

A Meeting of Dorstone Parish Council was held in Old School Hall Dorstone on **Wednesday 13th December 2017 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Councillor C Thomas, Chairman, Councillor T Usher, Councillor Gethin, Councillor Hession, Councillor D Phillips & Mr C Hendy Parish Council Clerk.

Acceptable apologies received from; Councillor K Meredith, unwell.

Apologies received from Councillor A Phillips

Reports; Ward Councillor Price, November report circulated.

Golden Valley Police not in attendance

Planning

Application no: 174392

Site: Track leading to West Lawn Cottage, Dorstone, Herefordshire, HR3 6BL

Description; Improvements to existing road leading to West Lawn Cottage

There was currently a problem with Herefordshire Council website preventing documents being downloaded, joint planning consultation with Peterchurch PC, clerk had informed Planning Officer and requested extension to coincide with January meeting.

For Information;

Application no: 172894

Site: Land South East of Bage Court, Dorstone, Hereford, Herefordshire HR3 5SU

Description; Erection of an agricultural building for free range egg production with associated egg packing area and feed bin (amended scheme of 161909)
This has been referred to Planning Inspectorate for non- determination.

Finance

Clerks salary £125

Lengthsman £572

HMRC £94.56

All payments authorised

Councillors resolved to set the precept for 2018-2019 for £6500.

Audit 2017-2018 information

Smaller authorities are those whose gross annual income or expenditure is less than £6.5 million. Dorstone opted-in to the central procurement process and therefore an external auditor has been appointed for the 5 year period commencing with the financial year 2017/18.

Exempt authorities

There are various changes to the legislation taking effect from 2017/18, most notably the potential for authorities where the higher of income or expenditure for the year was £25,000 or less, to declare themselves as 'exempt' from a limited assurance review by an external auditor if they meet certain qualifying criteria. However, all authorities, even if they declare themselves 'exempt', will still need to fully complete and publish an annual return and must still have a named appointed auditor to deal

with questions or objections from local electors, Dorstone will use the external appointed auditor.

The Annual Return, now be known as the "Annual Governance and Accountability Return" and will need to be completed in accordance with "proper practices", and then be published in accordance with the applicable Transparency Codes.

Highways

River Dore Bridge, Concern has been received about a build-up in the middle of the stream next to the Bridge. Councillor Usher has inspected, not able to dredge the Dore owing to the fact that the build-up is silt not stone. Owner has been spoken too, he does not have equipment up to the job, the contractor who has previously carried out work on Ponty Weston Stream has quoted £100 to clear out the build-up.

Recent information from BB has indicated the responsibility for ditch and gully cleaning lies with the landowner. The clerk has requested clarification on responsibility on stream/river adjacent to bridges.

Councillors resolved that the build-up should be monitored, if work was required consideration to incorporate with the cleaning of Ponty Weston Stream

Passing place Bredwardine Hill, information received of a donation of a small piece of verge, about 50 m down from an existing double-gate field entrance, on Pentre Lane, to create a passing place. An Initial estimate was £15k for the work which would need to be funded locally.

Councillor Price reported he has discussed this with Herefordshire Council director regarding funding the work. Resolved the council should write to the director supporting the request for funding

General Data Protection Legislation (GDPR)

Clerk attended Rural Business Advice Day & a training course with HALC. As previously reported, in HALC's recent newsletter, Law is changing in May 2018 to the GDPR. Data can be electronic on a computer, phone, ipad, cctv, in car camera etc or in hardcopy. During the next few months information about GDPR will need to be circulated/discussed, HALC is working with Kidwells Solicitors & HEXAD, (information security services Ltd), they also looking to appoint a data protection officer for the PC's. Copies of the GDPR, 12 steps to take now, were handed out to councillors present & would be given to councillors absent..

Community broker, not present, following request to attend a meeting, invite sent but no confirmation of attendance received

Community Housing Fund Community Housing Fund

Earlier this year Herefordshire Council was awarded £509,000 for Community Led Housing schemes. Request that PC's discuss the funding stream and if there could be a benefit from funding. Councillors noted the information.

Neighbourhood Planning Event

Councillor Thomas & the Clerk attended the planning event, hosted by the Ward Councillor with a presentation from Sam Banks. Herefordshire is the lead county on number of neighbourhood plans, currently 31 adopted, three examples given where the neighbourhood plan has supported the planning decision. Thanks were given

both by the ward councillor & Sam Banks for the effort/time given by the steering groups/parish councils on their parish's neighbourhood plan.

Telephone Kiosk, agreed to consider arranging a competition on future use & the refurbishment of the kiosk in the spring.

Resolved to continue holding meetings in 2018 2nd Wednesday of month

Councillors agreed next meeting 10th January 2018.

No further business the chairman thanked those who had attended & closed the meeting at 09.15pm

Signed Councillor C Thomas
January 10th 2018