

Gladestry Community Council.

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Wednesday 21 September 2022 at 7.30pm
in the village hall.

Present. Mr Ian Ball (Chairman), Mr Viv Lloyd, Mr Melvyn Hughes, Mr Ed Jones, Ms Beck Lloyd and Mr Kenneth Waugh (Clerk).

1. Apologies. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Ms Julie Davies and Mr Joseph Alman.

2 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 18 July 2022.

Melvyn proposed that the minutes from the meeting were agreed. A brief discussion around minute 7viii took place, with Councillors agreeing that this revised paragraph taken in conjunction with the addendum to the minutes reflected the debate which had taken place. Ed seconded the proposal and Councillors approved the minutes, which were then signed.

3. Matters arising from the ordinary meeting held on 18 July 2022.

There were no matters raised.

4. Planning.

Please see Business Matters, below.

5. Finance.

The Clerk had provided up to date statements of account with the agenda. The current balance of £2462. Payments made since the last meeting were two lots of bank charges of £5.00 each. The second instalment of the precept amounting to £1166 had been received.

The Clerk advised Councillors that he would need to purchase a 4 gang extension lead in order to run the new IT equipment, and would also need to keep a supply of spare batteries required by the equipment. It was agreed that purchases would be reimbursed through the end of year expenses claim.

6. Correspondence.

No correspondence other than by email was received.

7. Business matters.

- i. Planning application 22/1098 relating to Stonehouse, Gladestry. Councillors had previously raised an issue about the possibility of work being carried out without the necessary permissions, and the Clerk had informed Powys about the concerns. An update from Powys had been forwarded to Councillors indicating that the planing officer was awaiting a decision from the Built Heritage officer before any planning decision could be made. Further information will be sent to Councillors on receipt by the Clerk.
- ii. Planning application 22/1447/HH relating to Foxglove Cottage, Gladestry attracted no comments from Councillors.
- iii. Planning application 22/1476/REM relating to Grove Cottage, Gladestry also attracted no comments.
- iv. Playground funding. Councillors had been forwarded an email from Gladestry Village Playground group outlining fund raising for a new play area in the grounds of the village hall, and asking for a contribution from the Community Council. Councillors agreed that it would be useful to have a meeting with this group so that they would have more detailed information to enable them to make a decision on any grant. The Clerk was asked to contact the group to arrange this.
- v. Old lap top disposal. The Clerk informed Councillors that he had emailed the school twice and spoken to the head teacher to ascertain whether the school had any use for the Council's spare lap top, but had not received a response. The Clerk said that there may be a use for it as part of the new IT equipment, and that he would check this. Councillors agreed that if such use could not be made of it, perhaps an advert on the website may find a home for it.
- vi. Councillors were asked to approve payment of the Clerk's salary due on 5th October; Melvyn proposed that approval be given, Ed seconded and all agreed. The Clerk thanked Councillors, and said he would issue an approved payment schedule with the minutes – see appendix 1.
- vii. Speeding issues in Gladestry. Please see appendix 2 to these minutes for a copy of the correspondence from Powys Highways relating to the speeding check undertaken by them. Councillors asked the Clerk to take up Highway's offer of a referral to the police to see if any enforcement action can be taken.

viii. Ed raised the subject of parking on the Huntington lane opposite the Afon View bungalows. He said that vehicles approaching the B4954 from Broken Bank often found that parked cars made it difficult to obtain a clear line of sight when attempting to navigate the junction, especially when turning right. He said it was made worse when vehicles parked on both sides of the lane at school drop-off and collection times. Ed's preferred solution would be the use of double yellow lines at the junction. Other Councillors concurred, and the Clerk was asked to explore the possibility with Powys.

Beck introduced the subject of the state of the road from Gladestry to Colva, particularly from Gwernilla to Llanhaylow. The Clerk was asked to also bring this to the attention of Powys Highways.

Melvyn raised the subject of the lighting problem at Stanner junction whereby it was confusing for drivers at night, particularly for those turning right from the A44 onto the B4954. The Clerk was asked to include this in his request for action by Powys.

