

## TARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LADY EMILY COMMUNITY HALL ON MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2020 AT 7.30PM

**Present:** Councillors: Janette Ward (Chairman), Robert Hodges, Ian Howard, Phil Avery, Simon Bailey and Robin Hodgson.

**In attendance:** Jennifer Eva – Parish Clerk and Ward Councillor John Hardwick.

**Public:** 5

1. **Apologies for absence** ... were received from Cllr Paul Grey (Vice-Chairman).
2. **To receive declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation** ... were received from Cllr Hodges as a member of the VE Day working group.
3. **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020**  
It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.

#### 4. Open session

##### 4.1.1 Update from Herefordshire Ward Councillor Hardwick

- Herefordshire Council (HC) set the 2020/21 Council Tax for Band D properties in Tarrington at £1,646.12 per annum, which is average for Band D in Herefordshire.
- HC Officers are working hard to repair flood damaged roads, including the B4224 Fownhope Holme Lacy road which suffered a landslide. Cllr Hardwick, Clive Hall (HC Highways) and John Harrington (HC Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport) met on-site to consider the repairs and timings of the work.
- Mordiford School car park work is progressing and should be completed by mid-June, which will hopefully reduce congestion at peak school times.

##### 4.1.2 Matters raised by local residents relevant to the Parish

- Item 8.5.1 was considered under the open session; a resident of Church Lane informed members of his intention to reinstate the damaged grass verge in Church Lane by laying topsoil, compacting it with a heavy roller and seeding with grass.

A discussion ensued; members noted the residents plan and Councillor Bailey expressed his support, however, the majority of Councillors felt that the intended method would not provide a permanent and durable solution of repair. The Parish Council have for several years been working to repair this verge for the benefit of the community and the Chairman explained the Council's intention to fund the installation of a solid grasscrete surface to stabilise the verge, enable grass to take root and provide a safe parking/drop off space for elderly or disabled users of the church.

The Chairman and Clerk have both contacted HC several times to seek the appropriate permission for work to highways land before commencing with the repairs but have had no response. This issue has been ongoing since 2017 and the Parish Council are keen to bring it to a satisfactory conclusion.

Cllr Hardwick recommended that the Parish Council prepares a job specification and then obtains three quotations for the work to grasscrete the verge.

It was RESOLVED for Cllr Bailey, in consultation with local contractors, to draw up a specification

for the work to repair the verge, install grasscrete and seed with grass, which the Clerk will use in her approach to potential contractors.

- A resident of Sparchall Farm reported flooding near the railway line as a result of water flowing from higher ground in the parish.

It was RESOLVED for the Parish Council to purchase and deliver sandbags to residents in need.

## **6. Planning**

### **6.1 Tarrington Arms**

Cllr Hodges confirmed that the potential buyer for the pub has withdrawn his offer and it is now back on the market at a reduced price.

### **6.2 Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Members noted that the NDP Consultant, David Nicholson is working on the representations made during the consultation phase.

## **7. Finance**

7.1 Current spend against budget ... members noted this information.

7.2 It was RESOLVED to approve the following invoices for payment:

7.2.1 Herefordshire's Green Network ... annual subscription ... £25.00

7.2.2 HALC ... HALC affiliation fee, HALC and NALC annual subs. fees ... £499.23

7.2.3 Eyelid Productions ... annual website support ... £100.00

7.2.4 Clerk's mileage and postage stamps £13.62

7.2.5 RJ & JR Barrell ... hedge maintenance at Jubilee Green ... £72.00

7.3 Members noted the following payment made since the last meeting ... White Digital for the renewal of the village website domain for 2-years at a cost of £53.98.

7.4 To consider expenditure under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, for the Parish Council to join the Plunkett Foundation, at an annual cost of £240.00.

It was RESOLVED to defer this item.

7.5 To consider quotations for the purchase of a new PC noticeboard outside LECH.

Members considered three quotations for the purchase of a replacement noticeboard and RESOLVED to purchase an aluminium board from *The Parish Council Noticeboard Company* at a cost of £620.00+vat and delivery.

## **8. Highways/Footpaths/Greenspace:**

### **8.1 Footpaths Officer Update**

Members noted that a wooden bridge over a ditch on the footpath from Garbrook to above Aldersend Farm is broken – the Clerk will approach the Parish Lengthsman for a price to install a replacement bridge.

### **8.2 Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)**

The Clerk, Chairman and Cllr Hodges met with representatives from ADL Traffic and Highways Engineering, working on behalf of HC, on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The meeting was arranged to discuss the TRO to reduce the speed from 60 mph to 40 mph through Garbrook. The PC is looking to install an additional post at Garbrook for the SID deployment.

### **8.3 Larch tree on Jubilee Green**

Members noted that the Clerk and Cllr Hodges visited the site to map the trees/species. The Clerk has spoken to the Lengthsman on several occasions over the past couple of months to ascertain a date for the survey and was informed that progress has been delayed due to the arborists availability after the recent storms.

### **8.4 Church car park signage**

Members considered a request to purchase an additional sign, directing Church visitors to the parish car park.

It was RESOLVED to purchase a sign that will be installed on the opposite verge to the car park.

8.5 Church Lane – *to receive an update from the Clerk*

Members noted that in an attempt to gain permission to undertake suitable repair works to the highways verge, for the benefit of the whole community, the Clerk has contacted HCs Highways Department, Clive Hall (Lead Director for Highways and Transport) Mairead Lane (Acting Assistant Director for Highways and Transport), without reply.

8.5.1 To consider a response to a request from a resident of Church Lane who wishes to address the muddy state of the road and verge himself – *see item 4.1.2.6*

8.6 To note the Core Strategy Settlement Hierarchy Review 2020 and Highways Maintenance Scrutiny Review from Herefordshire Council and consider a response from the Parish Council. Members noted the volume of correspondence that the Parish Council has received in relation to the review documents listed.

**9. VE Day 2020**

9.1 To note that a grant funding application has been submitted by the Working Group on behalf of the Parish Council to the National Lottery Awards for All.

Members were noted that the working group have recently been informed that their grant

application was unsuccessful on this occasion. The PC are committed to supporting the events.

9.2 To consider a report from the Chairman of the Working Group that includes a schedule of events and budget.

It was RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting.

9.3 To consider holding an extraordinary meeting in April to consider VE expenditure as required.

It was RESOLVED to arrange an extraordinary meeting before April.

10. Climate Emergency – *verbal update from the Chairman.*

The Parish Council agreed to the following actions;

- To join Herefordshire Green Network – for updates and guidance.
- Continue working with *The Great Collaboration Group* of local Parish Councils that was established by HALC.
- Work to improve fuel efficiency at Lady Emily Community Hall.
- Explore potential for Electric Vehicle Charging points in the village.

10.1 Request received for the PC to support a Local Electricity Bill

It was RESOLVED to defer this item until Councillors has time to properly consider it.

**11. Defibrillator**

Members noted that graffiti has recently been daubed on the telephone box containing the defib. and bus shelter nearby. Cllr Ward offered to try and remove it by hand.

Cllr Avery will arrange to meet with the former Councillor that used to check the defib.

**12. The date of the Annual Parish and Annual Council meetings - 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:25pm

SIGNED ..... DATE .....