

Abbeydore & Bacton Group Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting
of Abbeydore and Bacton Group Parish Council
held in Abbeydore Village Hall
on Tuesday 2nd November 2021

No ABPC/MW/111

Present

Councillor Mr T Murcott Chairman
Councillor Mrs A Booth Vice – Chairman
Councillor Mr D Cook
Councillor Mr R Fenton
Councillor Mrs W Gunn
Councillor Mr M Jenkins
Councillor Mr K Millington
Councillor Mr D Watkins.

Clerk Mr M Walker

Also Present

Golden Valley South Ward Councillor Mr Peter Jinman and one further member of the public

The Parish Council Meeting was formally opened by the Chairman at 7.30pm

1.0 Apologies for Absence

No apologies received as all Parish Councillors were present
Parish Lengthsman/Contractor Mr Terry Griffiths, Locality Steward Mr Paul Norris and Police not present.

2.0 Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Group Parish Council Meeting No ABPC/MW/110 held on Tuesday 7th September 2021 were unanimously confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3.0 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

3.1 To receive any declarations of interest in agenda items from Councillors

No Declarations of Interest were made.

3.2 To consider any written applications for dispensation

There were no written applications for dispensation made

4.0 Financial Report

4.1 Receipts

Herefordshire Council BACS Remittance Advice 2976383 2 nd Part Precept 2021-2022	£4,600.00
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4.2 Payments

HMR&C 2 nd ¼ Payment July August September	£222.00
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Cheque Number 000926

Terry Griffiths Contracts Invoice No TGC1669	£470.40
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Abbeydore and Bacton Parish Council Accounts Roads-Routine Maintenance

August 2021 (1) Invoice No TGC1669

Description of work carried out: - Routine Maintenance Work

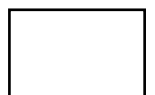
Clear grids and clean out road gully's

Jet connecting pipes

Clear road culverts and jet

Check inspection pits

Clear ditch headwalls



Clear grips and reform leads

Clear minor obstruction from ditches and reform leads

Clean off road signs

Clear minor storm debris off roads

Strim round grit bins and road signs

Strim verges on bends junction splays, areas regularly used by pedestrians & no footway is present

Roads covered on this visit

C1212 From parish boundary (Wormbridge) to B4347

C1225 From C1212 to C1223

C1209 From B4347 to parish boundary (Newton)

U74209 From parish boundary (Newton) to B4347 U74211

Cheque Number 000927

Terry Griffiths Contracts Invoice No TGC1670 £470.40

Abbeystre and Bacton Parish Council Accounts Roads-Routine Maintenance

September 2021 (1) Blue Invoice No TGC1670

Description of work carried out: - Routine Maintenance Work

Clear grids and clean out road gully's

Jet connecting pipes

Clear road culverts and jet

Check inspection pits

Clear ditch headwalls

Clear grips and reform leads

Clear minor obstruction from ditches and reform leads

Clean off road signs

Clear minor storm debris off roads

Strim round grit bins and road signs

Strim verges on bends junction splays, areas regularly used by pedestrians & no footway is present

Roads covered on this visit

C1222 Within parish boundary

C1223 From C1222 to C1225

C1224

C1225 From C1223 to C1221

C1221 From C1225 to parish boundary (Wormbridge) Materials Marker spray

Cheque Number 000928

Clerk's Salary October 2021 Gross £369.97

Mileage £4.32

Postage £1.32

Village Hall Electric £2.00

Tax £74.00 NIC £0.00

Nett Pay £303.61

Cheque Number 000929

Prolectrical Invoice Number 001570 £90.00

Installation of replacement defibrillator yellow cabinet

Cheque Number 000930

Plusnet 31/08/2021 Invoice 00002570640-3 £21.75

Plusnet 29/09/2021 Invoice 00002570640-3 £22.15

DD Payment

Resolved unanimously that all payments are approved

4.3 Bank Balance

Bank Statement @ 3 rd September 2021	No 85	
Business Bank Instant Account		£13,070.20
Bank Statement @ 4 th October 2021	No 86	
Business Bank Instant Account		£13,070.3

