

LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 6 MARCH 2023 AT CAWLEY HALL

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

In attendance: Ward Councillor S Bowen, and R Hewitt (Clerk). Two (2) members of the public were present.

1. Receive apologies for absence – J Oatley.

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 (item #4).

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 February 2023

DECISION: The comments made on planning were amended to be in line with the respective applications. With these amendments the minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed.

[Cllr. E Coates joined the meeting.]

4. Flooding matters

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

An update from Herefordshire Council's natural flood management project officer was noted. A confidential report is being prepared to propose a number of soil improvement interventions and possible water attenuation site. **DECISION:** The parish council agreed to request a copy of the report from the landowner and to ask whether natural flood management measures can be viewed as enhancements under the stewardship schemes already in place.

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

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

Ward Cllr. S Bowen reported on an estimated deficit of £11 million, the decision to increase council tax by 4.99 percent and the new contraflow cycle lane in Hereford. The county council has obtained some additional funding from government grants. Potholes in Luston have been reported. Litter pick kits are available. Progress is being made on the phosphates issue which is taking much longer than expected to resolve.

Cllr. Coates asked the parish council to note that the HALC training on commons was cancelled.

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

Data on speed of traffic on the B4361 through Luston obtained from the recent deployment of speed indicator devices was noted. The lengthsman has been asked to undertake the remaining grant funded drainage work requested by the parish council. Reported highway defects have been raised with the highway authority and National Highways. A request for a sweeper has been made to the highway authority. A pallet of sandbags has been stored in the shed at Cawley Hall for use by the community.

The parish council election is in May 2023. A brief overview of the process was noted. Nomination packs are available via electoral services and the clerk.

7. Matters raised by local residents

Cllr. Coates reported on fly tipping and replanting of a tree for the late Queen's Green Canopy at Eyton. A report made concerning trees on Townsend Park (evens) will be followed up. Long standing fly tipping on Eye Lane will be reported to the highway authority.

8. Planning

8.1 Update on planning decisions: Herefordshire Council have granted planning permission for 223417 Cross Brook Farm. The parish council's application for tree works by the telephone kiosk has been submitted and is awaiting a decision – 230277 Land adj 4 The Fold.

9. Highways and environmental matters

9.1 Lengthsman grant agreement for funding to 2027 was noted. Grant funding of £1,760.61 is available for the current financial year 2022-23 provided the contract is submitted by 31 March 2023. **DECISION:** It was agreed to use the lengthsman grant for 2022-23 to undertake more ditching work. The Chairman and Clerk signed the lengthsman grant contract on behalf of the parish council.

9.2 Lengthsman and P3 footpaths. **DECISION:** The lengthsman will be asked to remove moss on pavements by The Willows and Lilac Grove, and to clear gutters on Moreton bridge, Eye Lane.

9.3 Highways – Matters to bring to the attention of Balfour Beatty. **DECISION:** Highway defects raised under #7 will be reported to the highway authority.

10. Finance

10.1 Payments for consideration:

Brunel Engraving, slate effect Diamond Jubilee tree plaque (20*15cm) and stake – £173.76

RBLI, Platinum Jubilee tree plaque (A5) and stakes – £144.99

Clerk, wages, February 2023

DECISION: Payments were approved.

10.2 Review direct debit payment(s):

Gigaclear, broadband service, March 2023 – £36.00

DECISION: Payment was noted.

11. Playground at Luston

Two members of the public said 9-10 local people are interested in contributing to a playground working group. **DECISION:** Cllrs. K Wood, C Pearson and I Stevens kindly agreed to participate in the playground working group and a date of 22 March 2023 was set for the first meeting.

12. Schedule of meetings 2023-24

DECISIONS: The schedule of parish council meetings for 2023-24 was agreed. The Annual Parish meetings will be held before the Annual Meeting of the group parish council at 7pm on 15 May 2023.

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

Coronation of His Majesty Charles III.

14. Date of Next Full Council Meeting

DECISION: The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 3 April 2023.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed as a true record _____

Date _____