

Meeting of Richards Castle (Herefordshire) Parish Council

held 7.00pm Thursday 14th August at the Village Hall

RICHARDS CASTLE (HEREFORDSHIRE) PARISH COUNCIL
<https://hereford.richardscastlepc.org.uk/>

Present ; Martin Atkins (Chair) Chris Cadman , Jayne Bromhall , Sebastian Bowen.

Dan Hurcomb Ward Cllr

Clive Leworthy (Clerk)

3 Members of Public in attendance

MINUTES

1. To receive apologies for absence - **Peter Enzer**

2. To receive Declarations of Interest and written dispensation requests

NONE

3. To approve the minutes of the previous extraordinary meeting held on 23rd June 2025

Prop C.Cadman 2nd J. Bromhall APPROVED

4. To discuss any matters arising that are not included on the agenda

NONE

5. Open Discussion

a. To receive a brief verbal report from the Ward Councillor

1. **B4361 Issues had been flagged to highways on numerous occasions and they have now agreed to undertake an assessment and will update Cllr Hurcomb ASAP**
2. **B4362 Will be closed for work 9th-19th Sept Closed 9-5. Speed limit changes will be implemented from 60 to 40 and from 50 to 40 near school. Details of all road works/closures can be found here [Roadworks – Herefordshire Council](#)**

3. **Planning – Local Plan funding from Gov had been withdrawn and this could potentially mean very high costs being incurred by Parish Councils. He would update on any feedback from Gov.**
4. **Flooding – Gulley cleaning underway in the next few weeks in preparation for Autumn.**
5. **Local Issues – Orchard Rise surface issue had been raised with Balfour Beatty. Welcome to Hereford sign reported missing – BB would be asked to replace. Grants for PROW now also able to include labour. Waiting for update from Planning Enforcement regarding reported issue.**

b. To receive views of local residents on parish matters

Footpath from pub to village hall was overgrown and required some clearance , Cllr Hurcombe would undertake checks on ownership of land.

Litter Picking around village with volunteer group would be explored, HCC could supply the necessary bags, HiVis and other possible equipment could be considered by PC at next meeting.

Email received from resident was summarised by Chair;

1. Potholes – there are numerous along the B4361
2. To resurface the entire length of the 30 mile an hour zone through the village as they have recently undertaken in Aymestrey & the corner of the junction area of the B4361 & B4362

Points 1 & 2 Being addressed by Cllr Hurcombe as CC matters. Raised again

With Highways as per earlier report.

3. To request a tarmac surface to the top of Orchard Rise

Cllr Hurcombe reported that he had requested Balfour Beatty to undertake inspection And would update. Cllr Hurcomb had replied directly to resident by email on

Points 1 to3.

4. Removal of weeds / debris within the kerb edge to all village roads.

The Chair advised that Cllr Enzer had instructed the lengthsman to undertake this

Work in the next two weeks.

5. Repair of bench in “bus stop” used by school bus.

The Chair advised that he and the Clerk had recently inspected this area

And work was needed on both the bench and the noticeboard which he would

Research appropriate noticeboards /costings etc report back to Sept meeting .

6. Planning: To comment on any applications for determination by Herefordshire Council:

NONE

7. Finance

a. To Receive the finance report to date (attached)

The Clerk reported that at his request the Chair would undertake 2 reviews of accounts

Each year commencing shortly.

b. To receive the Bank Balance £17,186.52 (4/8/25)

c. To review the bank signatories

It was agreed to leave HALC as able to set up payments. Clerk to also check if Cllrs Bromhall & Bowen were now on bank system.

d. To approve the purchase of New pads for defib. £40 plus VAT

Prop S.Bowen 2nd M.Atkins APPROVED

8. Lengthsman/Highways:

a. To consider any lengthsman jobs that need undertaking

To review maintenance Orchard Rise /Castle Road

Dead weeds etc would be cleared by Lengthsman in next two weeks.

b. To review the proposed Drainage Grant Application & quotations - Cllr Enzer

Approved.

9. Footpaths:

a. To consider any footpaths issues that need reporting

& receive any updates from Cllr Cadman on projects & PROW Grant 25/26

Repairs to footbridge behind tennis courts completed.

Style at easter bush repaired.

General clearance of vegetation behind Orchard Rise would be undertaken.

The Chair thanked Cllr Cadman for all his work.

The PROW Grant forms would be completed shortly and submitted to the Sept meeting

For approval.

10. Neighbourhood Plan – To discuss the withdrawal of Government financial support & agree to Submit model letter supplied by HALC

APPROVED

11. Parish Communications

a. Noticeboards – To review the Parish Noticeboards

The Chair would undertake to obtain costing to obtain a new noticeboard which would

Have a locked section for the PC Notices and a sperate section for public usage. He would Bring details to Sept meeting.

b. Website – To consider moving website provider to Hugofox (.gov website/.Gov emails)

Chair and Clerk to undertake a full review of current website arrangement and review options going forward. .Gov Domain and .gov email address's were required for Cllrs. Report to Sept meeting.

12. Defib Maintenance – To review arrangements/costs

Defib situated at village hall with RCPC HFD currently paying for pads etc . Council requested the Clerk contact RCPC Shrops to share costs going forward as replacement of battery would be over £200.

13. Matters raised for next meeting (not discussion)

Review 137 monies.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and meeting closed 7.55pm.

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Date Next Meeting– Thursday Sept 25th 7.30pm