

DILWYN PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lesley Hay

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Dilwyn Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th February 2024 starting at 7.30pm

The Clerk welcomed those present to the February Parish Council Meeting.

MINUTES

Present: Cllr J Hall; Cllr P Preston; Cllr J Clarke and Cllr M Thomas.

Also present: Parish Clerk: Lesley Hay; one member of the public.

1. To receive apologies for absence: Cllr R Fellows; Cllr J Lewis; Cllr M Griffiths; Cllr A Towler; Cllr E Jordan; Cllr J Stokes; Cllr J Stirling-Brown; Cllr D Stirling-Brown and PCSO Emma Turberfield.

2. Declarations of Interest: All Councillors declared an interest in The Crown Public House as the Parish Council is the owner of the said Public House. Cllr P Preston declared an interest in Item 10.1; Cllr M Thomas declared an interest in Items 7, 10.3, and 10.4.

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 business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of business.

2.1 Exclusion of members of the public and press: To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. None declared.

3. The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th January 2024. It was agreed that these were a true record and it was unanimously voted by the Councillors in attendance that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

4. Ward Councillor Nick Mason. Not in attendance so no report available.

4.1 Open Session

Public participation: Residents are invited to give their views and raise questions to the Parish Council on issues on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman.

4.1.1 Rowan Adams (Dilwyn Tree Warden) circulated a paper copy of draft proposals regarding the possibility of creating a Dilwyn Community Orchard. This project was discussed and it was suggested that Rowan approach various landowners to see if they would agree to

leasing a small area – one to two acres – on which to establish a community orchard. It was also suggested that Rowan write an article for The Dilwynner outlining possible plans and asking if any residents would be interested in supporting the project. Item to remain on the agenda.

4.1.2 Update on bus shelter – the Clerk confirmed that she had registered Dilwyn's interest in being assessed for a bus shelter when funding becomes available with Paul Williamson at Herefordshire Council.

4.1.3 Future storage of sand bags – item deferred.

4.1.4 School/village hall notice board – the Clerk reported that she had been approached by a resident with regard to repairing the notice board by the village hall. The Clerk has made enquiries and confirmed that this notice board is the responsibility of the Parish Council. It was agreed to ask the lengthsman to repair and repaint – the Clerk to liaise.

4.1.5 News from West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner had been circulated. No further comment.

4.1.6 Terms of Reference for Town and Parish Council Charter Working Group had been circulated. No further comment.

4.2 With no further business, the Chairman closed the Open Session.

5. Neighbourhood Plan February Update had been circulated. No further comment made at this time.

6 Finance: Schedule of payment sheet for February (circulated).

6.1 It was unanimously agreed to pay the outstanding invoices for January.

6.2 Discussion on funding of the proposed community toilet. The Clerk advised Councillors of the current financial position and it was acknowledged that there are still two months before the end of the financial year. It was noted that funding towards a community toilet had not been allocated within the 2023–2024 budget. It was therefore agreed to defer a decision until the new financial year.

7. Play Park –ROSPA 2023 Report (previously circulated). With regard to the outstanding issue of retaining boards around the smaller set of swings, an additional quote has now been received. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to accept the second quote and it is hoped that work will commence as soon as possible. The Clerk will inform the contactor.

8. Highways/Footpaths and Environmental Matters:

8.1 Stockingfield signs now installed. The Clerk proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr M Thomas and Glen White for giving up their Sunday morning to install the signs.

8.2 Confirm removal of Christmas tree lights – Cllr P Preston confirmed that they would be taken down this coming weekend.

8.3 Email circulated regarding road conditions – Luntley Court. The Clerk confirmed that she had again reported the issues raised in a recent email. The Clerk also confirmed that she was trying to arrange a site meeting with the Ward Councillor, Locality Steward, PC Chairman and residents in order to try and put some pressure on Balfour Beatty/Herefordshire Council.

8.4 Garnstone Estate Woodland Management Plan Consultation – information has been circulated. A very comprehensive paper copy is now available for Councillors' future perusal.

8.5 Footpaths – DW20 and DW21. The Clerk confirmed that she had again spoken with the PRoW Officer pointing out that it has been nearly two years since these bridges were reported and closed. Crispin Abel (PRoW Officer) confirmed that the repairs are logged on the list for actioning but was unable to confirm when this may happen due to financial constraints etc.

The Clerk confirmed that reinstating DW19 had been requested previously. As there has been no apparent action following this request, the Clerk received a second request from a resident to follow up on this. The Clerk confirmed that she has again reported this and spoken directly to the PRoW Officer who has promised to go and walk the footpath. No further information to date.

9. The Crown

9.1 Update on quotes for painting the outside of The Crown. The Clerk confirmed that she has attempted to get the required three quotes but, despite contractors visiting the premises, they have failed to provide quotes. However, the Clerk confirmed that she had just received a second, very detailed quote and she circulated a paper copy to those present. After discussion, it was agreed in principle to go ahead with this quote. This decision was based on using part of John Gerrish's legacy if The Friends of The Crown agree to match fund. The Clerk to approach The Friends of the Crown and report back to the Councillors.

The Clerk reminded Councillors that the purchase of the paint will still be covered by funds donated from Miss Gwyneth Owen's plant stall.

In the meantime, as the work will take approximately a month to complete (preparation being the main time issue), it was agreed to provisionally confirm acceptance of the quote with the contractor and ask him to book a month in the spring, i.e. May or June, to complete the work. However, it was stressed that final confirmation will be based on a decision from The Friends of the Crown.

A vote of thanks was extended to Peter Stilwell for his help in obtaining this second quote. It was suggested that Peter Stilwell be asked to oversee the project, working alongside the contractor. The Clerk to liaise. Item to remain on the agenda for further discussion based on the above.

9.2 To arrange a date to meet and discuss the renewal of The Crown Inn tenancy agreement. The Clerk reminded Councillors that Judith Haines from Lloyds Cooper has now retired but the firm has a new partner, Loretta Aston. The Chairman agreed to arrange a convenient date in March to meet with the tenants, with a view to further liaising with Loretta Aston to draw up a draft tenancy agreement by the end of May. Item to remain on the agenda.

10. Planning – all details circulated.

10.1 Planning Re-consultation – 232966 – Bedford House, Watery Lane, Dilwyn, Herefordshire. Amendments to, and additional development following, the grant of planning permission for the change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling via Class Q including: amendments to the building's cladding and openings, amendments to the extent of garden area associated with the dwelling, the creation of a new access track, the creation of an

infiltration basin, the erection of a garage, and landscaping of the site including planting new hedgerow and orchard trees. APPLICANT(S): Mr Julian Williams. No further comments made.

10.2 Planning Consultation – 240238 – Land adjacent to The Great House, Dilwyn, Hfds.
DESCRIPTION: Application for variation of a condition 2 following grant of planning permission 214615 – (Proposed variation of condition 2 of planning permission 182991) (Erection of five dwellings with garages and private road (Changes to previous approved application P171228/F) – to allow changes to approved plans, including to omit the five bedroom property and provide 4 four bedroom and one three bedroom property and a new access to plot 5) – to optimise the house on plot 1 with an energy efficient and airtight building. APPLICANT(S): C Poynter – after discussion, no further comment.

10.3 Planning Consultation – 233669 – The Old Parsonage, Dilwyn, Hereford, Herefordshire HR4 8HW. DESCRIPTION: Proposed siting of 30 panel solar array. APPLICANT(S): Mr P Cope. After discussion, no objection.

10.4 Planning Consultation – 233668 – The Old Parsonage, Dilwyn, Hereford, Herefordshire HR4 8HW. DESCRIPTION: Proposed demolition of existing outbuilding and construction of a swimming pool. APPLICANT(S): Mr P Cope. After discussion, no objection.

10.5 Land Registry – village green – details and map circulated. It was agreed to proceed and register the main area of the village green. The Clerk to confirm with Lloyds Cooper solicitors.

11. Update on Police Matters – an email outlining three recent incidents has been circulated.

12. To raise issues for the next regular meeting of the Parish Council – no discussion.

13. Date of next Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 7.30pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Signed:

Date: