

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THORNBURY GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 27TH JANUARY 2025, AT 7 PM IN EDWYN RALPH VILLAGE HALL

Members Present: Cllrs A Ede (Chair), K Edwards, T Edwards, J Farrant, and H Lewis.

Also, Present: Ward Cllr Baker, PCSO Toby Stephenson (SNT), and 1 member of the public.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr E Keown-Boyd, D Manning and P Wildig, and J Eva, Parish Clerk (illness).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the meeting minutes held on 25th November 2024, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

PCSO Toby Stephenson arrived at 7:10 PM.

It was agreed to change the running order of the next couple of items to enable the PCSO to give his update. Item 6 was moved and considered after item 3.

6. SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM (SNT)

PCSO Stephenson provided the following update on the parish council's three policing priorities,

as identified at the last meeting:

- i. Speeding along the B4214: He acknowledged the ongoing issue with speeding. However, due to the road layout through Edwyn Ralph, there is no suitable location for the SNT to position their speed camera vehicle for enforcement. PCSO Stephenson mentioned that a Police Motorcyclist had come out to carry out checks, with a mobile handheld camera. When asked if anyone was caught, PCSO Stephenson did not have this information but said that the main purpose of coming out was to act as a deterrent.

PCSO Stephenson also said that they were looking to have a data box fitted in the foreseeable future which would give useful information as to how many vehicles are breaking the speed limit and what times of day this is more likely to occur.

- ii. Rural Theft: PCSO Stephenson confirmed no new incidents of rural crime have been reported.
- iii. Anti-social Behaviour: PCSO Stephenson confirmed no new incidents of anti-social behaviour have been reported.

PCSO Stephenson left the meeting at 7:25 PM.

4. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

4.1 Cllr Baker provided a brief update which included the following points.

- Cllr Baker made inquiries as to whether drainage maps were available for members of the public and councillors to make reference to. Unfortunately, it appears that these were destroyed when Amey finished their contract and Balfour Beatty took over. Cllr Baker suggested that perhaps the PC could create its own drains and ditches plan.

- Devolution – proposals continue as part of devolved government. Three of four counties will be linked together forming Strategic Mayoral Areas. Each Mayoral area is supposed to have about 1.5 million people in total. No firm commitments but discussions ongoing between councils and central government.
- Elected members of council. The ‘code of conduct’ has been updated. There is an independent body for disciplinaries.
- The budget has been set for 2025/26 and council tax bills will be going out to households in due course.
- Planning – there may be changes in due course in relation to phosphate catchment areas. The rules are currently prohibitive especially on large developments. Central government has been looking at this. At present, Herefordshire has largely used up the areas for which phosphate credits could be bought thereby offsetting for environmental benefit.
- In light of increased housing targets, Herefordshire Council is revisiting the idea of a bypass on the Western side of the city which could potentially enable the construction of about 10,000 new homes in the future.
- Herefordshire Planning will soon send out an email to Ward Councillors and Parish Clerks with update on the local plan with dates of when things will happen. There will be a consultation at some point in the foreseeable future on the revised plan.
- The forthcoming Planning & Infrastructure Bill is expected to greatly reduce the power of planning committees and generally remove decision making by committees from the planning process. The use of delegated powers for planners will therefore be expanded.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None.

7. PLANNING

7.1 P243284/J – Edwyn House, Edwyn Ralph, Bromyard, HR7 4LY

Western Red Cedar in the centre of the front lawn. To remove it completely and replace with a native tree species, possibly an oak or beech tree. Type: Works to trees covered by TPO.

It was **RESOLVED** to support the above application.

8. FINANCE

8.1 Members noted the January finance report (inc. bank statements, recs., & spend to date).

8.2 Invoices for payment: it was **RESOLVED** to approve the following invoices for payment.

Payee	Service	Cost exc. VAT	Total inc. VAT
The Community Heartbeat Trust	Annual service (Edwyn Ralph Defibrillator)	£50.00	£60.00
J Eva	January & February Salary	-	-
J Eva	Stationery	£1.00	£1.00
HMRC	PAYE	£65.20	£65.20

8.3 Members noted the following regular invoices paid between meetings.

Payee	Service	Cost exc. VAT	Total inc. VAT
HMRC	PAYE	£65.20	£65.20
Autela	Payroll fees - 14856	£68.22	£81.86
J Eva	December salary 2024	-	-

9. VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

The Chairman reported that the ERVH committee social group supported by the 'Friends of Edwyn Ralph Village Hall' were continuing to organize new events and improve the format of regular fixtures. The following forthcoming events were mentioned:

- i. Coffee mornings on February 1st, March 1st and April 5th
- ii. Coffee with a Cop – March 6th 11am to 12 noon
- iii. Pub & Skittles Nights – February 28th & March 28th from 6:30pm
- iv. Evening of entertainment March 8th Circus & Oriental dance
- v. Talk – Moors Meadow Gardens Past & Present March 14th at 7pm
- vi. Craft & Chat second Tuesday of every month

The Chairman thanked all the volunteers for their hard work and dedication in supporting the hall and organising some great events & activities for the community.

10. ROADS / FOOTPATHS

Members considered issues to report to Herefordshire Council.

- i. Highways – B4214 Collington water flooding on road. Flood warning signs had been put up to warn motorists but had blown down in recent winds.
- ii. Footpaths – nothing to report

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Members noted the following information received.

- i. Streetworks list.
- ii. Locality Steward Update.
- iii. Neighbourhood Matters – Weekly Fraud Update.

12. NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm the next meeting will be Monday March 24th at 7pm

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:00pm

Signed by Cllr Ashley Ede Dated