

DILWYN PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lesley Hay

Email: thelesleyhay@hotmail.co.uk; Website: <https://www.dilwynparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Dilwyn Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9th February 2026 starting at 7.30pm

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

MINUTES

Present: Cllr J Hall (Chairman); Cllr M Thomas; Cllr J Clarke; Cllr D Stirling-Brown; Cllr M Griffiths; Cllr D Barron; Cllr J Stirling-Brown; Cllr E Jordan and Cllr P Preston.

Also present: Ward Councillor Nick Mason; Lesley Hay (Parish Clerk); one member of the public.

1. To receive apologies for absence: Cllr J Lewis; Cllr A Towler and Cllr R Fellows (Vice Chairman).

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.

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.

3. Ward Councillor's Report

I updated the council on continuing issues and Herefordshire Council's – so far unsuccessful – lobbying of government to address the iniquity of the latest funding settlement. In that light, Herefordshire Council will be voting on the budget this week and, while I remain in favour of the vital bypass for Hereford, I do expect some scrutiny of the simple financial viability of the project given its impact on money available for day-to-day services.

More encouragingly, I noted the excellent news about the assessment for Children's Services – moving in a few years from being expected to be taken over by Whitehall to receiving a "Good" assessment, including "Outstanding" for leadership.

Updates on specific flooding, in particular around West View and on Dilwyn Common Road; about signage for Tyrrells traffic; continued enthusiasm on my part for the new model of local delivery shown by the Weobley/Dilwyn footpath bridge and rolling that out in other sites... these were all covered in the main meeting.

I did also note the slow but relentless progress through the traffic regulation orders – from a backlog of over 80 a few years ago, in particular with regard to speeding in

Stockingfield. I have just had confirmation that initial assessments mean we do expect to put in speed restrictions there, which is very welcome, even if it is more likely to be in 2027 than 2026.

3.1 Open Session

3.1.1 Village Hall. The Village Hall Committee has circulated a simple questionnaire to all residents asking them to indicate what they would support if included in the Village Hall programme. Cllr D Barron will continue to liaise with Mrs Albini on behalf of the Parish Council.

3.1.2 New bridge A4112. Issues were raised and discussed with regard to the road surface, lack of cat eyes and serious drainage issues following the extensive work carried out on the bridge. After discussion, Ward Councillor Mason agreed to arrange a site meeting with the contractor.

3.1.3 Ward Councillor Mason confirmed that Herefordshire Council, through use of a specialist team not normally available in Herefordshire, had at last achieved an understanding of the drainage system and the issues with it that have been causing flooding at Orchard Close/West View. He will be liaising with landowners to gain their cooperation in getting various ditches dug out to enable the flood water to drain away more easily.

3.1.4 It was reported that last week saw very heavy rainfall on already saturated ground. This resulted in water plus paper and grey/brown scum bubbling up from a drain cover in the meadow behind Lilac Cottage. It was reported that Mayglothling had been onsite regularly during the past few days pumping out at the station.

3.1.5 Cllr P Preston reported that some of the white posts around the village tree triangle are rotten and need replacing. The Clerk to liaise with Graham Dyer.

3.2 The Chairman closed the Open Session.

4. To approve and sign the minutes. After discussion regarding Item 12.1, it was agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12th January 2026 were a true record and it was unanimously voted by the Councillors in attendance that they be adopted and signed.

5. Finance

5.1 It was unanimously agreed to pay the outstanding invoices for January 2026 (circulated prior to the meeting).

5.2 Assertion 10: Digital and Data Compliance – to support the 2025/26 AGAR review. The Clerk confirmed she had attended some Zoom training and information sheets will be issued and circulated at a later date.

6. Highways and Environmental Matters

6.1 Future storage of sand bags/flood sacks. Mr S Frampton of The Great House had kindly agreed to provide temporary storage of sand bags/flood sacks. It was also

confirmed that Mrs Munro had also kindly offered storage in the village barn once it has been cleared out. The Clerk to order a pallet of sand bags/flood sacks.

6.2 Update on 2025–2026 Drainage Grant. The Clerk confirmed that, unfortunately, the original grant funding application has been significantly reduced. During January, Cllr M Thomas and the lengthsman had completed some urgent drainage work which hopefully will be covered by the reduced grant funding, although some top-up funding may be required.

