**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 13th MAY 2024 AT 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillor Mrs. S.A. Beaman

 D.A. Cook

 R.J. Cotham (Chairman)

 M.J. Edwards

 Mrs. E.M. Holding

 D. Hyde

 Ms L. Patel

 P.J. Wade

 B. Walker-Drew

Also present: Shropshire Councillor Colin Taylor, one member of the public

Apologies: Councillor Mrs. H.M. Cains - personal reasons

 Councillor Ms C.A. Holland – personal reasons

 Councillor M.J. Plumb - personal reasons

65/24 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

 Councillor Cotham called for nominations for Chairman.

Councillor Cotham was proposed by Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Edwards and there being no further nominations, was elected.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by the Chairman.

Election of Vice-Chairman

Deferred

 66/24 **ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES**

 QEII Jubilee Field Councillor Cook was proposed by Councillor Patel, seconded by Councillor Beaman and there being no further nominations was

 elected.

Rights of Way Councillor Cotham was proposed by Councillor Edwards, seconded

 by Councillor Holding and there being no further nominations was

 elected.

 Wolverhampton Councillor Cook was proposed by Councillor Beaman, seconded by

 Airport Consultative Councillor Edwards and there being no further nominations was

 Committee elected.

 Emergency Planning Councillor Beaman was proposed by Councillor Edwards, seconded by

 & Flood Monitor Councillor Wade and there being no further nominations was elected.

 Village Hall Councillor Wade was proposed by Councillor Edwards, seconded by

 Representative Councillor Beaman and there being no further nominations was

 elected.

Tree Warden Mr. P. Pickerill was proposed by Councillor Hyde, seconded by Councillor Cook and there being no further nominations was elected.

Bridgnorth Area

Committee of SALC Councillors would attend in rotation.

Planning Deferred.

Sub-Committee

Shipley Liaison Councillor Cotham was proposed by Councillor Cook, seconded

Committee by Councillor Holland and there being no further nominations was

 elected.

 **DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

 Councillor Beaman declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the email relating to the public right of way from The Wold to the Village Hall.

MINUTES of the meeting held on 8th April 2024, having been distributed to all

 councillors, were confirmed and signed.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.

 67/24 Request for reconsideration of holding a bonfire and fireworks event

Natalie Moore had expressed concerns regarding the annual bonfire and fireworks event and had asked the Parish Council to consider the environmental impact of the event.

The Chairman invited Ms Moore to highlight her concerns. She felt the bonfire and fireworks significantly increased air pollution and caused noise disturbance to pets, livestock and wildlife.

She suggested other environmentally friendly ways to celebrate and asked the Parish Council to re-evaluate this event which would demonstrate a strong commitment to environmental protection.

Councillor Cotham explained that no imported materials were used for the bonfire which was carbon neutral and the fireworks display lasted approximately 12 minutes. Ms Moore suggested silent fireworks could be used. Councillor Beaman said it was a community event which brought the community together. Councillor Walker-Drew added that it raised money for good community causes.

It was considered necessary to gauge the opinion of parishioners’ before making a decision. Ms Moore would organise a survey to ascertain what support was expressed for her suggestions.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

 68/24 Claverley in Bloom

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

 Claverley in Bloom had thanked the Parish Council for donating £750 from the profit of the

bonfire and fireworks event towards improvements to Winchester crossroads. CIB was intending to remove the troughs around the signpost and source a new post so no planting on the triangle area will take place this summer. A site plan will be produced for consideration.

The constitution for CIB was nearing completion. CIB was planning to affiliate the group to the Royal Horticultural Society.

A site meeting to look at the school field footpath had been held on 10th April and notes submitted to the Parish Council.

It was intended to remove the winter planting on 28th May. Some material will be retained for planting in October and small conifers will be re-potted and sold at the Spring plant sale on

1st June. The summer planting will be undertaken on 2nd June.

At the CIB committee meeting on 10thApril it had been agreed to award Claverley Tennis Club £200 to fund summer planting around the tennis courts together with sustainable planting in recognition of the Club’s centenary.

**Action: Discussion of CIB’s constitution, notes on the school field footpath and refurbishment of Winchester crossroads was deferred to the Parish Council’s June**

**meeting.**

69/24 QEII Jubilee Field

Councillor Cook did not have anything to report.

 70/24 Shipley Quarry

Councillor Cotham did not have anything to report.

 71/24 Claverley Parochial Church Council

A reply had been received from the Parochial Church Council stating the Diocese had checked the ownership of the Lychgate and the land on which it stands is unregistered and there are no title deeds, so ownership is unclear. The Parochial Church Council considered the Lychgate was a community asset.

The Parochial Church Council were unable to authorise work to provide a handrail on the right hand side of the driveway as it would involve a listed structure and also an application for a Faculty from the Diocese and the Diocesan Chancellor would have to be made. There was concern the handrail would narrow access up the churchyard drive and possibly affect oil deliveries etc. After discussion it was agreed the Clerk should inform the Parochial Church Council the Parish Council was disappointed the proposed handrail could not proceed and the £500 cost of the handrail could be used towards the cost of repairs to the Lychgate instead. This contribution will be forwarded when the repair work has been completed.

Parish Councillors were still of the opinion that a yearly subscription for the Halo magazine should be made as it was understood this works well in other parishes. Copies would not have to be printed for parishioners who did not wish to subscribe, thereby reducing the cost of printing.

 72/24 Christmas Lights

 Councillor Cook reported quotations for replacing the Christmas lights were awaited.

 73/24 Garden Waste Charging and Household Recycling Centres Consultation

 The consultation was discussed. Councillors did not have objections to a charge being

made for the collection of garden waste but did not support the closure of the Bridgnorth Household Recycling Centre which would lead to an increase in fly tipping. Everyone was encouraged to participate in the consultation.

 74/24 **PLANNING**

Permissions

22/05723/FUL Erection of no.4 x 2 bedroom affordable local needs dwellinghouses, creation

 of no.3 bin storage areas, car parking and associated infrastructure, Proposed Residential

 Development Land East of, Bull Ring, Claverley for Oakwood Homes (Bridgnorth) Ltd.

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.

24/00585/FUL Erection of home office/accommodation ancillary to main house, Maesteg,

 Church Street, Claverley for Mr. Jack Nethercott.

Refusa**l**

24/00301/FUL Erection of detached stable block/machine store, creation of hardstanding,

 Land to the South of Heathton House, Pear Tree Lane, Heathton, Claverley for Wolohan

**New Applications**

24/01113/FUL Change of use of former farm buildings to provide overnight accommodation

 for guests staying at High Grosvenor Wedding Venue to provide bedrooms with ensuite

 facilities and parking, High Grosvenor Wedding Venue, High Grosvenor for

 Mr Mark Davies.

The Parish Council did not have any objections.

24/01539/FUL New roof configuration, demolition of existing conservatory, and replacement

 with a new garden room extension, Corner House, Upper Ludstone, Claverley for

 Phil and Val Westwood.

The Parish Council did not have any objections.

24/01609/LBC Alterations and associated works to stable buildings, Gatacre Park, Six Ashes

 for Mr Sam Coughtrie

 The Parish Council did not have any objections.

24/01755/AMP Additional window in the side gable of plots 9 and 10, Proposed Residential

 Exception Site, Ashford Bank, Claverley, Shropshire for TC Homes Contracting Ltd.

 The Parish Council did not have any objections.

 75/24 **UNITARY REPORT**

Shropshire Councillor Taylor informed the Parish Council that in order to find savings from its spending, consultants were being used by Shropshire Council. In one instance the portfolio holder had not been informed of a proposal put forward by the consultants

 76/24 **ANNUAL REVIEW OF BANKING ARRANGEMENTS (Financial Regulations 5.1)**

**BANK RECONCILIATION (Financial Regulation 2.2)**

The annual review of banking arrangements, including the bank mandate (Financial

Regulation 5.1) was undertaken. It was agreed that the present arrangements would remain unchanged. Cheque signatories would continue to be the Chairman, Councillor R.J. Cotham, Vice Chairman, to be appointed, Councillor D.A. Cook, Councillor M.J. Edwards. Two additional signatories to be appointed

The Clerk reported the total net balances at 31st March 2024 amounted to £146,381.65.

