



## Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Parish Council

held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors M. Nott (Chairman), S. Cumella (Vice Chairman), P. Weddell-Hall, M. Rushgrove, M. Gardner, G. Wroe and R. Bray.

**Also present:** District Cllr B. Jones-Williams, Neil Pearce (Avon Planning Services) and 5 members of the public.

**134.21 Apologies:** Councillor S. Watt, Councillor J. Dale, County Councillor P. Grove.

**135.21 Declarations of Interests:** Cllr Bray - 20/01963/OUT, land at (OS 7499 5981), Berrow Green Road, Martley.

**136.21 Presentation: Neil Pearce, Avon Planning Services regarding proposed housing development application 20/01963/OUT, land at (OS 7499 5981), Berrow Green Road, Martley.**

A presentation was made about the proposed outline planning development application for 60 dwellings (30 affordable / 30 commercial) on land at Berrow Green Rd, Martley. A timeframe was suggested of outline permission in summer 2021, reserved matters agreed by summer 2022 and completion by summer 2025. Discussion took place as to whether there was a need for this development as there is already land allocated within the SWDP. Concerns were raised regarding highway safety and traffic volume and it was noted that these would be scrutinised by Worcs Highways as part of the planning process. The meeting noted that an extension has been granted until the first week in March for a full response to be made. The meeting also noted that all planning applications are considered on an individual basis. This means that although land adjacent to Martley recreation field has already been allocated in the SWDP, the land at Berrow Green Road will not replace that development land if approved, it will be in addition to that already allocated.

**Democratic Period/Public Time:** The meeting noted that there is significant litter at '3 ways' in the village and the Clerk agreed to report to the MHDC Street Scene team.

**137.21 Minutes of a virtual meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020:** The minutes were agreed as a true record. Proposed Cllr Cumella, seconded Cllr Weddell-Hall. All agreed.

**138.21 County & District Councillor Reports:** Reports were circulated and will be uploaded to the website.

District Cllr Jones-Williams had also circulated information to the PC regarding recent flooding issues at Hastings Close and the matter has also been raised with the Land Drainage Officer at MHDC. Issues with drainage in Hollins Lane have also been raised and blocked/broken drains have been reported which will also be forwarded to Worcs Highways for action. It was noted that previous site meetings have been held and unfortunately the Lengthsman scheme can no longer unblock drains which are now not being properly managed by Worcs CC. Blocked drains in Pudford Lane, Gt Witley Rd and Horn Lane have also been reported as they are all Worcs Highways responsibility. It was agreed that pressure needs to be applied on Worcs CC to resolve these ongoing matters for residents.

Other District Cllr reports – £500.00 has been funded towards Martley Church clock and an email has been passed to the Clerk regarding speeding past The Chantry.

Signed.....

Date .....

**139.21 Updates:**

139.21.01 Recreation Field – Councillor Wroe and the Clerk explained the current situation regarding the proposed Football usage agreement. There has been no formal communication from the Football Club until an email received today asking for reduced rates in exchange for grass cutting, and it is unclear exactly who has agreed to forward this offer to the PC. The PC also need clarity regarding grass cutting responsibility going forward and the current draft agreement includes this. Cllr Gardner proposed the Council accept the lower offer in order to resolve current matters, but this was not seconded, although Cllr Wroe suggested that this may be acceptable if the Club agree to all other parts of the agreement. Further to discussion, the majority of Councillors did not want to accept the offer and agreed that the current draft agreement should remain as the offer to the Club. It was agreed that the Clerk decline the recent offer and confirm that the draft agreement was still the only way forward. Signatures have now been obtained from J. Grange and J. Gaffey, and a signature is now required from G. Griffiths to finalise the agreement. If a final signature is not received, then the Club will have no formal agreement to use the recreation field.

139.21.02 Burial Ground – No report made.

139.21.03 New Signage – It was agreed that Councillors Cumella & Weddell-Hall liaise with R. Wilks to erect the signage for Smart Water and carparking as soon as possible.