Bank Balance

Bank Statement @ 3 rd September 2021	No 42	
Treasurers Current Account		£8,932.90
Bank Statement @ 4 th October 2021	No 43	
Treasurers Current Account		£12,769.39

5.0 Public Question Time

A 10 minute period is to be allocated if required to facilitate any member of the public to address the assembled Parish Councillors

No matters raised

6.0 Queens Green Canopy

Parish Councillor Mrs Ann Booth gave an overview of the Tree Planting Initiative to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

Possible site for a tree is on Ewyas Harold Common – Ann to contact the Trustees – no reply as yet. Ann stated that there were trees available from the Woodland Trust in multiplies of 30 trees, some Silver Birch, Rowan and Wild Cherry.

The Parish Council agreed in principal to buy and plant a tree at the top end of Ewyas Harold Common.

Authorisation awaited from Ewyas Harold Common Trustees,
Ward Councillor Peter Jinman to ask permission from the Trustees.

Agenda item for the next full Parish Council meeting

7.0 To Receive Reports (if available) from:-

7.1 Golden Valley South Ward Councillor Mr Peter Jinman gave an overview of the following:-

Flooding – Duffryn Corner now completed

Kerry's Gate Road now open - Fencing has disappeared from one side of the newly finished bridge road works.

There is budget monies for stations

Contact with Railway Consultants and Jesse Norman MP is on board.

Department of Transport no reply as yet

Herefordshire Council are behind the scheme

Wales require more railway transport

7.2 Parish Footpaths

No problems highlighted

7.2i Parish Footpaths Officer Vacancy

Councillor Mr T Murcott Chairman has made contact with Mr Joe Rumer who is willing to send reports to the Parish Council but does not wish to be formally the Parish Footpaths Officer

Some footpaths signs have been replaced but actual footpaths are impassable.

7.3 Locality Steward Mr Paul Norris

Information sent to Parish Councillors by email.

7.4 Lengthsman Mr Terry Griffiths

Terry Griffiths Contracts Invoice No TGC1669 and Invoice No TGC1670

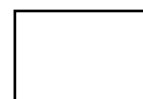
See Item 4.2

7.5 Broadband update

"28 October 2021 Jesse Norman MP Rural Broadband

One of my earliest actions as a new Member of Parliament was to convene a major public meeting at the Three Counties Hotel in July 2010 on the vital local topic of fast broadband.

The Minister of State, Ed Vaizey MP. came up from London and we had a huge turnout of over 100 local people, testifying to the importance of the issue. Herefordshire was then one of the first areas to be included among the new Government broadband pilots.



Since then there have been stops and starts, but overall it is fair to say that tremendous progress has been made. Tens of thousands of business premises and homes now have fast broadband, and full fibre is being rolled out in Hereford and soon I hope in Ross-on-Wye.

Fastershire, the local authority initiative that straddles Herefordshire and Gloucestershire, has done a very good job.

But amid all this progress there has been a huge hole: a slew of rural hamlets and village communities, especially at the upper end of the Golden Valley, and in the Wye Valley, where even now there is no fast broadband of any kind.

While much of the county has enjoyed the benefits of fast broadband, these communities have been left behind. Worse still, their old pre-upgrade broadband service has actually deteriorated, to such an extent that it is becoming not merely inadequate, but unstable and unusable.

Businesses cannot function, young people cannot study, families cannot communicate. All this in the age of Covid and Zoom technology!

The Gigaclear rural full fibre contract agreed in 2015 (!) was designed to fill in the gaps. Much has been promised, regularly, but it has been repeatedly delayed. Just eight months ago, it looked as though we at last had daylight, with confirmation of a further contract with them that promised to bring full fibre at last to these most rural and dispersed areas. It was not to be.

But the problem is not just with Gigaclear; it is with Openreach as well. The existing telecoms service must be maintained, indeed upgraded, if these communities are to have any chance to handle a difficult winter, and the influx of staycation tourists over the summer months.

It is possible that the gap can be closed with new public investment.

I have made clear to the operators, and to Ministers, that Herefordians must be able to take full advantage of online services for education, entertainment and business.”

10th November 2021 Cabinet Paper from Herefordshire Council on Broadband updating on Fastershire and *Gigaclear (*Sub-contractor of Fastershire *some part has gone bust) Gigaclear is now unable to fulfil some contracts.

Mr Peter Jinman, Councillor Mr T Murcott and Mr Matthew Engle had a meeting, including Jesse Norman MP via ZOOM.

Trial in the Golden Valley not taking place now.

7.6 Neighbourhood Development Plan update

No further updates – remove from agenda

7.7 Golden Valley Action Group update

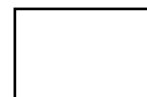
No further updates available Toby to obtain information.

7.8 Black Hill Community Network (BHCN) update

“Black Hill Community Network have: continued to provide support via food-boxes, prescription pick-up and delivery, minor practical help in the house, negotiations re reinstating bollards outside a house, lifts to doctors’ appointments etc. (when/if Dore Transport hasn’t been available/appropriate) and signposting to other information and support; established a new web site and maintained the phone help line; become a (Virtual) Talk Community Hub; raised funding to support the costs of delivering and expanding our support and activities; sought and received funding to enable Black Hill Community Radio to relaunch this autumn as a fully-fledged Community Radio Station;

We are conscious that: we have been seen very much just as a Covid response support service and as a result through the summer requests for support or information has declined; there are very likely to be more people looking for support or information of all kinds this winter, due to economic, weather, health and social care challenges (Covid related or otherwise); we have not kept in touch with our volunteers and community partners in a regular and meaningful way to ensure that we are sharing information on what our communities might want from us; our first submission to the Charities Commission to secure Charitable Incorporated Organisation status has failed (which we are told is par for the course), so we need to heed the advice note and put a further application in as soon as possible.

Our next significant step is: to agree our new communication plan to include a lead volunteer for communication; our What Matters Conversation with people and partners in our communities (see further info below);



attending existing community events such as Vowchurch Market, Longtown Community Library etc. to promote what we do and the Talk Community Directory, get feedback on what people might need or want, secure more volunteers.

What we would like to discuss in more detail with the Parish Council via the working group that was set up is Establishing what the needs for support and information might be within the Parish Council area; securing volunteers from the area; which existing local events or groups BHCN could attend in order to promote BHCN and what is available;

Supporting the What Matters conversation We all want to live in the place we call home with the people and things that we love, in communities where we look out for one another, doing the things that matter to We plan to use this statement in postcard, poster, online and on Black Hill Community Radio to encourage individuals, families, friends, groups and organisations in the Black Hill Area to have a conversation about What Matters to them when it comes to living here.

We recognise that What Matters can change dependant on circumstances, experiences, age etc. and can range from worrying about rent, heat, food, transport, isolation, the environment etc. through to good neighbours, looking for ways to meet up with like-minded people, sharing skills, looking for a piece of information and could be a long term challenge or a five minute one. This can be a celebratory conversation and/or a concerned one.

Our hope is that we can get people to let us know what 3 things matter to them at the moment – and whether these things are being met/provided for (so a celebration opportunity) or if there is anything we or our partners might be able to do to support achieving them.

Hopefully you get the idea.

Finally, but definitely not least, we are looking for volunteers to go onto a rota through the winter to do a specific task that takes about an hour maximum, once a fortnight in the Vowchurch Common Area to help out a member of that community– I would prefer not to give details at the moment, but we are liaising with Peterchurch Hub to try and fill this particular rota. If members of the PC know of anyone in this area or indeed anyone generally who might be able to help out we would love to hear from them.”

They will get in touch with the Parish Council if help is required.

