes. Some highway signs may look dirty but are discoloured from rust. Maintain grips at Lydiatt’s crossroads. Moss spraying will not be considered due to the estimated cost.

10. Finance

10.1 Payments for consideration:

D C Gardening Services, lengthsman/ P3 footpaths (August 2021) – £84.00
Clerk, wages, August 2021

DECISION: Payments were approved.

10.2 Broadband service provided by the parish council at Cawley Hall. **DECISION:** Review provision and request a financial contribution from the Cawley Hall committee.

11. The Queen’s Green Canopy in Herefordshire

DECISION: Ask the lengthsman to clear the hawthorn in the centre of Eyton Common and plant a sweet chestnut with a wooden tree guard. A request will be made for the sweet chestnut to be provided under the Queen’s Green Canopy scheme.

12. Safer West Mercia Plan

The consultation on the Police and Crime Commissioner’s plan to deliver a Safer West Mercia was noted.

13. Consultation on Herefordshire Council’s budget and tax for 2022-23

The consultation on the budget and Council Tax proposals was noted.

14. Proposed schedule of Council Matters articles

DECISION: The schedule of articles was agreed.

15. Matters for consideration at the next meeting (no discussion)

Invitation to West Mercia Police.

16. Date of Next Full Council Meeting

DECISION: The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 4 October 2021 at Cawley Hall, Eye.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed as a true record _____

Date _____