139.21.04 Website Photographic Competition: A large number of images have been received this month and it was agreed that Councillors email the Clerk with their preferences asap.

**140.21 Strategic Planning Matters:** Cllr Cumella updated the meeting regarding the forthcoming SWDPR consultation for Traveller & Travelling Showpeople site allocations. A briefing by MHDC will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> March and Cllr Cumella will attend and report to a future meeting.

**141.21 Planning Matters:**

141.21.01 Applications received / considered –

20/01963/OUT – land at (OS 7499 5981) Berrow Green Rd, Martley – outline application with all matters reserved (except for access) for the erection of up to 60 dwellings, including 50% affordable homes, up to 10 self-build plots and a doctor’s surgery together with ancillary works. (Cllr Bray left the meeting for this matter). Further to discussion it was agreed that the application response should be deferred until the agreed extension of the March PC meeting. This will enable members of the public to be made fully aware of the proposal and have sufficient time to send in comments to the PC and MHDC. It was agreed that as a public meeting cannot be held easily, regular posts should be made to social media and posters placed in the notice board and shop. The Clerk and Cllr Cumella to progress this asap. Responses to be collated for the March PC meeting. Cllr Cumella agreed to draft a response and circulate prior to the next meeting.

(Cllr Bray re-joined the meeting.)

20/01809/HP – 14 Mortlake Drive, Martley WR6 6QU – single storey front and rear extensions, fenestration alterations to first floor. No objection.

20/02028/HP – 2 Church Steps, Martley WR6 6QA – proposed carport. No objection.

21/00033/LB - Lower Horsham Farm, Horsham, Martley, Worcester, WR6 6PN - Minor alteration to listed farmyard barn to provide bat roost, linked to Condition 3 of 19/00898/FUL and 19/00899/LBC requiring ecological mitigation which could not be provided within the confines of the original application site. No objection.

Signed.....

Date .....

141.21.02 Notifications received –

20/01865/HP – permission granted for single storey extension at 2 Church Steps, Martley

ENF/21/0029 – receipt of communication re breach of planning permission at Fairview, Willow Rd, Martley

**142.21 Capital Projects:** No report made.

**143.21 Financial & Governance Matters:**

143.21.01 Payments were agreed as per the schedule circulated by the Clerk. Proposed Cllr Gardner, seconded Cllr Wroe. All agreed.

**144.21 Highways Matters:**

144.21.01 The Lengthsman was asked to continue regular general maintenance tasks.

144.21.02 Car parking along the main road by the recreation field and village hall – further to recent communication with Highways, the Clerk was asked to arrange a site meeting with Highways and members of the PC, District Cllr Jones-Williams also to attend.

**145.21 Parish Matters:**

145.21.01 Community Speed Watch – the Clerk is contacting the Scheme Co-ordinator for further information about current criteria.

145.21.02 Village Hall White Lines – the Clerk is progressing with the Village Hall Committee. County Cllr Grove may be able to fund up to £700 towards this scheme and an application has been made.

145.21.03 School Crossing Escort – no further update.

145.21.04 Skate Park – no further update.

**146.21 Correspondence Received:** See item raised under minute 138.21.

**147.21 Councillor Reports & Items for Future Agendas:**

147.21.01 Cllr Nott reported that the Church is fund raising to improve the church clock. The Clerk confirmed that Parish Councils cannot legally fund church land or property, but there may be another option to assist the project? Cllr Nott will speak with the Church Treasurer. It was also noted that the Clerk had contacted the Surgery about the large Conifer tree outside which needs pruning but that nothing had happened since then.

147.21.02 Cllr Bray reminded the meeting that road salt was available for collection / delivery if residents needed it. Cllr Nott also has a supply which can be used.

147.21.03 Cllr Weddell-Hall asked if there was a Preservation Order on the oak tree that had recently been taken down along St Peter’s Drive? District Cllr Jones-Williams agreed to find out and report back.

**148.21 Date of next meeting:** a virtual meeting will be held on Mon 1<sup>st</sup> March at 19:30

Meeting closed 20:35

M. Alexander  
Clerk

Signed.....

Date .....