



**Minutes of The Parish Council Meeting of Lower Bullingham Parish Council
Held on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 7.30pm at Dinedor Village Hall**

Present: Cllr Darren Smith Vice Chairman, Cllr Neil Barrington, Cllr Barbara Frankham,
Cllr Andrew Fisher & Cllr Cat Hornsey

In Attendance: Parish Clerk Kath Greenow, Ward Cllr Dave Davies & one member of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Chairman Cllr Nigel Jones

In the absence of the Chairman, The Vice Chairman Cllr Darren Smith Chaired the Meeting.

**2. To receive declarations of interest on agenda items and any dispensation requests
None declared.**

3. To approve & sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting Tuesday 5th December 2023

It was **RESOLVED:** to approve & sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting Tuesday 5th December 2023. The Vice Chairman signed the minutes.

4. Public forum: Members of the public may raise subjects they wish to bring to the attention of the Parish council. (Restricted to 10 minutes) No matters raised

4.1 Ward Cllrs Report

The last month has seen various announcements on council expenditure both nationally and locally, much of which I cover in this update, and is the backdrop to what looks like being an active and somewhat challenging year at world, national and local level.

The Government has awarded a grant of 1.76 million pounds to support work on Local Nutrient Mitigation to allow the development of housing in the Lugg catchment area. It is four and half years since a ban on the granting of new houses was brought in by Herefordshire Council acting on the directions of Natural England.

The Government announced its provisional settlement to local authorities on 18th December for their revenue accounts and with a 4.99% Council Tax increase (including the social care charge of 3%) the council is proposing a balance budget for 2024/25. To be debated at its February meeting. There are national and local concerns about the rising costs of Adult and Children's care services, Home to school transport and special educational needs.

The Council has been carrying out consultations on its proposed budget and corporate plan which prioritises the statutory services. There is also a consultation on future fortnightly collection of garden waste from properties from March to October using a 240 litre brown bin. There would be a cost of £55 per annum with the garden waste being composted.

Relocate the Library and learning centre to the Shirehall and a further 3 million to reopen and make the building operational again. Jointly work with Hereford Hospital and the H&W Group Training to build and open an education facility to train local people for careers in the Health and care sector.

There is also provision to invest in Employment land and incubation space at the large council owned Model farm site at Ross on Wye and in the other four market towns.

With the recent announcement of the cancelling of HS2 beyond Birmingham huge levels of funding have now come available for transport projects- sadly if the Hereford bypass had been continued over the last four years instead of being cancelled we would have been well placed to deliver it. However the council will now look at these again build up the business case for bridge crossings across the Wye. They will also lobby for a new railway station at Pontrilas and the duelling of the line between Ledbury and Hereford.

4.2 Police report

No police in attendance

5. Lengthsman

5.1 To consider lengthsman work required.

It was **RESOLVED**: that the clerk contacts the lengthsman to request that a roads maintenance day is carried out before the end of January

Grips need to be put back in along Watery Lane and the ones at Redbrook Bridge and the drain cover is blocked after the amount of rainfall few weeks ago

The PC also ask that mound of soil is removed by the Ridgehill turn where the

Mirror is next to the gateway, there's also a mound of soil on the same side of the verge near the oak trees, and the PC requested that the soil is put along the covered piped ditches along

Dinedor as they have been eroded on the left-hand side and right-hand side.

6. Parish Footpaths

6.1 To consider Parish Footpaths work required in the parish.

No footpaths work identified.

7. Highways.

7.1 To consider road issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty.

The road at Ridgehill has had some filling in of the potholes , but these are re-opening again.

The ward Cllr advised that he would take this up with Balfour Beatty. Lower Bullingham Lane has flooded again and the drainage system needs cleaning out as it is not coping with the amount of water.

7.2 To consider a letter from Harrison Clark Rickerby solicitors regarding Proposed stopping up of Highway at Watery Lane, Lower Bullingham Hereford

It was **RESOLVED**: that the Clerk writes back to Harrison Clark Rickerby solicitors to advise that The Parish Council considered the proposal and they have reservations concerning the proposed stopping up of the highway as outlined in the letter. The PC believe that it is a matter for Herefordshire Council as the current landowner to consider.

The Parish Council feel that Herefordshire Council should maintain the land as the current landowner.

8. Finance

8.1 To note the finance report, bank reconciliation report and budget report as at 31/12/2023.

It was **RESOLVED**: that the finance report was considered and noted, and the bank balance as of 31/12/2023 was noted as £56,325.58

It was **RESOLVED**: to note the budget report and expenditure to date was within budget.

8.2 To approve payment of Clerks salary for January 2024 & paye due

It was **RESOLVED**: to approve the Clerks salary for January 2024 & paye due for months 7,8&9 of £124.73

8.3 To consider re- appoint of internal auditor Iain Sellkirk for 2023/24

It was **RESOLVED**: to re- appoint Iain Sellkirk as internal auditor for 2023/24

8.4 To consider a request for a donation from Dore Community Transport .

It was **RESOLVED:** to make a donation of £500.00 to Dore Community Transport.

9. Planning

9.1 To consider commenting on : Planning Consultation - 233512 - Schaeffler UK, Holme Lacy Road, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 6BQ DESCRIPTION: Proposed extension of warehouse and replacement parking.

It was **RESOLVED:** to SUPPORT the application

9.2 To consider further planning applications due for comment.

Planning Consultation 233738 Elite Plastics Twyford Road, Rotherwas Hereford
Description: Proposed increase in height of part of roof.

It was **RESOLVED:** to SUPPORT the application.

10. Correspondence

10.1 To note correspondence received since last meeting, which has been sent to Cllrs.

West Mercia PCC Safer Roads Grant Round 2

Herefordshire Southside & Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team Newsletter November

HALC Information Corner

Dore Community Transport Letter

All correspondence sent to Cllrs was noted

11. Matters raised for consideration for placing on the next meeting's agenda.

(No discussion)

**11. To note date of next Parish Council Meeting as Tuesday 6th February 2024 7.30pm
at Dinedor Village Hall**

Signed Dated