6.3 Tyrrells signage – ongoing.

6.4 Update on flooding issues – see Item 3.1.3.

6.5 Kerb scraping and jetting. T&T Plant Hire of Brinsop had met with Cllr M Thomas and the lengthsman and had walked the various village roads and will be quoting for kerb scraping and jetting. There is another local firm who do jetting and the Clerk was asked to contact them with a view to obtaining another quote.

6.6 Orchard Close entrance and road surface – Ward Councillor Mason confirm that Orchard Close is an unadopted road and any work to improve the road surface will have to be funded by the residents.

6.7 Speed limit – Stockingfield – see Ward Councillor Mason’s report.

6.8 Ordnance Survey Public Sector Geospatial Agreement (PSGA). Further to discussion, Cllr A Towler’s offer to become the primary contact for the Ordnance Survey PSGA was accepted and it was agreed to ask him to follow up with a view to renewing the agreement.

6.9 The Mill – flood gauge signage. Due to the recent flooding, it has been impossible to erect the gauge. Cllr M Thomas will liaise with the resident at The Mill and arrange to have it in place as soon as the water level drops.

7. Footpaths

7.1 Installation of a new footpath bridge and reopening of the DW2. The Clerk confirmed that there had been a site meeting and some marker posts are now in place. The Clerk also confirmed that she had received three offers of help as a result of the advert in The Dilwynner. The Clerk will continue to liaise with Steve Dartnell and will keep the Parish Councillors/Footpath Officers/volunteers up to date.

8. The Crown

8.1 Update on replacement of the damaged pipe work. The Clerk confirmed that work had begun on the front car park drain but that the recent spell of bad weather had delayed work on the backyard drain.

8.2. Cllr R Fellows had confirmed by email that he had replaced the adult and paediatric pads in the defibrillator outside The Crown.

9. Play Park – Annual Report circulated.

9.1 Cllr M Thomas reported that he had purchased all the required materials but that the recent inclement weather had delayed any work on the area.

10. To adopt the Dilwyn Parish Council Risk Register with Operating Instructions which also shows responsibilities (circulated). The content of this document was discussed and the Councillors highlighted a couple of minor amendments. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr A Towler and the document will be brought back to the next meeting for adoption.

11. Update on the Asset Register

11.1 Volunteers to check the items at The Crown and obtain photos. It was agreed that amendments are required to update the original document dated 2019 and, in the first instance, the Chairman will liaise with Maria Franzen.

11.2 Volunteers to check the items at the school, with a what3words location/photo for each item of play equipment and photos of other items. Cllr J Stirling-Brown reminded those present that the recent 2025 RoSPA report will have listed and photographed the items within the Play Park. The Clerk will forward a copy of the recent report to Cllr J Stirling-Brown who will liaise with Cllr A Towler.

11.3 The following outstanding queries were discussed:

- (a) It was confirmed that Tippetts Brook bridge is a Parish Council asset.
- (b) The financial level at which a purchase is identified as an asset and added to the register. Item to remain on the agenda until the next meeting.
- (c) How newly purchased items (such as the wood burner at The Crown) are added to the inventory. Item to remain on the agenda until the next meeting.

12. Police Report – no report was available.

13. Planning: Full details of applications are available on the Herefordshire Council website.

13.1 Planning Consultation – 253699 – The Martins, Dilwyn, Hereford, HR4 8HL. APPLICATION TYPE: Works to Trees in a Conservation Area. DESCRIPTION: Felling and removal of stump of Holly Oak. The residents have received permission from Herefordshire Council Planning, so no further action required.

13.2 Planning Consultation – 260141 – Lower Newton Farm, Weobley, Hereford. APPLICATION TYPE:(Part 3) Class R – Prior Approval. DESCRIPTION: Application to determine if prior approval is required for the proposed conversion of half of a potato/grain store to an indoor padel court. Prior approval – after discussion, no comment at this stage.

13.3 Planning Consultation – 260243 – Land on C1091, Dilwyn, HR4 8HW. APPLICATION TYPE: Works to Trees in a Conservation Area. DESCRIPTION: Robinia, Sycamore and Ash – remove major deadwood overhanging roadside. No comment.

13.4 Planning Consultation – 260029 – The Tan House, Dilwyn. APPLICATION TYPE: Full Householder. DESCRIPTION: Horse riding arena, 60ft diameter round pen, post and rail fencing with sand and fibre surface. After discussion – whilst there was no objection – the Clerk was asked to note that the Parish Council would not support the installation of outdoor arena lighting.

14. To raise issues for the next meeting of the Parish Council (no discussion).

15. Date of next Parish Council meeting: this will be held on Monday 9th March 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm.

Signed:

Date: