



Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1st May 2024 at the Pavilion, Fownhope

Present:

CLLrs Tim Jones (in the Chair), Kevin Braybrook, Gareth Williams, Mike Simmons, Frank Hemming, Claire Patel, Michael Short, Will Morris and Tony Kelk. Cllr Sue Eames following co-option.

In attendance:

8 members of the public; Clerk Helen Tinson, Ward Cllr Graham Biggs (arrived 8pm)

1. Election of Chairman for 2024/25:

Cllr Tim Jones was proposed and seconded to the office of Chairman for 2024/25.

It was RESOLVED: by unanimous vote to elect Cllr Jones to the office of Chairman. Cllr Jones signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2. Apologies for Absence:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Lavinia Smith.

3. To Receive any Declarations of Interest and Written Requests for Dispensation:

3.1. To receive any declarations of interest: Cllr Mike Simmons declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 13e, FRFA Fees; Cllr Michael Short declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 14c, Planning 240784. The Declarations of Interest book was signed accordingly. During the meeting, Cllrs Kevin Braybrook and Gareth Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 15c, PC Draft response to Local Plan.

3.2. To consider any written requests for dispensations: there were none.

3.3. All members were asked to check their Register of Interests and update them if necessary.

4. Co-opt a new Parish Councillor to fill current vacancy:

Members were informed that an application to fill one of the two current vacancies had been received.

It was RESOLVED: by unanimous vote to co-opt Sue Eames. Cllr Eames duly signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the members at the council table. Cllr Eames handed her completed Register of Interests to the Clerk.

5. Election of Vice Chair for 2024/25:

Cllr Kevin Braybrook was proposed and seconded to the office of Vice Chair for 2024/25.

It was RESOLVED: by unanimous vote to elect Cllr Kevin Braybrook to the office of Vice Chair.

6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Members considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 3rd April 2024.

It was RESOLVED: to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

7. Open Session:

7.1. Report from Ward Councillor: This item was deferred until the Ward Councillor was present.

7.2. Representation from the Public:

A parishioner had emailed to raise concerns about construction lorries damaging a residential drive along Common Hill Lane. The parishioner has reported the matter to the developer.

8. To appoint representatives to outside bodies:

It was RESOLVED: to appoint the following representatives to outside bodies:

- 8.1. Fownhope New Memorial Hall:** Cllr Mike Simmons
- 8.2. Fownhope Recreation Field Association:** Cllr Mike Simmons
- 8.3. HALC Representative:** Cllr Kevin Braybrook
- 8.4. Common Hill Management Committee:** Chair, Vice Chair and Parish Footpaths Officer
- 8.5. Fownhope Community Library:** Cllr Frank Hemming
- 8.6. Fownhope Community Land Trust (with voting rights):** Cllr Frank Hemming
- 8.7. Fownhope United Charities** – it was resolved to defer until the June meeting

9. To appoint members to Working Groups:

It was RESOLVED: to appoint the following members to serve on the under-mentioned working groups as follows. Cllr Sue Eames will consider which groups she would wish to join and inform the Clerk.

