

**DILWYN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Draft Minutes of the Dilwyn Parish Council Meeting**  
held in the village hall  
on  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 7.30p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Cllr J Hall (Chair); Cllr M Thomas; Cllr S Thomas; Cllr D Stirling-Brown; Cllr J Stirling-Brown; Cllr I Brown; Cllr J Booth and Cllr R Fellows.

Also present: Parish Clerk: Lesley Hay. Ward Cllr Michael Jones.

10 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the July meeting.

**Minutes:**

**1. Apologies** for Absence were received from Cllr J Clarke; Cllr J Lewis and Cllr C Fellows.

**2. Declarations of Interest:** All Councillors declared an interest in The Crown Public House as the Council is the owner of the said Public House.

**Written request for dispensation:** The Clerk reminded members that written dispensation had been received from all Councillors in respect of The Crown Public House as the Council corporate is the owner. Without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited by section 31(4) from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of business.

**3. Outline Planning Application No: 221854 – Land Common Meadow.**

The Chairman opened the session to the residents present to enable them discuss the outline planning application No 221854. There was a lengthy in-depth discussion during which many observations were made and discussed.

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council would discuss their response and, once this has been circulated and agreed by Councillors,

the Clerk will submit online and a copy would be attached to the end of these minutes in case of future reference.

The chairman closed the open session. Eight members of the public left the meeting.

The Councillors discussed the outline planning application and – whilst they were not averse to a village development – it was unanimously agreed this proposed development was in the wrong place. The clerk to draft a response, circulate and submit on online.

4. Play Park – Cllr J Stirling Brown explained that she had asked Active Gardens for a quote to replace some rotten steps on a piece of play equipment but that she had found one or two other issues that need attention. It was agreed that she would ask for these to be included in the quote. It is hoped that these repairs can be carried out as soon as possible as the next annual ROSPA inspection is due any time soon.

## 5. Chairman's Report

5.1 Update on Herefordshire Local Plan – this is ongoing with public consultations. No up-to-date information available.

5.2. The Chairman confirmed she had visited the Archive Depot at Rotherwas and deposited all the old minutes etc for sorting and safe keeping.

5.3. The Chairman confirmed that she has been in touch with the Tyrrells newly appointed Health and Safety representative. Chairman is in the process of arranging an appointment to meet and discuss various issues including Tyrrells direction signs.

6. **Ward Councillor's Report** – please see full report at the end of these minutes.

7. **It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes** of Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were a true record and that they should be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

7.1 Discuss upgrade on existing policies/procedures.

Recent amendments to the Standing Orders had been circulated and it was unanimously agreed to adopt the amended version.

**8. Finance Matters:** Invoices have been circulated plus up to date financial accounts/bank statements.

8.1 To consider and approve the outstanding invoices for June. It was unanimously agreed to accept the schedule of payments circulated and all invoices to be paid.

8.2 Bank signatory - the Chairman will arrange to remove Cllr P Kyles as a signatory and to add Cllr Jane Clarke.

8.3 It was agreed to pay the invoice for the additional grass cutting.

**9. The Crown**

9.1 The second fire safety check report has been circulated and confirmed that the listed items of concern have been addressed. There are additional suggestions within the report that will be considered at a later date.

**10. Lengthsman/Locality Steward/Footpaths**

10.1 Lengthsman work sheet –

- a) The village hedge at the Leominster end of the village road is overgrown. Alistair Anderson to be asked to cut it back once the bird nesting restrictions are lifted.
- b) The footpath sign by Karen Court is rotten and needs to be replaced. Clerk will liaise with Locality Steward.
- c) Rose Cottage ditch needs to be cleared. It was acknowledged that this is included in the drainage grant but the Clerk will ask lengthsman to inspect in the interim.
- d) Lengthsman to be reminded to mow the village green extension in front of the neighbouring bungalow.

10.2 Tyrells direction signs – Cllr R Fellows is negotiating with Balfour Beatty for guidance on style/position etc. However, this department has now been taken back 'in house' – so he is now liaising with Herefordshire Council. Item ongoing to be deferred until the next meeting but linked to item 5.3.

