

Hope Mansell Parish Council Minutes

22.03.22

Start time 19.00

Attendance: Geoffrey Phelps, Ian Lewis, Richard Hibbard, Diana Tobin

Apologies: Liz New, Sheila Heath

Members of public - None

Councillor Jones has resigned – he has a new job and is unable to make the meetings now.

Footpath Officer, Mary Wheeler has resigned.

The two vacancies have been advised to the previous people who showed an interest.

Declarations of interest: None

Minutes of last meeting:

Accepted with amendments:

- List of attendees added
- Report by Footpath officer – thanks extended to Jon Wheeler for fixing dog gate.

Roads:

Salt-grit still available at Hopes Ash, unused this winter. This stock will be retained so potentially there will be no need for further stocks next year.

Culvert at T junction, Parkfields, still in same condition – it is in Ross Balfour Beatty list of works for 2022-23.

Drainage at Rose Cottage also included in 2023 plan of Works.

Request for sign to church has been vetoed by Balfour Beatty.

Pontshill – water leak reported to us. We passed to Balfour Beatty but actually in Weston Parish.

Verges: Annual request has come in from Herefordshire council as to how many cuts we want on the verges – debate between environmental needs and road visibility. Staying with two cuts as per last year.

Lee Griffiths, Hornhill Farm – struggling with condition of Harewood Lane – very churned up by 4-wheel drives. BB Locality Officer has been out to inspect it and agreed needs attention. Herefordshire taking traffic / rights of way back in-house and will review this access amongst others – perhaps limit it in the winter months. There is an option to lock-barrier the access with residents having keys could be considered.

Foot paths – no report, vacancy for foot path officer on council.

G Phelps could monitor Dancing Green

Mr Smart, footpath officer for Weston council, is asking for contribution to replace gates with stiles in two cases. Hopes Ash landowners, do not want this to go forward since livestock kept in both areas. Also, existing stiles are in good condition.

Decision made by parish council not to support these stile changes. Happy to support co-operation in general on these kind of parish boundary issues, just not in this case.

SID update:

Meeting between S Heath, two Bailey Lane End residents and Joe Grice from Balfour Beatty. Location for possible SID has been suggested by Jo Grice and agreed in principle by villagers, including the need to maintain the hedge in the location selected. Speed assessment has been completed and results of assessment are pending.

There has been discussion on Bailey Lane End WhatsApp group about the possibility of using a cardboard cut-out police officer depicted in high-vis and holding a speed gun. These have been seen in use elsewhere in the local area. More enquiries to follow.

Lengthsman scheme:

We can sign up to a scheme for a qualified, insured Lengthsman with an estimated expected spend but no commitment for repairs and maintenance to roadways, drains etc.

Previously spent some funds on some tasks and relied on parishioners for others. Agreed to sign up to this scheme with an estimated ad-hoc spend for the next year.

AOB:

Traveller caravan on Dancing Green footpath still present after 1 month after breaking lock on gate to gain access. Forestry are in continuing dialogue with the inhabitants.

The risk of the sheer drop from the road in the cutting between Drybook and Bailey Lane End – Balfour Beatty have stated they will review the area. Barrier on hard standing seen as increasing risk rather than reducing it. Plan is for soft verge markers to be put in area to increase awareness of risk in highway users as they travel through area.


Council's finances:

£2468 available funds.

Shortly be receiving £1250 for first half of annual precept.

We have commitments of £900 clerk's salary and c. £500 for other activities and insurance. Leaves c. £1000 for discretionary spend.

£100 cheque raised and cashed for Ross on Wye's Citizen's Advice service, as agreed at last meeting.

Approved


Freedom of Information request:

Karie-Ann Cooper put in a FoIR as she had heard that there was a question raised about the strip of land adjoining hers – shared relevant request and meeting minutes with names redacted.

Bailey Lane End Noticeboard:

Slightly delayed due to illness, but now assembled and ready to be installed after name label created.

Litter-picking:

Thanks to Meri Mayhew for doing this, also Geoff Phelps and Richard Hibbard.

Topics for next meeting:

Footpath officer

Next meeting:

10th May

Will include AGM, annual parish meeting & normal PC meeting

Finish time: 19.48

