**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**ON MONDAY, 23rd APRIL 2018 AT 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillors Mrs. S.A. Beaman

D.A. Cook

R.J. Cotham

D.S. Cowie (Chairman)

Mrs. C.D. Dungar

M.J. Edwards

M.P. Hill

D. Hyde

R.S. Parr

Ms L. Patel

P.J. Wade

Also present: Shropshire Unitary Councillor Mrs. Tina Woodward

12 members of the public signed the attendance sheet

Apologies: Councillor J.R. Caswell, Councillor Mrs. J.C. Marsh

Mr. P. Pickerill

**CHAIRMAN’S OPENING REMARKS**

The Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded the members of the public

that they could raise any matters or ask questions.

He informed those present that the past year had been busy. There had been high profile planning applications and a lot of background work. During the year two new councillors had joined the Parish Council. The bonfire and fireworks event had been very successful. Councillor Cowie thanked all the councillors for their excellent contribution, Shropshire

Councillor Tina Woodward for her help in raising local issues with Shropshire Council and Councillor Edwards for standing in as Chairman at various meetings.

He concluded by saying the re-opening of the Crown and Lion o’ Morfe public houses had been welcomed by many.

**MINUTES** of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday, 24th April 2017 were confirmed

and signed.

68/18 **REPORT BY SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR MRS. TINA WOODWARD**

Councillor Mrs. Woodward reported Shropshire Council had agreed the budget for 2018/2019, the first year of its five-year plan as set out in its Financial Strategy. She explained there was uncertainty around the 2020/2021 financial year due to the introduction of 75% business rates retention in that year, alongside the fair funding review. Until further clarity is available from the Government it will be difficult to plan ahead but it was important to balance the books. In 2018/2019 one-off resources will be used to deliver a balanced budget.

Children’s services provided by Shropshire Council had been rated as ‘good’ overall by Ofsted, following a four-week inspection in September and October 2017.

Shropshire Council had been awarded £1.86m from the Department of Transport to help repair potholes and protect the county’s roads from future severe weather. The money will be added to the Council’s 2018/2019 highways budget so that proper engineering treatments can be applied once the weather improves. The number of teams tackling potholes had increased from 12 to 25. A highways improvement scheme had taken place at Woundale crossroads which realigned a section of the junction and introduced kerb stones. From 1st April 2018 Kier will be Shropshire Council’s new highways contractor with responsibility for repairing road defects.

Councillor Woodward concluded by saying it had been a busy and challenging year in the division. Shropshire Council’s Partial Plan Review was underway and the Government was suggesting changes to the National Planning Policy Framework. She would continue to raise the concerns of local residents and support the Parish Council in their aims where appropriate to do so. She thanked councillors for their support.

69/18 **REPRESENTATIVES’ REPORTS**

Claverley in Bloom (CIB)

Councillor Parr informed the meeting that CIB had seven committee members and he expressed thanks to them and everyone who had helped Claverley in Bloom over the past twelve months.

CIB had endeavoured to involve the school in various activities such as litter picks. Maintenance work had been undertaken to the outdoor classroom.

Some trees and shrubs on the Aston Lane bank required attention and more daffodil bulbs had been planted to fill gaps. Two self-watering planters had been purchased using a donation from the funeral collection in memory of Joe Higham. These will be sited either side of the bench in Aston Lane dedicated to his wife, Sheila Higham. A raised planting bed will be constructed after the removal of the telephone box in Aston Lane. Trial planting will be carried out in The Pound.

CIB had straightened the Aston Lane ‘Welcome to Claverley’ sign and repaired the planting trough which had been damaged by an unknown vehicle.

Dog fouling continued to be a problem. CIB members were splattered when strimming which was very unpleasant.

Coverage by the local press of CIB activities continued to be poor. Updating the website was difficult but the Parish Council was trying to address the problems.

It had been decided not to enter the Heart of Britain in Bloom competition in 2017 because of the state of the centre of the village but CIB will review the situation for the 2018 competition.

The Chairman thanked Claverley in Bloom for all their hard work.

Tree Warden

As he was unable to attend the meeting Paul Pickerill, the Tree Warden, had submitted his report in which he thanked the landowners who had given permission and access to plant 40 Lime trees along Crabtree Avenue (the continuation of High Street). He thanked the anonymous donor who had given £750.00 to cover the cost of this project and also members of the Claverley in Bloom committee who had helped in the planning and preparation and all the volunteers who planted the trees.

Mr. Pickerill would welcome suggestions for a location for the next tree avenue.

QEII Jubilee Field

Councillor Cook reported the school had made contact about the replacement of part of the perimeter fencing which could have had a serious impact on the Parish Council’s reserves but, since the re-negotiation of the Joint Use Agreement, this capital cost was no longer part of the Parish Council’s responsibility.

Moles were continuing to cause problems on the field which are difficult to resolve. Because of the inactions of the Head Teacher some 15 years ago, who refused to allow the moles to be caught, there is now a labyrinth of runs mainly down the left hand side of the field which need periodic attention, requiring the field to be closed.

Claverley Football Club had reformed and had used the field during the 2017/2018 season. Trysull Tigers U14 team, which contained players from Claverley, had used the field for a match and two training sessions.

Councillor Cook informed the meeting that the Parish Council will be looking at what can be done to improve the condition of the field due to water retention at the far end. He thanked Councillor Edwards for his assistance.

Rights of Way

Councillor Cotham reported it had been a quiet year. Wear and tear of stiles had been attended to and two new stiles and a finger post had been provided. Routes of walks in the parish had been drawn up which will be put on the website once the feedback is obtained that they are suitable.

Emergency Planning

Councillor Beaman said there was nothing to report. The annual Town and Parish Emergency Planning Briefing had not been held.

Wolverhampton Airport Consultative Committee (WACC)

Councillor Hill reported MCR Property Group were still the owners of the airport. Alastair Mackinnon, the General Manager had left and had been replaced by Mr. M. Boot. The public consultation on Instrument Approach had taken place. A runway was out of use as it was awaiting repair. MCR’s Business Report had not been forthcoming.

Councillor Cowie thanked all the representatives for their reports.

70/18 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor Beaman declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in matters relating to the Kings Arms and left the meeting.

Mr. Hollingshead asked if there were any other schemes, apart from Mr. Beaman’s cross subsidy affordable housing scheme, being considered for the Kings Arms.

A preliminary meeting had been held with the Claverley Preservation Society to try and establish a way forward with regard to options for the land at the rear of the Kings Arms to find a solution acceptable to the community.

Various suggestions, such as moving Claverley Medical Practice or the village hall to the site, were put forward for exploration.

Work could not start on converting the Kings Arms into two dwellings until planning conditions were signed off.

Councillor Cotham and Councillor Edwards had met the developer who was open to ideas.

Councillor Cook left the meeting and Councillor Beaman returned.

Mr. Atkinson asked about the progress of his request for a speed restriction for Pound Street. Councillor Woodward replied it had been passed to Shropshire Highways. The Parish Council had supported the re-siting of the 30 mph sign.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and for their contributions. He closed the meeting at 9.15 p.m.