

MUCH COWARNE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING 9th May 2024 MUCH COWARNE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

PRESENT

- Martin Hoskins (Chairman)
- Gillian Davies
- Ted Parkes
- Bob McGregor
- George Day
- Rob Lett (Vice Chairman)
- Jonathan Lester (Ward Councillor)

1.0 APOLOGIES AND DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No apologies received.

2.0 TO RECORD ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interests made.

No members of the public were in attendance.

3.0 PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of Parish Council meetings of 11th April 2024 were accepted as a true record.

4.00 PLANNING

Amendment to approval for 15 houses and site for village shop at Burley Gate. The amended scheme is essentially as the approved and retaining the 5 affordable houses. The main change is to the number of dwellings that are now proposed as bungalows. The shop site, road crossing, new footpath and general layout are all retained. There was no objection.

Wyched Cottage. Proposed replacement windows are now in timber, the uPVC windows initially proposed were rejected by the planners. There was no objection.

Application 193467 amendment to approval for two new houses on land adjacent to the former council houses in Mill Lane. There was no objection, but the PC thought that the drain to the ditch should be a minimum of 300mm diameter under the access driveway.

5.0 WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Lester reported the following:

a) Balfour Beatty's contract has been terminated and Herefordshire Council is looking at a different type of contract for the future. There will be a 2 year period of transition with the contract ending in May 2026.

- b) Next year's budget for potholes and resurfacing will be £38.8 million which represents a significant increase.
- c) A plan for Herefordshire for the next 4 years has been written by Cllr Lester. This can only cover Herefordshire's remit but not other groups. This is a plan to transform the County to deal with the modern world.
- d) There will be a delivery plan each year.
- e). Staff have applied for funding for an 80 place school for children with disabilities. This has been successful and delivery of this should be within 2-3 years.
- f). There will be an annual meeting on 24th May and Cllr Lester hopes to be re-elected as leader.
- g). The Council's debt is now down to £8.5 million from £13 million. The revenue budget has been passed and books balanced. The capital budget includes the Shire Hall restoration and conversion, new industrial provision and extra finance for drainage and lengthsman scheme.
- f). Silverdale....the managing company have been informed of complaints.
- g). There has been no development on the site adjacent to Fir Trees but the enforcement officer has been informed.

FINANCE

Here are no outstanding bills and the current position is £8152,00.
A finance spreadsheet has been sent out to councillors.

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

Nothing exceptional in Balfour Beatty reports.

FOOTPATHS

Another kissing gate has been installed at the end of Green Lane and Mill Lane.
The wooden kissing gate at Willow Cottage needs a new gate post. It may be possible to use some offcut hollow section steel which Cllr Hoskins has.

CORRESPONDENCE

Councillor's code of conduct and register of interests reminder received.

NEXT MEETING

7.00pm 13th June 2024. At Burley Gate Village Hall.