

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

**Minutes of the Vowchurch Group Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 20th June 2019
at 7.30pm in Newton Church Room**

PRESENT – Mr P Mason (Chairman), Mr E Williams, Mr H Franklin and Mr T Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE – Ward Councillor Peter Jinman, PC Roger Bradley, PCSO Peter Knight and Mrs L Cowles (Clerk).

1. ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Mr A Picton, Mr J Kernahan, Ms E May, Mr S Cole, Mr R Lloyd and Mr T Griffiths (Lengthsman).

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 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – 16th May 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 area has been relatively quiet. They reiterated that members of the public should continue to report anything suspicious either via 101 or the team's mobile numbers. A member of the public had recently reported a suspicious vehicle at their property which enabled the police to establish that it had been stolen and they were able to recover the vehicle. It was agreed that the parish council would highlight reporting anything suspicious in the next newsletter article. There should be a new police sign at the Fire Station in Peterchurch shortly. The PCC is steering many areas to be integrated with the Fire Service in shared locations.

5.2 Ward Councillor – Councillor Jinman reported that the new cabinet was now in place at Herefordshire Council which consisted of members from The Independents, Greens and It's Our County. The Leader is an Independent. Councillor Jinman is one of three advisors to the new leader so will become more involved in cabinet issues. The proposed Hereford Bypass is one issue the cabinet are currently reviewing. He has been impressed with the calibre and standard of the permanent officers at Herefordshire Council, they have been determined to assist new members. The planning application at Cwarelau Farm looks set to be determined by a Senior Planning Officer in the near future.

5.3 Lengthsman report and Locality Steward site visit report – The Lengthsman was unable to attend the meeting but would be in the area next week for routine maintenance. Following the site visit to the U75015 between the Locality Steward and Alan Picton a number of photos and overview maps of the drainage at the location have been sent to the schemes department manager at Balfour Beatty. He is working with Herefordshire Council to have a ditching and grip team complete works around the County although the areas where work will be completed will be subject to research which is ongoing to establish ownership. Many ditches around the County are not the responsibility of Herefordshire Council and are down to the Riparian Owners to maintain.

The Locality Steward has also advised that the flooding on the C1209 by Percival Place is being caused by a collapsed culvert under the road which needs completely replacing. The current budget has already been spent for the year but this will go on the list. The ditches in the area also need redigging by the landowner or there will be no benefit in completing the road crossing.

The C1205 near Rockyfold Farm, Michaelchurch Escley will be closed on Friday 5th July between 0900 – 1700.

6. CLERKS UPDATE – Longtown Group Parish Council have submitted their Regulation 16 NDP to Herefordshire Council for consultation. The consultation runs from 13th June to 8th August 2018. Following on from Herefordshire Council's survey in 2017 to enquire whether the parish council are minded to introduce an allowance scheme for Councillors they are again enquiring whether the parish council has any intention to introduce a scheme. It was agreed that the Parish Council were not currently considering an allowance scheme.

The Clerk has received an enquiry from the Chair of Black Mountain & Golden Valley Bridleway Access Group regarding clearing Cefn Lane. This has been passed onto the Locality Steward who has confirmed that he is happy to meet them to discuss.

The Clerk has tried to contact the dog warden and will chase for a response.

Paul Norris, the Locality Steward has confirmed that he has spoken to the landowner at Turnastone Court and has confirmed that he is happy with the hedging and has made the landowner aware that they cannot block the visplay fencing. He was in full agreement. Paul Norris also confirmed that the tree planted by the bridge would not damage the bridge footings.

7. CONSIDER PLANNING

7.1 (PART 3) CLASS Q – PRIOR APPROVAL

Site: Agricultural building south of Kings Arms, Urishay, Herefordshire.
Proposal: Notification for prior approval for a proposed change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house (Class C3) and for associated operational development to create a single larger dwelling house.

Application No: 191913 **Grid Ref:** 331412:236702

NO COMMENTS

7.2 PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

Site: Land adjacent to Rockfield House, Michaelchurch Escley. HR2 OJW
Description: Proposed three-bedroom dwelling (replacement of extant planning permission SH980153PF)

Application No. **190780** **Grid Ref:** 331922:233624

7.3 PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

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

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

7.4 PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

Site: The Old House, Vowchurch, Herefordshire. HR2 ORB
Description: (Retrospective) Full permission for material change of use of land from agricultural to garden land with earth bund.

Application No: 191275 **Grid Ref:** 336192:236366

7.5 PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED

Site: Middle Common Piggery, The Common Road, Lower Maescoed, Herefordshire
Description: Application for removal of condition 17 and variation of conditions 7 & 20 of planning permission 172704

Application No: 184561 **Grid Ref:** 334670:230851

8. FINANCE

8.1 Confirmation of bank balance - £13,673.22 Statement Sheet No. 133 issued 17th May 2019.

8.2 Receipts – Part 1 of precept £5607.50.

8.3 Payment to Mrs Linda Cowles for May 2019 Clerk's hours, £73.42 plus VAT for ink cartridges and £1.50 postage – **Payment agreed.**

8.4 Payment to GVA Accountants for Internal audit 2018/19 of £270.00 plus VAT – **Payment agreed.**

8.5 Consider and approve Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 – The annual governance statement was approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

- 8.6** Consider and approve Accounting Statement 2018/19 – The accounting statement was certified by the RFO prior to being approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 9. GREEN LANE/BERRINGTON LANE, VOWCHURCH** – Herefordshire Ramblers have confirmed they have made two applications for modifications to the Definitive Map in Vowchurch by the way of historical documentary evidence. Under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 a deadline has been established for modifications which use documentary evidence. After 2026 no further modifications can be considered. The Ramblers, amongst other groups have embarked on a national campaign to recover these lost ways before the 2026 deadline. The Chairman advised that these particular routes were currently used by walkers and a local farmer to attend his livestock. It was thought a few local residents may object to them being modified to a restricted byway. It was agreed that the Parish Council would wait to comment until after they have received official confirmation of the modification from the Public Rights of Way Officer at Herefordshire Council.
- 10. ST MARY MAGDALENES CHURCH, TURNASTONE** – Defer to July meeting.
- 11. REVIEW RISK ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE** – The Risk Assessment was amended to include GDPR and was adopted.
- 12. WEBSITE SECURITY** – Defer to July meeting.
- 13. POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER SURVEY** – It was agreed that the parish council were generally pleased with the work of local officers. It was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman would liaise to complete the survey.
- 14. ROAD VERGES FOR WILDLIFE** – It was agreed that the suggestion from Verging on Wild on managing verges as per Plantlife’s guidelines would be supported. The Clerk would confirm to Balfour Beatty that the parish council would prefer verges to be cut once per year in the late summer/early autumn. For the rest of the year limit the cutting to safety cuts of one metre or one flail’s width wherever cutting is necessary
- 15. NEWSLETTERS** – Chairman’s report 2018/19, Election results and Parish Councillor vacancies have been included in the July Newsletter. Reporting crime to be included in the August newsletters.
- 16. NOTE THE CORRESPONDENCE SHEET** – The correspondence sheet was noted
- 17. RAISE MATTERS FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – Thursday 18th July 2019 at 7.30pm in Vowchurch & Turnastone Memorial Hall -St Mary Magdalene update and website security.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed.....
Dated.....