

# Gorsley & Kilcot Parish Council

## Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

Held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7:30pm in the Upper Room, Christ Church, Gorsley

---

### Present:

Councillors: Nigel Warwick (Chairman), David Clough (Vice-Chairman), Steve Excell, Graham Price and Nigel Poole

Officers: Arin Spencer (Parish Clerk and RFO)

In attendance: Cllr Gill Moseley (Gloucestershire County Council - Newent Division)

65 Apologies were received from Cllr John Barker.

66 There were no declarations of interests or requests for dispensations.

67 Minutes

**Resolved** unanimously to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5 July 2021 as a correct record.

68 Progress of resolutions from the meeting held on 5 July 2021

a. Updated Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were deferred to the November meeting for review.

b. Vegetation growing in kerb along B4221 has still not been cleared.

**Action:** Clerk to follow up with the street cleaning department at Forest of Dean District Council.

c. Blocked drains outside The Old School have not been cleared. There are four or five blocked drains on the B4221 from Sterrys Corner to the junction of Stoney Road.

**Action:** Clerk to follow up with Highways.

d. The Parish Plan needs updating or replacing. Members queried whether anything more than a very basic plan was needed but agreed that something more up to date needed to be put in place. **Action:** Clerk to look into the planning weight of a Design Statement.

69 Report from County Council Representative – Gill Moseley

There had not yet been feedback on the bid for Highways Local funding for a vehicle activated sign for the parish. Cllr Moseley was following up with the Local Area Highways Manager.

Cllr Moseley also drew members' attention to another fund ('Build Back Better' covid recovery fund) which gives each county councillor £40,000 to spend over their four-year term on covid recovery projects.

The 20mph motion originally put forward by Dymock Parish Council had been referred to the Environment Scrutiny Committee with a very comprehensive report. Cllr Moseley was optimistic that the proposal would go forward and encouraged members to consider where in the parish a 20mph limit might be helpful.

70 Casual Vacancy

There had been no applications to fill the casual vacancy. **Action:** Councillors to make local enquiries.

### Planning

71 There were no new planning applications to consider.

72 The following planning decision was noted:

Land off Sterrys Lane, Gorsley, Linton, HR9 7AH (P212175/PA4)

(Part 3) Class Q – Prior approval for a proposed conversion of an agricultural building to a single dwellinghouse. **Prior approval refused** (Herefordshire Council)

Members expressed interest in whether the track to the proposed barn conversion, which had been laid without permission, would need to be removed.

73 Planning Enforcement

Marshalls Meadow

Members noted there had been no signs of plans to remove the mobile home. Chickens kept on the property had on several occasions escaped into the road. **Action:** Clerk to send letter asking occupant to cut hedges, follow up status of enforcement action, and ask Environmental Health whether the waste from the property is being properly disposed of.

Land near Little Bull Hill

A member noted they had seen two large excavators on the site and the landowner had been tipping a lot of excavated material onto the property which had been levelled out into a road. **Action:** Clerk to follow up with enforcement officer.

Box Bush Barns

No further progress. Members agreed no further action required.

Hedgerow on land opposite the Poplars

No further progress. **Action:** Clerk to follow up with enforcement officer as planting season is once again approaching.

**Grounds Maintenance**

74 Kilcot Green

Cllr Excell advised members that a local resident had cut the pathways on Kilcot Green and had offered to supply a quote for cutting the rest. Members agreed that clearing the area was a lot of work for councillors to do. **Action:** Cllr Excell to set up a meeting with the resident and ask for a quote.

Hardwood posts for the Kilcot Green noticeboard are still needed. 3x3 box section aluminium would also be ok. **Action:** Cllr Warwick to look into suitable options that are currently available.

**Highways**

75 Members were asked to review the effectiveness and efficiency of the B4221 closure between Kilcot Cross and Newent from 16 August – 1 September and consider sending feedback to the Highways Stakeholder Liaison.

It was noted that GCC Highways did not adhere to the plan. During the closure there was an accident in the middle of it. Photographs had been taken of a 40' lorry going through Conigree Lane. The closure was left unattended at night. A local resident received verbal abuse from someone following their own diversion along the narrow lanes.

In the past such road closures were always closed off at Kilcot Cross with a man and a barrier. This never happened.

Signs were put up along the B4221 which HGVs simply ignored and went past. Vehicles were chicaning through the signage meant to stop them.

