

A meeting of Dorstone Parish Council was held in the Old School Hall Dorstone on **Wednesday September 9th 2009 at 7-30 pm.**

Present: Councillor P Rye, (Chairman), Councillor S Gaze, Councillor M Hession, Councillor E Lane, Councillor P Smith & Mr C Hendy Parish Clerk.

Apologies; Councillor D James.

Also in attendance Councillor P Price Herefordshire Ward Councillor, Mr C Thomas

Declaration of interest: none

Councillors were available for the public to discuss any matter not on the agenda.

**Minutes;** The minutes of meeting August 12<sup>th</sup> 2009 which had been circulated were confirmed by councillors & signed by the chairman.

**Lengthsmen Scheme** An account had been received from the Lengthsmen for £380- 65, this included mowing, strimming, repairs to Scar Lane sign, footpath maintenance, clear landslip. Councillor Smith proposed a cheque for £380.65 was raised, seconded by Councillor Gaze & carried unanimously.

**Planning.** The clerk had observed planning application for a Farm Building at Long House Common Bach, was recorded on Herefordshire.gov.uk website, no information received by Parish Council. The clerk had made enquiries, the application site was outside the parish boundary, Herefordshire Council apologised for not informing Dorstone PC, as neighbouring authority, awaiting further drawings & would send the application when received.

**Casual Vacancy,** request if election requested this had to be signed by ten electors by 14<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Councillors discussed the remainder of the agenda, agreed to postpone items except for Parish Plan & Ward Councillor report.

### **Parish Plan**

Copies of the Parish Plan had been given/sent electronically to Councillors. Mr Thomas was invited to present the proposed final draft to Councillors. Discussion took place on the outcomes/issue to be addressed from the sub groups on Planning, Housing & Development, Traffic & Transport, Environment, Village Facilities, Communications, and Youth Issues. The proposed course of action, recommended time scale, monitoring & priority level (high, medium, low).

The sites that had previously been proposed for the traffic survey were agreed suitable. Councillor Hession proposed the Parish Council would carry out a monitor/evaluation during 2010 in April, August & December either at a scheduled parish council meeting or specific meeting, seconded by Councillor Rye & carried

unanimously. Mr Thomas was thanked for his presentation, comments could still be received from parishioners. A copy of the final version would be sent to the Parish Council.

**Ward Councillor Report**, Councillor Price's report was read out, new waste contract will commence in November, bins will be delivered shortly, black bags will still be collected weekly, bins fortnightly, new Highway Contract has started with most staff moving to Amey, savings for Herefordshire Council £1 million. 1<sup>st</sup> new Library for 15 years is opening in Peterchurch in 2010 as part of the development of the church. The GCSE results are once again the best ever, congratulations to all pupils & schools. Meeting on Golden Valley sustainable Living on 8<sup>th</sup> Oct & 4<sup>th</sup> Nov at Fairfield, this meeting will debate improvement in the opportunities that could exist to help those who live in the Golden Valley throughout their lives & particularly during their economic period of activity & retirement, including housing that is affordable & employment prospects in particular.

Update to the IT system remains on track to go live on 28<sup>th</sup> September.

Councillor Price answered questions. Councillor Lane agreed to attend the meeting on Oct 8<sup>th</sup>.

The clerk had spoken to Councillor Price regarding displaying his reports on the notice board/DFR, Councillor Price had agreed to make the format of future reports suitable for display.

Councillors agreed to hold a meeting on Sept 16<sup>th</sup> to complete the agenda.

Chairman thanked those who had attended & closed the meeting.

Signed: ..... Councillor P Rye

November 4<sup>th</sup> 2009

A meeting of Dorstone Parish Council was held in the Old School Hall Dorstone on **Wednesday September 16th 2009 at 7-30 pm.**

Present: Councillor P Rye, (Chairman), Councillor S Gaze, Councillor M Hession, Councillor D James, Councillor P Smith & Mr C Hendy Parish Clerk.

Apologies; Councillor E Lane,

Declaration of interest: none

Councillors were available for the public to discuss any matter not on the agenda.