- 9.1. Highways Working Group:** Kevin Braybrook, Will Morris, Michael Short, Lavinia Smith
- 9.2. Environment Working Group (to include Common Land Working Group):** Gareth Williams, Kevin Braybrook, Mike Simmons, Frank Hemming (Tree Warden) and Tony Kelk
- 9.3. Planning Working Group (to include FNP Annual Monitoring):** Kevin Braybrook, Frank Hemming, Lavinia Smith and Tim Jones
- 9.4. Footpaths Working Group and Way Wardens:** Will Morris (Parish Footpaths Officer), Tim Jones and Tony Kelk. Waywardens: Rodney Hill, Nick Kingsford, Ian Quayle, Mark Brothers, Paul and Karen Kemp
- 9.5. Finance Working Group:** Tim Jones, Kevin Braybrook, Gareth Williams, Michael Short and Claire Patel with Helen Tinson Clerk/RFO
- 9.6. Investment Advisory Group:** Cllrs Mike Simmons and Chair, and Peter Davis as Investments Advisor
- 9.7. Employment Working Group:** Cllrs Tim Jones, Kevin Braybrook, Gareth Williams
- 9.8. Volunteer Support Group:** Cllr Claire Patel and Helen Tinson (Clerk)
- 9.9. Emergency Planning/Community Resilience Working Group:** Cllrs Gareth Williams and Michael Short, and Helen Tinson (Clerk).
- 9.10. Forward Plan Working Group:** Cllr Lavinia Smith and Helen Tinson (Clerk), with Gareth Williams as support as needed
- 9.11. Playground Working Group (temporary):** Cllrs Lavinia Smith, Dave Iles (volunteer playground inspector), Helen Phillips (FRFA), Tanya Walshe (St. Mary's School)

10. Policies:

Members reviewed the following policies:

10.1. Code of Conduct:

It was RESOLVED: to adopt the policy for 2024/25

10.2. Financial Regulations and Investment Strategy:

It was RESOLVED: to defer adopting the Financial Regulations pending receipt of a new NALC model policy expected to be published shortly.

10.3. Risk Management Policy and Risk Register:

It was RESOLVED: to defer to the June meeting pending consideration by the Finance Working Group on 7th May.

10.4. Reserves Policy:

It was RESOLVED: to adopt the policy for 2024/25

10.5. Environmental and Sustainability Policy:

Members considered adopting a new Environmental and Sustainability policy. However, it was noted that there was no reference in the draft policy to the climate emergency and the declaration adopted by the Parish Council in 2019 or to support and protect Dark Skies.

It was RESOLVED: to revise the policy and re-consider at the June meeting.

10.6. Declaration of Climate Emergency:

Members considered renewing the Parish Council's Declaration of Climate Emergency.

It was RESOLVED: to renew the Declaration for 2024/25

11. Assets:

11.1. Asset Register:

Members reviewed the Asset Register for 2024/25.

It was RESOLVED: to adopt the Asset Register.

11.2. Annual Health and Safety Inspection of Assets:

Members were informed that Stuart Eames had undertaken the annual inspection with the Clerk until his resignation in July last year. The Clerk asked for a Council Member to assist her moving forwards.

It was RESOLVED: that Cllr Claire Patel carry out the inspection with the Clerk.

12. Parish Council Meetings 2024/25:

Members considered the date, time and location of ordinary meetings of the Council for the forthcoming year. It was noted that the Memorial Hall was often booked on weekday evenings.

It was RESOLVED: to continue to meet on the first Wednesday of each month, excluding August and January, at 7pm at the Pavilion.

13. Finance:

13.1. Finance Report:

Members received a financial report as appended (Appendix A).

It was RESOLVED: to approve the report.

13.2. Insurance:

Members considered tenders for the annual insurance, due for renewal 1st June 2024. A report was presented offering terms from two insurers for both an annual premium and a 3-year long term undertaking, as appended (Appendix B). A third insurer had withdrawn their tender as their premium was not competitive. All three insurers offered policies specifically targeted to Parish and Town Councils. It was noted that the Finance Working Group had assessed both remaining schedules.

It was RESOLVED: to accept policy terms with Clear Councils (formerly BHIB) on a 3-year long-term undertaking at an annual cost of £827.00.

13.3. Fownhope Community Playgroup:

Members considered a grant request from a new playgroup recently started in the village at the Pavilion. It was noted that the group would provide a service on a Tuesday (term time between 9.15am and 11.15am) when there is no pre-school provision at St. Mary's School. The group has been set up as a not-for-profit organization and is currently being subsidised by the organisers.

It was RESOLVED: to approve a payment of £100.00 from the Community Groups Grant budget.

13.4. Payments:

It was RESOLVED: to ratify the payment of the following invoices paid between meetings:

Information Commissioners Office (ICO), Data Protection Fees, £35.00 (by DD)

It was RESOLVED: to approve the following invoices for payment:

FRFA, Meeting Room Hire, April, £22.00

Nick Maddy Coaches, Ross Bus April, £90.00

PATA Payroll, Payroll Support April 24-March 25, £124.20

Suzie Bruce, Lengthsman, £140.00

Connexus, Annual Library Room Hire, £500.00

Helen Tinson, Clerk Salary (April) in accordance with contract

14. To Consider Comments on Planning Applications for Determination by Herefordshire Council:

14.1. 240895/PA7: Land at Common Hill, Fownhope, HR1 4PZ.

Application for prior notification of proposed development by telecommunications code systems operators. Proposed 12m high telecommunications monopole, 2no. ground based equipment cabinets, 1no. ground based satellite dish and ancillary developments thereto within a proposed 9x10m compound area adjacent to a proposed 7x6m setdown area.

Members considered the proposals and the Chairman opened the meeting to receive comments from members of the public. It was noted that the application site was in Woolhope Parish but very close to the parish boundary with Fownhope. A number of concerns were raised.

It was RESOLVED: to submit a response to OBJECT to the application (9 object, 1 support). The full response has been appended to these minutes (Appendix C).

14.2. 240992: The Squirrels, Fownhope, HR1 4PB.

Proposed Works to Trees in a Conservation Area.

Members received a brief report from the Parish Tree Warden, raising no objections.

It was RESOLVED: to submit a response to SUPPORT the application.

14.3. 240784: Tygwyn, Fownhope, HR1 4NN.

Proposed single storey extension and light internal alterations.

Cllr Michael Short did not take part in the discussion or vote in accordance with the Declaration of Interest.

It was noted that members consider planning applications against the policies in the adopted Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). The lack of a Design and Access Statement or equivalent with this application meant that there was insufficient information provided to do so.

It was RESOLVED: to submit a response to OBJECT to the application based on a lack of information.

14.4. 240809: Ashmead, Fownhope, HR1 4PJ.

Proposed creation of new timber shed and vehicle turning area.

Members considered the application and the information provided in the Design and Access Statement.

There were no objections raised.

It was RESOLVED: to submit a response to SUPPORT the application.

14.5. 240860: The Old Dairy, Hope Springs, Mordiford, HR1 4LT.

Proposed single storey rear extension and a new porch to the front elevation.

It was noted that the application site is in Dormington and Mordiford Parish but close to the parish boundary with Fownhope. Members considered the application noting that it would not need to be considered in accordance with the Fownhope NDP. Concerns were raised about the proposed increase in footprint compared with the original, and the potential transition of a smaller, affordable property to a larger, more costly one.

It was RESOLVED: not to offer a comment in response to the consultation.

14.6. 240820: Brooklyn, Court Gardens, Fownhope, HR1 4PA.

Single storey extension to dwelling and conversion of garage to annexed accommodation.

Members considered the application and the information provided in the Design and Access Statement.

There were no objections raised.

It was RESOLVED: to submit a response to SUPPORT the application (9 support, 1 abstain)

Ward Cllr Graham Biggs joined the meeting.

15. Other Matters relating to Planning:

15.1. To note report of Planning Decisions taken by Herefordshire Council (HC):

Members noted the report as appended (Appendix D)

15.2. To receive report concerning Mill Field hedge planting:

It was reported that a resolution is being sought from Herefordshire Council (HC). The developer has offered to plant native species in the Autumn but requires confirmation from HC that this will be an acceptable deviation from the planning consent which stipulated the existing planting scheme. Cllr Biggs is corresponding with the Planning Team on the matter.

It was further reported that the Swift boxes at Mill Field have been installed incorrectly and have been omitted from the development at the Old Potato Barns. The developer has undertaken to correct the error and are currently in consultation with homeowners.

15.3. To consider the Parish Council response to the draft Local Plan:

Members received a presentation from the Chair of the Planning Working Group on the draft Local Plan. The current consultation is open until the 20th May and the plan may be amended based on comments received and presented for consultation for a second time. It is anticipated that the plan will be adopted in 2026.

It was reported that Fownhope has been allocated to Category 4, Service Settlements with Environmental Constraints. This affords the most protection of all categories, though the draft plan still requires a further 20 homes to be built in the parish before 2041, in addition to the existing developments. Accordingly, the Parish Council is currently consulting parishioners to seek views on reviewing the existing Fownhope NDP.

Concerns were raised about the impact of additional traffic movements using the B4224 towards Hereford from a new mixed-use development proposed for Model Farm, east of Ross on Wye, which is anticipated to see 1000 new homes alongside retail, healthcare, sports, school and employment facilities.

Further concerns were raised about the calculation of discounts for affordable housing, the lack of a policy to protect dark skies, and the lack of guidance for Parish Councils when considering planning applications for properties offering short term lets reducing housing for local people.

Cllrs Kevin Braybrook and Gareth Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest for the discussion on short term lets and Cllr Tim Jones took the Chair.

Members considered submitted a response to the Local Plan

It was RESOLVED: to submit a response commenting on:

Traffic impact on neighbouring parishes as a result of the proposed development at Model Farm (7 in favour, 3 against);

Inclusion of a Dark Skies Policy (unanimous);

Consideration of developing an advisory document that might assist local councils when considering planning applications for short term lets (unanimous with no vote from Cllrs Braybrook and Williams in accordance with their declaration of interests); and

Consideration of the calculation of the discounts applied to affordable housing to make them genuinely affordable for local families (8 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstain).

With the permission of the meeting, the Chairman varied the order of the agenda and opened the meeting for the Ward Councillor to deliver his report:

16. Report from Ward Councillor:

Cllr Biggs reported:

- The Heart of Oak Walk will take place this year on 1st June;
- Any potholes, verges or other highways related matters can be reported directly to him;
- HC have allocated £38million to Highways this year; and £5million for resurfacing A and B roads;
- The Head of Planning post has been filled. Planning applications have fallen behind schedule. The planning embargo in the north of the county because of the River Lugg is having a negative impact;

- The outgoing Director of Children's Services left after the last Ofsted report and the post has been filled by an experienced candidate moving from Worcester County Council;
- Hereford Football Club have signed a new lease giving them a permanent home which allows them to apply for grant funding;
- Central Government have assigned £35million to the River Wye.

A member of the public raised concerns about the ditch alongside Common Hill Lane and was asked to email details to Cllr Biggs.

17. Environment:

17.1. Members considered a report from the Chair of the Environment Working Group following a meeting on 29th April, including:

- A report from the dark skies monitoring session in early April and proposals for next steps;
- An invitation to the Dawn Chorus Walk with Singing event, scheduled for Sunday 5th May at 5am at Fiveways, Common Hill;
- An update on the Fownhope Car Club;
- An invitation to the next meeting on Tuesday 18th June, 7pm at the Green Man.

17.2. Voluntary Registration of the Land at Tan Brook:

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

17.3. Swing at Tan Brook:

Members considered the swing at Tan Brook, noting that it has not been erected by the Parish Council but is on land under the ownership of the Parish Council. The Clerk reported that advice from the insurer would be to either remove the swing or to adopt it and incorporate it into the weekly play area inspections currently carried out by the Parish Council.

It was RESOLVED: that the Clerk seek feedback from the volunteer play area inspector and report to the next meeting.

18. Highways and Lengthsman:

18.1. Highways Report:

Members considered a report from the Chair of the Highways Working Group including:

18.1.1. A proposal to attend to the weeds along the B4224:

It was RESOLVED: to source a suitably qualified contractor and proceed with a weedkilling product.

