

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th November 2018, at Dinedor Village Hall

Present: Cllr. Duncan Green
Cllr. Suzanne Penny
Cllr. Chris Smart

In attendance: Liz Kelso Clerk/RFO
Cllr. David Summers Ward Councillor, Herefordshire Council
4 members of the public

082/2018 **Apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation**

Apologies were noted from Cllrs. Nick Austin and Julia Over. There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.

083/2018 **Public Participation**

083.1 **Items raised by members of the public**

Members noted a report from a member of the public on the value of good neighbour schemes

083.2 **Ward Councillor**

Cllr. Summers reported on the use of the velocity patcher by Balfour Beatty within the parish.

He also reported on discussions on the restoration of the land contours following unauthorised work on land adjacent to Maes y Fellin. A potential cost of £250,000 has been identified to restore the land to its former state. Cllr. Summers is to follow this up.

084/2018

Minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2018

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th September, which had been previously circulated, were agreed. The Chairman was authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

085/2018

Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report as attached to these Minutes, was noted.

Concern was expressed that the response by British Telecom/Open Reach was inadequate and did not address the issue of unrecorded numbers allocated so that customers can change supplier. It was agreed that this should be raised with the Cabinet Member with authority for broadband roll out in the County.

Members also expressed concern that the advice on open access land might be incorrect. The Clerk will pursue this further.

Finally it was agreed that a quotation be sought for the refurbishment of the parish notice boards.

086/2018

Financial Matters

086.1 Payments

There were no payments for authorisation.

087.2 Account balance

Members noted the balance on the bank account of £20,325.09 as at the date of the meeting.

087.3 Year to date financial review

The year to date financial review was noted, indicating expenditure largely in line with budget although expenditure figures are higher than expected due to expenditure on Dinedor Outdoor Centre which was primarily covered by the insurance claim.

087.4 2019-20 Budget Proposals

Members noted initial figures for the budget for 2019-20. It was agreed to consider this further at the next meeting.

088/2018

Planning Matters

088.1 Applications now due for observations

There were no applications for consideration.

088.2 To note planning applications notified for permitted development, if any

None

088.3 Planning decisions since last meeting

None

088.4 Report from Herefordshire Council Planning Enforcement Officer

A report into the unauthorised change of use of a property was not available at the meeting.

089/2018

Dinedor Camp

089.1 Update from Dinedor Camp Steering Group

Members noted a verbal report from the Steering Group on progress at the Camp and the work by the small group of volunteers who attend once a month on the second Sunday of the month. Work is progressing well.

It was noted that a tree in Camp Wood may need attention. A tree surgeon will be asked to review the tree and provide advice on the way forward.

The bonfire event in November went well although attendance was lower than last year as the weather was not favourable. Members thanked Dinedor Outdoor Centre for their support and hard work to make this event a memorable one.

089.2 Funding for work on Dinedor Camp

An application for funding to Awards for All was considered and some amendments suggested to the supporting statement. After due discussion, it was agreed that the application be submitted on behalf of the Parish Council.

089.3 Purchase of stone

It was agreed to purchase stone to a maximum value of £100.00 to aid drainage of the car park area at the Camp.

089.4 **Policy on use of wood from Dinedor Camp**

The Chairman reported that he has had discussions with tree surgeons about the value of wood on Dinedor Camp so that the previously agreed policy can be reviewed. It was confirmed that due to difficulties in getting equipment onto Dinedor Camp, tree surgeons felt that the costs of recovering any wood from the site reduced the value of that wood and made it uneconomic. It was therefore agreed to confirm the current policy with regard to the disposal of wood which allows volunteers working on the site to take wood suitable for burning etc. free of charge in exchange for work undertaken on site. It was further confirmed that any volunteer using a chainsaw must provide evidence of appropriate certification before any wood is cut up. This policy only applies to wood on Dinedor Camp and not Camp Wood where there are less restrictions on access which would mean any felled trees could have a commercial value.

089.5 **Meeting with Dinedor Outdoor Trust**

It was again noted that attempts to meet with the Trustees of the Outdoor Trust had been unsuccessful although two dates have now been suggested. The Clerk confirmed that an invoice for the insurance cost for the current year has been sent to the Outdoor Trust but no payment received to date. A statement showing the outstanding amount will be sent at the end of the month. Some concern was expressed that the level of repairs and maintenance of the buildings appears to be below that required under the lease agreement. This can be addressed during the forthcoming meeting.

090/2018 **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

090.1 **Update on progress**

Members noted that the Steering Group are currently liaising with consultants Kirkwells and Herefordshire Council with regard to requirements to submit the draft plan under Regulation 16.

090.2 **To agree further support package**

Consultants Kirkwells have indicated that the cost of providing expert advice and guidance for the next stage of the Neighbourhood Plan would be £1,890.00 plus VAT. After due consideration, it was agreed to accept this quotation and to notify Kirkwells accordingly.

091/2018 **Traffic Mirror**

Members noted that although a traffic mirror had previously been installed at the junction with the Holme Lacy Road, Herefordshire Council through their agents Balfour Beatty were no longer prepared to fund such items. After a brief discussion it was agreed that subject to the landowners permission, a traffic mirror be installed as a replacement for the previous mirror to aid road safety at that junction.

Concern was also expressed at traffic speeds through the village. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting.

092/2018

2019 Elections

The Clerk presented the provisional timetable for the 2019 elections when all councillors will be required to retire and, if they wish, seek re-election. The date for the election is 2nd May and it was agreed to consider ways of encouraging members of the public to vote and to stand as a candidate at the next meeting.

093/2018

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.00pm

Dinedor Parish Council

Meeting held on Tuesday 20th November 2018

Minute reference 85/2018

Clerk's Report

The following items are brought to members attention but not subject to a separate agenda item:

1. **Parish Council Summit**

As noted at the last meeting, the Clerk attended the Parish Council Summit held on 17th October. Copies of the slides and presentations have been forwarded to Members. The emphasis on the evening was how parish and town councils can provide support to residents at risk of loneliness and social exclusion and how this in turn can improve people's wellbeing. Activities such as the provision of allotments, coffee mornings and lunch clubs were emphasised.

2. **Internet Issues**

As authorised at the last meeting, the Clerk has written to BT Openreach about the issues identified at the last meeting and received an indication of willingness to investigate and resolve the issues. A summary of the reported incidents has been forwarded to the complaint handler and a response is awaited.

3. **Noticeboards**

As agreed at the last meeting, the notice board at Rotherwas has been removed by the Chairman.

4. **Countryside and Rights of Way Act**

The Clerk has had a meeting with the officer responsible for Commons and Rights of Way at Herefordshire Council and been advised that the designation of Dinedor Camp as CROW land would not be possible unless the land is a designated Common.