The whole exercise was a shambles.

**Action:** Clerk to send a letter to the Stakeholder Liaison Manager reflecting the issues raised. Letter to be drafted by Cllr Warwick in the first instance.

Members expressed frustration with the lack of enforcement and progress of the Local Transport Plan. A new plan had been approved but the policies of the original plan had still not been actioned.

County Cllr Moseley was asked who is responsible for the implementation of the Local Transport Plan and confirmed this is Colin Chick (Head of Environmental Services).

Members expressed frustration with the lack of follow through in respect of the Local Transport Plan policies.

76 Oxenhall Lane Ford footbridge

Local Highways Manager Andrew Middlecote had been unwell and there was no further news regarding the footbridge. **Action:** Cllr Moseley to look into what the Atkins survey cost Highways and inform Council.

77 Weight Limit on the B4222 – progress update

Cllr Warwick reported that the Herefordshire consultants did not think the weight limit was worth implementing. However, in their data they had included the old B4222 past the Penny Farthing and said not much HGV traffic comes that way, ignoring the fact that Herefordshire had already put up a 'not suitable for HGV traffic' sign on that road. **Action:** Cllr Warwick to draft and send a reply. Clerk to send correspondence on this matter to Cllr Moseley.

78 Stony Road / Wood Lane

The road now called Stony Road (off Kilcot Cross) which becomes Wood Lane further up, was originally all called Wood Lane. Later a letter was sent to residents informing them that it was going to be changed. The road still shows on Google Maps as Wood Lane. **Action:** Cllr Moseley to send an email to the appropriate department at Forest of Dean District Council to establish the history of the road and reason for it being renamed.

79 Brockmore Lane

It was noted that Brockmore Lane is decidedly overgrown and needs clearing. **Action:** Clerk to raise with Highways.

80 To consider dates for Community Speedwatch

Members were keen to try and conduct Speedwatch on one or two days a week depending on the availability of councillors/volunteers. **Action:** Clerk to circulate a DoodlePoll and circulate photos and quotes for Community Speedwatch signs.

81 Correspondence

a. FODDC Climate Strategy Consultation

Cllr Moseley advised that a meeting would be held at Picklenash School to create a response to feed through Newent Town Council. She said it would be easier responding to the second rather than the first part. The Second part was themed into built environment, renewable energy, economy, waste, etc. Cllr Moseley said it would take a lot of parish councils to get organised into a network to disseminate information to the local community about how to respond.

b. Members noted the 20 is Plenty speed limit campaign

c. NALC Election Survey – Local Council Survey

It was agreed not to respond to the survey as there was no parish council election this year.

## Financial Matters

82 Members received and noted the following financial reports as at 31/08/2021:

- Bank Reconciliation
- Summary of Receipts and Payments including budget monitoring
- Reserves Statement

83 **Resolved** to approve the following list of cheque payments:

DATE	DESCRIPTION	CHQ NO	POWER	BUDGET	AMOUNT
06/09/2021	Clerk's Expenses	100050	Various	Various	£ 45.10

84 **Resolved** to approve the following list of payments made by direct debit or standing order since the last meeting:

DATE	DESCRIPTION	POWER	BUDGET	AMOUNT
05/07/2021	Website Hosting	LGA 1972 s.142	Website & IT	£ 7.20
26/07/2021	Clerk's Salary	LGA 1972 s.112	Staff Costs	£ 213.00
04/08/2021	Website Hosting	LGA 1972 s.142	Website & IT	£ 7.20
26/08/2021	Clerk's Salary	LGA 1972 s.112	Staff Costs	£ 213.00

85 Noted income received since the last meeting:

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
14/07/2021	WPD Wayleave – Aston Common	£ 19.15

## General

86 Members considered the purchase of a new hardwood noticeboard. It was agreed that it would be worth keeping the details of the hardwood noticeboard supplier that had been in touch but that the current noticeboards were still in satisfactory condition.

87 Members decided against becoming a member of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) at a cost of £36/year as they could not see what the tangible benefits would be.

88 Items for the November meeting agenda / Councillor submissions

- a. Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

89 **Resolved** that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 7:30pm in the Upper Room, Christ Church, Gorsley.

With no further business the meeting was closed at 9.11pm.

.....  
Signed (Chairman)

.....  
Date: