

## LITTLE DEWCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Little Dewchurch Parish Council, held at the Little Dewchurch Village Hall, on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 from 7.30 pm No. LDPC/AW/100

### Present:

Cllr. Jane Lisle (JL) Vice Chair in the Chair  
Cllr. Florin Tatoi (FT)  
Cllr. Lisa White (LW)  
Cllr. Jo Hawthorne (JH)  
Cllr. Roger da Cunha (RDC)

### In attendance:

Parish Clerk; Alison Wright (AW) and Ward Cllr; David Davies (DD) plus two members of the public

<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 comments raised during the Public Question Time.</p> <p>The Public Question Time closed at 7.32 pm.</p>		
1.0	<p><b><u>Co-option of councillors</u></b></p> <p>No candidates for co-option were presented at the meeting.</p>		
2.0	<p><b><u>Apologies for absence</u></b></p> <p>There were apologies for absence received from Cllr. Phil Williams (CPW)</p>		
3.0	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest and Dispensations</u></b></p> <p>There were declarations of interest recorded from Cllr Hawthorne in matters relating to the playing field Poplar Trees and from Cllr White in relation to planning application 241760.</p>		
4.0	<p><b><u>To receive, adopt and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true and correct</p>		

	<p>record the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024.</p> <p>The Clerk would write to a local resident concerning correspondence about the poplar trees and enclose a copy of the September 10<sup>th</sup> 2024 minutes.</p>	Clerk	ASAP
5.0	<p><b><u>To update in regard to the playing field Poplar trees - recent correspondence and determine the way forward</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Lisle and the tree contractor had met with the local landowners who land at the access point for the entry to the playing field and for the removal of felled timber. The full impact of the proposed tree felling works was explained to the landowners and they looked at, read and signed an agreement with the parish council for the access to take place at the appropriate time to facilitate the poplar tree removal. Cllr Lisle furnished the Clerk with the signed copy of the agreement for access and it would be retained with the September 2024 Minutes.</p> <p>The meeting was advised that the bat survey would be taking place in November. Once carried out the survey would hold as current for a couple of years. The surveyor could come and double check the situation to ensure that no bats have inhabited the trees ahead of the actual felling. The bird nesting survey could also be completed at the appropriate time. The newly anticipated timeframe for felling the trees was in the time frame of around the months of July/August/September of 2025.</p> <p>The price for felling the trees had been held at £5000.00 plus VAT. The trees would be removed from the site at the time of felling.</p> <p>The Clerk would check that the Felling Licence had been received.</p> <p>The replanting program for after the trees had been removed would be completed as soon as practicable after the felling, and in accordance with the Forestry Commission guidelines.</p>		

<p>6.0</p>	<p><b><u>To receive reports from</u></b></p> <p><b>6.1) Ward Councillor</b></p> <p>The Ward Councillor had sent his report for October. He had attended a meeting with the Leader of the Council and the new delivery manager for infrastructure about the road situation. There was also going to be a site meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024 in the Little Dewchurch Village to look at the initiatives that had been implemented so far and what could be done. The aim was to sort out what had happened with the 106 grant funding and Balfour Beatty and see about highway improvements for the whole village. The person who would be dealing with the situation was Scott Tompkins. There was still the ongoing query about funding that should have been coming from “elsewhere” but that had not actually materialised. The Ward Cllr said that all of the issues were “being thrown into the pot” and that he was hopeful that at least £9,000.00 worth of highway safety work could be achieved for the village. The Ward Cllr advised that other villages were having similar outcomes. Outcomes from the Parish Summits held at Plough Lane were involved in the instigation of a proposed Charter between Herefordshire Council and the parish councils. This was being “masterminded and developed” at present.</p> <p><b><u>Balfour Beatty</u></b></p> <p>Information from the BB Locality Steward had been circulated when received.</p> <p><b><u>West Mercia Police and Golden Valley Bulletins</u></b></p> <p>Newsletters and information circulated when received</p>		
<p>7.0</p>	<p><b><u>Finance and policies</u></b></p> <p><b>7.1) <u>Confirmation of bank balances</u></b></p> <p>The current account balance stood at £11294.42. Actual balance with all outstanding payments made £8291.85.</p> <p><b>7.2) <u>To agree Invoices for payment (list of proposed payments to be provided)</u></b></p> <p>To resolve to accept payments as per listing:</p> <p>Mrs A Wright (salary paid in accordance with contract for Oct)  HM Revenue &amp; Customs (Tax due on salary) £84.80  T Griffiths (Lengthsman, dog bins) Total £44.88  Mr. R. Simpkins (grass cutting) £385.00  R. J. Seaborne (hedge cutting services) £48.00</p> <p>The payments were resolved to be paid unanimously.</p>		

