

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY, 10th AUGUST 2015 AT 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillors J.R. Caswell
D.A. Cook
D.S. Cowie (Chairman)
M.J. Edwards
D. Harris
Mrs. J.C. Marsh
R.S. Parr
D.A. Whitmore

Also present: Shropshire Councillor Mrs. Tina Woodward

Apologies: Councillor Mrs. S.A. Beaman – personal reasons,
Councillor R.J. Cotham – business reasons
Councillor Ms J.L. Clements – business reasons
Councillor S.J. Lawrence – personal reasons
Councillor Mrs. V. Williams – personal reasons

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared.

MINUTES of the meeting held on 6th July 2015, having been distributed to all Councillors, were confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

104/15 Claverley in Bloom

Councillor Parr's report had been forwarded to all the councillors.

Claverley in Bloom members and volunteers had worked very hard preparing the village for the visits of the Heart of England and the Britain in Bloom judges. The judges' tours had gone well but, unfortunately, the weather had been very poor for the judging in July. During the tour of the Britain in Bloom judges the new bench in Aston lane, dedicated to the memory of Sheila Higham, had been inaugurated. Councillor Parr thanked everyone who had helped get the village ready for the judging.

The result of the Heart of England in Bloom judging will be announced on 10th September and the Britain in Bloom judging on 16th October.

It was proposed by Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Caswell and agreed by the Council that a letter of thanks should be sent to Claverley in Bloom in recognition of all their hard work.

The CIB garden competition had been judged on 28th July by John McAlle, an ex-Wolves player turned landscape designer and contractor. The 1st prize had been awarded to Karen and Keith Horton of the Plough Inn, 2nd prize Lalita and John Wentworth, Cornerways,

High Street, 3rd prize Vic Parton, Danford Heath. Jane Wherton, Danford Heath and Dorothy and Eric Greenfield of Danford Lane had been highly commended. CIB intends to run the competition again in 2016.

It had become apparent during the tidy up sessions that dog fouling was getting much worse. Discussion took place about options to trace the culprits.

Action: Clerk to highlight problem in the September issue of 'Halo'. Councillor Woodward to be made aware of any particularly bad areas.

105/15 QEII Jubilee Field

Councillor Cook reported that moles were working on the bank. He would raise the matter with Jo Derrer.

Councillor Cook had checked the play equipment. Graffiti had appeared on some of the logs and there was sign of rotting.

The goals were in good condition. He had spoken to the football club about the caps which should be put in place when the goal posts were not being used and will be speaking to Oliver Plank regarding the grass cuttings.

As the football club will be playing in the league during the coming season, discussion took place about the fee for hire of the pitch. It was proposed by Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Whitmore and agreed by the Council that the fee would remain unchanged at £15.00 per match.

Action: Councillor Cook to ask Oliver Plank to send the Clerk fixture lists and inform her if matches are rearranged.

106/15 Parish Plan

Councillor Harris reported that the Parish Plan working group usually meets on the Wednesday following the Parish Council meeting with the next meeting being held on 12th August. Work had started on preparing the final document.

107/15 Street Lights

The Clerk had contacted Mike Smith Designs regarding the provision of a shorter column and had been informed a 4.5 metre column could be supplied which would cost £294.00 per column net of VAT (the same price as a 5 metre column). Garry Johnson of E.ON had confirmed there was no restriction on the height of the street light as the Parish Council was not lighting the highway to meet EU standards. If the height of the column is lower it would reduce the spread of light from the lantern. After discussion it was proposed by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Parr and agreed by the Council that when the order is placed 4.5 metre columns will be ordered.

E.ON Energy Solutions had submitted a quotation to accompany the application to use CIL funds for the installation of five Victorian style columns and lanterns. This amounted to £3865.05 excluding VAT.

Councillor Edwards reported that Sarah Crawford had complained about the brightness of the street light outside All Saints Cottage. This light was coming on before the other street lights and switching off after them.