**Minutes:** Agreed the minutes of last week's meeting would be dealt with at the next scheduled meeting.

**Planning** Permission granted to demolish existing building & replace with new dwelling at Home Farm, commence within three years, carried out in accordance with the approved plans, samples of materials to be used externally on walls/roof to be submitted to/approved by planning authority. None of the existing trees or hedgerows to be removed without permission, prior to commencement of development a detailed plan showing levels of existing site, proposed slab levels, datum point outside of the site to be submitted & approved. Construction of vehicular access carried out & approved at a gradient no steeper than 1 in 12 before any works approved are commenced.

**Telephone Kiosk** letter from BT, this confirmed the offer to adopt the kiosk for £1, all telephony equipment would be used, the kiosk could be used for the benefit of the community. 134 calls had been made in the last twelve months. The kiosk could be sponsored at a cost of £300 per annum, BT cannot remove a kiosk or telephony without the consent of the County of Herefordshire if there is not an alternative payphone service within 400 metres. Although the kiosk is in a conservation area it is not listed & could be removed. Correspondence with Herefordshire Council/Ward Councillor indicated there is no compulsion for parish councils to take up the offer, if they do not then BT are under an obligation to continue to maintain the box in working order. Councillors discussed the information, whilst concerned about mobile phone reception if the kiosk was removed, as there was alternative pay phone service & information from Herefordshire Council they agreed not to adopt the kiosk.

**Refuse Freighter Service** Clerk reported the service had been very well supported, Councillors thanked the clerk for assistance given on the day & agreed to consider requesting the service in 2010.

**Rural Settlement Hierarchy Background Paper** Councillors had no comments to make.

**Dog Fouling Control Order** Information received that the process is proving more complex and involved than was originally envisaged & indulgence was requested. The Parish Council proposal for inclusion in the County Wide order had been considered & the following was recommended;

Playing Field including Play Area & Bowls Green, Churchyard & Churchyard extension, area around telephone kiosk, Village Green will be covered by the Dog Control order A, "failing to remove dog faeces".

Churchyard & Churchyard extension control order B not keeping a dog on a lead. Playing Field including Play Area & Bowls Green, proposed Dog Control order C, "not putting & keeping a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer".

Information was requested on the Bowls Area & Play Area if fully enclosed Dog Control order D, "a dog ban area" could be used.

Defra guidance is that authorities should consider how easy a Dog Control Order would be to enforce since failure properly to enforce could undermine the effects of the order. The existing Bye-law prohibiting dogs on the playing field, (except on the public footpath) will be rescinded. Councillors discussed the proposal, requested clerk to provide information requested, clarify if the playing field could be included in Control order D, as it was fully enclosed, Councillor Smith to update Playing Field committee at forthcoming meeting.

**National Highways & Transport Survey** Herefordshire Council is part of a pioneering project called the National Highways & Transport Network Survey. This initiative involves authorities from all over the County seeking views of service users in a consistent way. The views of parish councils are important & Dorstone was asked to complete a questionnaire. After discussion Councillor Rye agreed to complete the survey & retain a copy for council records.

**Herefordshire Council** Information received indicated following the tendering process a Bus Service on Sunday would continue.

**HALC** Information on forthcoming meetings, pay claim, strengthening local democracy, meetings of parish meetings, parish polls were available to councillors.

**Directory of & promoting Small Shops**, information received on the small shops campaign, more than one thousand people nominated two hundred of their favourite shops, directory of small shops, suggestion that parish councillors use their position as community leaders to promote the small shops & support the local economy.

**Environment Agency Water Testing Ponty Weston Stream** from discussions within the parish plan group enquiries had been made regarding the testing of the water quality in the Ponty Weston Stream. Information received from the environment agency indicated no testing had taken place on the stream, only on the River Dore at Peterchurch where the water quality was good/very good. Councillors

had understood water quality checking was being carried out on the stream they requested information was obtained on how/cost of checking water quality.

