

# **DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019, at Dinedor Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr. Duncan Green                      Chair  
Cllr. Tim Greenow  
Cllr. Suzanne Penny  
Cllr. Julia Over

**In attendance:** Liz Kelso                                      Clerk/RFO  
Karen Stanton, Herefordshire Council

### **115/2019                      Apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation**

Apologies were noted from Cllr. Nick Austin. There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

### **116/2019                      Talk Community Hubs**

Members noted a talk by Karen Stanton from Herefordshire Council on Talk Community Hubs which are aimed at residents in rural parishes. Run by local volunteers, Talk Community Hubs aim to offer social activities to residents and are supported by access, via a laptop or tablet, to the Wish website which offers signposting to a directory of services offered by Herefordshire Council and the third sector throughout Herefordshire. Grants of up to £2,500 are available to set up the hub and provide the digital device and training is offered to volunteers. They can be based upon a single parish or centred on parishes working together. Some concern was expressed that finding volunteers to run a hub might prove a challenge, it was agreed that this be discussed further with the village hall committee in the New Year to include a demonstration of the Wish website.

### **117/2019                      Drainage works**

Following on from discussions at the last meeting, members considered quotes from the Lengthsman to clear silt and debris from the ditch from the junction with Prospect Lane to the Village Hall. A quote was also provided to

locate the line of an underground drainage pipe and form a road gully with chamber to reduce surface water within the Village. The total cost of these works being £1,175.00. Members noted that it is the responsibility of landowners to address issues of water across the road and gully clearance but in this instance several properties were involved and it was unclear which was ultimately responsible. It was also noted that as water is flowing across the road, this impacts on all road users within the Village. After some discussion, it was agreed to proceed on the basis outlined in the proposal by the lengthsman.

#### 118/2019 **Work on Trees**

Members noted that in May (Minute reference 044/2019) it had been agreed to obtain comparative quotes for work on trees on Dinedor Camp, in accordance with financial regulations. The Clerk reported that she had been unable to obtain quotes on a like for like basis as insufficient information had been available to produce a specification to send out to prospective tree surgeons. The work is now considered to be required urgently on safety grounds and it was agreed to suspend financial regulations requiring comparative quotes and to accept the advice and quotation from the tree surgeon for the work to be undertaken at a total cost of £950.00.

Members noted the advice of the Forestry Commission, National Association of Local Councils and our insurers that trees in the ownership of local authorities should be inspected by an independent arborist at least every five years (more frequently if in a public place) with annual visual inspections. It was agreed that quotations be obtained from independent arborists for a formal inspection to be considered at the next meeting.

#### 119/2019 **Purchase of Flail Mower**

Members noted comparative quotes for the supply of a flail mower for use by the Dinedor Camp Volunteers, using the remainder of the funding from the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme. Noting some potential difficulty in supply where online retailers require payment by debit or credit card/BACS, it was agreed to proceed with the purchase up to a maximum cost of £1,085 excluding VAT. It was further agreed that the selection of a retailer be delegated to the Clerk within the budget limit so that a retailer with payment requirements that the parish council can meet can be selected.

#### 120/2019 **Defibrillator Installation**

Members noted that one quotation has been received for the installation of the defibrillator at the Village Hall. As this amounts to more than the minimum level, it was agreed to defer a decision on this agenda item so that additional quotes can be obtained in accordance with the financial regulations.

#### 121/2019 **Legal advice**

It was agreed that in order to progress a decision on the dedication of land as Open Access land under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, expert legal advice would be required. As only one quotation has been obtained, it was agreed to defer a decision to the January meeting.

122/2019

## **Payments**

The following payment was authorised:

Print Plus	
Printing of newsletter	£43.00

123/2019

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.