

CLIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Councillors on
Thursday 9th January at 7.00pm in Clifford Community Cent

1. **To receive apologies for absence - Will Bullough, Simon Forrester**
Also in attendance Emma Noble, Clerk, Jennie Hewitt, Ward Councillor and 5 members of the public.
2. **To receive declarations of interest & written requests for dispensation – none received**
3. **To approve minutes of last meeting** 14th November 2019 – it was noted that the farmers meeting was advertised in the Farmers Monthly.
4. Open Session
 - 4.1 To receive a verbal report from West Mercia Police. – Geoff Rouse was present and has replaced Roger who retired in July. Fiona Witcher clarified the situation in regards to no neighbourhood watch in Clifford but she can get some Rural Watch stickers and will source some. No other questions from those present so SNT left for another meeting.
 - 4.2 To receive a verbal report from the Ward Councillor – Jennie Hewitt was present and her newsletter had been circulated prior to the meeting and will be attached to the Parish Council's minutes. Jennie gave a briefing on the following:-
 - Presentation from planning officers
 - Core Strategy Meeting
 - Safeguarding – Jennie has spoken with Clifford Primary School re peer on peer safeguarding policy. The Head Teacher confirmed that they have it covered this area should it arise and staff have received training and policies are in place which protects both children, without prejudice and they both have a right to education. A member of the public asked if Jennie has been to nurseries but as of yet Jennie has not but this was noted and Jennie will action.
 - No update on bypass
 - 4.3 To receive a verbal report from the Council's Open Spaces Adviser
Priory Wood Common

Of the remaining 3 objections to the Council's application for ownership of selected plots of Priory Wood Common, the Land Registry has advised that, following discussions between the Chairman and the objectors, 2 no longer wish to contest the application and have advised the Land Registry accordingly. The Land Registry has asked the remaining objector whether his objection still stands but, apart from receiving a holding reply, has not received a definitive answer. The Council, which is anxious that the application should proceed without further delay, asked the Open Spaces Representative to progress the matter with the objector.

Bake Lane

The exposed downward-sloping large stone slabs which cover 20 metres of the footpath are wet, covered in algae and are extremely slippery. They present a serious hazard to walkers, and it was noted that, should they fall and be injured, the Council may be liable for consequential claims and prosecution. The Open Spaces

Representative had contacted Herefordshire Council for advice on the matter and a reply was awaited.

4.3.1 Priory Wood Common Management Plan

The Council discussed and agreed a management plan for Priory Wood and Common for 2020. Details are shown on the attached table. (Appendix A)

- 4.4** To receive a verbal report from the Council's Footpath Officer – The over hanging branches at Bake Lane have been cut and it was noted that someone has cut the tree branch near the bus shelter at Hardwicke turn.
The gates at Castleton have been adjusted and the repair work as agreed in previous meeting will take place shortly – David Bennett will send on invoice/receipts.
- 4.5** To receive views on parish matters from local residents – The local residents at tonight's meeting had come to support the Green Valley Routes presentation. It was confirmed to those present that planning applications cannot be discussed unless on the agenda.

5. Finance

Payment of invoices

- 5.1 Clerk salary - ACTIONED
- 5.2 To consider Autela payroll invoice 3015 £47.08 ACTIONED
- 5.3 To consider payment to Clifford Community Centre Invoice 94 £60 for hire of venue - ACTIONED

- 6. Green Valley Route (Graeme Bell)** - Clifford Parish Council welcomed Graeme Bell to present his Green Valley Routes initiative. The councillors had been emailed the proposition prior to the meeting but not all had had chance to review it. The presentation discussed the following: -

- **Objectives - safety of all road users is paramount.**
- **Safer roads for pedestrians and cyclists**
- **Reduce speeding traffic – review of speed limits**
- **Reduce HVG lorries using the roads through the parish**
- **Currently no cycle lanes and roads are narrow through the parish although at certain points where wide enough Green Valley Routes would like to introduce cycle lanes.**
- **An introduction of signage displaying 'Priority to Pedestrians and Cyclists'.**
- **Damage to road surface through over use of HVG lorries.**

It was agreed that the councillors will consider the request further and look at the proposal emailed to them in greater detail. This will be discussed at subsequent meetings and the reported back to Graeme Bell and Green Valley Routes.

The Chair thanked Graeme for his time.

7. Planning

- 7.1 To comment on applications to be determined by Herefordshire Council

Planning Consultation - 193955 - Land at Castlefields Inn, Clifford, Herefordshire,
DESCRIPTION: Proposed self-build dwelling and garage. Additional parking, touring
bays and amenity area to serve the Castlefields pub – The Parish council felt that
although they do not outright object to this application it was felt that restrictions
on future sales of the property should have conditions.

7.2 To note planning decisions by Herefordshire Council:
Appeal Ref: APP/W1850/W/19/3232581 - Woodside, Locksters Lane, Clifford,
Herefordshire HR3 5HQ – The appeal was NOTED

- 6 **To discuss Precept for 20/21-** The clerk provided the budget information and this was acknowledged. The Parish Council decided to keep the pre cept at £5500.
- 7 **Update from Core Strategy Meeting (David)** – If NDP’s are over two years old they no longer hold any power. If Herefordshire Council do not meet its housing requirements the required infill could move towards parish councils with or without an NDP.
- 8 **Wayleave consent from Western Power update-** Clerk to report this is still on hold due to ownership of commons not yet determined.
- 9 **Correspondence** – Marches renewable energy grants - NOTEd
- 10 **Any other Business** – Fischer German email – re pipes through Parish – Clerk, Chair and John Neville to meet representative to discuss further.
- 11 **Date of next meeting February 13th at 7pm Clifford Community Centre**

Meeting closed at 8.45

Emma Noble ... Parish Clerk and RFO
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Signed.....Date.....
CHAIR