

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 8th OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors Mrs. S.A. Beaman
D.A. Cook
R.J. Cotham (Chairman)
D.S. Cowie
M.J. Edwards
M.P. Hill
D. Hyde
Mrs. J.C. Marsh
Ms L. Patel

Also present: Shropshire Councillor Mrs. Tina Woodward, three members of the public

Apologies: Councillor Mrs. C.G. Dungar – personal reasons, Councillor R.S. Parr - personal reasons
Councillor P.J. Wade – personal reasons

DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations.

MINUTES of the meeting held on 10th September 2018, having been distributed to all councillors, were confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

154/18 Shropshire Housing Needs Survey

The letter to Mr. Clive Wright had been acknowledged and a detailed reply would be forthcoming.

As Councillor Hyde had been unable to attend the September meeting he wished to express his disappointment at the outcome. Councillor Cowie considered the questions in the Survey were biased.

Councillor Woodward reiterated that the Right Home Right Place survey will go to every parish but she had obtained agreement for a paper survey in Claverley to enable those to respond if they cannot go online.

None of the questions put forward by the Claverley Preservation Society had been included in the Survey and so they wished to do their own survey.

The members of the public left the meeting.

155/18 Claverley in Bloom

Councillor Parr's report had been circulated to councillors. The quiz had been well attended and had raised just under £240 for CIB. CIB was grateful to Keith and Karen Horton for running the event and donating half of the value of ticket sales and providing prizes. A winter quiz will be held in February.

The winter planting scheme had been installed on 30th September using a large proportion of plants saved from the 2017/18 scheme. Some plants had been purchased to add colour and fill in the gaps.

CIB had been in discussion with the school about the renovation of the four planting beds. One of the planting beds will be converted into a raised bed on a trial basis. On 14th October CIB members will help with clearing weeds, re-stocking and giving advice on cultivation.

Daffodil bulbs will be planted on Saturday 3rd November when gaps on the Aston Lane bank will be filled. Volunteers to help with the planting would be welcomed.

During the weekend of 20th/21st October CIB intend to prune the trees around the western perimeter of the school playing field and around the adjoining field to shape the trees and reduce the number of branches overhanging the public footpath. The arisings will be used on the bonfire on 10th November.

Following discussion with the Revd. Ward, Sue Dyer, on behalf of the church, had been working with CIB to find potential volunteers to carry out work on the churchyard planting beds. Approximately 12 people had volunteered and it was hoped the first working session will take place on 24th November. CIB will contribute some manpower and horticultural advice.

Work to replace some of the slats in the bench at the Winchester crossroads will be carried out by CIB during the winter.

156/18 QEII Jubilee Field

As Councillor Cook had not received an update about the progress of the daily mile/all-weather track, he would contact Jo Derrer to find out what was happening.

Because of the dry weather in the summer Councillors Beaman and Cotham had been unable to carry out the work to break up the compaction but hoped to do this work on the surface of the field during the forthcoming half term holiday.

157/18 Website

Councillor Parr had not submitted an update but Councillor Cotham understood some progress had been made regarding the bogus emails and the matter had been passed to the police.

158/18 Dog Fouling

Councillor Beaman reported that bags were being used but four of the bag dispensers had been stolen.

Councillor Patel said that some dog owners were allowing their dogs to stop outside her house on a regular basis.

159/18 Bonfire and Fireworks Event 2018

Councillor Cook reported he had nearly completed the Bonfire Plan and Emergency Plan. Further tables would be required as there would be two lines for drink sales – one for hand pulled beer and one for cans and wine. Councillor Edwards thought he might be able to provide two tables.

Councillor Parr had prepared a risk assessment which had been sent to Came and Company. The Clerk had received back from Shropshire Council the signed copy of the Temporary Event Notice which has to be displayed on 10th November. She had notified Shropshire Fire Service that the event would be taking place on 10th November.

A first aider was required as Dr. Ryan was unable to help this year.

Action: Clerk to remind householders in the November issue of 'Halo' that fireworks must not be let off after 11.00 pm and to let neighbours know in advance, especially if they had pets.

160/18 Proceeds from 2017 Bonfire and Fireworks Event

Councillor Cotham was awaiting a price for providing a handrail for pedestrians visiting the church. It would be fixed on the left as a handrail on the right would stick out and could be caught by a lorry.

Action: Councillor Cotham would speak to the Revd. Ward

Councillor Marsh suggested the provision of a public toilet. This suggestion was supported by Councillor Patel but other councillors raised concerns about a suitable site, cost and maintenance.

161/18 Street Lights

The Clerk had obtained quotations for the supply of electricity for the street lights but so far had been unsuccessful in finding a green energy provider who could provide an unmetered supply. She was waiting to hear back from one company.

162/18 Parish Council Vacancy

Shropshire Council had notified the Clerk that the Parish Council can proceed to fill the vacancy by co-option as no request had been made to hold an election.

Action: The vacancy to be advertised

163/18 Code of Conduct

Councillor Patel had made a comment at the September meeting about the treatment she felt she had received in the past from other councillors. She said she would make a brief statement but was not prepared to answer any questions. She said there had been incidents in the past when she had felt she had been singled out and marginalized because of the views she held which did not conform with the majority, especially regarding planning in Claverley. Some councillors had tried to obtain her personal view about a planning application when she wished to put forward parishioners' views. There had been another instance as well which she did not want to go into.

She said she had been accused of making alleged comments towards an individual and apologised if this was correct.

In conclusion, Councillor Patel said she did not expect from the Parish Council denial, deflection or defensiveness. It was the duty of the Chair and councillors to ensure everyone is allowed freedom of speech.

The Chairman left the chair and was replaced by the Vice Chairman

Councillor Hill wondered how the Parish Council could deal with the accusation without knowing the details or the people involved.

Councillor Cotham thought Councillor Patel was referring to a planning sub-committee meeting when Councillor Cowie had asked everyone present to give their views. Councillor Cowie apologised if it was felt he had been domineering and asked if anyone else felt they had not been given a fair share when he had been Chairman.

Councillor Cook said the Parish Council had to deal with divisive issues and works on behalf of parishioners. Councillors have to stand on their own individual values and can only do the best they can.

Councillor Cotham asked about the second incident and whether it was in the same vein as the first and involved the same person/persons. Councillor Patel declined to comment.

Councillor Edwards commented that everybody present at the planning sub-committee meeting had been asked their opinion and he felt no singling out had occurred. The facts were needed for the right action to be taken to resolve the matter.

Councillor Marsh felt openness and honesty were very important and some people are more sensitive than others. The Council should work together for a common aim.

Councillor Hyde said everyone's contributions were important and it was a sad situation if someone felt victimised but the Parish Council needed to know what had prompted Councillor Patel's comment at the September meeting.

Action: Councillor Hyde and the Clerk would meet Councillor Patel and would report back.

164/18 Tree Pruning

Councillor Parr and the Clerk had met Marvin Harris to discuss the pruning of the trees overhanging two of the street lights and the school sign. Mr. Harris had submitted a quotation to carry out the work amounting to £80.00. It was proposed by Councillor Beaman, seconded by Councillor Edwards and agreed by the Council to accept his quotation.

165/18 **PLANNING**

Permissions

18/02900/FUL Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of a single storey rear extension (retrospective), 9 Clifton Cottages, Hill End, Claverley for Mr. Willis

18/03288/FUL Erection of a garden room, 21 High Street, Claverley for Mr. Lance Taylor

Refusal

18/03418/FUL Erection of single storey extension to form ground floor bedroom, 7 Danford Lane, Claverley for Mr. J. Norton

New Applications

18/04177/FUL Change of use of agricultural building to Use D2 (Assembly and Leisure) Events and Wedding Venue including the provision of associated car parking, Bridal Barn, Upper Farmcote for Mr. David Bradley

The Parish Council did not have any objections and supported the recommendations made by SC Regulatory Services regarding late night noise disturbance.

18/04206/FUL Application to position 1 metre high lighting bollards at 30 metre intervals along approved widened access track and passing places, Spicers Hall Caravan Park, Claverley for Sought After Location Ltd.

The Parish Council objected to the application as it was inappropriate development in the Green Belt and would cause unnecessary light pollution, especially viewed from the Conservation Area.

It had been noted that the cattle grid (trip hazard) was mentioned in the Design and Access Statement (4.2) to justify the lighting on safety grounds. The cattle grid has been removed and the pit filled in. A speed limit would be a more suitable safety measure.

18/04311/FUL Conversion of storage building to residential dwelling for keyworker in connection with equestrian and kennel business and stable building to form boarding kennel business, White Cross Farmhouse, Broughton, Claverley for Ms N. Greensil
The Parish Council could not support the application in its current form as the equestrian/kennelling business was not an agricultural enterprise and the farmhouse and land had been sold. The application is for a three bedroom house but the plans are for a four bedroom dwelling. No provision had been made for sound proofing the proposed kennels to prevent noise disturbance to local properties. The building for conversion was not suitable to accommodate the scale of plans proposed.