Please see a copy of the email sent to Powys, attached as Appendix 3, covering the points raised at paragraph 7viii.

8. The next meetings will be on Monday 21 November 2022 at 7.30pm.

Signed

Dated

SCHEDULE OF APPROVED PAYMENTS

MINS 185

The following payment was approved for payment at the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21 September 2022:

£250.00 for payment of the Clerk's salary due 5 October 2022

I certify that the above approved payment reconciles with the bank statement seen by me.

Signed:

Dated:

Position:

Appendix 2

Good afternoon Kenneth

I refer to your email of this morning and respond as follows:

I can advise that the count has been completed and I have downloaded the data which was sent to me late last week:

- The monitoring equipment was set down at 2pm on 5th August and lifted at 12 md on 19th August, providing 13 full days of data. (plus a little bit more)
- A total of 5,951 vehicle movements were recorded over this period
- The 85th percentile speed achieved was 37.24 mph. Which means that 85% of all vehicles were travelling at a speed of 37.24 mph, or slower. The '85th percentile' is a universally accepted value for determining and setting speed limits; and the results here show that the existing 30mph speed limit for this road at this location is correctly set. However there does seem to be a percentage exceeding the posted limit - most notably between 8am & 11am and 4pm & 6pm
- Following on from the previous point, this percentage are driving at speeds where the police might consider taking some form action; and I shall be happy to share the results with the Roads Policing Sergeant and it will be matter for him to decide if enforcement needs to be considered.
- The 85th percentile figure achieved does not trigger any interventions by Powys CC Highways, but I will have a look and see if I can enhance any signing/lining which might help
- Finally, I would just like to advise that it is quite possible that this length of highway will be subject to a 20mph speed limit when Welsh Government's proposal to reduce the 30mph limit on 'restricted roads' to 20mph throughout Wales is adopted from Sept 2023. You may be assured that our recently appointed Area Traffic Officer will consult with your County Councillor and, quite likely, representatives of your Community Council to hear views before deciding on an appropriate approach with regards to this possibility. By way of explanation the ATO has been appointed with the specific role of implementing the 20mph speed limits throughout the whole of Powys (on behalf of Welsh Government)

The definition of a 'restricted road' is one which has a system of street lighting no less than 200 yards apart. The road then is automatically limited to 30mph - unless it is varied (by a local Order) to an alternative limit - e.g., 40 mph. This is a national definition.

I hope this might assist with your presentation at your meeting later this week.

Kind regards
Ian Mills
Technegydd Perianyddol Traffig (De)

Appendix 3

23 Sept 2022

Hello, Ian. A number of matters of interest to our Community were discussed at our recent Council meeting, and I was asked to bring them to the attention of Highways to see what may be done, as follow:

i. the junction of the A44 with the B4954. Firstly, thank for altering the height of the signage at this junction.

Councillors have again expressed a concern over the lack of lighting at the junction which makes it a potential hazard, particularly for vehicles turning right from the Walton direction when it is dark. It is very easy to stray into the wrong lane with the chance of encountering another vehicle approaching the junction from the B4594. It is felt that a light on the island or on the side of the A44 would make for a much safer junction;

ii. Councillors discussed the parking of vehicles at the junction of the B4954 with the road to Huntington, which is on the sharp bend opposite Gladestry school. Vehicles often park on both sides of the Huntingdon road at school drop-off and collection times. Parking is also undertaken by a residents of the bungalows, and visitors to the village. Councillors were concerned that it became difficult for vehicles, particularly long vehicles, to manoeuvre to be able to exit the turning onto the B4954 safely. The problem is exacerbated when the hedge and verge opposite the school in well grown. Councillors suggested that the provision of double yellow lines from the junction to the end of the pavement on the Huntington road could be a solution to the problem, and would encourage your Department to give consideration to this;

iii. Councillors also raised the subject of the very poor state of the road from Gladestry to Colva , particularly, but not exclusively, from Gwernilla to Llanhaylow, and are anxious that substantial repairs might be effected before the severe weather arrives.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you require any further information.

Kind regards,
Kenneth