

## **Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 19 May 2008**

C S O Fiona Witcher gave a report:

Annual figures for Garway :11 crimes of which 3 burglaries(non dwelling), 3 motor vehicles, 1 theft of motor vehicle, 2 criminal damage, 1 theft of diesel and 1 push bike. Ms. Witcher also gave a brief talk on Smartwater and invited the Council to hold a Community Safety evening when she would give a demonstration.

### **1. Declarations of Interest**

None

**2. Minutes of Meetings held on 7 April and 17 April** were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

### **3. Matters Arising**

Mr Atkinson ask that Highways were contacted again to clear ditch at Cae Duff. Affordable Homes - Mr Parry had advised that he was still in the process of holding meeting with landowners.

### **4. Correspondence**

Policing Matters in Herefordshire- West Mercia Policing Authority introducing new style meetings across the county. The public meetings will give the public the opportunity to meet Divisional Commander for Herefordshire and discuss issues and policies affecting policing.

Letter from Herefordshire Local Access Forum advising that following a review by Natural England (formerly Countryside Agency) the project has been withdrawn along with the 2026 deadline for claims for Historic Rights of Way and a new working group will be established.

Letter from H/Council Street scene Manager- re new Parish Initiative . From April 2008 in partnership with Amey and HALC each Parish will have a highways team working specifically with minor defects once every three months. It is requested that one month before the team is due (a schedule had been enclosed) each parish reports any identified problems by completing a defect form and forwarding to Streetscene. After each parish visit the defects dealt with would be reported back to the clerk. The members were unhappy with aspects of the scheme.

If no defects reported to clerk or council will there still be a scheduled visit.

Will highways actively look for work to be done?

Poor quality of work already carried out was also noted.

Why was there just not a better line of communication (one dedicated telephone number or email) for clerks and members of the public to contact re repairs needed.

If a defect occurs after the report has been sent in bearing in mind it's a month before a visit will that be included or will it have to wait until next scheduled visit.

Mr Smith will pass comments on to Highways.

### **5. Planning**

DCSW2008/0261/F 11 Fairview, Garway. **Permitted**

### **6. Financial Matters**

Donation of £100 received from Mrs V Horspool in memory of her mother Mrs Coe towards the upkeep of the Common. Clerk to write thanking Mrs Horspool.

Advice of first payment of precept £1750 credited to bank account 7 April

**7. To consider joining Herefordshire Association of Local Council (HALC).**

Access to assistance from HALC had improved with a web site for members and daily office cover. It was proposed by Mr Atkinson, therefore, to rejoin HALC with a subscription rate of £150.93. To be reviewed next May. Seconded Mrs Trew and carried.

**8. Annual Audit 2007/8 Completion of Statement of Assurances and Annual Return**

The Accounts had been audited by the internal auditor and found satisfactory. Council completed the Annual Governance statement and the Chair signed the Annual return. Accounts to be sent to External Auditors Mazers.

**9. Council to consider Rospa report for children's playground and approve Mr N Deeley as a volunteer for weekly inspection**

The report from Rospa had not been received to date. Clerk to chase. It was proposed by Mr Atkinson that Mr Nigel Deeley would carry out and complete the weekly inspection log of the children's playground area. Mr Deeley would send completed report to the clerk with any remedial action required. Seconded Mr Jones. Carried unanimously.

**10. To consider article re Lord of the Manor of Garway published in Herefordshire Life March 2008**

The clerk had spoken to the head of Legal Dept. Herefordshire Council. The advice was the Council had carried out their responsibilities for the Common appropriately and it was onus upon a claimant to prove ownership of any land. There was a clear division between the title Lord of the Manor and the ownership of the land. To clarify this position Mr Phillips proposed that the Council write to Sir Peter De Billiere to ascertain how he sees his rights and responsibilities and how it relates to those of the Council with an invitation to discuss this with the Council. Seconded Mr Atkinson and carried unanimously.

**11. Parish Matters**

Mrs Trew had attended last meeting of Commoners Assoc.

Car park turning area – potential problems with privately owned water pipes close to the surface had halted work until further investigation to liability could take place.

Quad bikes – Council to contact Assoc to check that they have suitable public liability insurance.

One pot hole needing attention – White Rocks next to cattle grid.

Glasshouse road ditches needed jetting.

Mrs Sparey suggested that the Council produce a list of useful telephone numbers to be distributed to every household.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.05pm