

# Abbeydore & Bacton Group Parish Council

**Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting**  
**of Abbeydore and Bacton Group Parish Council**  
**held in Abbeydore Village Hall**  
**on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

No ABPC/MW/124

**Present**

Councillor Mrs Ann Booth Chairman  
Councillor Mr Richard Fenton  
Councillor Mr Melvin Jenkins  
Councillor Mr Keith Millington  
Councillor Mrs Kharon Nakielny  
  
Clerk Mr Malcolm Walker

**Also Present**

Golden Valley South Ward Councillor Mr Matthew Engel and one further member of the public

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

**1.0 Apologies for Absence**

No apologies were received as all Parish Councillors were present  
Apologies from Police Representative from Golden Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team  
Parish Lengthsman/Contractor Mr Terry Griffiths and Locality Steward Mr Paul Norris  
not present

**2.0 Minutes**

The 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 minutes ABPC/MW/124 were unanimously confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

**3.0 Parish Council Co-options**

To consider any qualifying applications for **Co-Option to Abbeydore Parish**  
No nominations received

**4.0 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

**4.1** To receive any declarations of interest in agenda items from Councillors  
No Declarations of Interest were made

**4.2** To consider any written applications for dispensation  
There were no written applications for dispensation made

**5.0 Financial Report**

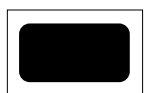
**5.1 Receipts**

Terry Griffiths Contracts Invoice No TGC2573	£440.00
BACS 4159234 Received 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	

**5.2 Payments**

Terry Griffiths Contracts Invoice No TGC2573	£528.00
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**Cheque Number 001008**  
Abbeydore and Bacton parish Council Roads  
Routine maintenance January 2024 (1) 25-01-24 Invoice No TGC2573  
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	
Roads covered	
C1222	
From C1221 to parish boundary	
C1221	
Within parish boundary	
C1223	
From C1222 to C1225	
C1224	
C1209	
From B4347 to parish boundary	
Materials Marker Spray	
Clerk's Salary February 2024 Gross	£436.51
Mileage	£11.30
Postage	£2.25
Village Hall Electric	£6.00
Tax £ 87.20 NIC £0.00	
Nett Pay £368.86	
<b>Cheque Number 001009</b>	
HMR&C 4 <sup>th</sup> ¼ Payment January February March	£262.00
{to be paid 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024}	
<b>Cheque Number 001010</b>	
Clerk's Salary March 2024 Gross	£436.51
Mileage	£11.30
Postage	£0.75 pence
Village Hall Electric	£6.00
Tax £ 87.40 NIC £0.00	
Nett Pay £367.16	
<b>Cheque Number 001011</b>	

**Resolved unanimously that all payments are approved**

### **5.3 Bank Balances**

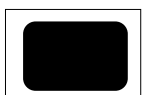
Bank Statement @ 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2024		
Treasurers Current Account	No 10	£6,011.88
Bank Statement @ 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024		
Treasurers Current Account	No 11	£4,940.42
Internet Printed Bank Statement @ 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024		
Treasurers Current Account		£5,030.06
Bank Statement @ 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2024		
Business Bank Instant Account	No S09	£18,220.15
Bank Statement @ 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024		
Business Bank Instant Account	No S10	£18,238.97
Internet Printed Bank Statement @ 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024		
Business Bank Instant Account		£18,259.11

**Bank reconciliations signed for both accounts by the Chairman**

*{Cheque Signatories:- Councillor Mrs Ann Booth Chairman,  
Councillor Mr Richard Fenton and Councillor Mr Keith Millington}*

### **6.0 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



## 7.0 **To Receive Reports (if available) from:-**

### 7.1 Ward Councillor Mr Matthew Engel reported on the following:-

Well done for Joint Police Meeting with many attendees  
Financial Budget approved  
Highways not on the agenda  
Southern Link Road costing approximately £35 million  
East West Road no problems, Allensmore and Callow areas, more houses and more cars  
B4347 Farm House Farm and Gwatkins Cider / Farm (Abbeydore side) culvert collapsed  
Water still on the road

### 7.2 Local Police update & Police & Crime Commissioners Joint Meeting Report

#### 7.2i) Local Police update (if available)

No Police present and no report available

#### 7.2ii) Police & Crime Commissioner West Mercia Police Joint Meeting

#### **Meeting with Police & Crime Commissioner Mr John Campion**

#### **Held in Abbeydore Village Hall Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 at 7.00pm**

#### **Attendees**

#### ***Abbeydore & Bacton Group Parish Council***

*Parish Council Chairman Cllr Mrs Ann Booth*

*Cllr Mr Melvin Jenkins*

*Cllr Mr Richard Fenton*

*Parish Council Clerk Mr Malcolm Walker*

#### ***Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council***

*Cllr Mr Alex Culpin*

#### ***Kentchurch Parish Council***

*Parish Council Chairman Cllr Mr John Chance*

*Cllr Mrs Jenny Evans*

#### ***Kilpeck Parish Council***

*Parish Council Vice-Chairman Cllr Mr Mark Parsons*

*Cllr Mr David Howie*

*Cllr Mr Roger Probert*

#### ***Longtown Group Parish Council***

*Cllr Mr Stephen Cook*

#### ***Vowchurch Parish Council***

*Parish Council Chairman Cllr Mrs Elizabeth May*

*Golden Valley South Ward Councillor Mr Mathew Engel    Jeff Rouse PC 3687*

*Jemma Towers PA to Mr John Campion*

*Mrs Sheila Walker (taking notes for the Parish Council)*

*Abbeydore & Bacton Group Parish Council Chairman Mrs Ann Booth welcomed everyone and following introductions invited Mr Campion to give an overview of his role as the West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner.*

*Mr Campion clarified his role explaining that he is responsible for the Governance of the force which included budgeting which related to Council Precepts .His role also includes the appointment of the Chief Constable.*

*The issue of the level of Rural Policing being one of the main local issues, it was stated that there were 500 more Police Officers than there were five years ago which brought the force up to 2,500 Officers, however it was pointed out that this only returns the Officer numbers to that of the pre Government “cut backs” in 2010.*

*A prominent initiative being Rural Crime Prevention with the theft of agricultural vehicles and relevant equipment being highlighted. Currently the “Smart Water” type of marking being encouraged so that the recovery of stolen equipment can be identified thus assisting in prosecutions.*

**Question:-**    *How does the closing of rural police stations such as the one at Peterchurch In an effort to save money the police now share the Fire Station in Peterchurch as their base, although there is no counter service, something which will not in the foreseeable future be a service offered. The Commissioner emphasised that emergency calls should be made to 999 with other issues being reported on 101. There is also the facility to make a report online which reflects the questions that would be asked by the telephone operatives at the 101 centre.*



**Question:-** Why is there an apparent poor response to rural crime in particular poaching which can involve firearms?

All "live" issues relating to firearms should be reported using 999 where the call handler will arrange the appropriate response.

Other suspicious incidents should be reported using 101 or contacting your local force so that all such intelligence can be collated to possibly assist future operations.

Clearly crime is very different to that of 2010 in particular online fraud or email scams these should be reported to [www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/phishing-scams/report-scam-email](http://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/phishing-scams/report-scam-email)

**Question:-** Why do we not receive feedback following incidents

Direct feedback to victims of crime should take place with more general updates being provided in the Safer Neighbourhood Publication

**Question:-** We would like to see more police presence in the area is this likely to happen?

With the existing West Mercia Police budget being approximately 280 million pounds which has to cover Officers as well as 800 vehicles and ancillary equipment, the cost of more Officers would have to be reflected across the West Mercia Area in the Police precept part of everyone's Council Tax

**Question:-** What is the situation with regards to Special Constables

The level of Special Constables is down currently to approximately 50 this in part is due to the level of resource required for training purposes although this has now been resolved and the aim is to have 120 Specials with a view to increasing this to 160

**Question:-** What is the situation regarding Drug & Drink Driving

Currently Drug Driving is on the increase with what appears to be an increase in the recreational use of drugs such as cocaine on nights out and the effects still evident in the system during the next day(s)

Dedicated traffic teams are now able to conduct road side spot checks and test for drugs as well as alcohol. The use of unmarked cars can sometimes create the impression of a lack of police patrols, however statistics prove that the use of these vehicles greatly improves intelligence gathering and as a consequence operational successes.

Operation SNAP is also assisting in the report of dangerous driving with members of the public being encouraged to report using dash cam footage which will then be reviewed and acted upon as appropriate. There are reportedly as many as 3 million dash cams in use in the UK.

**Question:-** Is domestic burglary taken as seriously as it should be with the emphasis appearing to be on providing a crime number with many incidents not receiving (if at all) a visit until days later.

Burglary is always taken seriously and there is a commitment to attend every incident. However in practice due to other ongoing operations this may not always take place as soon as it should but to repeat it is a commitment which we endeavour to fulfil.

**Question:-** Can victims be assured that they will receive feedback about an investigation

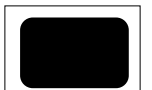
Again this is always a commitment to keep victims as up to date as possible

It had become apparent during the meeting that the Parish Council areas were covered by two different forces.

With the Golden Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team being considerably more visible in the area they covered than the parishes covered by the South Wye SNT and it was the general opinion that this was because the South Wye Team were Hereford City based and the parishes which they covered were on the fringes of their operational area.

The Commissioner advised that there was a small budget for crime prevention schemes and more information was available from their local policing team. There is also some funding available from the West Mercia Police Towns and Village Project which is being administered by the "We Don't Buy Crime" Co-ordinator Amy Brice 62966 and can be contacted for more information by email: [amy.brice1@westmercia.police.uk](mailto:amy.brice1@westmercia.police.uk)

There being no further questions the Chairman Cllr Mrs Ann Booth thanked the Commissioner and Councillors for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm. Malcolm Walker Clerk



## 8.0 Abbeydore Village Hall

Update on various building issues

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

## 9.0 Highways and Footpaths Issues

9.1 To receive new information on Parish Highways & Public Footpaths

See Item 7.1

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

The Parish Council unanimously approved works

## 10.0 Planning Applications

10.1 Oak House Abbeydore Hereford HR2 0AL

Proposed variation of condition 6 following grant of planning permission ref 220736

(Proposed change of use of existing wainbarn and car port to provide gym/training facilities including resistance pool) - To widen use to allow small group & personal training sessions in the week  
Planning Permission

*Nature of your feedback: Submitting a general comment*

*Comment::The Parish Council considered this consultation at their March 2024 meeting and wish to offer the following issue of concern. It would appear from the increased potential use that there will be an increase in traffic exiting and entering from the B4347. The present access is at an angle to the main road and protrudes into the inside of a corner onto the B4347 which is a national speed limit road. The Parish Council consider that a relatively simple re-profiling of the junction would greatly improve the access.*

*Your reference number is FS-Case-594915853*

*cc to Matthew Engel*

10.2 Lower Jury Farm Wormbridge Hereford HR2 9EE

Proposed formation of access track to serve barn conversion with associated landscaping

*Nature of your feedback: Support the application*

*Comment::Abbeydore & Bacton Group Parish Council considered this consultation at their March 2024 meeting. Resolved: Unanimously to support the application*

*Your reference number is FS-Case-595092055*

*cc to Matthew Engel*

## 11.0 Information Sheet

Update on previous action points and a list of correspondence received

### Planning Results

No new planning application update

### Correspondence received

14<sup>th</sup> January 2024      Report Road Signage Problem  
                                    Bacton Finger Post  
                                    FS-Case-577299707

### Planning Enforcement Complaint

Thank you for submitting Enforcement Complaint Form

Details of breach: Substantial new construction work in the site Date breach commenced: 01/01/2024

Is the breach worsening: Yes

Harm being caused by the alleged breach: Building without planning consultation

Location of breach: Allcott Cottage Bacton Herefordshire HR2 0AR

Grid reference (if known):

Name of contravener: M N Powell

Address: Allcott Cottage Bacton Herefordshire HR2 0AR

Additional information (Planning history, etc.): Previous history of building first then applying for retrospective permission

Your reference number is FS-Case-595106632



**12.0 Agenda of Next Meeting**

**13.0 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting**

Confirmed that the next meeting will be the Annual Parishes Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting in Abbeydore Village Hall Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to commence at 7.00pm

Parish Council meeting declared closed at 7.45pm

Signed..........

Parish Councillor Mrs Ann Booth Chairman

Dated this day 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024