18.1.2. An agreement has been reached with the landowner to carry out additional tidying between the gateway and PROW FWA2 to make the entrance to the village more attractive.

It was RESOLVED: to prepare a budget for the next meeting.

18.2. Road Signage on Court Orchard/Noverwood Drive:

Members were informed that the sign at Court Orchard is broken. A volunteer has offered to install a new sign if provided. It was also noted that the footpath sign is also broken.

It was RESOLVED: to order a new sign from Herefordshire Council and accept the offer of installation.

18.3. Sediment Pit on Common Hill Lane:

Members were informed that the Locality Steward has inspected the damaged sediment pit on Common Hill Lane. It has been logged with Herefordshire Council for repair and is understood will be rebuilt in the next 12 months.

19. Footpaths:

19.1. Footpaths Report:

Members considered a report from the Parish Footpaths Officer (PFO):

- 2025 is the 50th anniversary of the Wye Valley Walk. The Wye Valley National Landscape are seeking to improve the website and the walk ahead of the celebrations. The PFO attended a meeting with Walkers are Welcome in Ross and will be surveying for any required improvements during the month. A report will be submitted to the next meeting.
- Two gates are still to be installed between Tump Farm and Nash Farm, delayed due to the wet weather. However, the FiPL funding for the installation has been extended into 2024/25.

19.2. Public Rights of Way FWD6 and FWD6a:

Members were informed that further to the report at the last meeting further guidance has been sought from Herefordshire Council's PROW Officer. He will be arranging a site assessment in due course.

19.3. Public Right of Way FWB9:

Members were informed that the developer has confirmed that the official footpath should run on the development side of the hedge. The developer has acknowledged the error and is taking steps to remedy it.

20. FRFA/Recreation Field:

20.1. Members were asked to consider revised plans for the patio extension. Steps have been removed and a grassed gradient will bring the patio to the level of the field. It was noted that the PC had approved the previous plan with a reservation expressed about the surfacing. The FRFA are now seeking approval from the Parish Council to start work on the ramps.

It was RESOLVED: to support the start of work on the ramps.

20.2. S106 Play Field Proposal:

Members were informed that Herefordshire Council have provided examples of questionnaires and details of other play projects in the county and the working group will continue to work on a proposal to present to the PC for approval.

21. Clerk Report:

Members noted the report as appended (Appendix E).

22. Next Meeting: 7pm, Wednesday 5th June 2024.

Agenda Items Raised for Next Meeting:

- To receive and consider update on voluntary registration of Tan Brook Land Ownership
- To consider the swing at Tan Brook
- To consider church parking on Capler Lane, and parking outside the Old Hair Salon/Stoney Row
- To consider the new pavement from West End Stores to Old Potato Barns
- To consider the future of the BMX track

23. To consider a resolution to exclude members of the press and public from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to consider a confidential matter:

It was RESOLVED: to pass a resolution to exclude members of the press and public.

24. Fownhope Community Service Awards and Sports Award:

Members considered the nominations for the 2024 awards.

It was RESOLVED: to approve the nominations proposed.

Meeting closed 9.12pm.

Signed
Chairman

Dated

Appendix A: Finance Report

REPORT FOR COUNCIL MEETING: 1st May 2024
REPORT BY: Helen Tinson, Clerk/RFO
AGENDA ITEM: 13a, Finance Report

Bank Balances:

Lloyds: £19,657.87 (excludes payments to be approved 3.4.24 £3789.67)

Lloyds Reserve: £25,973.31

Hargreaves Lansdown: £22,234.16 (at 25.4.24)

Total funds held across all banks and investments at 25.4.24 = £

I propose to transfer £12,000.00 to the reserve account to take advantage of higher interest rates.

Bank Reconciliation: Has been completed to 30th April 2024 and will be passed to the Chairman to approve at the PC meeting.

Precept: The first precept payment of £19,000.00 has been received.

