

Kinnersley & District Group Parish Council
Minutes of a meeting held on 7th March 2017 at Norton Canon Village Hall

Present

Richard Betterton, Rosie Davidson, Don Evans, Janet Greenfield (chairman), Robert Humphreys, Reece Jones, Roger Marshall, Colin Thomas, Stephen Turner, Patrick Wrixon

Clerk in attendance, Ruth Lovelace.

Visitors

Cllr Clive Skelton, Gail Copsey, James Copsey

1. Apologies

Roger Bowen, Malcolm Lewis

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated to all members of the Council. These were confirmed and signed by the chairman.

3. Declaration by members of an interest relating to agenda items

There were none.

4. Matters arising from the previous meeting

4.1 Proposed car park at St James, Kinnersley

The draft licence had been amended as requested and returned to Balfour Beatty (BBLP) who had informed the parish council that they were making further minor amendments before getting it signed at their end.

4.2 Traffic speed through Kinnersley – Roger Marshall had sought advice from Senior Accident Investigation Engineer Simon Hobbs, and Robin Quant, head of the BBLP Traffic Management Team, and was awaiting their responses.

5. Correspondence

*The Boundary Commission is consulting on proposed changes to the parliamentary constituencies.

*A Travellers' Sites Development Plan drop-in session had taken place in Hereford in February.

*The clerk had forwarded details of a Community Champions Award to members

6. Events attended by members

Patrick Wrixon reported back on a study day on the effects of Intensive Poultry Units which was organised by Herefordshire CPRE and attended by himself and Roger Marshall. This was a worthwhile event with discussion of how problems associated with these units can be mitigated, including incorporation of anaerobic digester plants. There is very high demand for chicken meat, and the time needed from chick to end product has been, and will probably continue to be, considerably shortened.

7. Highways matters

7.1 Fly-tipping is an on-going problem. BBLP do respond and clear rubbish from the highway when this is reported, but the response time is variable. Roger Marshall suggested that he could investigate preventative measures including signs at strategic sites, and possibly surveillance equipment, and the meeting agreed with this suggestion.

7.2 In September, Rosie Davidson had reported a roadside problem between Hurstley and Kinnersley whereby the edge of the road was becoming degraded due to field entrances opposite each other being used as unofficial passing places (see September minutes para. 7.4). Action had been taken at the time to improve the situation, but the problem was now starting to recur.

7.3 Rosie Davidson had received complaints from residents about mud on the road in Hurstley.

7.4 Blue barriers had been left in place long-term at Sarnesfield cross-roads following some minor flood alleviation work by BBLP. Roger had contacted BBLP about this but they had not responded.
ACTION: the clerk to write to BBLP about this.

8. Footpath matters

A meeting of the four Parish Footpath Officers had taken place recently. In the last 18 months they had identified, or received reports of, 57 defects, of which 43 have been remedied to date.

9. Report back from the Parish Plan Action Group (PPAPWP)

9.1 The group has been offered a parcel of land which could potentially be used for a community open space within Letton village. In terms of the parish boundary, it is within the parish of Staunton-on-Wye, therefore PPAPWP is liaising with Staunton-on-Wye parish council before taking this further. It is likely that PPAPWP would apply for grant funding for this project.

9.2 PPAPWP has asked the clerk to put in an order to Centrewire for two benches (in addition to the two already provided in Kinnersley) – one each for Norton Canon and Sarnesfield parishes.

ACTION: the clerk to place this order.

9.3 PPAPWP is investigating the possibility of providing a bus shelter at Sarnesfield crossroads, but one complication is the fact that this is only an unofficial bus stop.

10. Finance

10.1 We have been notified of what residents will pay towards the Parish Council precept in 2017/18 - **£17.58 for a band D property**, so the estimate of £17.87 in the November minutes was accurate.

10.2 Retrospective agreement was needed for cheques paid since the last meeting:

P3 contractor: £65 on 19/1/17, lengthsman £221 on 1/3/17

Accounts for payment: Clerk's salary: £280.93 gross, £56.20 payable to HMRC

Expenses: postage, printing, heating for the hall etc: £35.61

Web hosting and domain name £86.27 inc. £14.38 VAT (paid by clerk so reclaimed by her)

Hire of hall for meeting: £12

Annual subscription to the Tree Warden network £25

All the above expenditure was agreed. (proposed Richard Betterton, seconded Janet Greenfield)

11. Planning matters

There were no current applications awaiting parish council comments. Details of recent planning applications and decisions can be found on the parish council website under "What does the parish council do?" and then "click here for the full story".

12. Items of parish interest

It was noted that Norton Canon Village Hall (NCVH) is usually a standing agenda item, but NCVH committee had not met since the last parish council meeting, and there were no particular issues to report. The NCVH AGM will be on 2nd May

Committee members and others have volunteered to participate in a **Spring Clean** of the hall on **Saturday 25th March** from 10am – all welcome, and any help will be much appreciated.