**Street Light** No written information had been received from owners of properties at Oaklands/Dore View/Village centre, verbal information to councillors indicated support to have the lights off from midnight to 6.00am, off midnight back on dusk next day. With regard to costing the clerk suggested Herefordshire Council would have this information on running costs for street lights, (units).After discussion Councillor Gaze to raise with Herefordshire Council running costs & adding control units to the lights at Dore View/Oaklands place.

**Changes to the Mobile Library** Proposed the library would revert to monthly instead of three weekly, aimed at where it is most needed, longer & therefore fewer stops to coincide with regular events, used by other services eg Info in Herefordshire, chance to access Council Police & Health Services. Councillors discussed information required & suggested the visit could coincide with the mobile post office on Tuesday 9-11 & Wed 11.30 to 1.30.

With the need to hold a planning meeting at the end of the month it was agreed this meeting would replace the October meeting.

No other business the chairman thanked those who had attended & closed the meeting.

Signed: ..... Councillor P Rye

November 4<sup>th</sup> 2009

A meeting of Dorstone Parish Council was held in the Old School Hall Dorstone on **Wednesday September 30th 2009 at 7-30 pm.**

Present: Councillor S Gaze, (Chairman), Councillor M Hession, Councillor P Smith & Mr C Hendy Parish Clerk.

Apologies: Councillor P Rye, (acceptable apologies received), Councillor D James, Councillor E Lane.

In the absence of Councillor Rye, Councillor Gaze chaired the meeting.

Declaration of interest: none

Councillors were available for the public to discuss any matter not on the agenda.

**Minutes** Agreed to defer minutes of previous meeting to next scheduled meeting.

**Planning** Application received for An Agricultural Building within a working farm to provide dry sheltering & hard standing for cattle at Long House Common Bach, Design & Access statement indicated the building would be situated in close proximity to other agriculture buildings, height width & length within the guidance of BS 5502, existing access used, designed & constructed using similar materials to that within the locality, the application had been passed to Councillor Rye. Information from the planning officer indicated there were two buildings on this land, one building is being replaced for the new building due to poor condition therefore size of holding, stocking density is not required as the building is a replacement. No letters of support/objection received. Councillors discussed the application, Councillor Hession proposed the council support the application for a new building to replace the existing building, not an additional building, seconded by Councillor Smith & carried unanimously.

The clerk was requested to check the plans for Fallow Wood as a building was being erected adjacent to the existing dwelling.

**Lengthsmen scheme accounts, work required.** No account received.

**Herefordshire Council, Highways.** Information received regarding the new working arrangements between Herefordshire Council & Amey. The new arrangements are intended to enhance the service with a minimum saving of £1 million, contact will continue to Streetscene. The Clerk had raised concern both to the Ward Councillor & Herefordshire council regarding the loss of contact information for officers, reply awaited.

**Casual Vacancy** With no request for an election the council were advised the vacancy could be filled by co-option as soon as practicable. The Clerk would obtain information on a poster from HALC, Councillors requested guidance on the interview

process if more than one applicant. It was agreed to seek applications by Nov 7<sup>th</sup> & proceed with the co-option process on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Playing Field**, Councillor Smith reported on his attendance at the recent meeting, he requested the clerk send information regarding the Dog Control Order, the loan which had been provided by some parishioners to purchase the field had now been paid off. The clerk would send information to the secretary on the Dog Control order when clarification on points raised received.

**Bonfires** Councillor Gaze requested information on bonfires & any guidance when they could occur.

**Diary Dates** HALC open day October 1<sup>st</sup>, Golden valley Sustainable Living 8<sup>th</sup> October.

**Playbuilder Programme** The Children & Young People's Directorate have been awarded £1.1 million over two years to develop/refurbish 22 play areas. Invitation to find out more & apply for funding at a meeting 14<sup>th</sup> October received. Councillors requested information passed to Playing Field Committee.

With no business received it was agreed not to hold a monthly meeting in October unless a planning application or other urgent business received.

The chairman thanked those who had attended & closed the meeting.

Signed : ..... Councillor P Rye

4<sup>th</sup> November 2009