

VOWCHURCH GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
Michaelchurch Escley, Newton, St Margarets, Turnastone, Vowchurch

**Minutes of the Vowchurch Group Parish Council meeting held on
 Thursday 16th August 2018 at 7.30pm in Newton Church Room**

PRESENT – Mr P Mason (Chairman), Mr H Franklin, Mr E Williams, Mr A Picton, Mr T Williams, Ms E May and Mr R Lloyd.

IN ATTENDANCE – Ward Councillor Peter Jinman and Mrs L Cowles (Clerk).

- 1. ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Mr K Hortin, Mr S Cole, Mr T Griffiths (Lengthsman) and PCSO Fiona Witcher.
- 2. RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CONSIDER ANY WRITTEN APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION** – There were no declarations of interest or written requests for dispensation.
- 3. ADOPT MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING** – 19th July 2018 – The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record.
- 4. OPEN DISCUSSION** – No members of the public attended the meeting therefore no specific points were raised.
- 5. REPORTS**
 - 5.1 Local Police** – The local police were unable to attend the meeting.
 - 5.2 Ward Councillor** – Ward Councillor Jinman advised Councillors that the Footpaths Officer at Herefordshire Council has contacted him regarding the VO53 and VO57 footpath consultation. He had wished to explain changes in how proposals to divert footpaths would be treated in future. Specifically that it is now the applicants' duty to undertake a consultation with all affected parties under the provisions of the Highways Act, including Parish Councils. Proposals for changes in the route of a footpath had to meet two criteria – they have to be in the interest of the landowner and should not represent a substantial additional inconvenience to footpath users. Herefordshire Council would itself then not arbitrate in the event of there being objections to the propose changes, but would refer this to another body. The Chair explained that the Parish Council had been approached for its views as part of a pre-consultation exercise and had given their view without reference to the legal criteria. As with previous requests to divert footpaths the Parish Council assumed that Herefordshire Council would make that decision. It was agreed that Ward Councillor Jinman would suggest to the Footpath Officer that the Chair would be happy to discuss the issue with him.
 Ward Councillor Jinman reported that funding continues to be stretched with the majority of Herefordshire Councils budget being spent on statutory funding. Each department will face cuts with a number of changes.
 - 5.3 Lengthsman report** – Mr T Griffiths was unable to attend the meeting. The Clerk advised Councillors that the next maintenance day was scheduled for 30th August 2018, the route has already been distributed via email.
- 6. CLERKS UPDATE** – The Public Spaces Protection Order for Dog Control is now in place. Herefordshire Council have signs available that can be erected within the parish if you have a particular problem with dog fouling.
 The draft Children & Young Persons Plan for Herefordshire consultation runs until 30th September and can be completed online.
 The Enforcement Officer is due to visit Turnastone Court w/c 20th August and will respond to the Parish Council after that date. The Clerk has received correspondence from local residents with concerns over lighting, the mobile home and excessive vehicles parked at the property. They have been advised by the Clerk that the Enforcement Officer is due to visit and that the Parish Council will respond to their concerns after this visit when more information was available.

The Clerk has also received additional correspondence from a local resident concerning large vehicles continually using the U75402 at Vowchurch Common. As the Locality Steward has previously advised there is little that can be done regarding enforcement as the signs at the bottom of the hill are advisory only and any weight restriction imposed is highly likely to be legally challenged. The Clerk has asked him again if signage can be improved and currently awaits a response from him.

7. CONSIDER PLANNING

7.1 PLANNING – ALL OTHERS – PRIOR APPROVAL – No comments being accepted

Site: Poston Court, Vowchurch, Herefordshire. HR2 ORJ
Proposal: Prior notification of agricultural or forestry development – proposed building.
Application No: 182701 **Grid Ref:** 336231:238123

7.2 PLANNING – ALL OTHERS – PRIOR APPROVAL – No comments being accepted

Site: Poston Court, Vowchurch, Herefordshire. HR2 ORJ
Description: Prior notification of agricultural or forestry development – proposed road.
Application No. 182700 **Grid Ref:** 336554:238167

7.3 PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

Site: Three Yew Trees, Newton St Margarets, Herefordshire. HR2 0QG
Description: Proposed demolition of corrugated iron barn and erection of new barn with overhang on one side to cover log storage area.
Application No: 181810 **Grid Ref:** 333579:234111

7.4 CERTIFICATE OF LAWFUL USE OR DEVELOPMENT – REFUSED

Site: Wilsons Place, Vowchurch, Herefordshire. HR2 ORL
Description: The shepherds hut frame is built and ready to deliver to site, The operations that are to be carried out after delivery is fitting of the tin work and timber followed by the furnishing of the inside. The hut is on wheels and can be moved around the site.
Application No: 180995 **Grid Ref:** 336916:237277

8. FINANCE

8.1 Confirmation of bank balance - £13224.82 Statement Sheet No. 123 issued 17th July 2018.

8.2 Receipts – £222.75 – Neighbourhood Plan Frontrunner claim.

8.3 Payment to Mrs Linda Cowles for July 2018 Clerk's hours, £11.52 for stamps and £208.00 home office use 1st February 2018 – 31st January 2019 – **Payment agreed.**

8.4 Payment to Mr T Griffiths, invoice no. TGC0491 for July 2018 (1) roads account of £364.00 plus VAT – **Payment agreed.**

9. WEBSITE – Tony Usher has advised that the basis registration fee for a new domain name would be £10 for two years and a basic email account would be £30 per year. The Clerk suggested a new name of either 'vowchurchgpc.org.uk' or 'vowchurchgrouppc.org.uk'. It was agreed to go ahead with the first option of 'vowchurchgpc.org.uk'. The Clerk reminded Councillors that there was £90 left from grant funding received last year to update the website. It was agreed that the email address would remain unchanged.

10. SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER – No updates to report.

11. NOTE THE CORRESPONDENCE SHEET – The correspondence sheet was noted.

12. RAISE MATTERS FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Thursday 20th September 2018 at 7.30pm in Vowchurch & Turnastone Memorial Hall – Turnastone Court.

A RESOLUTION WAS PASSED TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC & PRESS DUE TO EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

13. PARISH CLERK PERFORMANCE AND SALARY REVIEW – The Parish Council are happy with the Clerks' performance over the previous year. It was agreed to increase the Clerks salary to the SCP 27 from 1st August 2018.

Signed.....

Dated.....