

Abbeydore & Bacton Group Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting
of Abbeydore and Bacton Group Parish Council
held in Abbeydore Village Hall
on Tuesday 7th November 2023

No ABPC/MW/122

Present

Councillor Mrs Ann Booth Vice Chairman
Councillor Mr R Fenton
Councillor Mr M Jenkins
Councillor Mr K Millington

Clerk Mr M Walker

Also Present

New Golden Valley South Ward Councillor Mr Matthew Engel, Parish Lengthsman/Contractor
Mr Terry Griffiths and one further member of the public

The Parish Council Meeting was formally opened by the Vice - Chairman at 7.00pm

1.0 Chairman and Vice - Chairman

To elect a Chairman and a Vice – Chairman

Councillor **Mrs Ann Booth** having been nominated unopposed was elected to the post of **Chairman** for the remainder of 2023-2024 year and duly signed the appropriate Acceptance of Office Form.
Proposed by Councillor Mr M Jenkins and Seconded by Councillor Mr Keith Millington

The position of Vice – Chairman not filled

2.0 Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received
Parish Councillor Mrs Kharon Nakielny not present
Locality Steward Mr Paul Norris and Police Representatives from Golden Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team not present

3.0 Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Group Parish Council Meeting No ABPC/MW/121 held on Tuesday 26th September 2023 were unanimously confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4.0 Parish Council Co-options

To consider any qualifying applications for **Co-Option to Abbeydore Parish**

No nominations received

5.0 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

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

No Declarations of Interest were made

5.2 To consider any written applications for dispensation

There were no written applications for dispensation made

The Parish Council resolved to change the correct order of business to Item 10.1 and 11.2

Congratulations from Councillor Mrs Ann Booth Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council on Matthew's appointment as Ward Councillor.



10.0 To Receive Reports (if available) from:-

10.1 Ward Councillor Mr Matthew Engel reported on the following:-

Obituary for Parish Council Chairman Councillor Mr Toby Murcott had been printed in "The Guardian"

"Toby Murcott stood for election to Herefordshire County Council and campaigned for improvements to broadband provision in the Golden Valley

Toby Murcott obituary Matthew Engel Wed 8th November 2023 17.41

My friend and neighbour Toby Murcott, who has died suddenly aged 60, was a man of many gifts but he was above all a zestful explainer of difficult subjects. He was a BBC science news reporter and producer on both Radio 4 and the World Service and, even after leaving the corporation staff, ran several of radio's most popular scientific programmes.

He produced many editions of Home Planet, which for 12 years (until 2012) used a panel to answer listeners' environmental questions with the same good-natured erudition that epitomised Toby. He also helped launch and produced The Human Zoo (2013), on psychology, and also worked on Connect (2007), which explored people's relationship with technology.

"He could unpick complexities for lesser mortals like me in a very accessible way," said Peter Hoare, the founder of Pier Productions, which made the programmes. "But always with due diligence and rigour. He had a masterful touch in separating the real science from the woowoo." For several years he also wrote a column in the Times evaluating complementary treatments such as the healing properties of ginger and whether marigold paste cures bunions.

Toby was born in Edinburgh and grew up in Wales, the elder son of Kenneth, a teacher, and Anne (nee Latutin), a sociologist. He studied biochemistry at the University of York, did a PhD in the subject at Bristol and had a spell as a TV researcher before joining the BBC.

In 2008 he married Sian Howells and they moved to a cottage in south Herefordshire shortly before the birth of their daughter, Dilys. The family revelled in the landscape and everything in it; Toby was especially fond of fungi. His mission to explain found an outlet teaching science at Monmouth school for girls and he also made himself indispensable to the community.

He became Chairman of the Abbeydore & Bacton Parish Council and was known as an expert on broadband. He was a campaigner for improving the service across the Golden Valley, where many homes still endure primeval speeds after years of broken promises. His expertise was a match for any official and small skirmishes were won, but he died with the battle far from over.

However, his determination on this issue gave him a reputation in local political circles. And after the death of the vet turned Ward Councillor Peter Jinman, Toby was invited to defend his seat on behalf of the pinky-green Independents for Herefordshire.

On the doorstep, he impressed voters with his charm and obvious integrity. But in the midst of the campaign he fell ill, and died unexpectedly in hospital. His conscientiousness and tenacity would have made him an excellent Councillor.

He is survived by Sian, Dilys, his mother and his brother, Dominic."

