

LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2022 AT CAWLEY HALL

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

In attendance: Ward Councillor S Bowen and R Hewitt (Clerk). No members of the public were in attendance.

1. Receive apologies for absence – I Stevens (Chairman).

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 Disclosable Pecuniary. The 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 4 July 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 Courtyard Theatre, review of s106 funds, introduction of phosphates credit scheme and tour of local roads with the locality steward. Plans for repair of the Shire Hall and Town Hall are to be confirmed.

[Cllr. E Coates joined the meeting.]

5. Flooding matters

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

A report on the first meeting of the flood group was noted. **DECISION:** The parish council supported the plans and recommendations of the flood group for an on-site walk-around at the weekend to assess potential for ponds/ attenuation to reduce the flow of surface water from surrounding hills. After the walk around, the flood group will ask the natural flood management (NFM) catchment adviser to meet on-site to review NFM options.

[The Vice Chairman re-joined the meeting, 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 SIDs have been deployed in Luston. The faulty SID was repaired while in place at Richards Castle. The sweet chestnut tree will be planted on Eyton Common shortly. The new Townsend Park and Eyton village signs have been placed on the respective existing posts by the lengthsman. Software has been updated on the defibrillators at Eyton and Luston, and new batteries purchased after consulting with the Chairman. The external auditor has received and logged the notification of exempt status.

Herefordshire Council/ Balfour Beatty have advised that processing of village safety initiative requests is taking longer than expected due to the number and range of submissions. Fly-tipping on Eyton common and a query from a member of the public regarding Mousenatch bridge have been reported to Herefordshire Council. A member of the public has written to thank the parish council for recent strimming of a footpath off Yarpole Lane. The weed treatment at Luston has been delayed and will take place shortly. There is to be a vintage sports car rally on 9 October 2022, which will start and finish at Luston.

7. Matters raised by local residents

Cllr. Coates reported that branches had been cut along the Seggin and left in the ditches. It was agreed to reference this report in the next Council Matters.

8. Planning

8.1 222604 Berrington Hall, Berrington, HR6 0DW. Like for like repairs to the Carpenter's Workshop plus inclusion of membrane under original metal roof. Like for like replacement of cast iron rainwater gutter and addition of downpipe on the northwest corner. Insertion of workshop glazing where it is missing. **COMMENT:** The application for listed building consent is supported.

8.2 222745 Field View, Luston, HR6 0EB. The tree is in our neighbour's garden and overhangs our boundary. Concern over poisonous berries falling into our garden where children play. Tree needs pruning. **COMMENT:** The proposed tree work is supported.

8.3 222518 The Old Barn, Luston, HR6 0EB. Group of three mature Silver Birch requiring height reduction of 25-30%. Last done about 20yrs ago but now outgrowing their space in a narrow garden. **COMMENT:** The proposed tree work is supported.

8.4 Update on planning decisions by Herefordshire Council: None.

9. Highways and environmental matters

9.1 Highways – Matters to bring to the attention of Balfour Beatty. **DECISION:** Sign in hedge on B4361 by Lilac Grove.

9.2 Lengthsman and P3 footpaths – **DECISIONS:** Scrape gutters on railway bridge, Eye Lane and on B4361 through Luston. Work under the drainage grant will include one day to clear drains starting from the Holy Well area in Luston. Scraping of gutters will take place before the drain work. The Clerk was delegated to prioritise remaining work with the lengthsman.

10. Finance

10.1 Payments for consideration:

D C Gardening Services, P3 footpaths (July 2022) – £2,039.93

D C Gardening Services, lengthsman/ P3 footpaths (August 2022) – £354.00

Herefordshire Council, Tunnel Lane signs – £518.09

SWARCO, Silver maintenance contract 2022-23 – £407.88

Clerk, wages, July and August 2022

Clerk, new batteries (x2) for defibrillators – £436.80

DECISION: Payments were approved.

10.2 Review direct debit payment:

Gigaclear, broadband service, August and September 2022 – £72.00

DECISION: Payments were noted.

11. Open Space Resident Survey and Open Space Assessment Audit

The consultation by Herefordshire Council was considered. **DECISION:** Notify Herefordshire Council of the Holy Well and Eyton open spaces.

12. SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements

The parish council considered whether or not to opt out of central scheme and appoint own external auditor. **DECISION:** No action required.

13. Talk Parish Reference group

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

14. Community projects and initiatives

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

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

Letter regarding the Courtyard Theatre.

16. Date of Next Full Council Meeting

DECISION: The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 3 October 2022 at Cawley Hall, Eye.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Signed as a true record _____

Date _____