Withdrawn

18/03280/PRCPA Application for prior approval under Part 3, Class R of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 for the change of use from agricultural buildings to a flexible commercial use (a wedding and events venue use Class D2) (amended description) for Mr. B. Davies

17/05303/MAW Phased extraction of sand and gravel, land North of Naboth's Vineyard, Shipley for JPE Holdings

Councillor Cotham had attended the South Planning Committee meeting at Shrewsbury on 25th September when he had spoken on behalf of the Parish Council in objection to the application. He commented the 3 minutes allowed for speakers was too short. The Planning Committee had granted approval of the application subject to Section 106 and planning conditions. Councillors expressed disappointment that permission had been granted. Several councillors felt the planning officer had appeared to be biased.

Action: letter to be sent to Ian Kilby, Shropshire Council's Planning Services Manager, regarding the Parish Council's concerns

166/18 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The Clerk had contacted the Revd. Ward regarding the switching on the lights ceremony which will take place on Sunday, 2nd December and he was in agreement to this taking place after the evening service. Gordon Drury had confirmed he would be able to provide the P.A. system and music. Discussion took place about inviting a senior citizen to switch on the lights. Clerk to ask the person suggested. The school will be asked to nominate a young pupil to join the senior citizen.

Western Power Distribution had requested information about the dates and times the lights will be in use, wattage and number of lights.

Action: Clerk to submit application to Shropshire Council for permission to erect the lights and send the information requested by Western Power Distribution

167/18 **AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2017/2018**

PKF Littlejohn LLP, the external auditors, had concluded their limited assurance review of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31st March 2018 and no matters had come to their attention to give cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met. The Notice of Conclusion of the Audit and the right to inspect sections 1, 2 and 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31st March 2018 had been displayed on the notice board and on the Parish Council's website.

168/18 **PARISH MATTERS**

The poor surface of the road just before the bend at the Lion o' Morfe was forcing traffic to the middle of the road. Complaints had been received regarding the poor surface of the road at Bulls Bank and regarding HGVs coming through the centre of Claverley. The complainant had suggested that signs indicating the unsuitability for HGVs be provided at all the entrances to Claverley. Councillor Woodward suggested this could be a priority for the Place Plan.

Action: Shropshire Highways to be informed

It had been noticed two metal sheds were in the field opposite the Old Gate Inn. The end of the Old Bakehouse hedge had not been cut and was sticking out.

169/18 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Notification of road closure

The Claverley to Heathton road (from Brook House) will be closed from 8.00am on Monday, 5th November to 4.00pm on Wednesday, 7th November to enable drainage works to be undertaken.

Community Infrastructure Levy

A letter had been received from Councillor Robert Macey, Shropshire Council Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing Development regarding the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which had been circulated to councillors.

SALC AGM and Area Committee meeting

Notification had been received that the SALC AGM will be held on Friday, 10th November at New Bucks Head Stadium, Wellington commencing at 5.30 pm when the speakers will be John Campion, Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Supt. Kevin Purcell.

The Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17th October at Bridgnorth Fire Station commencing at 7.00 pm.

170/18 **REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS**

Village Hall Committee

In his absence Councillor Wade had asked the Clerk to report that Claverley Medical Practice had approached the Village Hall Committee to see if it would be possible for members of staff to use the car park during the day. Permission could not be granted as the car park had to be available for those who had booked the hall. The Committee was pursuing a course of action

against unauthorised vehicles parking on the car park.

Unitary Report

Councillor Woodward had asked Shropshire Highways if the Roadmaster could be used to carry out repairs to the road surface in Heathton whilst the road was closed for drainage work to be undertaken but this would depend on the weather.

171/18 **CHEQUES**

Chq. no. 001473	Councillor R.J. Cotham – travel expenses attending South Planning Committee 25 th September.....	£23.85
001474	TLC (Bristol) – LED golf ball lamps for Christmas lights.....	£45.00
001475	Mrs. G.M. Price – Clerk’s salary for second quarter 2018/2019 (weeks 14-26).....	£795.67
001476	Mrs. G.M. Price - reimbursement for cost of Broadband 07/07/17 to 06/10/17	£87.00
001477	Float for Bonfire/Fireworks event.....	£1000.00
001478	PKF Littlejohn LLP – fee for limited assurance review of Annual Governance and Accountability Return...	£240.00

It was proposed by Councillor Cowie, seconded by Councillor Cook and agreed by the Council to pass the cheques for payment.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.10 p.m.

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