

LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 4 JULY 2022 AT CAWLEY HALL

Present: I Stevens (Chairman), C Pearson (Vice Chairman), R Bennett Jones, A Brandish, E Coates P Edwards, K Wood, J Oatley and W Talbot Ponsonby.

In attendance: Ward Councillor S Bowen; Mr J Pearson, Footpath Officer, and R Hewitt (Clerk). One (1) member of the public was present.

1. Receive apologies for absence – G Poulton.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 Disclosable Pecuniary. The Chairman and Vice Chairman declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in measures to address flooding by the culvert under the B4361 at Luston.

2.2 Non-disclosable Pecuniary. None.

2.3 Non-Pecuniary. None.

2.4 Written requests for dispensation. None.

3. Approval of meeting minutes from 6 June 2022

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

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

Ward Cllr. S Bowen reported on the recent Local Government Association conference. There is a new director of Adult and Children's social services. A Patcher Pro has been purchased by the council and will operate alongside two velocity patchers to maintain the highway network. The Princess Royal recently visited the county.

5. Flooding matters

[The Chairman and Vice Chairman left the meeting. Cllr. Talbot Ponsonby kindly agreed to chair the meeting.]

The Clerk reported that planning services have been informed of the parish council's concerns regarding the appropriate diameter of culverts used to construct the wetland by Luston. An article has been published in the Eye to encourage participation in the flood group. The NFM coordinator has confirmed that Natural Flood Management funding is confirmed to 2027 and suggested postponing the planned site meeting until September 2022 so that the NFM catchment advisor can participate. The Assistant Drainage Engineer has provided information intended to support the flood group.

DECISION: The flood group is requested to hold an initial meeting prior to the planned site meeting with the Natural Flood Management officers in September 2022.

[The Chairman and Vice Chairman re-joined the meeting. The Chairman thanked Cllr. W Talbot Ponsonby and resumed the chairing of the meeting.]

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

The Heartstart training course is fully booked. New requests to attend will be placed on a waiting list. Balfour Beatty have been informed that the parish council have agreed the quotation for the Tunnel Lane signs. The Certificate of Exemption has been submitted to the external auditor and the annual return published on parish noticeboards and council website. The Townsend Park and Eye village signs have been delivered. The broadband at the village hall can filter content by device. Publication of the password is to be agreed with the village hall committee. The SIDs will be moved shortly to Richards Castle, the faulty device is due to be fixed by the manufacturer on site. Moving and siting the solar panel powered SIDs is now a two-person job. The lengthsman has checked the posts of the noticeboard by the Willows, confirmed they are ok and used metal fittings to protect the base from contractors strimming the green space. Potholes have been reported on Eye Lane, and fly tipping by Cheese Bridge.

7. Matters raised by local residents

There were no matters raised.

8. Planning

8.1 221771 Elmshade, Luston, HR6 0BX. Proposed replacement dwelling and garage.

COMMENT: The parish council has no objection to the proposed demolition subject to the safe removal of the existing building and further investigation into potentially hazardous materials that may be in the grounds of the site.

The parish council has been made aware of concerns that further asbestos material from historic work and alterations made to the building may be buried/ partially buried in the grounds and might be disturbed by the proposed development. To address this, the parish council requests that the scope of the demolition asbestos report is widened to include the grounds. This will ensure a full understanding of the extent of asbestos materials at the site, and appropriate protections can then be put in place.

During the demolition and associated work there needs to be effective screening in place to protect neighbouring properties. A minimum of 4-metre-high screening is suggested. It has been reported that the prevailing wind goes down Yarpole Lane towards the B4361.

8.2 Update on planning decisions by Herefordshire Council: Herefordshire Council have refused planning permission for 221312 Tudor House. Works to trees within a conservation area are allowed for 221606 The Steppes and 221175 Ashton House.

9. Highways and environmental matters

9.1 Highways – Matters to bring to the attention of Balfour Beatty. **DECISION:** Potholes on Townsend Park.

9.2 Lengthsman and P3 footpaths – The location for the new Eyton village sign was reviewed. Herefordshire Council have raised a job to replace the footbridge on LJ25 between Luston and the railway bridge. The footpath officer has commissioned the lengthsman to undertake maintenance of the footpaths. Cllr. Oatley was thanked for kindly offering to help with the footpaths at Eyton. Weed control, previously done via the lengthsman, has been commissioned directly with the contractor.

DECISIONS: The meeting confirmed the location for the new Eyton village sign is on an existing post on the Kingsland road by Old Hall Eyton. The footpath officer and Cllr. Oatley will work out a suitable approach to footpath maintenance at Eyton parish that fulfils the council's obligations under the P3 Footpaths scheme. The weed control was noted and will be paid from the lengthsman budget as in previous years. The sweet chestnut tree will be planted on Eyton Common in the autumn to mark the Platinum Jubilee.

[Cllr. E Coates joined the meeting.]

10. Finance

10.1 Payments for consideration:

D C Gardening Services, lengthsman/ P3 footpaths (June 2022) – £306.00

Frank P Matthews Tree Shop, chestnut regal tree – £180.00

Clerk, wages, June 2022

HMRC, PAYE to 5 July 2022 – £46.20

Clerk, office and administration April 2021-March 2022 – £452.40

DECISION: Payments were approved.

10.2 Support contract for two SIDs and solar panels. **DECISION:** It was agreed to proceed with the Silver Maintenance contract, effective from 23 August 2022. The cost (£339.90 + VAT) will be split with the parish councils which share ownership of the devices.

11. New play area for children

The meeting considered a proposal for a new play area. **DECISION:** Request expressions of interest from the community via Council Matters article.

12. Local Plan 2021-2041 - Place Shaping Options consultation

The Place Shaping consultation by Herefordshire Council was considered. **DECISION:** Agreed responses will be submitted to Herefordshire Council.

13. Talk Parish Reference group

Invitation from Herefordshire Council to participate in the reference group. **DECISION:** Deferred.

14. Community projects and initiatives

Ideas for community projects and initiatives. **DECISION:** Deferred.

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

There were no matters raised.

16. Date of Next Full Council Meeting

DECISION: The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 5 September 2022 at Cawley Hall, Eye.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.31pm.

Signed as a true record _____

Date _____