**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 8th JANUARY 2024 AT 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillor Mrs. S.A. Beaman

 Mrs. H.M. Cains

 D.A. Cook

 R.J. Cotham (Chairman)

 K. Moseley

 Ms L. Patel

 P.J. Wade

 M.J. Plumb

 B. Walker-Drew

Also present: Shropshire Councillor Colin Taylor

Apologies: Councillor M.J. Edwards - personal reasons, Councillor Mrs. E.M. Holding - personal reasons, Councillor Ms C.A. Holland - personal reasons, Councillor D. Hyde – work reasons.

 **DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

 Councillor R.J. Cotham declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in planning application no.

 23/05127/FUL.

MINUTES of the meeting held on 11th December 2023, having been distributed to all

 councillors, were confirmed and signed.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

 01/24 Claverley in Bloom

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

The planters had been refreshed with heathers as the violas hadn’t performed well, probably caused by the wet weather, A decision will be made on the damaged Heathton planter’s long term viability.

A planning application for tree work in the Conservation Area was being prepared in.

order to re-establish the old hedgerow along the footpath adjacent to the school to fence height and remove the shading of the community orchard.

Paul Pickerill, the Tree Warden, had suggested removing the Maple trees along the Aston Lane bank and replacing them with Amelanchier arborea ‘Robin Hill’ which has a compact, erect canopy and would add colour in Spring and interest in the Autumn.

**Action: Clerk to contact Mr. Pickerill to inquire whether he had established who owned the Maple trees as permission would be required to remove them. If fallen leaves on the pavement was a serious problem, it was not desirable to replant with deciduous trees.**

02/24 QEII Jubilee Field

 Councillor Cook did not have anything to report.

 03/24 Shipley Quarry

Councillor Cotham reported that the hydrology reports had still not been put on Shropshire Council’s website and the signage had not been erected. The date of the next meeting of the

Shipley Liaison Committee was awaited.

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 04/24 Bonfire and Fireworks Event

The Clerk reported there had been an error when calculating the profit and the correct figure was £5591.65and not £5540.29 as reported at the December meeting.

Some suggestions had been put forward as to how the profit could be used for community purposes. As it was understood there were still some to be made it was agreed to defer making a decision on which suggestions to fund.

 05/24 Christmas Lights

 The quotations for replacing the Christmas lights were awaited.

 It was agreed that the lights would be taken down on Saturday, 14th January, commencing at 8.00 a.m.

 **Action: Clerk** **to write to householders asking for their vehicles to be moved from High Street and the Bull Ring whilst the work was undertaken and to book refreshments for the volunteers at The Crown.**

 06/24 Defibrillators

Councillor Beaman reported she had been looking into a possible supplier of a defibrillator for Heathton/Draycott but was unhappy with the result of her enquiries. She would continue with her investigations.

. 07/24 Raising profile of the Parish Council

Councillor Cains reported there were now 87 followers on the Facebook page and it was a providing a good platform.

 08/24 Claverley Polling Place

 The Clerk reported she had received confirmation from Shropshire Council that the ongoing

issues regarding the use of The Plough as a polling place had been resolved and the Function Room will be used for future elections.

 09/24 Claverley Medical Practice

The Clerk had invited a member of the Practice to attend the meeting, but a representative was unavailable. However, the Clerk had been given a copy of the information supplied to some patients which she had circulated to councillors.

**Action: Clerk to inform the Medical Practice the Parish Council was unable to comment on their proposals without further information and to re-issue the invitation for the February meeting.**

 10/24 **PLANNING**

 Permission

23/04644/FUL Erection of a detached two bay garage, Cross Cottage, Hillend, Claverley for

 Mr. N. Grainger.

23/04949/TCA Fell 3no Ash within Claverley Conservation Area - Village Hall & Tennis

 Courts, Church Street, Claverley for Mrs. K. Rouwenhorst.

23/04694/FUL Extension and alterations, Saffron, Church Street, Claverley for Mr. C. Evans.

Refusal

23/04571/FUL Siting of 3no. shepherds’ huts for holiday use and associated works, Proposed

 Holiday Let Shepherds Huts, Sytch House Green, Claverley for Mr. Oliver Holland.

New Applications

Councillor Cotham left the meeting because of his prejudicial interest.

23/05127/FUL Extension to existing outbuilding to create single occupancy

 assisted dwelling unit, The Old House, Hopstone, Claverley for Mr Roger Bate.

By a majority decision the Parish Council resolved not to raise any objections.

Councillor Cotham returned to the meeting.

23/05288/FUL Bedroom and garage extension, 12-13 Little Pear Tree Cottage, Claverley for

 Mr. M Hurley.

The Parish Council did not have any objections to the proposed garage extension but objected to the conversion of this site to a residential property because of a potential flooding risk and the lack of off-road parking which would restrict the width of the narrow un-adopted lane/ bridleway.

23/04940/FUL Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

 for the erection of agricultural buildings and operational development (resubmission of

 application 23/01726/FUL) Oak Farm, Claverley for Mr and Mrs Oakley.

The Parish Council objected to the application as the scale and proportion of building works were disproportionate for the size of the site's agricultural output capacity and that it represented inappropriate development in the Green Belt.

23/04577/VAR Variation of Condition No. 2 attached to planning permission 23/00967/FUL

 dated 12 October 2023 to amend plots 3 and 4 from one bed bungalows to two bed

 bungalows and add PV panels at all plots, land to the North of Small Heath Farmhouse,

 Ashford Bank, Claverley for TC Homes Contracting Ltd.

Notification had been received the application was to be considered by the Southern Planning Committee on 16th January with a recommendation to grant permission. Councillor Cotham will attend the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council to speak against the proposal.

A Hedgerow Assessment Report was being prepared with a view to obtaining a Hedgerow Retention Order.

 11/24 **UNITARY REPORT**

Shropshire Councillor Taylor offered to obtain more information regarding Community Infrastructure Levies.

 12/24 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

 Draft Budget for 2024-2025

The draft budget for 2024-2025 had been forwarded to councillors for consideration. Details of any CIL payments had not yet been received. Provision of a defibrillator for Heathton/Draycott to be included and the profit from the Bonfire and Fireworks event will be used for community projects.

Precept requirement for 2024/2025

Shropshire Council has advised that in order to show a 0% increase in the Band D Council

Tax charge on the 2024/2025 Council Tax Demand Notices, Claverley’s precept would need

to be £25,181 compared to £25,231 requested in 2023/2024. After discussion it was proposed by Councillor Plumb, seconded by Councillor Cains and agreed by the Council to precept for £25,181.

**Action: Clerk to inform Shropshire Council a precept of £25,181 was required for**

**2023/2024.**

 13/24 **PARISH MATTERS**

Councillors reported potholes in Aston Lane near The Plough, Danford Heath, Danford to Danesbrook and near Digbeth Lane. The barriers outside Claverley Hall Farm had not been removed. Wet leaves were making the pavement outside the school very slippery. The verge had been worn away exposing a BT inspection chamber near the Corner House, Upper Ludstone.

**Action: Clerk to report these issues to Shropshire Highways.**

The large sign on the grass verge of the B4176 which was obstructing the view of motorists pulling out by The Boycott Arms had not been removed despite Mr. Simmonds being asked to remove it.

**Action: Clerk to report this again to Shropshire Council.**

Fly tipping had occurred on the old beet pad on the road to Wall Hill.

**Action: Clerk to make a report to Shropshire Council.**

Councillor Cains advised if it is decided to hire out the generator a contract should be drawn up.

 14/24 **CORRESPONDENCE**

 Shropshire Council Budget Consultation 2024/2025

Notification had been received that Shropshire Council was undertaking a consultation on the budget for 2024/2025 which had been circulated to councillors. Any responses should be submitted by 28th January.

 Notification of road closures

Unnamed road between A454 to B4176 Upper Ludstone - Monday, 8th January to Wednesday10th January 2024. Road closed all the time to allow Severn-Trent Water to carry out utility repair and maintenance works.

Unnamed Road, Lower Beobridge 12th February to 16th February 2024 to be closed between 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. for pre-dressing patching work.

**Aston Lane, Claverley 12th February to 16th February** to be closed between 9.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. for pre-dressing patching works.

High Street, Claverley, 29th February to be closed between 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. for safe access to Openreach underground structure for cabling works.

15**/**24 **REPRESENTATIVES’ REPORTS**

 Rights of Way

Councillor Cotham reported that rainwater was accumulating on the footpath 68 by

10 The Wold. Gravel will be spread to make it easier for pedestrians using the footpath.

 16/24 **CHEQUES**

Chq. no. 001846 Rushmere Nurseries – Christmas tree……………………………... £120.00

 001847 Mrs. G.M. Price – Clerk’s salary for third quarter 2023/24……….. £878.93

 001848 HM Revenue & Customs – PAYE for third quarter 2023/24……….. £46.80

 001849 SSE Energy Solutions energy for street lights 01/11/23 to 30/11/23. £191.57

 001850 Arbor Vitae Environment Ltd. – Hedgerow Assessment……………. £96.00

 It was proposed by Councillor Moseley, seconded by Councillor Walker-Drew and agreed by

 the Council to pass the cheques for payment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 p.m.

 Date of next meeting: Monday, 12th February 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.