

Minutes of Meeting held on 8 September 2008 in Garway Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present.

Mr M Jones (Chair), Mr D Atkinson, Mrs R Sparey, Mrs C Trew, Mr R Smith (Herefordshire Council), CSO F Witcher Sir Peter de la Billiere and 6 members of the public.

1. Apologies

Mr A Phillips, Mrs S Partridge

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of Meeting held on 14 July 2008 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising.

Parish footpath contractors – the clerk had spoken to Herefordshire Council Rights of Way office and had been assured that in future all contractors would carry identification. Children's play area – a quote for £350 had been received to secure seat which required moving in order to put concrete pads. Members discussed taking the seat away from the play area and replacing with two heavy duty picnic tables. Clerk to obtain quotes for these.

5. Sir Peter de la Billiere to discuss his role as Lord of the Manor of Garway.

Sir Peter introduced his nephew James de la Billiere who also shared the title along with two others and gave a brief history of how the Lord of Garway Manor had passed down the family. Documentation to support this was lodged with Sir Peter's solicitor and available for inspection. A particular concern was that in the future the title would fragment through next generations leaving it open to uncertainty. Discussions were working towards a family trust managed by two trustees, one from each family, with the aim of keeping communication open with the community. Sir Peter saw their role as more than caretaker - the protection of Commoners rights being their major interest with the management of the commons being carried out by the Parish Council as representatives of the community together with Garway Hill Commoners Association. He felt it would be useful to have a point of contact on the council to discuss any issues that arise which members agreed to consider when there is a full council. Questions from the council clarified that Lord of the Manor of Garway only covered Common land in the parish and that Sir Peter had public liability insurance for Lord of the Manor.

The Chair thanked Sir Peter and James De la Billiere for attending.

Cso Witcher gave a brief report and it was agreed to hold the Smartwater evening at the end of October with the Parish Council funding the hire of the Hall and providing refreshments.

6. Correspondence

Letter from Herefordshire Council advising that from autumn next year it was proposed that every household would receive a weekly plastic sack and a fortnightly collection of recyclable items- paper, plastic, cans and glass which would put into a wheeled bin provided by the council.

Letter from Herefordshire Council advising of Mobile Library consultation taking place during September/October. Nearest local meeting will be held Ewyas Harold 29 Sept.

7. Planning Matters

DCSW2008/1479/F Southwell Court Broad Oak. Permission refused.

8. Financial Matters

None

9. Council to consider undertaking a Parish Plan

Councillors had studied the Parish Plan guidance pack. Proposal by Mr Atkinson that the council undertake a Parish Plan. The members agreed to wait until there is a full council and requested a contact from either Community First or HALC to talk to the council in more detail.

10. Parish Matters

Garway Hill Commoners Assoc - Mrs Whistance advised that a meeting was planned on 9 September with Monnow Events to discuss a mutual agreement for quad bikes.

A regular fencing programme had been set up.

There was a shortfall of funding from the HLS Scheme approx £5000 per year. HNT had offered to assist with some projects and the Assoc. Treasurer was also looking at various ideas to increase income.

Mr Jones confirmed that hedge trimming would be carried out when weather improves.

The council had been asked to look at the feasibility of providing a new bus shelter at Broad Oak. Clerk to contact H/C

Glasshouse road – clerk to contact Highways to see if a permanent solution to the state of the road could be found.

Mrs Whistance (from the floor) asked if the council could discuss a donation towards the churchyard grass cutting at the next meeting.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm.