

# MATHON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30 pm. in Mathon Parish Hall

**Present:-** Cllr S Harte, Cllr P Davies, Cllr N Walker, Cllr M Malsbury

**In attendance:** Mrs D Taylor (Clerk); Mr C Rouse & Mr D Baldwin (Malvern Hills Trust)  
Mrs S James (Footpaths)

**Apologies for absence** - Cllr C Green, Cllr R Lawrence

**DECLARATIONS OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPI) or other DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS** falling within the terms of para 12(4)(b) of the Code of Conduct.

**Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) - No requests had been received by the Clerk relating to any items on the present Agenda**

**The Chairman adjourned the Meeting for Public Question Time/Participation.**

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

- (a) No public questions received
- (b) **PCSO/Police** – Nothing to report.
- (c) **Herefordshire Councillor** - No report
- (d) **Malvern Hills Trust - (MHT)** - A letter from Malvern Hills Trust had been sent to the Clerk and was circulated to all Councillors present. MHT had anticipated that the Scheme to amend Malvern Hills Acts would be going through Parliament early in 2019. However, things had moved more slowly and it did not look as if the Scheme would be in place before the Board was due to be re-appointed on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019. MHT had been contacting the various nominating bodies to see whether they would have any objection to the life of the current Board being extended for say 12 months in order that the current members can see the Scheme through, or in the alternative, if that proves impossible, whether the nominating bodies would be prepared to re-nominate their existing nominee to avoid someone new having to gain an understanding of what MHT is trying to do and why. After a discussion, the Council agreed to re-nominate Mr David Baldwin (their current nominee) to the new Board due to take office in November 2019. Mr Chris Rouse and Mr David Baldwin reported that the precept for MHT for 2019/20 would be £519,250.00.
- (e) **Footpaths P3 Scheme 2018/19** - Mrs Samantha James gave an update to the Council re footpaths work to date. All stiles work previously referred to had been addressed. Landowners needed to consider their position with regard to Permissive Paths. If the Permissive Path is not made clear to the public using it, then there was a risk of the route becoming a public right of way by virtue of long term usage. This was a complicated area of law and advice should be sought where necessary. The landowner should also ensure that by inviting members of the public on to land there is a liability although landowners were likely to already have insurance that covers this. The Council paid tribute to the many years of maintenance work on the footpaths made by the late Mr Ted Stewart. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had signed up to an Expression of Interest in the 2019/20 P3 Scheme. Although there was no funding available, it allows the Council access to information and support via Neil James and for volunteers to work on the Footpaths.

- (f) **Village Sustainability** - Mrs Samantha James reported that sustainability/community projects were still in the planning stage. These included a Brexit Brunch, an Asset Walk, and involvement in the Great Spring Clean in 2020.

### **The Chairman re-opened the Meeting**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019 were approved and signed. Proposed by Cllr N Walker and seconded by Cllr P Davies. The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were approved and signed. Proposed by Cllr S Harte and seconded by Cllr M Malsbury.

### **13/19 MATHON PARISH HALL**

Cllr S Harte reported that the new Chairman of the Village Hall Committee was Mrs Caroline Green. There were seven members on the Management Committee.

### **14/19 FINANCE**

To consider payment & approval of Accounts as follows :-

- (a) Clerk's Salary – February/March 2019 - £348.20 (net) Proposed by Cllr S Harte and seconded by Cllr N Walker
- (b) P3 Footpaths Invoices – (i) E Stewart - £172.50. Proposed by Cllr P Davies and seconded by Cllr M Malsbury. (ii) Hadley Bros (timber) £60.00. Proposed by Cllr S Harte and seconded by Cllr P Davies.
- (c) D W Taylor - Clerks Expenses 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 - £155.61 Proposed by Cllr N Walker and seconded by Cllr P Davies
- (d) HMRC – PAYE – Jan/Feb/March 2019 - £130.60 Proposed by Cllr S Harte and seconded by Cllr M Malsbury.
- (e) HALC/NALC subscription for 2019/20 - £354.72 – Proposed by Cllr P Davies and seconded by Cllr N Walker
- (f) D W Taylor – Clerk's office Oct 2018 – 31 March 2019 - £70.00. Proposed by Cllr S Harte and seconded by Cllr M Malsbury
- (g) Rotary Printers – website fees Jan/Feb 2019 - £33.60. Proposed by Cllr P Davies and seconded by Cllr N Walker

### **15/19 REPORTS**

**Parish Council Notice Board** - The oiling of the notice board near the Cliffe would take place when the weather had improved.

### **16/19 VILLAGE GREEN - GIGACLEAR (Rundlemead)**

The Clerk still had not received any further information re the re-siting of the large green cabinet, despite chasing. Clerk to follow up again.

### **17/19 COUNCIL ELECTIONS - 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019**

The Clerk reminded Councillors that nomination forms had to be presented to the Electoral Services Dept of Herefordshire Council by 4.00 pm on 3rd April 2019

**20/19 PLANNING**

The Council considered the following planning applications:-

- (a) App No: 190347
- Site: Meadow Cottage, Croft Bank, Malvern WR14 4DX
- Proposal: Single storey extension and new glazed link to existing house. Internal alterations to improve layout and functionality of existing house.
- Grid Ref: OS 375665,2145875
- App Type: Full Householder

The Council discussed this application, and agreed that the following comments be sent to Hereford Planning Services by the Clerk - *On the basis of it being a single storey with no future increase in height and also well screened. - Mathon PC has no objections to this application*

**21/19 HIGHWAYS**

- (a) Hackney Cross/Ditch by Stubby Pleck - Ref: CAS-658355-V4M1C4 - this had been forwarded on to the Asset Team at BB by Neil James. Cllr S Harte to speak to Cllr C Green about this.
- (b) Blocked road gully from Pitts Cottage to Half Acre. Ref: CAS-700096-YOB 4P9- this had been re-reported along with other blocked drains. So far, no work had been done. The Clerk to follow this up with Neil James.
- (c) Ongoing problems of potholes by Rooks View Drive, together with the road surface lifting further down the road. Neil James was following this up with Cllr C Green.

**22/19 CLIFFE ARMS**

Nothing further to report at the moment.

**23/19 CORRESPONDENCE** - all relevant correspondence had been e-mailed to Cllrs.

**24/19 MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

None raised

**25/19 NEXT MEETING DATE** - **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Annual Parish Meeting to be held at 7.00 pm followed by the Annual Council Meeting.**

..... Chairman Date .....

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