

Minsterworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Minsterworth Parish Council (MPC) held on 13th March 2023 in Minsterworth Village Hall, commencing at 7.00pm.



PRESENT: Councillors R Blowey, N Powell, N Garbutt, S Ingham, C Thomas and S King.

J Badham - Clerk

Parishioners: 2

The Parish Council acknowledged the passing of Councillor Phil Awford with a one minute silence. Councillor Awford was County Councillor for Highnam and District Councillor with over 18 years of service. He was well respected and had a breadth of experience on Highways, supportive and helpful with River Severn flooding, as well as protocols with Tewkesbury Borough Council. He will be sadly missed.

1. **APOLOGIES.**

The Chair opened the meeting. Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr P Awford, Cllr P McClain Cllr J Smith and Cllr R Thomas.

2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST. None Declared.**

3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

The minutes of the MPC meeting held on 13th February 2023 had been circulated and were accepted as a true record.

4. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.** No report.

5. **BOROUGH COUNCILLOR McClain REPORT.**

Apologies from me for tonight - I have a TBC meeting which has been rearranged for this evening. Current hot topic would be that the TBC element of the council tax is going up by 3.72%.

The average parish precept across the Borough is 4.05%, although as you know Minsterworth is 1.45%. The average is somewhat skewed by two parishes increasing by 65%

Current financial year TBC is looking at a projected surplus of just under 1.2m, partly because the money set aside for pay rises has been through the national pay awards, as well as the council receiving an increase in income investment

We have been working on the housing and homelessness strategy with a focus on providing a mix of affordable, shared ownership and social rent properties within new build and on returning empty properties into use.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments

7. **MATTERS ARISING.**

7.1 Village Hall

The village hall continues to be well used, with at least 4 weddings booked. Traffic across the website suggest a range of bookings from different groups and communities. The dangerous dead elm tree has been felled and the outside stone wall has been exposed. New village hall signs are to be ordered. Interest has been

received from three villagers on becoming Trustees. The AGM is 2nd May 2023.

7.2 Minsterworth Park

The park has seen an increase of usage with the help of the lighter evenings. The outside area is looking overused, partly due to the wet weather and parking of cars/business vehicles. This is allowing mud to cover the road. In the short term it was agreed to fence off the area to stop parking to allow the land to recover. Long term, following agreement with Gloucestershire County Council, Minsterworth Parish Council to investigate an appropriate material for the land. **Action: Clerk to write a letter to GCC.**

7.3 Harvey Centre

The idea of a Post Office and Laundry service were not successful due to the set up complications.

7.4 Highway Matters

Highways have cut the trees through the village on the eastbound carriageway of the A48 Severn Bank dual carriageway. The missing 50mph sign has still not been replaced. Highways confirmed they will place a temporary sign. **Action: Clerk to follow up.**

7.5 PROW

There has been no response from last months reports. **Action: Email chaser to sent**

7.6 Generators

Following the theft of the generators council agreed to replace the three stolen and purchase 2 x 3.4kw generators, and investigate the installation of electric circuits to make use of generators easier . Estimated total funds to include remedial work of £1200. The Village hall kindly offered to fund 1 generator.

8. Minsterworth Road Safety

8.1 Village Gates

Village Gates. The gates at the West end of the village are now installed. A number of people have commented on them and said they made them slow down. We might, in time, want to think about getting slightly bigger signs. We're also planning on getting some flower boxes by the signs as that helps to accentuate the fact that drivers are entering a village. We have purchased gates for the east end of the village but installation has been delayed whilst GCC work out where the Minsterworth sign needs moving. Recent correspondence from the Council seems to suggest they aren't going to move it far which hopefully means we can stick with our original site plan for the gates. The PC has funded the gates but we are able to claim a large proportion back from Phil Awford who kindly approved this via his Highways Local fund.

8.2 Community Speed Watch Camera CSWC's

Community Speedwatch Camera: we have been informed that our application is now formally approved and the camera has been delivered to the Chair. Cllr Thomas will present the DPIA to Councillors for approval and develop an Operating Policy.

8.3 Missing 50mph sign A48

the 50mph sign at the east end of the dual carriageway (travelling from the west) is still missing. Following the meeting Cllr Thomas reported this to Highways, and their response was the following *"As the work programme is full until the end of the financial year I am unable to raise a work order to have the sign replaced at the moment. I have asked our contractor if they can get me a free standing 50mph sign to place there until a new post and*

sign can be installed” Hopefully this means a new sign will be installed sometime after April when Highways will receive a new budget allocation.

9. Financial Matters:

9.1 Financial statement to end Feb 23

The Clerk displayed the account sheet. The one payment that was not on February expected expenditure was the invoice the village gates £4598.65, we are waiting for a credit of £3k from GCC. The balance of the accounts at the start of February was £16699.06, Expenditure was £5643.16 with Income £42.11. The additional entries are not income but transfer from savings account of £1000 and £4500.00 (gates) End of February balance £11,083.01.

9.2 Proposed Expenditure for March 23.

Ser	Item	Expendi- ture	Income	Comment
1	Clerk Salary (incl tax)	638.13		
2	Parish Magazine Printing	173.48		
3	Village Hall Hire	20.00		
4	Bank Charges	8.00		
5	Grant for Village Gates		3000.00	
6	Mole Services	30.00		
7	SLCC Membership Fee Split 3 ways	63.58		Clerks membership for The Society of Local Councils Clerks.
TOTAL		933.19	3000.00	

9.5 MPC Financial Regulations – Deferred to April 2023 meeting.

10. Planning

10.1 22/01277/FUL Part Parcel 0003 Church Lane Minsterworth

New floor and elevation plans/Eight four bedrooms dwellings.

This application has resubmitted plans with changes from 4 x 3 bed and 4 x 4 bed to eight four bedrooms.

The councils comment: Even though the footprint is the same Tewkesbury Planning should consider a combination of 3 and 4 bedroom dwellings as per the first planning application. Concerns were also noted from the comment within the comment from Severn Trent report of mains sewer. Support the development with the above qualifications.

23/00107/FUL The Falklands, Main Rd, Minsterworth.

Erection of an attached single storey annexe (part-retrospective) No objection.

23/00172/FUL Highbury, Main Rd, Minsterworth.

Erection of detached garage building to front of existing dwelling western boundary treatments and entrance gates. Objection

Council considered the two storey garage build was extensive, out of character with the other buildings and street scene and imposing on neighbours. The council would prefer to see wrought iron gates rather than the planned solid wooden gates.

10.2 Decisions

Withdrawn 18/00954/OUT Hampton Farm Watery Land. 8 dwellings.

10.3 Appeals

Non to date

10.4 Caravan Site Planning/Sites

Correspondence was received from the Environmental Health Officer of TBC advising he will be investigating various caravan sites and licensing within Minsterworth. This relates to health, safety and welfare of residents and Caravan Sites Licenses. We await his report from visiting the sites.

11 Kings Coronation

11.1.1 Available Funding From Tewkesbury Borough Council

TBC have opened up applications from non profit organisations to apply for £1,000 fund to support Health and Wellbeing connected to the Kings Coronation. **Action: Cllr S Ingham to follow up.**

11.1.2 Permission to re-use the jubilee beacon. **Approved.**

11.1.3 Permission to change the metal ER (Elizabeth Regina) on the beacon to CR (Charles Rex) **Approved.**

11.1.4 Grant application for £100 funding. **Approved.**

12. Correspondence

- New revised Code of Conduct has been published. **Clerk will distribute and add to April agenda.**
- GAPTC have distributed dates for various training. The clerk has circulated events and dates to Councillors.

13. Community Engagement and Improving Parish Participation

The Parish Council has been working to improve Community Engagement and implemented various ideas to support this initiative.

- Improvement at Parish Council meetings with moving tables to face the public.
- Cllr S Ingham posting updates on the WhatsApp group.
- Summary of the minutes published in the Villager.
- Possibility of installing a Loop Hearing in the Village Hall.

The Council are always welcoming of ideas from residents. Email Clerk with ideas to be included on the agenda.

14. Matters Raised for Notification.

- Building at the Hawthorns has commenced, however the planning has not been agreed on the dwellings. **Action Clerk has sent email to Planning Tewkesbury Council Planning.**
- Due to Easter holidays the next parish meeting has been set for the 17th April.

Date for Next Meeting: 17th April 2023 at 7pm at the Harvey Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.07pm.

Signed:

Date: