

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

**Minutes of the Vowchurch Group Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 18th April 2019
at 7.30pm in Newton Church Room**

PRESENT – Mr P Mason (Chair), Mr H Franklin, Mr T Williams, Mr K Hortin and Mr J Kernahan.

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

1. ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Mr A Picton, Ms E May and the police.

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 – 21st March 2019 – 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 Peter Jinman reported that as we are now in the purdah period before local elections on 2nd May the Council has not met. Three candidates are standing for election as District Councillor in the Golden Valley South Ward. Any comments regarding planning applications should continue to be reported to him.

5.3 Lengthsman report – Mr T Griffiths was unable to attend the meeting. His latest reports had been distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting via email. A parish drive round with the Locality Steward should now take place in June as Councillors were unable to meet in April. The Clerk reported that she has sent the Lengthsmans recent routine maintenance report to the Locality Steward.

6. CLERKS UPDATE – The Clerk confirmed that all the local parish elections had been uncontested and therefore all persons nominated had been duly elected.

The Parish Council's comments regarding planning application 190915 had been noted by the planning officer, who had commented that 'they can't require anyone to finish works. Furthermore, the access was granted permission under a separate application'.

The first Dulas Brook Natural Flood Management Community Group meeting will take place on 7th May from 6.30pm in Ewyas Harold memorial Hall.

7. CONSIDER PLANNING

7.1 PLANNING CONSULTATION

Site: Land adjacent to Rockfield House, Michaelchurch Escley, HR2 0JW

Proposal: Proposed three-bedroom dwelling (replacement of extant planning permission SH980153PF).

Application No: 190780

Grid Ref: 331922:233624

NO OBJECTIONS

7.2 PLANNING CONSULTATION

Site: The Grove Farm, Michaelchurch Escley, Herefordshire. HR2 0PT

Proposal: Proposed agricultural building.

Application No: 191222

Grid Ref: 331092:235078

NO OBJECTIONS

7.3 PLANNING CONSULTATION

Site: The Clothiers Farm, Urishay, Herefordshire. HR2 0SY
Proposal: (Retrospective) Material change of use to holiday let as part of Clothiers Farm.

Application No: 191025 **Grid Ref:** 331538:237287

NO OBJECTIONS

7.4 PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

Site: Old House, Newton St Margarets, Herefordshire. HR2 0QR
Description: Proposed replacement roof to single storey extension with increase to pitch.

Application No. 184487/184488 **Grid Ref:** 334870:232398

7.5 PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

Site: Blackpool Barn, Whitehouse Estate, Vowchurch.
Description: Proposed change of use or redundant agricultural building to form 2 no. dwelling houses and the erection of a new hay barn.

Application No: 183065 **Grid Ref:** 334904:235449

7.6 AGRICULTURAL & FORESTRY BUILDINGS & OPERATIONS – PRIOR APPROVAL IS NOT REQUIRED

Site: Cornel Farm, Newton St Margarets, Herefordshire HR2 0RF

Description: Proposed agricultural building

Application No: 190971 **Grid Ref:** 332669:235465

8. FINANCE

8.1 Confirmation of bank balance - £10,583.88 Statement Sheet No. 131 issued 17th March 2019.

8.2 Receipts – None.

8.3 Payment to Mrs Linda Cowles for March 2019 Clerk's hours and £37.10 plus VAT for ink cartridges, £2.80 postage and £2.00 stationery – **Payment agreed.**

8.4 Payment to Mr T Griffiths, invoice no. TGC0713 for March 2019 (1) roads account of £364.00 plus VAT – **Payment agreed.**

8.5 Finance Working Group – The quarterly reports were distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Finance Working Group confirmed that the spreadsheets, invoices and PAYE had been checked at the quarterly meeting and all were in order,

8.6 2018-2019 AUDIT – It was agreed to appoint Mr Chris Hayward as internal auditor for 2018/19.

8.7 CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION 2018/19 – The Certificate of Exemption 2018/19 for smaller authorities was approved and signed accordingly.

9. LENGTHSMAN ANNUAL MAINTENANCE PLAN – It was agreed that the annual maintenance plan for 2019-20 would remain the same as the previous year with the Lengthsman working one day per month from April – September, increasing to two days per month from October – March. The Clerk will complete the plan accordingly and forward to Balfour Beatty.

10. ST MARY MAGDALENE'S CHURCH, TURNASTONE – The Parish Council has become aware that Hereford Diocese are considering making changes to St Mary Magdalene church in Turnastone and are concerned that the wider community are unaware of any plans. There is a possible proposal to install a holiday pod within the church with the graveyard being used as a car park. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to Mr Stephen Challenger at the Diocesan Advisory Committee for an update on any proposed works and to enquire if they have had any consultation with the wider local community.

- 11. GREEN LANE/BERRINGTON LANE, VOWCHURCH** – Some residents who live close to this application have been contacted by Herefordshire Ramblers to advise they have made an application to Herefordshire Council that the Definitive Map and Statement for the area be modified by adding and upgrading this to a restricted byway. The Clerk has contacted the Rights of way Team Leader who has confirmed that an application has been made but the applicant must notify the landowners first of all and that it would be sometime before the case is investigated. The Parish Councils main concern is that they do not want it to be used by motor vehicles. It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk would write to the Ramblers Association to ask what they plan to do and why.
- 12. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE** – Councillors were advised of the latest number of visitors to the website gathered by the Google analytics report. Mr Kernahan passed the log-in details to the Clerk to enable this to be monitored on a regular basis. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact GV Webdesign regarding how the website is protected and was the security regularly updated.
- 13. MAY NEWSLETTER** – Elections and Footpath Officers to be included in the June newsletters as the May deadline has been missed.
- 14. NOTE THE CORRESPONDENCE SHEET** – The correspondence sheet was noted.
- 15. RAISE MATTERS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL** – Thursday 16th May 2019 at 7.30pm in Vowchurch & Turnastone Memorial Hall – None at present.

As Mr Keith Hortin had decided not to stand for election in the St Margarets Parish elections the Chairman thanked him for his contributions to the Parish Council over the past six years.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....