



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2019, 7.00PM**

PRESENT: Cllr. Arrowsmith, Cllr. Powell and Cllr. Bolar
ALSO PRESENT: Nigel Williamson – Maintenance, County Councillor Mrs May and Clerk
 There were 4 members of the public in attendance

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Cllr. Miss Gray and Cllr. Shaw

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 Chairman asked all members present to declare any personal or prejudicial interest on any items on the Agenda.

Other Disclosable Interest

Cllr. Arrowsmith – St Kenelms Primary School HSA

Cllr. Powell – Wife Governor and Employee of St Kenelm's Primary School

Cllr. Bolar and Cllr. Shaw – member of the Severn Trent Residents Working Party

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2019 be signed as a correct record.

4. FINANCE

4.1 Quarterly Bank Reconciliation Statement approved by all Councillors.

4.2 It was duly noted the completion of PKF Littlejohn Limited Assurance Review for year ended 31st March 2019 with no actions required. Clerk confirmed that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been prepared and displayed on our noticeboards and website.

4.3 Accounts for Payment

Cheque No	Payee	Net Amount
300660	J Harper – gate keeper	60.00
300662	SLCC – Training	1247.03
300664	Ruth Mullett – Marlhole Signs	42.79
300665	SLCC – National Conference	187.50
300666	Ed Sheppard – Lengthsman	823.05
300667	The Ses Group – Romstock	1789.25

ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Signature

300668	PKF Littlejohn LLP – Auditor	300.00
300669	J Heritage – Maintenance	330.00
300670	JRB Enterprises – Dog poo bags	448.00
300671	HMRC – payroll taxes due	218.57
300672	SLCC – Subscription fees	100.00
300673	N Williamson – Maintenance	627.50
300674	J Heritage – Marlhole	1170.00

Cllr's Bolar and Powell scrutinised all invoices and signed the cheques.

5. PLANNING MATTERS

5.1 District Council Decisions

19/01119 – First Floor Offices, Waseley Hills Visitors Centre – change of use from offices (B1) to Children's Therapy Centre (D1) - **Granted**

5.2 Planning Applications for Parish Council Comments

19/01316/S73 – Romsley Manor Farm, Bromsgrove Road – application for vary condition 2 of planning permission 17/01252/FUL to amend the location of the replacement dwelling – **No objections**

19/00612 – 76 Bromsgrove Road, Romsley – creation of new access – **Awaiting comments from councillors**

5.3 Appeals

None

6. PLAYING FIELD/COMMUNITY AREAS

6.1 The sign in the play area needs updating – Cllr. Powell has drafted some wording which has been agreed by all councillors and we are awaiting the sign from Cllr. Shaw.

6.2 The RoSPA Play Safety Inspection had been received and Clerk confirmed she had instructed maintenance to carry out all remedial works. A copy has been circulated to all councillors. One of the recommendations in the report was to again top-up the bark in the play area. Maintenance and Clerk are looking at alternative more cost effective options as the bark is mulching down too quickly.

6.3 A youth requested whether they could carry out some volunteering work on the Marlhole towards his Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award. This was unanimously agreed on the understanding that volunteers were never lone working. Cllr. Powell agreed to draft a suitable risk assessment.

7. WINWOOD HEATH ALLOTMENTS

7.1 Nothing to report

8. ROADS/FOOTPATHS/TRAFFIC/HIGHWAYS

8.1 It was agreed to remove the old map noticeboard from the common at the top of the hill.

8.2 A request had been received for a memorial bench to be installed on the common and this was unanimously agreed.

- 8.4 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to install two new planters outside the shops/butchers and a new bin to be sited by the Swallows Nest. Clerk to order.
- 8.5 Confirmation had been received from Worcestershire County Council that the Bromsgrove Road road safety enhancements will not now be commencing. Cllr. Arrowsmith is to urgently meet with County Cllr. Mrs May and Richard Clewer, Highways Engineer.
- 8.6 The wooden bollards on St Kenelms Road have been installed.
9. **PARISH LENGTHSMAN/MAINTENANCE**
- 9.1 Nothing to report
10. **OUTSIDE MEETING**
- 10.1 Cllr. Miss Gray, Cllr. Shaw and Clerk attended the Worcestershire County Council Conference.
11. **TRAINING**
- 11.1 Clerk confirmed that she had now completed level 4 of the Community Governance course through SLCC and her Certificate of Higher Education will be presented at Practitioners Conference in February, of which it was agreed she would attend. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** for Clerk to continue to level 5 of the Community Governance course. Romsley contributes two thirds and Hunnington one third.
12. **COMMUNICATION**
- 12.1 It was unanimously agreed for Cllr. Powell to lead on the newsletter. He would be sending out requests for articles shortly.
13. **EVENTS PLANNING**
- 13.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to adopt the Events Committee Terms of Reference.
- 13.1 **VE DAY** – Nothing to report
- 13.2 **ST KENELMS DAY** – Cllr. Arrowsmith requested Clerk to contact our insurance broker to ascertain whether we could hold a tractor pull as one of the events on the day.
- 13.3 **ROMSTOCK** – Nothing to report
14. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S**
- 14.1 Apologies received from Cllr. Mrs Sherrey – no report given.
- 14.2 Cllr. Mrs May confirmed she had meet with residents on St Kenelms Road and she was recommending a disabled parking bay outside the Co-op as well as installed double yellow lines outside the butchers. The residents in the two bungalows adjacent to St Kenelm's Court would also be provided with parking permits. The parish council expressed grave concern that at no time had they been consulted on any of this. The Chairman is to meet urgently with Cllr. Mrs May and Highways.

15. COUNTY COUNCILLOR

15.1 Cllr. Mrs May was in attendance and report is below:-

Open for business – The council is pleased to be supporting a campaign that has been launched to promote Worcestershire as a place to work and to set up a business. The campaign objective is to raise awareness of the benefits of living in Worcestershire and the work/life balance that people can have in the county. The campaign which is being led by a partnership that includes the LEP, the Worcestershire Ambassadors and the NWEDR is showcasing a range of real-life case studies of people from across the county who are thriving in Worcestershire. For more information and to get involved go to www.oneworcestershire.com.

Work is progressing on the fourth phase of the scheme to fully dual the Worcester Southern Link Road. The site offices and main compound have been established and foundation works are progressing well with three out of the five piers for the viaduct already constructed. The embankment that will support the new carriageway on the south side of Temeside Way is now constructed up to almost 1 metre in height and the drainage system is complete. The next phase of works requires some overnight road closures on Temeside Way and A38 at the start of October. For more details visit www.worcestershire.gov.uk/latestupdates.

Children and families – Worcestershire Children First is launching this week and with it a new way of delivering children’s services in Worcestershire. The new company will be delivering services which include children’s social care, education, early help and foster care on behalf of the council. A launch event is being held from 1pm-2pm in the Council Chamber, County Hall on 1st October and all are welcome to attend.

A new Education and Skills Strategy for the county has been approved. The strategy has been written with input from the newly formed Education and Skills Strategy Group. The group includes head teachers from Worcestershire’s first/primary, middle, secondary and special schools, and representatives from further education colleges, the University of Worcester, the Local Enterprise Partnership and the council.

Health and Wellbeing – Our libraries from across the county will be partnering with Public Health during national libraries week (7 to 12 October) for a local campaign to encourage more people to talk and get support for their mental health. ‘Now We’re Talking’ is a campaign run by Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust and delivered through a series of pop up events in libraries countrywide.

In the same week libraries will be showcasing their digital services as part of a national campaign to ‘Celebrate Libraries in a Digital World’. Promotions will include e-books, e-magazines, and adult learning digital skills courses. Digital

champion drop-in sessions will also be run to provide customers with support using technology and accessing digital services.

The Environment – Local volunteers from Redditch came out in force last month to help add the finishing touches to the county's first Natural Networks Project. The project has been headed up by North Worcestershire's Water Management to prevent localised flooding. It received funding from the Natural Networks programme to improve an area of marshy woodland for local people to enjoy and promote wildlife.

The council's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have reduced by over 35% in comparison to levels recorded nine years ago. The council has signed up to the governments voluntary Emissions Reduction Pledge committing us to a minimum of 30% reduction in GHG emissions from 2009/10 levels by 2020/21. The council is now working up a new plan to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 across its estate and operations.

Council News Update

Five new Armed Forces Champions have been named in Worcestershire, with 2 more on the way. The councillors from across Worcestershire have pledged to offer support and promote the needs of veterans in their areas. They will work with the Armed Forces Covenant Partnership to provide a perspective on services like housing that might be accessed by the armed forces community.

We are sad to report of the death of form County Councillor Peter Fallow TD, who served as a councillor for Hagley and Furlongs between 1973 and 2005.

16. TO RECEIVE CLERK'S REPORT

- 16.1 First Aid course – this item was deferred
- 16.2 Parish Council Meeting Room – options were discussed. Clerk to investigate further and report back to the next meeting.

17. TO RECEIVE REPORT OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

- 17.1 Public Works Loan
- 17.2 Litter picking station

- 18. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday 11th November 2019, 7.00pm at St Kenelm's Primary School.