**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 14th AUGUST 2023 AT 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillor Mrs. S.A. Beaman

 Mrs. H.M. Cains

 D.A. Cook

 R.J. Cotham (Chairman)

 Mrs. E.M. Holding

 K. Moseley

 Ms L. Patel

 M.J. Plumb

 B. Walker-Drew

Also present: Shropshire Councillor Lezley Picton, Leader of Shropshire Council

Apologies: Councillor M.J. Edwards – work reasons, Councillor Ms. C.A. Holland – work reasons,

 Councillor D. Hyde - work reasons, Councillor P. J. Wade – personal reasons

The Chairman welcomed Shropshire Councillor Lezley Picton to the meeting. Councillor Picton expressed apologies for Councillor Lynch’s continued absence from meetings.

 **DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

 There were no declarations made of disclosable pecuniary interests.

MINUTES of the meeting held on 10th July 2023, having been distributed to all

 councillors, were confirmed and signed.

 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

 97/23 Casual Vacancies - co-options and signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Clerk reported Shropshire Council had informed the Parish Council it had not received ten signatures to call for an election to fill the third vacancy. Therefore, the Parish Council could proceed to co-opt to fill the vacancy.

The Chairman invited Mr. Moseley, who had submitted an application form, to make a short statement. As there were no questions it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr. Moseley.

The Chairman welcomed Mrs. Holding, Mr. Moseley and Mr. Plumb to the Parish Council and they proceeded to sign their Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

 98/23 Claverley in Bloom

 An update on Claverley in Bloom activities had been circulated to councillors.

At the CIB’s committee meeting on 27th July it was decided to plant a Liquidambar tree in Rod Parr’s memory as it was one of his favourite trees. Installing a new bench at Winchester crossroads was also discussed. Lorita Parr will be asked for her input as CIB wished to use the donations wisely.

The Winchester crossroads area had been cut and tidied and there has been general strimming of areas. The Bull Ring has been sprayed to keep down the weeds and a group including Blooming Friends had removed growth around the shrubs along Aston Lane Bank.

When strimming members of CIB had found dog fouling a problem.

**Action: Clerk to inform the Dog Warden and in the September issue of ‘Halo’ remind dog owners of their responsibility to clear up after their dogs.**

The school had finalised a date for the ‘Sunshine in a Bag’ special assembly to display the children’s work which will be held during the afternoon of 25th September. CIB will present 1st, 2nd and 3 prizes for both sunflowers and artwork competitions.

Planning was underway for the Autumn Plant Sale on 7th October and the Quiz on

25th October.

CIB intend to clear the summer planting around 14th October. Plans for the winter scheme will be finalised during September.

Water had been seen running down Church Street from the automatic watering system for the flowers around The Cross and could undermine the foundations of The Cross. CIB had been informed and alterations had been made to the timer.

 99/23 QEII Jubilee Field

Councillor Cook did not have anything to report.

 100/23 Shipley Quarry

Councillor Cotham reported the quarterly hydrology reports were still not displayed on Shropshire Council’s website. Signage on the A454 had not yet been erected.

 101/23 Street Lights

A reply had been received from E.ON about the enquiry regarding a proposed new street light in Aston Lane. Garry Johnson had stated there was an issue with the service cables. All along the footway from The Plough to the school there are 2 low voltage cables and 1 high voltage cable running side by side. Unfortunately, because the cables are the same size, E.ON cannot safely determine which are the LV cables that E.ON can connect on to. In cases like these E.ON have to request that National Grid carry out the connection. Garry Johnson will be providing a quotation, including the connection costs.

E.ON had reduced the height of the street light column in the Bull Ring. Mr. Reade had

thanked the Parish Council.

102/23 Shropshire Council – grass cutting

 Councillor Cook had not received a reply from Shropshire Councillor Richard Marshall

 regarding the Parish Council’s concerns cutting the grass verges as Councillor Marshall had

 resigned from Shropshire Council.

 Councillor Cotham had contacted Winwood Contractors about the road junctions where

visibility was badly impaired by the grass and, because of the danger to motorists pulling out on to the B4176, had arranged for these verges to be cut. Councillor Picton asked for the invoice for this work to be sent to her to enable the Parish Council to be refunded.

The Chairman informed Councillor Picton that every year there were problems with grass cutting. Councillor Picton informed the meeting that local contractors who knew the area they were working in had been lost. It was planned to devolve down responsibility for local areas to local councils.

Marvin Harris had submitted the quotations for cutting the Aston Lane bank and removing the arisings. The charges remained the same as in 2022 so the quotations had been accepted.

103/23 Bonfire and Fireworks Event

 Jubilee Fireworks had confirmed the booking for 11th November. Severn Valley Roasts had also confirmed they would be available to provide the food at a cost of £900 which was the same price as charged in 2022. Alan Lloyd did not suggest any changes be made to the quantities ordered.

 Councillor Plumb commented the steps into the field required attention. The pedestrians’ entrance to the field would be looked at.

 **Action: Clerk to order two mobile toilets from Space Mobiles.**

104/23 Defibrillators

Councillor Beaman updated the Council on her enquiries regarding the replacement defibrillator and considered the purchase from the British Heart Foundation would be preferable. It was proposed by David Cook, seconded by Councillor Cains and agreed by the Council to proceed with the purchase from the British Heart Foundation.

Councillor Plumb suggested the defibrillator was positioned in an alternative site so it would be more visible.

**Action: Councillor Plumb offered to investigate alternative sites.**

Councillor Beaman confirmed she regularly checked the defibrillator but someone in Heathton/Draycott would be required to undertake the checking when the defibrillator was sited in that area.

Councillor Beaman was thanked for all her work on this matter.

105/23 Claverley Hall Farm - trees

The Clerk had contacted Martin Sutton, County Arboriculturalist, about the Parish Council’s concern about the safety of the Horse Chestnut tree and the overgrown conifers. In his reply Mr. Sutton said Shropshire Council’s Tree Team were already aware of the situation and was instigating the process for getting the owner to deal with the Horse Chestnut tree and overgrown conifers but there was a specific legal procedure to go through to get the owner to deal with them which Shropshire Council is following

In his reply he had also informed the Clerk that Shropshire Highways will not be taking further action with regard to the wall as they do not consider the condition of the wall presents an unreasonable level of risk to the public highway.

 106/23 Winchester to Broughton road

 Shropshire Council was unaware that road closure signs had been put up on the Winchester to Broughton road.

 107/23 Memorial to the late Councillor Parr

 Discussion on this matter was deferred.

 108/23 **PLANNING**

Permissions

22/01875/VAR Variation of Condition No.2 (approved plans) and No.16 (highway and

 access) attached to planning permission 17/05303/MAW dated 17/05/19 in order not to

 implement previously approved right turn lane at site access, Land North West Of Naboths

 Vineyard, Bridgnorth Road, Shipley, Shropshire for JPE Holdings Ltd.

23/02234/FUL Installation of new entrance gates, wall and hedge (re-submission) Greenfield,

 Heathton, Claverley for Mr. Simon Bromley.

23/02362/LBC Provision of a first floor to the existing garage, external timber staircase,

 glazing to the open pitching eye and 2 rooflights affecting a Grade II Listed Building,

 Aston House, Aston, Claverley for Mrs. Katy Carver

23/02667/FUL Erection of an equine storage building, to be used in association with the

 private equine use at Bulwardine House, Claverley for Mr R Turner.

**New Applications**

23/02462/LBC Erection of single storey front extension affecting a Grade II Listed Building,

 The Blacksmiths, Newin House Farm, Upper Aston, Claverley for Mrs. Julie Wilkes.

The Parish Council did not have any objections.

23/02937/FUL Erection of detached garage, Milkin Barn, Upper Aston, Claverley for

 Mr. R. Brasenell.

The Parish Council did not have any objections.

23/03128/FUL Renovation of existing development, two storey side and single storey rear

 extension, Cross Cottage, Hillend, Claverley for Mr. N. Grainger.

The Parish Council did not have any objections.

23/03137/VAR Variation of Condition No. 2 attached to planning permission 21/01584/FUL

 dated 2 July 2021, 4A High Street, Claverley for Mr. and Mrs. Degg.

The Parish Council objected to the retrospective application because the large bow window installed for a store room would have an adverse effect on the privacy of neighbouring properties.

If Shropshire Council was minded to grant approval, the Parish Council asked for a condition that the window glass be frosted and the dividing hedge is maintained at a height to aid the privacy of the properties it overlooks.

23/03173/TCA Fell 3no Leylandii within Claverley Conservation Area, Staddlestones,

 Church Street, Claverley for Mr. C. Foster.

The Parish Council did not wish to request a Tree Preservation Order on the grounds of public amenity value for the trees.

 23/03215/FUL Erection of front and rear single storey extensions and detached single garage,

 Tanglewood, 12 The Wold, Claverley for Ms Laura Anson.

The Parish Council did not have any objections.

109/23 **UNITARY REPORT**

Shropshire Councillor Elliott Lynch had not submitted a report so Shropshire Councillor Picton updated the Parish Council on various matters.

Significant changes to the budget process had been made to obtain savings but further work was needed to deliver the balance of spending reductions to achieve the overall target but the increasing demand from adult and children’s services had to be taken into account. More foster carers were needed. Shropshire Council did not want to close libraries or leisure centres.

The Local Plan was in the queue for site specific inspection. The five year land supply was secure.

Councillor Picton informed councillors that Shropshire Council is looking at working in partnership with other councils such as Herefordshire. The proposed Marches Forward Partnership would join forces to apply for funding from the Government on major projects that will benefit the Marches region and would work together, as partners, where there is mutual benefit and added value.

Various enforcement matters in the Claverley Parish area were discussed and Councillor Picton will arrange a meeting.

 110/23 **PARISH MATTERS**

Councillor Beaman had been contacted by Mrs. Vera Ward, one of the organisers of the Pumpkin Festival, which was being held in October, enquiring whether the Parish Council could produce an emergency route map.

**Action: Councillor Beaman to inform Mrs. Ward that a copy of the Emergency Plan and the Risk Assessment, which had been prepared for the bonfire event in 2022, could be provided as an example.**

Councillor Cains suggested using a social media platform to raise the profile of the Parish Council.

**Action: Councillor Cains to make enquiries and report back.**

Councillor Cains expressed concern at the increase in incidents of rural crime and stressed the importance of always reporting incidents to the police.

**Action: Clerk to include this in the submission of parish council news for the September issue of ‘Halo’.**

Councillor Holding enquired whether a bin for dog waste could be provided for the entrance to Pipers Lane as dog fouling was particularly bad in the area.

**Action: As the Clerk was uncertain as to whether Shropshire Council still provided bins and emptied them, enquiries to be made.**

Councillor Holding asked whether consideration had been given to accessing the churchyard via the Glebe Field.

**Action: Clerk to make enquiries.**

111/23 **CORRESPONDENCE**

 West Mercia Police – renewal of Community Charter Priority Contracts

The Parish Council had been asked to confirm its policing priorities and the continuing desire to work with West Mercia Police. After discussion it was agreed that all types of rural crime were the top community issue with speeding in Claverley also of concern.

 SALC – Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area Committee

Notification had been received that the next meeting of the Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area committee will be held on Monday, 4th September at Bridgnorth Library.

The SALC AGM will be held on Friday, 3rd November at the Wroxeter Hotel, Wroxeter commencing at 6.00 pm.

 Notification of road closures

* Shipley two junctions with A454 to B417614th to 18th August road closure **-** Severn Trent Water washout renew 1 of 3
* Aston Lane - 28th to 30th August Road Closure- Severn Trent Water- long comm pipe repair 25mm

112**/**23 **REPRESENTATIVES’ REPORTS**

 Wolverhampton Airport Consultative Committee

 Councillor Cook reported the meeting due to be held on 23rd August had been cancelled due

 to an extremely high workload from the ongoing sale.

Brian Rawlings had resigned from his post as Airport Operations Manager.

 Rights of Way

Councillor Cotham reported that a hedge cuttings were obstructing the byway near Rockvale Cottage. He would be contacting the person responsible.

113/23 **CHEQUES**

Chq. no. 001812 SSE - energy for street lights 04/07/23 to 01/08/23……………. £184.26

 001813 M.E. Harris - strim Aston Lane bank £290.00

 remove arisings £95.00

 --------- ……………..£385.00

It was proposed by Councillor Cains, seconded by Councillor Patel and agreed by

 the Council to pass the cheques for payment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35p.m.

 Date of next meeting: Monday, 11th September 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.