 77/24 **PARISH MATTERS**

Councillors reported there were bad potholes requiring repair opposite Willowbrook House,

outside 2 Church Street, in the lane between the A454 and the Boycott Arms, by Little Bank Farm, Broughton, Three Dwellings to Woundale crossroads, either side of the bridge at Lower Hopstone and in the lane from Winchester crossroads to the Cricket Club.

**Action: Clerk to report the above to Shropshire Highways.**

Concern was expressed about the dangerous pull out on to the B4176 near Red Hill House and Tinkers Castle due to overgrown grass verges causing badly impaired visibility. This had been reported to Shropshire Council but as the work had not been carried out it was proposed by Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Edwards and agreed by the Council to employ a contractor to carry out the work.

Complaints had been received about dogs fouling footpaths.

**Action: Clerk to highlight the problem in the June issue of ‘Halo’.**

 78/24 **CORRESPONDENCE**

 Shropshire Local Plan Examination: Further Consultation

 Notification had been received that Shropshire Council was undertaking a public consultation

on four documents which the examining Inspectors had requested. The consultation will run from 25th April to 11th June.

Consultation launched into future of School Library Service

Shropshire Council had launched a consultation into the future of the School Library Service.

The service has been operating at a loss for the last two financial years and Shropshire Council cannot continue to fund any future deficits. All possible options to continue the service will be explored. The consultation closes on 7th June.

After discussion it was agreed the Parish Council would not like the School Library Service to cease as it would impact on children’s learning as it gives children access to many books, artefacts and topic items which children benefit from. It was thought schools would not have any spare money to fund the deficit.

**Action: Clerk to respond to the consultation.**

Councillor Beaman left the meeting as she had declared a pecuniary interest in the following item.

Public right of way from The Wold to the Village Hall

On 15th April a parishioner had contacted the Parish Council about issues regarding FP68 from The Wold to the Village Hall as the right of way had not been reinstated promptly after potatoes had been planted thereby making it difficult for people to cross the field.

In the statement Councillor Beaman made before leaving the meeting she had informed councillors a metre wide path had been cut for pedestrians on 23rd April.

The Parish Council considered the remedial action taken to reinstate the footpath was satisfactory.

Councillor Beaman returned to the meeting.

Notification of road closures

Draycott – road closure 25th June to 27th June to enable Severn Trent Water to make a new water connection.

 79/24 **REPRESENTATIVES’ REPORTS**

 Village Hall Committee

Councillor Wade reported he had been unable to attend the May meeting. Work had commenced to repair the retention wall.

Defibrillators

Councillor Beaman reported somebody had wanted to fetch the defibrillator in the Lychgate

but was unsuccessful as West Midlands Ambulance Service had given them the original access code and not the new code which had been notified to them when the replacement defibrillator had been installed as they had not deleted the original access code on their system.

Wolverhampton Airport Consultative Committee

The Clerk had received an email from Jordan Timmins, the Airport’s Duty Manager, informing her that it was planned to restart the consultative committee meetings. A meeting would take place at the airport on Wednesday, 22nd May at 3.00 p.m. As Councillor Cook was unable to attend Councillor Beaman or Councillor Patel would represent the Parish Council.

Rights of Way

Councillor Cotham reported Rights of Way had been informed there had been a land slip in Digbeth Lane. The fence on the highway between Rockvale Cottage and Hillcrest will be adjusted.

 80/24 **CHEQUES**

Chq. no. 001861 SALC - annual renewal of membership of SALC and

 NALC for 2024-2025……………………………………... £845.04

 001862 D.J. Price – reimbursement for cost of telephone calls

 made by the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council

 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024………………………… £81.88

 001863 Mrs. G.M. Price - reimbursement of petty cash expenditure

 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024…£93.35

 Ink cartridges and paper………… £61.88 ……………. £155.23

 001864 Councillor R.J. Cotham – travel expenses attending meeting

 of Southern Planning Committee at Shrewsbury………… £24.30

 001865 Claverley Good Neighbours – donation……………………….. £700.00

 001866 Claverley in Bloom – donation……………………………….. £750.00

 001867 Claverley Cricket Club – donation……………………………. £1200.00

 001868 Claverley C of E Primary School - Governors A/C – donation... £200.00

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

 the Council to pass the cheques for payment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50 p.m.

 Date of next meeting: Monday, 10th June 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall