

## LITTLE DEWCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Little Dewchurch Parish Council, held at the Little Dewchurch Village Hall, on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025 from 7.30 pm  
No. LDPC/AW/104

### Present:

Cllr. Phil Williams (CPW) - Chair  
Cllr. Lisa White (LW)  
Cllr. Jo Hawthorne (JH)  
Cllr. Roger da Cunha (RDC)  
Cllr. Tom Price (TC)

### In attendance:

Parish Clerk; Alison Wright (AW) and Ward Cllr; David Davies (DD)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Allocated To</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>
	<p><b><u>Public Question Time.</u></b></p> <p>There were no members of the public present.</p> <p>The Public Question Time closed at 7.31 pm.</p>		
1.0	<p><b><u>Welcome to the meeting</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Phil Williams, in the Chair, welcomed the councillors to the March Meeting of Little Dewchurch Parish Council.</p>		
2.0	<p><b><u>Apologies for absence</u></b></p> <p>There were apologies for absence received from Cllr. Florin Tatoi (FT) and Cllr. Jane Lisle (JL)</p>		
3.0	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest and Dispensations</u></b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest recorded this time.</p>		
4.0	<p><b><u>To receive, adopt and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true and correct record the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025.</p>		

5.0	<p><b><u>To update in regard to the playing field Poplar trees - recent correspondence and further decisions</u></b></p> <p>No further update on the poplar trees this time. The works would be proceeding later in the year. Updates would be provided on the situation.</p>		
6.0	<p><b><u>To receive reports from</u></b> <b>6.1) Ward Councillor</b></p> <p>The Ward Councillor had sent his written report.</p> <p>The Ward Councillor was present at the meeting and he highlighted some of the items from his circulated report. The Laskett Lane closure for repairs to the road had been scheduled for a 4 to 5 day window. This was anticipated to be finished by 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025.</p> <p>The Hoarwithy landslip and road closure. Matters were ongoing and a fresh survey was being carried out to check the situation with the bank.</p> <p>There would be new grant funding available for 2025 to 2026 for the Lengthsman, Public Rights of Way and Drainage Schemes. Details about this would follow.</p> <p>There had been improvements recorded in the Herefordshire Children’s Services Department.</p> <p><b><u>Balfour Beatty</u></b> Information from the BB Locality Steward had been circulated when received. The new Locality Steward, Craig Sandman, was covering two localities following a recent resignation.</p> <p><b><u>West Mercia Police and Golden Valley Bulletins</u></b> Newsletters and information circulated when received</p>		

<p><b>7.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Finance and policies</u></b>  <b><u>7.1) Confirmation of bank balances</u></b>  The current account balance stood at £10286.41. Actual balance with all outstanding payments made was £8758.40.</p> <p><b><u>7.2) To agree Invoices for payment (list of proposed payments to be provided)</u></b>  To resolve to accept payments as per listing:</p> <p>Mrs A Wright (salary paid in accordance with contract for March)  HM Revenue &amp; Customs (Tax due on salary) £90.00  Information Commissioner (IC)) by direct debit £52.00  Mr R Simpkins (grass cutting) £165.00</p> <p>The payments were resolved to be paid unanimously.</p>		
<p><b>8.0</b></p>	<p><b>8.1) Play Area - update</b>  CPW advised that the lengthsman would be finishing off the clearing the corner of the play area and the willow arch would be trimmed back into shape. The bin by the bus stop had been reported as overflowing, but was now emptied.</p> <p><b>8.2) Roads and Footpaths</b>  Defects had been noted and reported ongoing, details of potholes had been sent through by Cllr Lisle. There was litter picking advised as being required. The Clerk would send the booking information, for the reservation of litter picking kits, to Cllr White. A litter pick would be co-ordinated.  The sign advising about the possible disease consequences of dog waste had been damaged during works and RDC had made contact with the company who had carried out the works to talk about a replacement.  The Little Dewchurch churchyard was in a poor condition, with ditches overgrown etc. It was felt that the Church Commissioners should be addressing this. The Rev'd Mark would be coming to speak to the parish council, about the church, at a future parish council meeting and the matter would be raised.</p> <p><b>8.3) Lengthsman - activities and funding</b>  The Lengthsman was not present at the meeting.  The Chair would advise the Clerk which invoices were to be reclaimed from the grant funding. The lengthsman had replaced the missing footpath signs that had been identified.  CPW would be looking at projects to make best use of the 2025 – 2026 grant funding that would be available.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>LW</p> <p>All</p> <p>CPW</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>Spring</p> <p>When Rev'd present</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

