**KIMBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on

Tuesday 3rd December 2019 at 7.45pm in Kimbolton Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs Will Mears, Henry Beaumont, Doug Underwood, Jo Read, Brian Morris and Ed Rollings

**In Attendance:** Cllr John Stone, Angela Ellis (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:**  Becky Beaumont
2. **To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial interest –** None
3. **To adopt Minutes of previous meeting** – 15th October 2019, these minutes were adopted and signed.
4. **Village Reports –**

* 1. Footpath Officers –In the absence of Brian Tonks there was nothing to report.
	2. Lengthsman Scheme – In the absence of Brian Tonks there was little to report however, Cllr Mears said that Brian still had some of his budget left for 2019/20 but it would be used before the end of the financial year. Cllr Mears reported that the salt bins would be filled for the winter but an offer from the Herefordshire Council of a load of salt being delivered to the village was refused as there was nowhere for it to be stored.
	3. Traffic calming/Traffic concerns – Cllr Mears said the SID was on at the moment and he was trying to arrange for it to be on at regular intervals. He had purchased better batteries which now lasted up to nine days.
	4. Cllr Mears said that several parishioners had made comments to him about the recent un-necessary installation of footpath barriers along the east side of the A49. He said that this appears to be the result of an inaccurate exaggerated risk assessment. The railings are very unsightly, will cause obstruction during hedge cutting operations and do not cost verses risk balance against the actual number of pedestrian/cycle users. The extensive cost could have been channelled more effectively into extending the physical path connections between the Town of Leominster and Kimbolton. Cllr John Stone said that Highways England were responsible and that the cost came out of their budget not the Herefordshire County Council’s.
1. **Finance – To note the financial position and consider the following:**

5.1 Ludlow Curtain Company – part payment of Village Hall Curtains -

 £760.38+152.07VAT - £912.45

5.2 The proposed Budget for 2020/2021, which had been circulated to the Cllrs with their agenda, was discussed and agreed. Proposed by Cllr Read and Seconded by Cllr Henry Beaumont.

**6 Planning Applications – None**

1. **Assets of Community Value –** It was agreed to add Hamnish Orchard and Car Park to the list. Cllr Mears reported that he had completed the form for the Car Park opposite Stockton Cross Inn.
2. **To note correspondence:**
	1. Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire – this had been received and forwarded to John Wood. Cllr Mears had discussed the matter with John and said he would complete the form himself by the date it was due to be returned.
	2. A list of nominees for the General Election was circulated.
	3. Christmas Sing along – date and venue was noted.
	4. The dates for the Christmas Rubbish Collections were noted.
3. **AOB –** Nothing to report
4. **Public Forum –** Comments were made that several ditches/drains were blocked around the village. These included Stanley Bank T-junction, Grantsfield Straights/Lane, and the Hollows leading to Grove Farm. It was also mentioned that there was a problem with the ditch at Grantsfield Lane, Cllr Mears said he would discuss these locations with Brian Tonks and refer to Hitrees for attention. Another problem reported was that vehicles using their Sat Nav’s were attempting to travel along Green Lane, this was not a suitable road and it was suggested that maybe a sign could be put up saying this.

A member of public said he was concerned that the Neighbourhood Plan had not been referred to directly during recent consultation regarding the Stockton Cross embankment plot planning application. It was pointed out that the site falls within the village settlement boundary and there were no specific points recorded regarding this land within the Neighboured plan. Potential issues with parking, drainage, scale of the site had been clearly stated on the planning portal comments.

A member of the public also raised concerns regarding the safety of mature trees along the Ryde Lane. This land is privately owned, although the current owner is not known. Cllr Mears confirmed that this is not the responsibility of the Parish Council other than ensuring that the public footpath is maintained. He also asked the member of public as to whether there was any legal information available relating to access during a property purchase in recent years. Councillor John Stone kindly agreed to meet and walk the section with the Balfour Beatty Locality Steward.

1. **Matters for next Agenda**

Assets of community value; traffic calming; report on footpaths; Hamnish Churchyard & Village Hall

1. **Date of next meeting** –**Tuesday** **7th January 2020**
2. **The meeting was closed at 20.30**

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