

Border Group Parish Council

Minutes of the Border Group Parish Council meeting held on 21st September 2023 at
Lingen Village Hall, Herefordshire. At 7.00pm

Meeting was attended by Councilors Chilman, Whiteman, Hall, Grundy, Dixon, Barnett, and Mundy. There were seven members of the public present as was Councillor Carole Gandy, the Ward Councillor.

36/23 To Receive Apologies. – Apologies were received from Councillor Pritchard.

37/23 To Receive Declaration of Interest and consider any written requests for dispensation. – None declared.

38/23 Minutes – The draft minutes of the last regular meeting held on 20th July 2023 had been circulated to Councillors by E Mail and were available in written form at the meeting. Councillors RESOLVED to adopt the draft minutes as a true and accurate record. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

39/23 Open Forum – One member of the public raised issue regarding dog mess on the footpaths. This has been raised before and the possibility of signs were raised. The Clerk will contact Balfour Beatty on this subject. It was further reported that persons were loitering in the village at 1 am. This had been raised at the last meeting where persons had been seen at 3am in the morning. Police were in attendance at the meeting and gave crime prevention advice and requested that all such incidents be reported.

Concerns were raised by several members of the public regarding planning application 232463. These objections all stated that the application was not in keeping with the NDP and on land not marked for development. It was stated that it would have an adverse effect on water quality, flooding and traffic. Members of the public were advised to give the observations on the planning via the Herefordshire Council Planning Portal.

Councillor Grundy reported that the drain tops in Adforton had not been cleared and that rain was washing over the tops and not being collected. The Clerk will inform Balfour Beatty. He further reported that he had represented the Council at the recent ceremony installing the new vicar.

40/23 Ward Councillor Report – Councillor Carole Gandy had sent a written report that had been circulated to Councillors and was available in written form. In addition to her report Councillor Gandy reported that the Planning enforcement team was in reduced numbers. She further reported that following recent meetings Border Group Parish Council was unlikely to be required to provide new homes. She further reported that the Neighbourhood development Plan needed a review to consider recent agricultural practices. She further reported that following the grant of a cultivation licence for the 'triangle' at Walford, Balfour Beatty were unable to supply a rotovator to complete the licence. It had been suggested that the Clerk was in possession of a rotovator and was willing to help but Councillor Chilman stated he would be able to do this quicker and to greater effect with a tractor and appropriate cultivator attachment.

41/23 Police Report – There were four police officers in attendance to give report and advice. Pc Gareth Maddox gave brief update on recent crimes and stated the importance of informing police of suspected criminal behaviour. He stated that even if an officer was unable to attend it was important that Police knew of the behaviour in order to detect and or prevent crime. Pc John Meek gave an overview of the smart water method of identifying property. This was of great interest to councilors and the members of public in attendance. Officers were thanked for their attendance by the Chairman and left the meeting. Councillors were impressed by the presentation and instructed the Clerk to liaise and prepare for a property marking event at Lingen.

42/23 Finance –

- a. The Clerk gave details of the balances
- b. Council RESOLVED to make the below payments
 1. Clerks pay £302.25p
 2. HMRC in respect of Clerks Pay (Q2) £226.60p
 3. Clerk Expenses £45.40p
 4. HMRC in respect of outstanding payment £227.99p
 5. Lingen Village Hall – Room Hire (07/23) £16.00p
- c. The Clerk reported that the laptop used by the Council was completely dead with no life at all. The computer was in need of replacement. He reported that a replacement would be in the region of £500.00. Council RESOLVED to purchase a replacement and instructed the clerk to proceed.

43/23 Walford Flood Group – Councillor Dixon was in attendance and stated that the group was again up and running but gave no report.

44/23 Lengthsman Scheme – The Clerk reported that the application for the lengthsman grant and match funding from Herefordshire Council had been successful and gave details and figures. The Chairman stated that he will instruct the lengthsman to proceed with the works and chase up any outstanding invoices.

45/23 Planning – Council discussed the below applications

1. **Planning application 243463 – Land at Lingen Nursery.** Council having heard presentation from members of the public sat in discussion. Council RESOLVED to Object to the application on the basis that it did not conform with the Neighbourhood development plan being on land not set for development, There were issues with the potential for flooding on the site, and an overdevelopment for the area with a lack of facilities and increase in traffic. It was noted that had this been applied for at the time of the nearby development then there the likely hood of Section 106 monies for local improvements.

2. Planning application – Willey Hall. Council noted the application as additional to ta previous application. Council discussed the application and RESOLVED to support the application in principle with the comments as the previous.
3. Council sat in Closed session and discussed other planning issues.

46/23 Next Meeting – Council noted the date of the next meeting as Thursday 16th November 2023

Business concluded the meeting was closed at 9.15pm.

Signed.....
Chairman