Attended mandatory induction meetings at Herefordshire Council Offices today

Report reference the Children's Department - Improving

Budget setting for Herefordshire Council

In the Golden Valley area improving property and connectivity

Fibre Broadband still only covering half of the parishes

Peterchurch and Dorstone are next on the list

2025 for Abbeydore and Bacton

Residents mobile coverage to be investigated in the future, possibly by a questionnaire

Phone lines to be connected to Broadband appliances soon

Maybe a Mini Summit to be organised with other parishes in the future

Class Q referred to:-

"Class Q allows for the conversion of agricultural buildings to houses without the need to apply for planning permission. This includes the change of use of a building or any land within its curtilage, including the building operations reasonably necessary to convert the building."



11.2 To confirm Parish Lengthsman monthly maintenance schedule and preapproved drainage work

Contract sent to Balfour Beatty and monies agreed

“4th November 2023 Terry,

Attached confirmation of approved funding

Seven Maintenance day up to and including March 2024 Two of which you have already invoiced for leaving one day each for Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb & March.

Can you confirm acceptance of these instructions. Regards Malcolm Walker

Clerk to Abbeydore & Bacton Group Parish Council”

The Parish Council resumed the correct order of business to Item 6.00

6.0 Financial Report

6.1 Receipts

Terry Griffiths Contracts Invoice No TGC2341 & TGC 2410 £880.00
Applied for not yet received

6.2 Payments

HMR&C 2nd 1/4 Payment July August September £254.80

Cheque Number 000992

{paid 30th September 2023}

Terry Griffiths Contracts Invoice No TGC2410 £528.00

Abbeydore and Bacton Parish Council Roads-routine maintenance September 2023 (1)

19-09-23 Invoice No TGC2410

Description of work carried out:- Scope of Works As Required

Clear grids and clean out road gullies

Clear receiving chambers

Clear grips and reinstate leads

Reinstate ditch leads

Clear ditch headwalls

Wash off street furniture

Strim junction splays to maintain visibility

Strim round grit bins

Collect litter and rubbish from areas worked

Roads Covered on this visit

C1222

Within the parish boundary

C1223

From C1222 to C1225

C1224

From C1223 to B4347

C1209

From B4347 to parish boundary

U72408

From C1209 to U74211

U74211

Materials Marker spray

Cheque Number 000993

Clerk's Salary October 2023 Gross £424.59

Mileage £11.30

Postage £1.50

Village Hall Electric £3.00

Tax £85.00 NIC £0.00

Nett Pay £355.39

Cheque Number 000994



PKF Littlejohn LLP Invoice SB20233023	£48.00
Professional Services	
Cheque Number 000995	
Clerk's Salary November 2023 Gross	£424.59
Mileage	£27.90
Postage	£2.75
Tax £84.80 NIC £0.00	
Nett Pay £370.44	
Cheque Number 000996	
Dore Community Transport ABPC 07/11/2023	£150.00
Cheque Number 000997	
Dore Abbey PCC ABPC 07/11/2023	£140.00
Cheque Number 000998	
Bacton PCC ABPC 07/11/2023	£120.00
Cheque Number 000999	
Abbeydore Village Hall ABPC 07/11/2023	£90.00
Cheque Number 001000	
Bacton Village Hall ABPC 07/11/2023	£80.00
Cheque Number 001001	
Terry Griffiths Contracts Invoice No TGC2134	£480.00
Abbeydore and Bacton Parish Council Roads-specific task January 2023 (1) Invoice No TGC2134	
Description of work carried out: - Specific Task Work.	
C1212	
Near junction with C1225	
Excavate to locate blocked outfall pipe from receiving chamber	
Clear blockage	
Clear road gullies	
Clear road culvert	
C1212	
Abbeydore Court Area Locate drainage gullies under flood water	
Clear gullies	
Jet to river outfall	
Notes:- Outfall pipe clear	
Flooding cause by rising river level causing water to backflow through the outfall pipe onto the road	
Options to consider putting non return valves on outfall pipes when river levels recede	
*Joint Cheque Number 001003	
Terry Griffiths Contracts Invoice No TGC2466	£480.00
Abbeydore & Bacton Parish Council Roads-routine maintenance Nov 2023 (1) 03-11-23 TGC2466	
Description of work carried out:- Routine Maintenance Scope of Works As Required	
Clear grids and clean out road gullies	
Check connecting pipe	
Clear grips	
Clear ditch leads	
Clear headwalls	
Strim round street furniture	
Strim round grit bins	
Wash off street signs	
Strim visibility splays on junctions	
Roads visited on this visit	
C1212	
From B4347 to parish boundary	
U74213	
From B4347 to U74211	



C1225
From C1212 to C1223
C1221
From C1225 to C1212
Materials Marker Spray
***Joint Cheque Number 001003**

Resolved unanimously that all payments are approved

6.3 Bank Balances

Bank Statement @ 4 th October 2023		
Treasurers Current Account	No 07	£10,140.61
Internet Printed Bank Statement @ 4 th November 2023		
Treasurers Current Account		£7,616.71
Bank Statement @ 4 th October 2023		
Business Bank Instant Account	No S06	£18,162.62
Internet Printed Bank Statement @ 11 th October 2023		
Business Bank Instant Account		£18,179.34

Bank reconciliations signed for both accounts by the Chairman

6.4 To confirm Clerk's Annual Incremental Salary increase to SPC 27
The Parish Council unanimously confirmed the Clerk's Annual Incremental Salary increase to SPC 27

7.0 2024 - 2025 Budget and Precept

7.1 To consider Draft Budget for approval

The 2024-2025 Draft Budget was considered and unanimously approved as presented
Proposed by Councillor Mrs Ann Booth Chairman and Seconded by Councillor Mr K Millington

7.2 To agree 2024 - 2025 Precept

The Parish Council resolved to set the precept for the fiscal year 2024-2025 unchanged at £9,200.00.
Proposed by Councillor Mr K Millington and Seconded by Councillor Mrs Ann Booth Chairman

Cheque Signatories:- Councillor Mrs Ann Booth Chairman, Councillor Mr R Fenton and Councillor Mr K Millington {Toby Murcott to be removed}

8.0 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

9.0 Abbeydore Village Hall

Update on various building issues

Most of works completed except for some brickwork which will be undertaken soon

10.0 To Receive Reports (if available) from:-

10.1 Ward Councillor Mr Matthew Engel

See after item 5.2

10.2 Local Police update (if available)

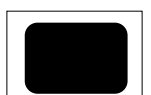
No Police report available

Questions for Police Commissioner Mr John Campion:-

Lack of Police

Only Email contact

Parishioners expected to solve crimes "DIY" style



11.0 Highways and Footpaths Issues

11.1 To receive new information on Parish Highways & Public Footpaths
Still flooding on the Abbeydore Road close to Gwatkins Cider

11.2 To confirm Parish Lengthsman monthly maintenance schedule and preapproved drainage work
See after item 5.2

12.0 Planning Consultation

Planning Consultation 233043 Lower Jury Farm Wormbridge Hereford HR2 9EE
Prior approval for the change of use of one agricultural building and its respective curtilage to a larger dwelling

16th November 2023 14.41 Good afternoon,
Abbeydore and Bacton Group Parish Council considered consultation No 233043 Lower Jury Farm HR2 9EE at their November meeting and resolved as follows
No objections in principal to the application however these Class “Q” applications rarely if ever provide the small family type homes desperately needed.
Malcolm Walker Clerk to Abbeydore and Bacton Group Parish Council

13.0 Information Sheet

Update on previous action points and a list of correspondence received

Planning Result

23rd August 2023

Planning Consultation 232513 Lower Jury Farm Wormbridge, Hereford HR2 9EE
Prior approval for the change of use of one agricultural building and its respective curtilage to a dwelling and the building operations reasonably necessary to convert the building.

(Part 3) Class Q - Prior Approval

This application is for a prior approval determination for a change of use and as such the new legislation does not require you to respond to this communication.

Prior Approval is Refused 9th October 2023

22nd June 2023

Planning Consultation No 231723 & 231724

The Byre Llanderwyn Kerry’s Gate HR2 0AH

Proposed amendments to internal layout, proposed log burner with external black double skinned Flue. Restoration of window, additional window, new door, dropped cill to kitchen, addition of conservation style roof-lights to new W/C and bathroom to rear courtyard.

Application Approved 2nd November 2023

Correspondence received

October 2023

Registrable of Interests Form sent to the Monitoring Officer for Mrs Kharon Nakielny

2024 Calendar of Meeting Dates given to all Parish Councillors

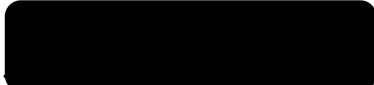
14.0 Agenda of Next Meeting

Changes with Landline telephones

15.0 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 9th January 2024** in Abbeydore Village Hall, meeting to commence at 7.00pm

Parish Council meeting declared closed at 8.25pm

Signed..... 

Parish Councillor Mrs Ann Booth Chairman

Dated this day 9th January 2024