



## Redmarley Parish Council

### **MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of Redmarley Parish Council held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7pm at Redmarley Village Hall**

#### **MINUTES**

**Present:** Cllr Jeff Wheeler (Chair), Cllr Mark Johnson, Cllr Neil Goodall, Cllr Vicky Goodall, Cllr Mike Holtom and Cllr Josh Wheeler (All will be referred to by their initials or first name)

**In Attendance:** Leo Williams (Clerk), County Cllr Gill Moseley (GM), District Cllrs Philip Burford (PB) and Clayton Williams (CW) plus three members of the public (MoP). The meeting started at 7.00pm.

- 96. Apologies for Absence – None.**
- 97. Declarations of Interest –** Cllr Josh Wheeler declared an interest in item 108.
- 98. Minutes of previous meeting -** The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 were accepted and signed by the chair.
- 99. Public Consultation –** MoPs brought up the following matters: **(i)** Lowbands residents will be taking part in the Great British Spring Clean on a litter pick, Sat 5<sup>th</sup> April, 10.30am start at Rose & Crown. Noted. **(ii)** The recent crimes in Staunton were mentioned. PB talked about a positive response by police. **(iii)** Green waste bin prices were mentioned. GM advised that prices are still lower than average. **(iv)** Progress on the AGLV was questioned. PB acknowledged the lack of engagement by FoDDC officers before discussing the Local Plan. **(v)** Can the Action Tracker be published? The clerk will publish on the website prior to meetings.
- 100. District Councillor Reports -**
- 100.1** PB provided a verbal report, key areas: **(i)** The full council set the budget at its most recent meeting. **(ii)** Decision to progress work toward Unesco Biosphere designation. Whilst the protections will be positive, it risks pushing housing allocations outwards. **(iii)** The Five Acres Leisure Centre costs have risen and now requires £5.6m in loans, repayable over 40 years.
- 100.2** CW mentioned that an individual wanted to donate a Silent Tommy statue to the parish.
- 101. County Councillor Report -** GM provided a report in accordance with Pre-Election protocols. **(i)** Three local government restructuring models are under discussion. **(ii)** The May elections will be for a two-year term of office. **(iii)** The Biosphere legacy should reflect the significance of the Chartist settlements and the Land Settlement houses. **(iv)** The bookable Robin Bus provision has spread north and now covers the parish. Service is not possible into Herefordshire.

**102. Action Tracker** - Members accepted the updated version. Relevant updates are as follows:

- (i) **8/42.2** Cinema Screen. The clerk has struggled to find a selling site where this appears likely to fetch a sensible price. Efforts are ongoing.
- (ii) **14/59.1 & 76.1** AED Power Supply for Lowbands. National Grid quote deemed unaffordable at almost £10,000. There is a solar option at £2,895 or it's possible to run a 2.5mm SWA to a nearby dwelling. MH will approach AED manufacturer for guidance.
- (iii) **23/16.4 and 24/16.5** Quiet Lanes/Speed Enforcement etc. Jeff W will chase Andrew Middlecote (GCC Highways).
- (iv) **25/33** Rose Bushes. Decision made to engage Tim Sharpe and review.
- (v) **31/74.1** Picnic Bench. Decision made to purchase a composite item.
- (vi) **33/94** Repair rotting bench. Decision made to purchase hardwood slats.

### **103. Planning**

#### **103.1 Planning Responses**

P0318/25/PLANOB Land adjoining Rock Meadow, Redmarley. Application to vary Section 106 agreement dated 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 related to planning application P0917/21/FUL to amend the affordable housing provision from 3 affordable rented units to 2 discount market sale units and the provision of a commuted sum. After discussions it was agreed that RPC would **object** in this case. It was **resolved** that the services of a planning solicitor would be engaged to prepare the submission.

#### **103.2 Dealt with Between Meetings**

P0149/25/TCA Stretton Brook House, 1 Little Green, Redmarley. Reduce crown of Beech by approximately 3.5 metres to maintain shape and provide clearance to the adjacent building. Prune Sycamore to restore shape after storm damage broke several main branches. There were **no objections. Approved** on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

#### **103.3 Planning Updates**

To note the following decisions of Forest of Dean District Council.

P0026/25/LBC & P0025/25/FUL The Old Rectory, Road from Rock Farm to junction with Ledbury Road, Playley Green, Redmarley, GL19 3NB. Listed building consent for proposed walled garden and ancillary garden structures (revised submission). Consent **granted** on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025. **Noted.**

### **104. Power Supply to Lowbands**

It was agreed that the quote from National Grid to reinstate power to the former telephone kiosk was unaffordable at just under £10,000. Alternatives were discussed. **Action:** MH will seek guidance from the AED manufacturer.

### **105. Bench Repairs**

It was agreed to purchase seven hardwood slats and the fixing and sundries needed to effect essential repairs to the damaged bench. **Action:** NG will purchase and liaise with the clerk to arrange payment.

**106. Playpark Request**

The request from Redmarley School PTA to carry out an Easter egg hunt in the play area was **approved**.

**107. Funding Request**

The request for a contribution to the Forest of Dean Imjin Veterans' Memorial was deferred to the May meeting.

**108. Hill Ford Stages**

It was agreed that no resolutions were needed regarding the closed road motor event planned for 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

**109. Grass Cutting**

Members agreed to accept the quote from Glebe Contracting for the provision of grass cutting and one hedge flail during the 2025 growing season.

**110. Highways Issues**

**110.1 Road Safety, Signage etc**

(i) Josh W advised that the flood signs on the A417 had finally been replaced.

(ii) The clerk added that Maisemore PC had met with Max Kelly, GCC Highways, to discuss the sub-optimal road closure and reopening procedures during the winter floods. He will update RPC when possible.

**110.2 PROW Issues**

Josh W reported the **reopening** of GWA65, Chapel Lane to A417 and ongoing obstruction issues near Playley Green Farm. Other matters to be confirmed.

**110.3 Road Closures**

1. Road from The Causeway to junction with The Lottery between Durbridge Road and The Lottery. Unrestricted Days.
2. Hawcross Lane near A417. 28<sup>th</sup> May 0930-1530 (Openreach)
3. Middle Lane, Lowbands. 15<sup>th</sup> May 0930-1530 (Openreach)
4. Pendock Road. 19<sup>th</sup> May 0930-1530 (Openreach)

**111. Correspondence**

(i) Dymock Forest Rural Action extended an invitation to join in the planting of 50 saplings on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025.

(ii) FoDDC Cabinet Members have agreed to recruit a new dedicated Market Towns Officer to work with partners to improve the vibrancy and vitality of the four market towns in the Forest of Dean.

(iii) CPRE newsletter.

(iv) GAPTC is establishing a Devolution Working Group to gather member input, monitor developments, and provide feedback on proposed changes. They also shared circulated newsletters.

(v) "Parkthatbike" scheme invites applications.

(vi) GCC Strategic Planning is undertaking a second round of stakeholder engagement on its Local Development Guide.

The start of the pre-election period for the Gloucestershire County Council election starts on Tuesday, 25 March 2025.

(vii) Neighbourhood Watch report an uptick in rural crime.

## 112. Financial Matters

<b>(a)</b>	<b>Statement of Accounts on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025</b>		
	Treasurers Account	£	295.65
	Deposit Account	£	23,019.43
<b>(b)</b>	<b>Grant Applications - Section 137 of Local Government Act 1972</b>		None
<b>(c)</b>	<b>Adverse variance to budget (&gt;£10)</b>		No Report
<b>(d)</b>	<b>To ratify payment made between meetings</b>		
	27/02 Glebe Contractors (Grass Cutting etc)	£	1673.50
	28/02 Bank Service Charge	£	4.25
<b>(e)</b>	<b>BACS Payments for Approval</b>		
	REL Williams (Wages Dec, Jan)	£	526.96
	HMRC Re above	£	125.20
	Redmarley Village Hall (Room hire)	£	30.00
	GAPTC Renewal (705 Electors)	£	277.07
	GCC Inv. 1800811946 (Kissing Gate)	£	528.00
	Clear Councils Ltd (Insurance)	£	848.64*
	M Holtom (AED Battery)	£	TBA
<b>(f)</b>	<b>Income Received – Since 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b>		
	10/02 Bank Interest	£	22.20
	10/03 Bank Interest	£	18.39

\* = Amount questioned by clerk

**112.1 Accounts** - Members accepted the updated accounts as presented.

**112.2 Invoices for Payment** - Members **approved** the payments presented at the meeting, which will be paid by BACS transfer, and noted payments made between meetings.

**112.3 Receipts** - Income received by the Parish Council was **noted**.

**113. Items for Future Agendas** – MJ mentioned a shortage of litter bins in various locations. The damaged bin in the park is also an issue. **Action:** Clerk will contact FoDDC.

**59. Next Ordinary Meeting** - The next Ordinary Meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at Redmarley Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 9.11pm

**Signed:**

**Date:**