## 11. Items for the Next Agenda (no discussion)

- (a) Re-joining HALC/future in house training.
- (b) Co-option of new Parish Councillor.

**Please note: there will be no meeting in August**

12. Date of the Next full Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in Village Hall with a 7.30p.m.

Signed:

Date:

### Ward Councillor report July 2022

Some National Demographic statistics have just been released for Herefordshire. Currently there are 187,100 residents which is 3,600 more than in 2011. 82,800 households up by 4,500 since 2011 and we are getting an older county with aged over 65 increased by 24.1% in last 10 years. More statistical information is available on the Hereford Council website.

The General Lengthsman Grant scheme will soon be able to apply for by parish councils. £250,000 will be available each year for the next Five years. So, work on parks and playing fields along with other works which Balfour Beatty are unable to carry out can be completed by the valuable Lengthsman.

Hereford Council have submitted bids to central government for over £50 million pounds, £8.5 Million is for the library relocating to Maylord Orchard and also work on the upgrade and development of the Museum into a state-of-the-art visitor centre. £44 Million pounds is targeted for the market towns of Ross on Wye, Ledbury, and Leominster.

86 children from Ukraine have now been placed in schools around the county, 51 in primary schools and 35 in secondary. This is since the beginning of March.

There will be free school meals over the summer for families on low incomes and also there is summer activities of sport, dance, drama, pottery and cooking available to children.

The spatial planning consultation for Herefordshire going forward to 2041 is still open for residents comments up until the 29<sup>th</sup> July. On line zoom meetings as well as meetings in village halls and around the market towns have been taking place with plenty more opportunities to attend over the next two weeks. The latest figures for Hereford housing land supply are now at 6.19 years which has dropped from 6.9 years. This is still above the 5-year target and means the planning department will place a lot of weight on Neighbourhood Development Plans.

Copy of response – in case of future reference:

Further to Dilwyn Parish Council's meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July – they wish to make the following comments regarding outline Planning Consultation 221854 – development of 6 house – Land at Common Meadow Dilwyn.

Common Road – The submitted plans show that two cars can pass on this road. This is false representation – it is a narrow single width lane with very few spaces to enable vehicles to pass each other.

There is no footpath along the common road so pedestrians have to walk in the road. This lane is main access route to the village – whether it be to attend the local school or for those wishing to travel to Weobley; Leominster or Hereford. It is a busy thoroughfare with cyclists; horse riders; walkers and large farm vehicles – not to mention the increasing number of home delivery vans.

Access will need to be carefully considered to give clear and wide visibility for those exiting the site. The properties immediately opposite the access will be subject to the headlights of the vehicles infringing on their privacy plus the increased noise of vehicles coming and going from the site.

Flooding – The proposed site for the development routinely floods in winter and during periods of substantial rain – it floods regularly during the year. The drainage along the road is already inadequate and becomes overloaded and blocked during wet weather. An additional 6 dwellings plus garages can only make the existing flooding problem worse.

Sewage – The main sewage plant that supports the village is old and already under pressure. When there is prolonged rain the sewage overflows on to nearby fields; regular emergency calls outs due to blockages with subsequent problems of backup/ overflow into residents' toilets. Any additional houses will surely place further strain on an already inadequate system.

Archaeologist consultation would be prudent before any ground works carried out as there may be evidence of historical agricultural strip cultivation.

There are environmental concerns with regard to air quality for the adjacent and surrounding properties.

There is positive evidence of activity of European Protected Species which are protected under the conservation of habits and species. Regulations 2017. Therefore, an in depth a survey is needed.

The Parish Council are aware that this is an outline planning application and that a future developer may completely change the layout/style of the houses – but any development on this site will be in the eyeline and totally block any view from the neighbouring houses.

Whilst the Parish Council are not averse to future development in the parish – they unanimously agreed that this is not the right site for development and wish to record they objection to this outline planning application.