

09/21

**ALMELEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council**  
**Held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021**  
**at Almeley Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors: Michael Handley (Chair), Andy Cross and Rose Proctor

**In attendance:** Emma Thomas – Clerk and Ward Councillor Graham Jones

**Public:** 8

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Cllrs: John Crippin, Monica Jones, Colin Powell and Martin Skyrme

**2. To receive declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation**

None

**3. To approve the minutes of the previous meetings – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

The minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair

**4. Open session**

**4.1 To receive a report on Herefordshire Council matters from Ward Cllr Graham Jones**

Cllr Jones' report included the following items:

- There have been no full council meetings since May.
- Herefordshire Council's land supply has increased to 6.9 years. This means NDP's carry full weight.
- Both the Town and Shire Halls need extensive refurbishment.
- Next year's budget is being prepared
- Lara Edwards – Locality Steward for the Ward is leaving her post.

**4.2 To receive views of local residents on parish matters**

The following items were RAISED:

- Traffic on the diversion route through Woonton has been terrible since the Eardisley Road has been closed. Could those living on the diversion route be notified?
- Traffic past Cherry Tree Farm has been at gridlock sometimes due to the passing places not being maintained or being too small. Who is responsible for them? Who is responsible for the verges?
- Traffic issues seem to be increasing over time.

**5. Finance**

**5.1 To note the September bank balance and finance report and sign both. – Appendix 1**

The clerk REPORTED that finances were healthy for the period. The report was APPROVED and signed as evidence of budget monitoring and bank reconciliation

**5.2 To note the following payments made between meetings under Clerks Delegated Authority (Finance Regulations item 5.5):-**

5.2.1 Clerks August Salary  
NOTED

**5.3 To consider the following invoices for payment**

5.3.1 Clerk's September salary  
5.3.2 Clerk's September expenses £29.84 previously circulated  
5.3.3 Almeley Village Hall Meeting Hire – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 - £15.00  
5.3.4 HMRC PAYE £576.40

The above invoices were APPROVED for payment by BACS

**6.Planning**

**6.1 To note applications determined by Herefordshire Council**

None

**6.2 To consider applications for determination by Herefordshire Council**

6.2.1 **213049 – 18 Bells Orchard, Almeley, Hereford, Herefordshire HR3 6NE**

Proposed single storey rear extension.

It was RESOLVED to support this application

**6.2.2 212210 – Questmoor Farm, Eardisley, HR3 6LN**

Proposed new farm access and track

It was RESOLVED to OBJECT to this application on the grounds that the current situation is more than adequate for the present business use.

**6.3 To note application 213042 and consider next steps – comment to be decided in November.**

It was NOTED that an application for a poultry unit had been submitted.

The following comments were raised by Parishioners:

- It is an identical application to the one before. The previous reasons to refuse the application still stand.
- Has anything been done to get the parishioner group restarted?
- If there are enough objections will the application go to Planning Committee? It is a request for the Ward Councillor of that area to make.
- Should Ward Cllr Graeme Jones be asked to make a comment, another Ward Cllr will step in as Ward Cllr Jones has declared an interest.

Parishioners were encouraged to submit individual responses to the Herefordshire Council portal. The PC will be commenting on this application at their November meeting.

**6.4 To note the response submitted for application 211670 following the July meeting.**

The clerk confirmed that she had been unable to submit the response “same comment as before”, so she had resubmitted the original comment in full instead.

**6.5 To consider an S106 Parish Wish List for submission to Herefordshire Council**

It was AGREED to defer this item until November

**7. Parish Maintenance****7.1 To consider any lengthsman or footpaths jobs that need undertaking.**

None – it was AGREED that the clerk should remind the lengthsman to submit detailed invoices on a regular basis as and when works are completed.

**7.2 To receive a report from the Parish Footpaths Officer.**

None received. The clerk will report the broken stile in the Batch.

**8. Highways and Footpaths****8.1 To consider any highways issue that needs reporting**

None. It was NOTED that the hedge belonging to Almeley House needs cutting right back to aid visibility at the junction. As the property owner was at the meeting he was asked to do so. He agreed to trim it. The clerk will also report the lack of visibility at the junction to Balfour Beatty.

**8.2 To consider an update on the sharing of a SID with Kinnersley PC and approve the Memorandum of Understanding**

It was RESOLVED to sign the MoU. It was NOTED that the SID pole was now in place. It was AGREED that the clerk could purchase a mounting plate if required.

**9. Commons****9.1 To consider an update on a face-to-face meeting to discuss the restoration of the Common and the issue of traffic parking on the common**

The clerk REPORTED that Herefordshire Council Commons Team is over-stretched at the moment so a meeting in the near future is unlikely. A parishioner has requested that the public are able to attend this meeting if they wish – it was AGREED that the date and time would be displayed on the notice boards.

**10. Correspondence –**

The clerk REPORTED that she had requested that a “hidden dip” sign be erected near The Ferney on the A480, following an accident at this point. She had filled in a Community Commissioning form but this had been refused as the sign did not meet the criteria.

**11. To consider agenda items for next meeting – no discussion**

Clerk’s Annual Appraisal

**12. To note date of next scheduled meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at Almeley Village Hall**

NOTED

*The meeting closed at 8.27pm*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_