NDP Grant Reimbursement: The end of grant funds have been repaid to Groundwork UK - £818.52.

2023/24 Year End Accounts Summary:

Income:

Annual Income: £45,916.52. Budgeted Income: £43,052.82

The increase relates to the investment income received which was greater than budgeted (£311.10); Lloyds Bank Account interest (£273.78); Sale of one Marlow gate (sold 22/23, paid 23/24 £161.00); and NDP grant received (though the repayment will be accounted in 24/25)

Expenditure:

Annual Expenditure: £54,693.62. Budgeted Expenditure: £39,534.00

The increase relates mainly to the Recreation Field Access Track repair work (£10,592.50) which was paid from reserves. Parish Maintenance accounted for most of the rest of the overspend finishing the year overbudget by £2541.48. This was mainly due to Lengthsman and P3 expenditure, and that part of the FiPL grant budgeted for receipt within the year has been moved forward to 24/25 (for the final gate installs not yet completed). Salaries was overbudget by £18.30.

Investments: Dividend vs Income received has been balanced for 2023/24. Will be passed to the Chairman to approve at the PC meeting.

Finance Working Group: Are due to meet on Tuesday 7th May

Appendix B: Insurance Quotations

REPORT FOR COUNCIL MEETING: 1st May 2024

REPORT BY: Helen Tinson, Clerk/RFO

AGENDA ITEM: 13b: Insurance Renewal

Insurer	Annual Premium	3-Year Long Term Arrangement
Clear Councils (formerly BHIB)	£901.34	£827.00 per year for three years
Zurich	£1328.64	£1235.76 per year for three years
Gallagher (formerly Came & Co)	Withdrawn	Withdrawn

I understand that Gallagher and Zurich provide cover using the detailed asset register to insure only those assets held. Clear provide a blanket cover which will include some items we don't have or cover we don't need.

Zurich do not provide cover for land or surfaces.

The Finance Working Group have assessed the proposed schedules from Zurich and Clear.

Gallagher have been in touch today but have withdrawn due to anticipated premium:

"Unfortunately, I think we will need to withdraw from the quote process as we are not going to be able to improve on your premium spend if that is what the council is hoping to achieve. I have put through a submission which has gone into referral meaning we would be unlikely to get a formal quotation to you before close of play today. However, I see the Council are currently paying £715.54 with Clear Councils – whereas our insurer has provided an indicative premium of £1,993.02 Including IPT and fee (Both single year and 3-year LTU), so whilst I may be able to negotiate the premium to around £1,200/£1,300, unless the renewal with Clear Council has greatly increased we will be significantly more expensive. Therefore, unless the council have had issues with Clear Council, I would recommend remaining with them for the time being and I will update our diary so that we can look to provide an alternative quotation in the future where we will hopefully be more competitive!"

Appendix C: Planning Response (240895/PA7)

Dear Planning Team

Re: 240895/PA7: Land at Common Hill, Fownhope, HR1 4PZ.

Application for prior notification of proposed development by telecommunications code systems operators. Proposed 12m high telecommunications monopole, 2no. ground based equipment cabinets, 1no. ground based satellite dish and ancillary developments thereto within a proposed 9x10m compound area adjacent to a proposed 7x6m setdown area.

Thank you for agreeing an extension that enabled Fownhope Parish Council to consider this matter at a meeting of full council on Wednesday 1st May. Whilst the site is in Woolhope Parish, it is very close to the boundary with Fownhope and will affect residents of Fownhope Parish.

It was understood that the mast is required to host a new system for the Emergency Services. Whilst the Parish Council do not wish to jeopardise the effectiveness of a system that will serve to assist in the response to an emergency, there were a number of concerns raised that they felt have not been addressed.

