

**VOWCHURCH GROUP PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Michaelchurch Escley, Newton, St Margarets, Turnastone, Vowchurch**

**Minutes of the Vowchurch Group Parish Council meeting held on  
 Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 7.30pm in Vowchurch & Turnastone Memorial Hall**

**PRESENT** – Mr E Williams, Mr S Cole, Mr A Picton, Ms E May, Mr H Franklin, Mr K Hortin and Mr R Lloyd.

**IN ATTENDANCE** – Mrs L Cowles (Clerk).

*In the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair it was unanimously agreed that Mr R Lloyd would chair the meeting.*

1. **ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Mr P Mason, Mr T Williams, Ward Councillor Peter Jinman and Mr T Griffiths (Lengthsman).
2. **RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CONSIDER ANY WRITTEN APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION** – Mr R Lloyd declared a non-disclosable interest in agenda item 11 and Mr E Williams declared a non-disclosable interest in agenda item 7.1; the declarations book was signed accordingly. There were no written applications for dispensation.
3. **ADOPT MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING** – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018 – The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record.
4. **OPEN DISCUSSION** – No members of the public attended the meeting therefore no specific points were raised.
5. **REPORTS**
  - 5.1 Local Police – PC Roger Bradley and PCSO Fiona Witcher reported that crime in the parish was relatively low although there have been some recent thefts in Craswall and Ewyas Harold. There is a gentleman in the area trying to sell fine foods from the back of his van. PC Bradley confirmed that he was aware of the current travellers site consultation which includes a site at Madley and the police have no major concerns.
  - 5.2 Ward Councillor – Mr Peter Jinman was unable to attend the meeting but reported via the Clerk that he had visited the homeowner regarding footpath VO53 & VO57 and reiterated that it is important to take due notice of the requirements of legislation when considering and presenting any views or objections. If the Parish Council do have any comments regarding the Herefordshire Council pot hole consultation please pass them onto him as he is part of the council working group. The Locality Steward has been checking the grit bins ready for the winter, if there are any issues please pass onto him or the Locality Steward.
  - 5.3 Lengthsman report and any new road defects – The Lengthsman was unable to attend the meeting. His latest report had been distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting via email. Defects to be reported on U75015 from Maerdy Farm through to Tanners Place. The road edge is also crumbling away near Tanners Place. Salt bins have not been filled at St Margarets Church, The Wern and Cothill. Flooding on the C1209 near footpath ME4.
6. **CLERKS UPDATE** – The water leak on the C1206 on Slough Hill was reported to Welsh Water on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. The Clerk contacted the Locality Steward regarding the poor state of road markings throughout the County. He has confirmed that it is Balfour Beatty's responsibility. There is extra funding, options are being submitted for consideration and he would update the Parish Council when possible.  
 The Planning Enforcement Officer has visited Wilsons Place, Vowchurch and has confirmed that the Shepherds Hut is currently being used for storage, it is the owner's intention to apply for planning permission in due course, therefore the enforcement case has been closed.

Anthony Bush will be leaving his post as Parish Liaison Officer on 15<sup>th</sup> November. His replacement will be Philippa Lydford who will take over as Local Resources and Assets Officer.

Parish Councillors had been sent details of the Travellers Sites Development Plan Document and the additional site consultation – It was agreed to respond that ‘the only concern would be appropriate monitoring and policing of the site to ensure the safety of the local community and businesses located close to the site.’ Councillors had also been sent details of the future provision for Museums, Libraries and Archives services within the County. It was agreed that the Parish Council would comment that ‘if another organisation took over the running of these services it would expect the same standard of services to be maintained’.

## 7. CONSIDER PLANNING

### 7.1 PLANNING CONSULTATION

**Site:** Michaelchurch Court, Michaelchurch Escley, Herefordshire. HR2 0JR  
**Description:** Provision to install a dormer window consisting of 3no. side hung sashes into a pitched roof

**Application No:** 183721 **Grid Ref:** 330851:234461

**NO OBJECTIONS**

### 7.2 PLANNING CONSULTATION

**Site:** Tremorithic, Bacton, Herefordshire. HR2 0AU  
**Description:** General purpose agricultural building and covered handling area.

**Application No:** 182949 **Grid Ref:** 335871:231582

**NO OBJECTIONS**

## 8. FINANCE

**8.1** Confirmation of bank balance - £16,420.59 Statement Sheet No. 126 issued 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

**8.2** Receipts – 2<sup>nd</sup> precept payment of £5607.50 and VAT reclaim of £468.47.

**8.3** Payment to Mrs Linda Cowles for October & November 2018 Clerk’s hours – **Payment agreed.**

**8.4** Payment to Mr T Griffiths, invoice no. TGC0557 for Roads account October 2018 (1) of £364.00 plus VAT – **Payment agreed.**

**8.5** Donations for 2018/19 - It was agreed to donate £30 each to St Margarets Parish Church, Michaelchurch Escley PCC, Newton Parish Church, Turnastone PCC and Vowchurch PCC along with £50 to Dore Community Transport. It was noted that Michaelchurch PCC had misplaced their donation from last year, it was therefore agreed to sent a donation of £60 to also cover the previous year.

**8.6** Precept for 2019/20 – It was agreed not to increase the precept again for 2019/20. It will therefore remain at £11215.

**9. FOOTPATH VO53 & VO57** – No update – defer to January meeting

**10. VOWCHURCH COMMON ROAD** – Balfour Beatty are currently exploring additional options regarding the siting of the sign, any update to be discussed at the January meeting.

**11. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES** – Mr Jim Kernahan has expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council to represent Vowchurch. It was agreed to co-opt him onto the Council.

**12. MEETING DATES** – It was agreed to continue to meet on the third Thursday of every month apart from December.

**13. DECEMBER NEWSLETTER** – Keep Herefordshire Warm, Website address, Parish Councillor co-option and vacancy for Newton, Grit bins and reporting potholes.

**14. NOTE THE CORRESPONDENCE SHEET** – The correspondence sheet was noted.

**15. RAISE MATTERS FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 7.30pm in Vowchurch & Turnastone Memorial Hall - Footpath VO53 & VO57 and road signs at Vowchurch Common road.

Mr R Lloyd declared the meeting closed at 2030.

Signed.....

Dated.....