	<p><b>8.1) Play Area - update</b> The playing field co-ordinator advised that there was no further update.</p> <p><b>8.2) Roads and Footpaths</b> It was reiterated that Cllr White would keep an eye on the hedge and any overgrown parts at the village green causing potential visual obstruction for highway movements. The Ward Cllr would look into options for disposal of green waste, such as may be generated by hedge clipping. Pothole reporting and footpath issues were being reported via the website reporting tool.</p> <p><b>8.3) Lengthsman – activities and funding</b> The Lengthsman was not present at the meeting. The Lengthsman Co-ordinator advised that she had now heard back from the Lengthsman’s assistant Linsey in response to her requests for urgent road sign clearing and cleaning works etc. The road signs were in need of cleaning and the speed sign near to the Plough Public House was obscured by the overgrowth of the hedge. The Ward Cllr said that he would ask the Locality Steward to sort out the overgrowth that was obscuring the signage.</p>	<p>LW</p> <p>Ward Cllr</p> <p>Ward Cllr</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>
<p>9.0</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 was one new application for consideration of comments.</p> <p>This was for:</p> <p><b>APPLICATION NO &amp; SITE ADDRESS:</b> Planning Consultation - 241760 - Land to the west of Field Fare, Little Dewchurch, Hereford, HR2 6PU</p> <p><b>DESCRIPTION:</b> Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval 222666 (Outline planning application with all matters bar access reserved for the erection of approximately fifteen dwellings, including 35% affordable.)</p> <p><b>APPLICANT(S):</b> Mr Michael Jeff</p> <p><b>GRID REF:</b> OS 353257, 231924</p> <p><b>APPLICATION TYPE:</b> Approval of Reserved Matters</p> <p>The parish council discussed the application for reserved matters for the houses at the land west of Field Fare.</p> <p>It was resolved that the parish council would submit the following comments:</p>		

	<p>The parish council is concerned regarding the concentration of properties on one particular boundary, that being the one buffering up to Field Fare, The suggestion is that the properties are reconfigured on the site to move the bungalows to the perimeter closest to Field Fare, and to move the double storey homes to a more central position in order to help minimise boundary density.</p> <p>The parish council would also like to make the request that all possible eco-measures are fully maximised on the site, including grey water recycling and solar generation where possible. The installation of solar panels and electric charging points to be fitted, as appropriate, to facilitate energy generation and car charging.</p>		
<p><b>10.0</b></p>	<p><b>Information Sheet/Correspondence</b></p> <p><b>10.1) To note contents and correspondence</b></p> <p>Herefordshire Council: Talk Community bulletins</p> <p><b>Future Little Dewchurch PC - Meeting dates for 2024 - all from 7.30 pm in the Little Dewchurch Village Hall</b></p> <p>Nov 12<sup>th</sup> and no meeting in December</p> <p><b>10.2) Update on the Little Dewchurch Social Committee and activities</b></p> <p>Cllr Hawthorne reminded the meeting that there would be a firework display in the village on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. There would not be an actual bonfire this year. The event would commence at 5.30 pm and there would be hot dogs, cakes, a bar and a raffle.</p> <p>There would be more events in the pipeline including a Christmas event to coincide with the tractor run on 7<sup>th</sup> December. Mulled wine and mince pies. There would be a Santa too. Timings would be arranged and volunteers to help were needed.</p>		
<p><b>11.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Update on 106 highways matters as raised by council</u></b></p> <p>This topic was, again, covered during the Ward Cllr's Report Agenda Item 6.1)</p>		

<p><b>12.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Matters for the Agenda of the next Meeting</u></b>  Usual items plus:  Precept.   Update on 106 and meeting with Mr Tompkins   Cllr Hawthorne gave her apologies in advance for the November Meeting.</p>		
<p><b>13.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Confirmation of date of next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting</u></b>  The next Parish Council Meeting would be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024 from 7.30pm in the Village Hall.   <i>The Meeting closed at 9.06 pm</i>   Signed: .....Chair   Date.....   Website link: <a href="https://www.littledewchurch.org.uk/">https://www.littledewchurch.org.uk/</a></p>		