Concerns were raised about the construction of new infrastructure: The Parish Council response to the previous consultation in 2022 included a request for the applicant to evidence why existing infrastructure cannot be used. It was noted that a submitted document reports a number of existing local masts that have been considered and discounted for various reasons. However, the mast at Much Marcle has not been included in this report. The Parish Council wish to ask if this mast has been considered and, if it has, for the applicant to demonstrate the reasons it was not acceptable and why it was not included in the report.

Concerns were raised about the protection of the natural beauty of the landscape: The proposed site falls within the Wye Valley National Landscape. The Wye Valley AONB Management Plan (2021-2026) stipulates the need for development to 'compliment, conserve or enhance the natural landscape character and natural environment'. It is understood that Herefordshire Council delegated the production of the plan to the Wye Valley Partnership and subsequently approved it, and therefore it was believed that the Council should now adhere to the policies contained therein. Further, Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act (2000) requires Herefordshire Council 'to seek to further the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty'. The Parish Council do not believe that this application fulfills this criteria.

Concerns were raised about the design: It was noted that the Wye Valley AONB Management Plan suggests that the employment of innovative design solutions, when coupled with appropriate landscaping, may seek to minimise the effect of the mast and associated infrastructure on the landscape, whilst still providing the facility required for the new Emergency Services system. The Parish Council wish to ask if the applicant has considered any options for a more discreet, or innovative, design.

After discussion, and for the reasons noted above, Fownhope Parish Council resolved to **OBJECT** to the application at this time.

Appendix D: Planning Decisions Report

240569: Stone House, Fownhope, HR1 4PJ, Works to Trees in a Conservation Area, FPC Response Support, HC Decision Works can Proceed.

240515, Brook Cottage, Fownhope. HR1 4PE. Wrks to Trees in a Conservation Area. FPC Response Support, HC Decision Works can Proceed.

Appendix E: Clerk Report

REPORT FOR COUNCIL MEETING: 1st May 2024

REPORT BY: Helen Tinson, Clerk/RFO

AGENDA ITEM: 20: Clerk Report

Defibrillator Training: Has been booked for 10am-12noon on Saturday 6th July at the Pavilion. Anyone interested in attending should book a place with the Clerk.

Summer Bus Service to Ledbury: Will resume on the fourth Friday of May, June, July and August. The timetable is on website and has been posted to the noticeboard outside the West End Stores.

Draft Herefordshire Local Plan Regulation 18 Consultation 25 March to 20 May 2024: From Herefordshire Council:

“The Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 consultation is currently running and you can read and comment on the Draft Plan, the Herefordshire Design Code and Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) documents via Herefordshire Council [Local Plan consultation pages](#) or directly through [Commonplace](#) up until the 20th May.

We have also designed a [Young Persons Survey](#), as we want to get the views and opinions of the young people that live in the county.

Consultation Roadshows - NEW EVENING DATES ADDED

Two new evening consultation roadshow dates have been added to the original roadshow timetable following feedback:

Tuesday 30 April - [Ross-on-Wye Library](#) - 4pm to 7pm

Tuesday 7 May - [Burgage Hall](#) - 4pm to 7pm”

Swift Bricks at New Developments: Freemans have confirmed that the bird and bat boxes were incorrectly omitted from the Old Potato Store and have been incorrectly fitted at Mill Field. They are now aware of what needs to be rectified and work has now started. A completion date can't be provided as yet because some of the properties are occupied and dates need to be agreed with the occupiers.

HALC AGM: The HALC AGM is due to be held on a Saturday morning in June and accounts for 22/23 and 23/24 will be discussed -date tbc but expected to be 22nd June or 29th June. The AGM will be preceded by a morning conference of speakers followed by a buffet lunch, and we will be presented with the Local Council Award.

Fownhope United Charities: A reminder that two trustees are being sought for 2024-2027 term.

Fownhope Scouts: Are appealing for a treasurer. Commitment required- 30minutes a week. Enquiries to Simon Prowse, email: sjprorowse@gmail.com

Hills Ford Stages Closed Road Rally: Will be going ahead in September.