Working Group meeting with Toby, Ann and the Clerk before January Parish Council meeting

8.0 Bacton Post Box

Missing Post Box at Bacton update

Acknowledge received from Jesse Norman MP

Clerk had written yet again to Royal Mail and cc to Jesse Norman MP – no replies received.

Clerk to again contact Royal Mail.

9.0 Herefordshire Parish Council Summit

Councillor Ann Booth to give résumé of the Summit held on the 14th September 2021

1.) Possible reinstatement of Lengthsman Scheme. BBLP should only be contacted on this email specifically for PCs - herefordshireparishes@bblivingplaces.com General consensus that BBLP are poor.

2.) Council are offering grants of 2.5K to help businesses come out of the pandemic - pop up shops etc. "Survive and Thrive". Lots happening in market towns - none this side of the county. Will be running Digital Poverty Sessions for the over 55s!

3.) Update from Edd Williams - Police Superintendent for Herefordshire Tel: 07742 604121 Email: edward.williams@westmercia.pnn.police.uk Feel free to contact him about anything.

4.) Children and Wellbeing Survey Carried out by Understanding Herefordshire - can sign up for updates on their activities on their website. No indication as to what schools/young people approached (rural/city?)

28% of Year 7 girls are not happy with their life currently

59% of secondary school girls worry about the way they look

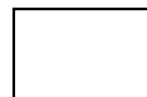
5.) Questions for PCs

What facilities are there for Young People in our area?

How are we engaging with Young People in our area?

How do we get Young People to engage with the PC? - suggestion that every PC should have a Councillor who is under 25!

Collaborations with neighbouring PCs - neither Ewyas Harold or Longtown were in attendance



Very little as a whole for small, rural PCs. A high emphasis on action within Hereford and the market towns, areas of higher population. We should be asking ourselves what we want from the Council.

10.0 Parish Council Paperwork Distributed via Email

To confirm amendment to distribution method of Agenda Minutes Finance etc. via email or hardcopy
All Parish Councillors agreed for information and meeting paperwork to be emailed to them.
Councillor Mr David Watkins would still receive information and paperwork by post.
Clerk to print and bring several Agendas to future meetings.

11.0 Highways and Footpaths Issues

11.1 Update on drainage issue on the B4347 near the Old Rectory Abbeydore entrance
Still awaiting information from Balfour Beatty

11.2 To agree list of potential drainage works should further grant funding become available
1) Drainage issue on the B4347 near the Old Rectory Abbeydore entrance
2) Opposite Pentwyn Cottage approximate cost £1,950.00 + Traffic Management + VAT

11.3 To receive **new** information on Parish Highways & Public Footpaths#
No other issues raised

11.4 To confirm order of 1Tonne Bag of Grit/Salt from Balfour Beatty
Grit/Salt ordered and received by Councillor Mr K Millington.

12.0 Information Sheet

12.1 Update on previous action points and a list of correspondence received
30th June 2021 Planning Application 212280 Self Catering Holiday Unit
Farm House Farm The Barn Abbeydore HR2 0AL
Proposed change of use of agricultural field to site 4 Shepherd's Huts
for holiday accommodation
Still Valid
13th September 2021 Keith Millington's information sent to Monitoring Officer at Town Hall Hereford
22nd September 2012 West Mercia Police Community Charter Form
Information sent to West Mercia Police
September 2021 A new defibrillator yellow non-lockable cabinet has been installed outside
Abbeydore Village Hall

12.2 To confirm Parish Council meeting dates for 2022
All Parish Councillors received calendar of dates for 2022

13.0 Agenda of Next Meeting

Queens Green Canopy
Royal Mail Post Box

14.0 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

Confirmed that the next meeting will be an Ordinary Meeting of the Group Parish Council and will be held on **Tuesday 11th January 2022** meeting to commence at 7.30pm in Abbeydore Village Hall

Parish Council meeting declared closed at 8.45pm

Signed.....
Parish Council Chairman Councillor Mr Toby H L Murcott

Dated this day 11th January 2022