

## **Minutes of Meeting held on 4 July 2011 at 7.30pm in Garway Village Hall**

### **Present**

Mr D Atkinson (Chair), Mr C Strange, Mr M Howard, Mr C Robinson, Mrs R Sparey, Mrs S Partridge, Ward Cllr R Hamilton, the clerk and 7 members of the public

### **1. Apologies**

None

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None

**3. Minutes of meetings held on 23 May 2011** were agreed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair

### **4. Matters Arising.**

None

### **5. Correspondence**

News Release from Amey promoting their Velocity Jet Patcher vehicle which will be filling pot holes throughout the summer months.

Information on changes to Mobile and Home Delivery library service: H/Council proposed to withdraw current mobile library, increase Home Delivery based on assessment of needs and invite organisations to consider operating community based libraries. Users of the Mobile in Garway have been given an opportunity to comment. Email from Mrs Maskell referring to Parish Plan Planning & Development Housing survey proposal and requesting clarification on right of residency and allocation of housing in Garway – is existing social housing being offered to local people first? Clerk to contact Haley Crane, Housing Development Officer, H/Council

### **6. Planning Matters**

No planning matters

### **7. Financial Matters**

No Financial Matters

### **8. Reports from Summits attended**

Mr Howard reported on the Broadband Summit attended with Mrs Sparey on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Minimum standard of 2mbps by 2013 and 30 mbps by 2015. A questionnaire proposed to businesses and residents – an opportunity for views to meet the requirements for users and attract additional funding. Tendering delayed until November.

Mr Atkinson reported on the first Living Villages Summit chaired by Jesse Norman to discuss the future of the rural economy, Big Society, devolving services to Local Areas

and Broadband with the emphasis on making villages and rural services more sustainable and resilient.

**9. Participatory Budgeting (PB) – council to consider options to take part in the “People Proofed Budgets” process**

The principles of PB – setting aside a sum of money to be spent in accordance with local public opinion has been tested in several parishes in Herefordshire. H/Council has now agreed to explore the principals for their next budget. It was proposed by Mr Howard that Garway expresses an interest in taking part in the 3 proposals put forward by HALC:

P/C - “people testing” their budget”

H/Council - “people testing” their budget”

P/C setting aside a portion of their precept.

Seconded Mr Robinson and agreed unanimously.

**10. Garway Common – to consider any maintenance issues**

Riding on Common – the Chair had spoken to some of those concerned and it has now ceased.

Mr Strange had liaised with PC Lea over notices; however, it was felt those used on other Commons were too heavy handed.

It was agreed to invite all Commoners and other interested parties to an informal walk around with members to discuss future maintenance of the Common using the previous Garway Common Management Plan as a starting base. Date set for 6<sup>th</sup> August at 11.00. Chair would hand deliver all letters.

**11. Council to seek dispensation from Herefordshire Standards Committee in respect of Members Interests and the Village Hall**

Four members of the Council were Village Hall Trustees and therefore unable to fully take part in discussions regarding the Hall. A proposal to apply to Herefordshire Council Standards Committee for dispensation to be granted to Mr Atkinson, Mr Strange, Mr Robinson and Mr Howard was agreed unanimously and carried. The next meeting of the Standards Committee would take place in October.

**12. Council to comment on Draft Charter between Parish Councils and Herefordshire Council**

It was agreed that members would study this in more depth and send comments to clerk who would respond to Halc. See appendix 1.

**13. Council to respond to Review of Herefordshire Subsidised Bus Network and Community Transport**

Consultation taking place until 15 July. Questionnaires widely circulated by H/Council. The Parish Council resolved to contact other Councils along the route of the 412 asking for their comments and to respond that the 412 was a vital link for the parish to either Hereford for shopping/hospital appointments or to get to onward journeys with some members of the community having no other means of transport. Rescheduling to facilitate a 9.30 start was also recommended to enable free bus passes to be used.

**14. Lengthsman Scheme –payment on invoices and works required**

Invoice to date not received. No works requested

**15. Parish Plan – council to receive and consider reports from Steering Group**

Report from Mr Robinson: Planning and Development Action Group had formulated a Housing Survey and this would be sent out to all households shortly.

**16. Clerks wages and expenses**

Proposal by Mrs Sparey to pay wages to April/ June of £245.00, expenses to date £44.57 and election expenses of £13.75. Seconded Mrs Partridge and agreed unanimously.

**17. Parish Matters**

Request to ask Amey to cut back overgrowth on to C1239 at the Stable Block, Broad Oak, and ash trees at the Old School.

Mrs Partridge had attended GHCA AGM - £180 grant received towards equipment for educational visits. Members agreed to schools parking through the gate on to Common. 70 acres bracken cut and collected. 32 species of fungi found and bird walks undertaken with John Pullen. BBQ 28<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30 on Common – All welcome.

Mr Strange reported on concern over teaching staff cuts at Garway School. 3 classes merged into 2. He will attend all Governor meetings and report back.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.37pm.