

BALLINGHAM BOLSTONE AND HENTLAND GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the above council was held at Ballingham Old School Hall on Thursday 19 November 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mrs P Fitzpatrick, Mr J Lyons, Mr S Keogh. Mrs S Pike, Mr F Probert, Mr P Rees, Mr A Smith, Mr M Soble (in the chair) and the clerk (P Pember).

Visitors: Three

Apologies: Mr H Rudge, Mr S Harris, Clr. D Summers.

Declaration of Interests

Mr F Probert Planning and NDP, P Pember Churchyard Grants.

1. Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the meeting of 8 October and extraordinary meeting 5 November had been circulated and were taken as read approved and signed.

2. Neighbourhood Development Plan

2.1 Mr Michael Wellock of Kirkwells has amended the draft plan as discussed at the last meeting. Following a discussion about the possibility of various changes and additions to the policies it was decided that any amendments would be considered after the informal consultation and only corrections to typographical errors and simplification to the wording at the end of 5.10 would be made now.

The draft plan was put to the Council on this basis and unanimously approved.

2.2 Mr P Rees, Mr M Soble and the Clerk attended a training session on submission and examination of the plan which gave a useful insight into the process.

2.3 Timetable for informal consultation:- It was agreed that there would be three drop in sessions 3 December New Harp Hoarwithy 6.00-8.00pm, 5 December Ballingham Old School Hall 10.00am to 12.00pm, New Inn St. Owens Cross 3.00-6.00pm (New Inn subsequently changed to 12 December). Comments could be made in writing to the Clerk or by emailing him by 7 January 2016.

It was agreed that the draft consultation plan would be loaded onto the website and some printed copies (50) available from the Clerk.

The Chair would write a letter inviting residents to the Drop In's and it was agreed these be posted to every house in the three parishes to ensure everyone knew of the events. A3 posters would also be displayed in the parishes. There was a very tight timescale and Mr Soble thought HALC would be able to supply labels.

A budget of up to £2000.00 was agreed to cover set up costs and the three consultations.

Action by Mr M Soble, Mr J Lyons, Mr P Rees Mr A Smith and the Clerk. Mrs S Pike said she would help with the typographical corrections.

3. Planning

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:	153209 - Land south of Tressack Mill Road, Hoarwithy, Herefordshire,
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed two detached dwellings, new accesses, landscaping and drainage.
APPLICANT(S):	Mr F Probert
GRID REF:	OS 354413, 229328
APPLICATION TYPE:	Planning Permission

Some Councillors had made a site visit and spoke to Mr and Mrs Probert. The application was then discussed (after Mr Probert left the room). There was concern about the size of the dwellings and that the style was not in keeping with the rural location but in general the application could be supported noting these reservations. The following resolution was agreed:-

We support the application in general but are concerned about the size and type of dwellings proposed and think the settlement would benefit from smaller houses that would be more affordable and meet local needs as well as making better use of the land. We believe the design and visual impact of the proposed houses are not in keeping with the rural location.

Clerk to submit response.

Mr Probert then re-joined the meeting.

4. Considered response to the Community Governance Review Proposals

Herefordshire and HALC sent details of the proposed Community Governance Review in 2016/17 covering:-

Grouping or de-grouping of parishes/parish councils.

Splitting off an area of an existing parish council and establishing a new separate parish council.

Altering boundaries of existing parishes/parish councils.

Amending the number of parish councillors per parish council.

The Clerk had agreed with Mr Bush to forward initial thoughts following the meeting.

It was agreed that the Group Parish Council would like to be part of the review. There were some anomalies which needed addressing as well as possibly the current grouping.

Clerk to reply to Mr Bush

5. Churchyard Grants

Ballingham (new Churchyard) had spent all of last year's grant of £200.00, Hentland £300.00 of £400.00 and Hoarwithy £741.00 of £800.00 up to 30 September. It was unanimously agreed that the grants of £200.00 Ballingham, £400.00 Hentland and £800.00 Hoarwithy be awarded again for this year.

Clerk to follow up.

6. Budget agree Precept 2016/17

Following consideration of the budget figures presented at the last meeting the Chair said that he did not think the precept should be reduced or increased but should be the same as last year £6000.00. Following a short discussion it was agreed unanimously.

Clerk to submit Precept

7. Transparency Fund Grant

Grants were available for Parish Councils to purchase equipment to enable them to work towards compliance with the transparency Code for smaller authorities. The Clerk had costed a Laptop at £380.00, a printer at £100.00 and there were costs for the Domain Name and Service Provider. It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk apply for a grant.

Clerk to follow up.

8. Items of Parochial Interest

8.1 Potholes – it was agreed to supply a list of potholes with postcode to Clerk at next meeting

8.2 Salt Bins – similarly it was agreed to supply details of Salt Bins needing replacement with postcode to Clerk at next meeting.

9. Date of next meeting:

17 December 2015 at Ballingham Old School Hall HR2 6NH