

## 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> February 2025 from 7.30 pm No. LDPC/AW/103

### Present:

Cllr. Phil Williams (CPW) - Chair  
Cllr. Jane Lisle (JL)  
Cllr. Lisa White (LW)  
Cllr. Florin Tatoi (FT)  
Cllr. Roger da Cunha (RDC)  
Cllr. Tom Price (TC) co-opted

### In attendance:

Parish Clerk; Alison Wright (AW) and Ward Cllr; David Davies (DD) plus one member of the public (co-opted)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Allocated To</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>
	<p><b><u>Public Question Time.</u></b></p> <p>There was one member of the public present. This was Tom Price and he was co-opted to the parish council.</p> <p>The Public Question Time closed at 7.31 pm.</p>		
1.0	<p><b><u>Co-option of councillors</u></b></p> <p>There was one candidate presented at the meeting. This was Tom Price. Tom introduced himself and the parish council co-opted him. Introductions were held and Tom was welcomed to the Little Dewchurch Parish Council. Tom signed his acceptance of office form.</p>		
2.0	<p><b><u>Apologies for absence</u></b></p> <p>There were apologies for absence received from Cllr. Jo Hawthorne (JH)</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 14<sup>th</sup> January 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 14<sup>th</sup> January 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.</p>		

<p><b>6.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>To receive reports from</u></b>  <b>6.1) Ward Councillor</b>  The Ward Councillor had sent his written report.</p> <p>The Ward Cllr had been on a parish tour with the new Locality Steward, Craig Sandman and Cllr Lisle.</p> <p>Negotiations were ongoing concerning the landslip at Hoarwithy and the resultant road closure. The Ward Cllr advised that the landslip had been said to be the responsibility of the landowner and the highway was the responsibility of the Herefordshire Council, as the highways authority. The landowner would be meeting with the insurers. The work would need to be undertaken by specialists. Social media posts had been asking for updates on timeframes for the works to be completed. Laskett Lane was also due for urgent repairs.  The Ward Cllr asked for any queries on the road closures etc. to be directed to him for a response.</p> <p>The highway 106 reconciliation regarding road safety amendments was being progressed with Scott Tompkins. There were plans for additional road markings and road safety measures which would be implemented later on in the year. Cllr Lisle would confirm the circulated details back to Scott Tompkins with the rider that if more could be done then this would be welcomed.</p> <p><b><u>Balfour Beatty</u></b>  Information from the BB Locality Steward had been circulated when received. Craig Sandman had been appointed as the new Locality Steward.</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>7.1) <u>Confirmation of bank balances</u></b>  The current account balance stood at £12967.06. Actual balance with all outstanding payments made was £9434.13.</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 Feb)  HM Revenue &amp; Customs (Tax due on salary) £89.80  T Griffiths (Lengthsman, dog bins) Total £732.48  Herefordshire Tree Warden Network (sub) £30.00</p> <p>The payments were resolved to be paid unanimously.</p>		

	<p>There were some items for the Lengthsman to finish off in the play area and the Chair would speak to him regarding these.</p> <p><b>7.3) Electric Vehicle Charge Points (member item request)</b></p> <p>An e mail on the topic of electric vehicle charge points had been circulated. The parish council would look at the content of the e mail. Cost was a consideration.</p> <p>The parish council would evaluate the information, contained in the e mail, and decide on any potential course of action.</p>	Chair	ASAP
		ALL	ASAP
8.0	<p><b>8.1) Play Area - update</b> FT advised that the playing field was okay. Mowing and clearance had been carried out. Some finishing off was required.</p> <p><b>8.2) Roads and Footpaths</b> The defects had been noted at various points within the meeting and would be followed up. The issues of the road closure at Hoarwithy and the condition of Laskett Lane had been discussed. The area around Witherstone and the Carey Road had been looked at and the potholes reported. Craig Sandman had been shown round as new Locality Steward for the patch.</p> <p><b>8.3) Lengthsman - activities and funding</b> The Lengthsman was not present at the meeting. The Chair would speak to the Lengthsman regarding the finishing off actions required in the play area. Drainage plans had been approved and an extension to carry these out beyond March had been obtained. All of this was in hand. The Chair would look at the issues that had been raised in respect of footpaths and hedge cutting required at "Tree tops". Public Rights Of Way works would be completed with the Lengthsman.</p> <p><b>8.4) To discuss possible purchase of potted Christmas tree for the village</b> The idea would be to have a reasonably sized tree in a permanent pot that could be decorated and lit each year as the village tree. The</p>		



	<p><i>grateful if you would consult your Council as to whether they would require the road to be lighted in order that the appropriate clause can be included in the Agreement if necessary. Please note that the Councils current specification for residential lighting is LED lanterns and the design levels in rural areas will be the minimum level permitted for highway lighting. Partial lighting of the road is not permitted under highway lighting regulations."</i></p>		
<p><b>10.0 Information Sheet/Correspondence</b>  <b>10.1) To note contents and correspondence</b>  Herefordshire Council:  Talk Community bulletins</p> <p><b><u>Verge Cutting Season 2025</u></b>  An e mail had been received about verge cutting frequency. This was discussed and the parish council resolved to keep with the standard approach of two cuts per year in order to keep splays clear and visibility on the country lanes optimised.</p> <p><b>Meeting dates for 2025</b>  March 11<sup>th</sup>, 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 had sent an update to the parish council:</p> <p><i>"The update from LDSC:</i>  1. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on the Saturday before Easter Sunday. Information will be available on times etc in the near future.  2. 17<sup>th</sup> May we aim to have a Murder Mystery Evening, which is still in the planning stage.  3. Other events are in discussion planning a summer event, Firework Evening etc, information to follow."</p>			
<p><b>11.0 <u>Update on 106 highways matters as raised by council</u></b>  This topic was discussed and the Ward Cllr advised that follow ups were in progress regarding the meeting on site with Scott Tompkins and a schedule of proposed works would be agreed.</p>			

12.0	<p><b><u>Matters for the Agenda of the next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>Usual items would be included. Also Christmas Tree (potted) and discussion of comments for planning consultation items 250217 and 250218.</p>		
13.0	<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 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025 from 7.30pm in the Village Hall.</p> <p><i>The Meeting closed at 8.50 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>		