

**TITLEY & DISTRICT GROUP PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON**  
**TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024, 7.30 PM**  
**AT TITLEY VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Cllrs R Edwards (Chairman), N Lloyd, J Mitchell, N Davies, C Janson, R Sankey, M Lloyd

**In Attendance:** Parish Clerk R Jones

**1. Apologies Of Absence**

Ward Cllr Phillips

**2. Declaration Of Interest**

Cllr Sankey - planning application no: 233578

**3. Approval Of Minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman

**4. Receive Comments From**

**• Ward Cllr Phillips**

- Cllr Phillips sent his apologies for not attending the meeting. His March update and report for the Parish Council meeting which the Chairman read out was discussed and noted.

**• Parish Councillors**

- Cllr Janson talked about the HGN Network meeting he attended. One suggestion at the meeting was for Parish Councils to declare a parish climate emergency, which you can obtain grant funding for. It was agreed to put this on the Agenda for the next Parish Council meeting and vote on whether to declare a parish climate emergency. Cllr Janson spoke about 6 parishes who have volunteer groups and there are incredible things going on within communities.
- Cllr Jansons information sheet regarding suggestions for the community to reduce carbon footprint was discussed.
- A discussion took place regarding how to circulate information around the parishes. One suggestion was coffee mornings.
- Verging On Wild – it was noted that Balfour Beatty need to be informed if you don't want certain verges cut.
- It was noted that Heather and Austin Owens are doing a farm tour in June.

**• Complaint Against A Councillor**

The Chairman informed Cllr Sankey that he had received a letter of complaint from a local resident, regarding his code of conduct when discussing his planning application 233578. The resident asked to remain anonymous. The chairman advised Cllr Sankey to be careful and to adhere to the Councillors Code Of Conduct at all times.

**• Local Residents**

None in attendance.

**• West Mercia Police**

PC Emma Turberfield sent apologies for not attending the meeting. She informed the Clerk that there has only been one incident reported since the last Parish Council meeting.

**5. Co-option Of Councillor (Staunton On Arrow)**

A resident from Staunton On Arrow expressed an interest in the vacant Councillor position. Cllr Edwards had spoken to him and he agreed to attend the Parish Council meeting in May.

## 6. Planning Matters

6.1 The following planning matters were discussed and noted:

- **192515 – Balance Farm, Titley – Re-consultation – amended** application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval – (application no: 160581 – proposed site for the erection of 5 no four bedroom dwellings) – **Valid**  
**It was noted that this application went before the Planning Committee and was deferred for more discussions on the plans for the site.**  
**(Parish Council to send invitation to the agent, to discuss Mrs Vaughans revised plans).**
- **233231 – Staunton Cottage, Staunton On Arrow** – proposed annexe, Ancillary to Staunton Cottage – **Approved**
- **233578 – Land at Oatcroft Farm, north of Eywood Road, Titley, Kington, HR5 3RU** - Proposed construction of a 30MW Solar Farm for a temporary period of 40 years, including solar photovoltaic arrays, string inverters, transformer stations, a control building, a DNO substation compound, a DNO room, a spares container, a customer substation, perimeter and palisade fencing, internal and external access roads, swales (SuDS) and associated soft landscaping and biodiversity enhancements. – **Valid**
- **233700 – Rodd Court, The Rodd, Presteigne** - Proposed development includes the provision of one temporary cabin with associated access, parking and landscaping for the purposes of tourist accommodation.  
**Valid**

### 6.2 Response To Landowner And Agent Regarding Outline Planning – Application Number 192515 – Balance Farm, Titley

The Landowner's son (Chris Vaughan) sent an email to the Clerk, asking for a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss the planning application.

It was agreed to arrange a meeting at Titley Village Hall on a Tuesday evening.  
(Clerk to arrange).

### 6.3 Planning Application 233578 – Proposed Solar Farm, Oatcroft (Cllr Sankey)

Cllr Sankey circulated a written response from himself and his son, to the Parish Council's comments on planning application 233578. He talked through the response and his comments were noted. He also commented that he felt the notes taken at the public meeting arranged by the Parish Council with the agent in January were bias and there were more letters of support for this application, but were not showing on the planning website.

A discussion took place regarding the above application and the Chairman commented that Herefordshire Council will make the decision for approval or refusal.

## 7. 7.1 Finance

### To receive Clerk's report and approve finances (ex VAT)

- **Clerks Financial statement to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
The current account balance as at 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 was £21,202.52  
The expenditure and budget sheets were **approved**.
- **The following payments (Ex VAT) were APPROVED:**
- Clerks salary for January and February as previously agreed by the Parish Council (Chq101106 )

Hi Trees	Lengthsman Work	£2,300	+ VAT
<b>INCOME</b>			
VAT reclaim	VAT reclaim	£1,457.14	

**7.2 HSBC – Signing of Mandate For Signatories (Removal Of Cllr R F Bennett & Cllr H W Jones)**

The Clerk had completed a new mandate for signatories for HSBC. It was agreed the removal of Mr R F Bennett and Mr H W Jones.  
It was agreed the following signatories for HSBC:

Mr R C S Edwards  
Mr J D Mitchell  
Mr C J Janson  
Mrs N Davies

It was noted that the signing rule is 2 signatories.

The mandate was signed and completed by the signatories above.

**8. Lengthsman**

**8.1 Annual Inspection Of U91607 Road By Balfour Beatty**

An email from Balfour Beatty Locality Steward was read out, which stated that due to the state of this road, it had been inspected more regularly than every 12 months. It was noted that this road has recently been resurfaced or patched in places

**8.2 Surface water on U91607**

It was noted that reported areas along this road which has surface water lying across it, due to blocked pipes, had still not been rectified by Balfour Beatty.

Clerk to email Balfour Beatty to enquire when this work would be undertaken and also to put flood signs up near the area by Yew Tree Cottage, as it was on a corner and dangerous.

**9. Parish Issues**

**9.1 Incident With School Bus – Shawl Corner**

Simon Hobbs sent an email confirming that replacement / change to existing signs would be arranged at no cost to the Parish Council, in the new financial year.

**9.2 Diverting Footpath at Stansbatch – Mr J Weymouth**

The Clerk had received a Public Notice from Herefordshire Council informing the Parish Council of a Public Path Diversion Order on SA3 (Part) Staunton On Arrow. It was noted that the Parish Council had already written to support it.

**9.3 Hereford Green Network**

This was discussed under minute 4 (Parish Councillors comments)

**9.4 Big Plastic Count**

A Notice informing residents of the Big Plastic Count had been posted on the Parish Council website and also around the Parish.

**9.5. Communicating With Local Residents**

A discussion took place regarding how the Parish Council could communicate better with local residents.

**Clerk to contact the local representatives for advice on circulating information: S Haydon (Titley), D McIntyre (Stansbath) and D Weaver (Staunton On Arrow)**

**9.5 U91607 – Resurfacing Of Stansbatch Road – Issues**

It was noted in an email from Balfour Beatty, that during resurfacing the road near Milton Crossroads, no drainage works will be undertaken. It was noted that this part of the road is subject to flooding.

During resurfacing works around Stansbatch, the following issues were noted:

- It had been reported by a landowner, that the contractors had tipped tarmac scalplings off the road down an embankment onto his land.  
Clerk to inform Balfour Beatty Steward.
- It was noted that the edges of the patching repairs had not been sealed, therefore the tarmac was already lifting in places and there were also several potholes appearing.  
Clerk to inform Balfour Beatty Steward

**10. Correspondence**

**West Mercia Police Village Project – ‘We Don’t Buy Crime’ – SmartWater**

A discussion took place regarding this project and it was agreed to invite them to the Parish AGM in May. Clerk to arrange

**12. Date And Place Of Next Meeting**

14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 Parish Council AGM at Staunton On Wye Village Hall – 7.30pm

21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 Parish AGM at Titley Village Hall - 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9.20 pm

**SIGNED (Chairman) .....**      **DATE .....**