



FOWNHOPE PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOWNHOPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT FOWNHOPE PAVILION ON WEDNESDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2010 AT 07.30 PM

Present:

Parish Councillors:

- G Williams Chairman
- J Boothman
- D Clark
- D Colley
- A Corby
- J Hardwick
- F Jolley
- J Jones
- H Mansell
- M Williams

J Bateman Parish Clerk

Three members of the public were present.

Ward Councillor Pemberton was in attendance prior to the start of the Meeting and advised the Council that there was much talk about the need to monitor people who were in need of full-time care either in at home or in hospital. Apparently, parish councils might be asked to take over this role. She was assured that the vulnerable were already being well-looked after in the Parish.

1. Apologies for Absence.	ACTION
<p>Decision: Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Daines and Pascoe.</p>	
<p>2. Declarations of interest. Cllr Jolley declared a non-prejudicial interest in Items 6 and 13. Cllr Colley declared an non-prejudicial interest in Item 13.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the last meeting.</p> <p>Decision: The minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed as an accurate record.</p>	Clerk
<p>4. Public Consultation. Members of the public were invited to comment on, or ask questions about, any of the agenda items. None responded.</p>	
<p>5. Finance.</p> <p>Decision: The following payments were approved:</p> <p>Materials for repairs to vandalised playground equipment £57.2 Misc Lengthsman Supp items £50 Clerk’s salary £939.32 Clerk’s expenses £75.93.</p>	

Cllr Colley was thanked for his timely work to make the playground safe again.

6. Costs of mowing the Recreation Field.

Decision: A meeting would be held with the FRFA to discuss possible financial assistance from the Council. The FRFA would be asked to provide full details of their financial position to the meeting.

(Sec's Note: This meeting has been scheduled for 16 Oct)

7. Maintenance of the Rec Field Boundaries.

Decision: The sum of <£200 was approved to trim the Field hedges using the Lengthsman Supplementary Budget.

8. Future Financial Projects. There were currently significant underspends in the Miscellaneous Charges, Lengthsman's Supplementary and Parish Facilities Improvement Projects budgets and councillors were asked to identify any projects requiring funds which could take advantage of this situation.

9. Footpaths. An update on current, past and planned P3 work was given. The proposal to hold a meeting to discuss Lea Brink had been overtaken by the ROW decision to submit a report, content at present unknown, to the Regulatory Committee before such a meeting could be held. No further action would now be taken until the recommendations of the report were known.

Decision: The ROW Office and the Regulatory Committee, copy to Ward Councillor, would be informed of the Council's displeasure that the matter was being considered before full consultation (i.e. the proposed meeting) had taken place.

10. Lengthsman Projects. An update on current, past and planned Lengthsman work was given. The budget for Lengthsman work would soon be used up and, thereafter, it would be necessary to draw on the Lengthsman Supplementary budget.

11. Highways issues. An update on the recent 'Parish Walk' with Amey to review highway maintenance and repairs was given. A report had been sent to councillors separately of the issues which had been raised. These all appeared to have been accepted by the 3 representatives from Amey who had attended.

12. Venture Play Area swings. The recent RoSPA inspection report had categorically pronounced the swing in the area to be dangerous due to the proximity to the stream and its retaining wall. There was no practical way of remedying the problem and, consequently, the decision, now implemented, had been reluctantly taken to remove the swing.

13. Proposals to enhance the entrance to the Recreation Field. The FRFA had proposed replacing the existing bollards with something more attractive.

Decision: The Council would, after consultation with the FRFA, replace the bollards with shrubs. Two quotations would be obtained for this work.

14. Common Hill Telephone Kiosk.

Decisions:

**Chairman
Fin Gp**

Cllr Colley

Clerk

Cllr Jones

The kiosk would remain in its current location.

A quote would be obtained to apply a coat of paint.

Cllr Hardwick

15. Minor items and Announcements.

The cost quoted by Herefordshire Council for providing a glass window in the new bus shelter in Nover Wood Drive was £450 and it was not intended to proceed with this.

Herefordshire Council were being encouraged to be more vigilant in emptying litter bins in the Parish.

Street lighting was now being switched off after midnight.

Cllr Jolley was thanked for his excellent work in refurbishing the notice board.

The provision of grit bin which had been requested for Nover Wood Drive was being progress-chased.

A number of sandbags for use in the Parish had been ordered to be held by Cllr M Williams.

The Finance Group would be meeting to consider the future of the Council's Government Bond.

Cllr Corby was obtaining quotes for a replacement bench at Court Garden. In the meantime it might be possible to realign the current bench so that its undamaged section faced away from the garages.

The appointment of a new clerk, Mel Preedy, would be placed on the next agenda. The intention was that the current clerk would hand over to her at the end of December so that she could be officially in post on 1 January 2011.

Jem Bateman

Clerk to the Council