BREINTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING | 20th March 2024.

Present: Cllr John Hull (Chair), Cllr Tracey Prosser, Cllr Liz Morawiecka, Cllr Emil Morfett, Cllr Jackie Morris, Cllr Lorraine Lewis and ward Cllr Matthews.
Officers present: Lisa Law, Clerk.
No members of the public were in attendance.

23.134 To receive apologies for absence.
There were apologies from John Wade, footpaths officer.
23.135 To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations.
There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.
23.136 To approve minutes of the council. Minutes from the meeting held on 21st February were **approved** and signed by the Chair.
23.137 Public Open Session. No questions as there were no members of the public present.
23.138 Ward Cllr Bob Matthews. Informed members on further monies for the Lengthsman Scheme, drainage and PROW that will be forwarded in April. Clerk to email to enquire. Planning, Breinton Lee and the delay in determination Cllr Matthews asked for this to be investigated as to the delay. New road plans. That congestion has been recognised and a need for 17,000 new homes and 6 hectares of employment land. There are two proposals, the Eastern by-pass and the Western by-pass, (this includes the southern link, phase 1).
Cllr Morfett raised the issue that National Highways wants a by-pass in Hereford for motorway relief through Hereford up to the Midlands. Cllr Morfett suggested that the by-pass is a ploy for housing development and not alleviating traffic but to increase it.
Cllr Morawiecka suggested that CPRE (the countryside charity) reports indicate that despite the claims for new road building that none of the benefits of tackling economic productivity and congestion are never achieved.
There was discussion regarding the costs involved and how they are to be obtained, talks ongoing between Midlands Connect and the Department of Transport and the Local Transport Fund that has allocated just over £100m to Herefordshire Council over a seven year period 2025-26-2031-32 due to the cancellation of the northern leg of HS2. Cost estimates for the individual

schemes are; Eastern by-pass between £116-£158m, Western by-pass £201m and the Southern link road £31m.
It is to be discussed and decided at the next cabinet meeting on 28th March.

Rural Settlement Hierarchy Plan (RSH).
Cllr Hull and Cllr Morfett attended a meeting to explain the implications for parishes. Breinton as a parish had not been mentioned in the current settlement plan. (It was mentioned in the previous one). However, neighbouring parishes, Stretton Sugwas and Credenhill were categorised as rural hubs. It now seems that Breinton is not included in the RSH. Existing NDP's can still be used and updated upon completion of the HC Local Plan 2021-2041.

23.139 Balfour Beatty Locality Steward.

1. To receive an update and consider necessary actions.
Breinton Lane blocked gully.
C1189 blocked culvert raised.
Cllr Hull to write to local landowners. **Noted.**

2. Missing Breinton sign. To consider any actions needed. Confirmed with Balfour Beatty that the council want the sign replaced and we are awaiting an invoice from Herefordshire Council to commence proceedings. **Noted.**

23.140 Parish Footpath Officer: To receive a report and consider necessary actions. Footpaths officer was not in attendance at the meeting but had given a verbal report to the chair. After previous reports of barbed wire being cut, chair found evidence of wire cutting back of the church, wire had been cut on property northeast of the car park on National Trust property. Also evidence of left dog toys. Chair has emailed the National Trust and the NT ranger to investigate. The missing gate has reappeared on the side of the hedge, PROW provided the gate, chair to contact the landowner regarding the gate. **Noted.**

23.141 Lengthsman: For members to consider any works for the Lengthsman to undertake.
Members considered the quote for works provided by the lengthsman. It was **resolved** that the following works would be undertaken by the lengthsman:

1. Cleaning the ditches on the north side of the C1189 west of the Village Hall leading down to the junction with the C1190 (Lower House). Attempt to clear the entrance to the under-road gulley at the end of the ditch. **£150.00**
2. Cleaning of gullies and drains on west side of the road from the same C1189/C1190 junction to the bottom of the Wye Cliff Farm Z bend. **£50.00**
3. Clear ditches and grips on the C1189 east of the Church Walk footpath crossing, down to the Lower Breinton Junction. Cleaning the entrance to the under-road piped gulley. **£240.00**
4. Cleaning of the slab and open drains on both sides of Shepherd's Lane (aka Pidgeon Lane) down to the entrance to the drover's pond. **£120.00**
5. Cleaning the exit of the 12" under-road tee gulley leading down the lane to the Breinton Springs car park including the first four feet of the ditch to ensure free flow. **£40.00**

23.142 National Trust For members to consider reply from National Trust regarding drainage/ flooding. It was **resolved** to agree a plan of the work to be done and ask the lengthsman for a quote for the works to be done and that the NT would accept any waste from any works carried out. Chair to contact NT.

23.143 Police Charter. To consider priorities for the months of April, May and June 2024. Previous priorities were rural theft, anti-social behaviour at Breinton Springs and speeding. (minute reference 23.99). It was **resolved** that the council would retain the priorities of rural theft, anti-social behaviour at Breinton Springs and speeding.

23.144 Finance:

1. To consider invoices for payment. All invoices were **approved** for payment. (See attached).

2. To approve the cash book and bank reconciliation. The cashbook and bank reconciliation were **approved.**

3. To review the budget against spend and estimate of year end totals. Members considered the budget report and reviewed the estimate of year end totals. It was **approved** that they be accepted, that NDP budget £600.00 be carried forward and to enquire into a hydrological survey or preliminary report on land south of Kings Acre Road.

23.145 Council Policies. For members to review the following council policies:

1. **Internal Controls. No change.**
2. **Asset Register. One minor change.**
3. **Risk Assessment. Inclusion of the risk matrix.**

Members reviewed the policies and then **resolved** to adopt them.

23.146 Parish Council Meeting dates 2024- 2025. To approve the meeting dates for the next council year. Except for the December date which was changed members **resolved** to approve the dates for the meeting of the council for 2024-2025. The clerk to confirm dates with the village hall.

23.147 Internal Audit. To consider any quotations for the internal auditor for the year 2023- 2024. After considering the quotations the clerk had obtained for the internal auditor it was **resolved** that the council would appoint HALC to be the internal auditor for the year 2023-2024.

23.148 To consider items for the next agenda.

Village Hall Committee.

Meeting ended at 9.00pm.

Signed ……

Date ……

23.144 Finance:

1. To consider the below payments:

Supplier/ Invoice	Description	Net	Vat	Gross	Payment
Nepeta 2299	Website hosting			£220.00	Chq
Breinton Village Hall 281	Hall Hire			£18.00	Chq
Ionos 5895	Email	£6.50	£1.30	£7.80	DD
FMS Hereford 2419	Payroll	£36.05	£7.21	£43.26	DD
HMRC	PAYE			£39.20	Chq
Clerk's Salary	February			£509.83	Chq
Clerk's Expenses	123 reg			£14.39	Chq