	<p><b>8.4) To further the possible purchase of potted Christmas tree for the village</b></p> <p>The idea of the potted Christmas tree was receiving mixed opinions from the councillors. There were concerns about the care and maintenance of a container based tree. Regular watering would be required in dry spells. There were also concerns about possible unauthorised removal of the tree if in a pot, albeit a large one.</p> <p>It was agreed that the position on a potted tree would be discussed and clarified in the April 2025 parish council meeting.</p>		
<p><b>9.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Planning Matters</u></b></p> <p><b>9.1) To consider response to Planning Applications, as notified, and then determined by Herefordshire Council</b></p> <p>There were further applications for consideration of comments:</p> <p><b>APPLICATION NO &amp; SITE ADDRESS:</b> Planning Consultation - 250664 - Land adjacent to Field Fare, Little Dewchurch, Hereford</p> <p><b>APPLICATION TYPE:</b> Electricity Prior Approval</p> <p><b>DESCRIPTION:</b> Proposed replacement overhead 3 phase line and dismantle existing 3 phase line running through site.</p> <p><b>GRID REFERENCE:</b> OS 353326, 232008</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed the application 250664 and resolved to support the electricity supply proposals.</p> <p><b>APPLICATION NO &amp; SITE ADDRESS:</b> Planning Consultation - 250217 and 250218- Court Farm, Little Dewchurch, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 6PN</p> <p><b>APPLICATION TYPE:</b> Full Householder</p> <p><b>DESCRIPTION:</b> Proposed work to reinstate cross wing and seek approval of details.</p> <p><b>GRID REFERENCE:</b> OS 353076, 231828</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed the applications 250217 and 250218 and resolved to support the reinstatement proposals.</p>		

<p><b>10.0</b></p>	<p><b>Information Sheet/Correspondence</b>  <b>10.1) To note contents and correspondence</b>  Herefordshire Council:  Talk Community bulletins</p> <p><b><u>Parish Summit</u></b>  Parish Summit at Plough Lane on April 8<sup>th</sup> 2025</p> <p><b>Future Meeting dates for 2025</b>  April 8<sup>th</sup> May 13<sup>th</sup>, June 10<sup>th</sup>, July 8<sup>th</sup>, no meeting in August,  September 9<sup>th</sup>, October 7<sup>th</sup>, November 11<sup>th</sup> and no meeting in  December.</p> <p><b>10.2) Update on the Little Dewchurch Social Committee and activities</b>  Cllr Hawthorne advised that the Social Committee would be meeting up the following week to discuss options and future activity plans.</p>		
<p><b>11.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Update on 106 highways matters as raised by council</u></b>  This topic was ongoing and was awaiting resolution following on from the comments made on the circulated suggestions. These had followed the site meeting to look at the situation. It was hoped that works would proceed as soon as the weather improved.</p>		
<p><b>12.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Matters for the Agenda of the next Meeting</u></b>  The usual items would be included. Also Christmas Tree (potted) to make a decision.</p> <p>Appointment of internal auditor for 2024 – 2025.</p> <p>To keep the Neighbourhood Development Plan in the parish council’s sights as changes to planning policy nationally were in progress.</p>		

<p><b>13.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Confirmation of date of next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting would be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025 from 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This was going to clash with the Parish Summit, also being held on the 8<sup>th</sup> April, and a councillor may attend the summit in order to feed back at a later meeting.</p> <p><i>The Meeting closed at 8.45 pm</i></p> <p>Signed: .....Chair</p> <p>Date.....</p> <p>Website link: <a href="https://www.littledewchurch.org.uk/">https://www.littledewchurch.org.uk/</a></p>		
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