

LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LUSTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT CAWLEY HALL

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

In attendance: Ward Cllr. Dan Hurcomb and R Hewitt (Clerk). Three (3) members of the public were present.

1. Receive apologies for absence – K Wood and 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 (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 3 July 2023

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

4. Flooding matters

[The Vice Chairman left the meeting. Cllr. Talbot Ponsonby chaired the meeting.]

There are no natural flood management projects planned at present though conversations are ongoing. **DECISION:** To meet with the appropriate Natural Flood Management officer to see how best to proceed.

[The Vice Chairman re-joined the meeting and resumed the chairing of the meeting.]

5. Ward Councillor D Hurcomb's Brief Report (for information only)

Ward Cllr. D Hurcomb's written report was noted. Herefordshire Council have asked parish councils to post member registers of interest on their websites. Septic tank leak onto Hill Road above Lydiatt's crossroads will be passed to Environment Agency by the locality steward.

[Cllr. Talbot Ponsonby left the meeting.]

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

The speed indicator displays (SIDs) have been deployed at Luston. A new three-year maintenance contract is being set up by Orleton PC at a cost of £564.50 per council. The lengthsman has been requested to cut back the verge on the B4361 above Holy Well. A site meeting has been held with the locality steward at Luston. The following defect has been raised with the highway authority: sign placed in verge by local business.

The external audit has concluded, and the notice and certificate posted on noticeboards and the parish council website. Process for submitting articles to the Eye has been resolved. The defibrillator status has been confirmed with The Circuit. The review of standing orders is underway. A request to meet with the school to discuss the playground is to be confirmed. The Police and Crime Commissioner survey has been submitted.

7. Matters raised by local residents

Cllr. P Edwards asked the parish council to take note of the poor condition of Eye Lane from Berrington Hall to the A49. A request from the WI to plant bulbs at Holy Well was noted.

8. Planning

8.1 232361 Workshops at Mile End, Mile End, Broad Lane, Leominster, HR6 0AL. Proposed surfacing and drainage of timber yard. **COMMENT:** There is no objection to the proposed plans, subject to the full implementation of all the recommendations in the hydrology report commissioned by the applicant and making maintenance of the drainage system and regular testing of its output, a condition of any permission that may be granted. This is because of concerns that the potential concentration of run off from drying timber may be polluting to the nearby stream.

8.2 Update on planning decisions: Herefordshire Council have granted permission for 231357 Berrington Hall. Listed building consent is granted for 231347 and 231358 Berrington Hall. Works to trees within a conservation area are allowed for 231939, 25 Townsend Park.

The planning authority is re-consulting on additional plans and/or documents for 204317 Land at Bicton House. Planning enforcement is to look at an alleged mobile home off the B4361 at Gorbett's Bank.

9. Highways and environmental matters

9.1 Lengthsman grant 2023-24: Additional grant funding of £1,309.00 has been agreed to match funding from the parish council. Footpath related items cannot be grant funded.

DECISION: The parish council ratified the amended annual maintenance plan.

9.2 Proposed permissive path/ access to wetland area for members of the public: Herefordshire Council operates under a waste permit for the wetland site which means public access will not be possible. **DECISION:** No further action.

9.3 Request to host Cawley Hall sign on the Holy Well, Luston. **DECISION:** To consult with the locality steward on the proposed re-siting of the Cawley Hall sign.

[Cllr. Talbot Ponsonby re-joined the meeting.]

9.4 Highways – Report on meeting with locality steward and matters to bring to the attention of Balfour Beatty. The Clerk reported on a site meeting held with the locality steward to look at defects in Luston village. **DECISION:** To request that a 'reduce speed' sign is replaced – the sign appears to have rusted through and is unreadable, and to report highway defects raised under #7 by local residents/ councillors. Hedges within the village will be kept under review to ensure that the pavements can be used safely.

9.5 Lengthsman and P3 footpaths. The permissive path proposed to Yarpole Lane will not proceed. **DECISION:** To ask the lengthsman to scrape the gutters on the railway bridge, Eye Lane and on the B4361 through Luston.

10. Finance

10.1 Payments to ratify:

D C Gardening Services, lengthsman and footpaths – £816.00
Clerk, wages July 2023

DECISION: Payments were ratified.

10.2 Payments for consideration:

DC Gardening Services, lengthsman/ footpaths – £402.00
PKF Littlejohn, external audit 2022-23 – £252.00
Complete Weed Control, maintenance 2023 – £540.00
HCI Data Limited, domain renewal to September 2025 – £102.00
John Finch Computers, upgrade drive in parish council laptop – £204.00
Clerk, wages, August 2023

DECISION: Payments were approved.

10.3 Review direct payments:

Gigaclear, broadband service, August and September 2023 – £72.00
Unity Trust, service charge – £18.00

DECISION: Payments were noted.

11. Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan 2025-30

Stakeholder questionnaire on risk factors, such as demographics, workforce capabilities, societal change, legislation, resources and funding and other potential emerging issues.

DECISION: Noted.

12. Review HALC schedule of courses

Deferred pending availability of schedule.

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

There were no matters raised.

14. Date of Next Full Council Meeting

DECISION: The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 2 October 2023.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.56pm.

Signed as a true record _____

Date _____