Action: Clerk to inform E.ON.

The Clerk reported she was waiting for a response from Npower regarding the Parish Council's complaint about the excessive administration charge on the invoice for the power for the Christmas lights.

Action: Clerk to seek SALC's help to find out what other parish councils pay for energy for their street lights.

The Clerk informed the Council that the 12 anchor points for the Christmas lights were tested in 2012 and should be tested again this year.

Action: Clerk to contact Arbil Ltd. to see if they could carry out the testing.

108/15 Defibrillator

Councillor Marsh had been trying to arrange for a representative of the Ambulance Service to come to speak to the Parish Council but her contact was on sick leave. She would keep trying to make contact.

Councillor Cowie had circulated details of a training course – Defibrillators – Understand your needs and everyday first aid which will be held on 20th August at Stafford. Councillors were asked to contact him if they wished to attend.

Action: Clerk to seek SALC's help to find out other parish councils' experiences in providing a defibrillator for public use.

109/15 Youth Council/Youth Club

Councillor Lawrence's report had been circulated to all the councillors. Outdoor youth club sessions had been held with good turnouts. There had been two new volunteers.

Councillor and Mrs. Lawrence had attended an informal discussion with some members of the Village Hall committee regarding future storage of Youth Club items as the Village Hall committee had informed the Youth Club that the loft space cannot be used for storing the Club's equipment. If a solution to storage of Youth Club equipment in the vicinity of the Village Hall cannot be found, the Youth Club would not be able to function adequately.

Councillor Caswell reported he had attended the informal discussion and Councillor Lawrence had accepted he had not got permission to use the loft space and the Youth Club equipment had to be removed. At the meeting a suggestion had been made that a 10ft x 6ft metal container might be sited on the village hall car park but the Village Hall committee would need to give permission for the container. Councillor Parr wondered whether the Village Hall would share the container with the Youth Club.

Action: Councillor Caswell to contact Councillor Lawrence to ask him to put forward a proposal for the Parish Council to consider.

110/15 The Kings Arms/The Crown

It was understood the Kings Arms had now been sold. There was nothing to report on the Crown.

111/15 Bonfire/Fireworks Event 2015

Councillor Cook had made enquiries and had ascertained that Bridgnorth Rugby Club was holding its bonfire and fireworks event on Saturday, 7th November. After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Whitmore, seconded by Councillor Edwards and agreed by the Council to hold the Claverley bonfire and fireworks event on Saturday, 31st October.

The Clerk had contacted Jubilee Fireworks and Severn Valley Roasts and both would be able to attend on the 31st. Jubilee Fireworks was prepared to charge the same price as last year but there would be an increase in 2016.

112/15 Community Infrastructure Levy

Councillor Whitmore reported he was working on the business plan. The quotation for installing the new street lights had been received from E.ON. A revised quotation for the shorter columns will be obtained from Mike Smith Designs.

113/15 **UNITARY REPORT**

Councillor Woodward had sent an update regarding Broadband. She had been informed that work was expected to start on the Claverley exchange in the autumn, with availability in Spring 2016. Parts of the parish are expected to benefit from phase 2 of the Connecting Shropshire programme with work to provide access to a fibre broadband service starting in 2017. Councillor Woodward informed the meeting that because of the cost of providing Broadband it was necessary to obtain the best results from funding so there would be concentration on providing the service to larger communities.

114/15 **PLANNING**

Refusal

15/02234/FUL Erection of a two storey rear extension, Park View, 14 Gatacre, Claverley for Mr. A. Richardson.

Permission

15/01377/FUL Erection of front and rear extension with hip to gable loft extension, Redmere Church Street, Claverley for Mrs. S. Hodgson

15/02442/FUL Erection of single storey orangery to rear, alteration to retaining wall/vehicle frontage to include parking and store, 4 Draycott, Claverley for Mr. Daniel McCready

15/02610/HRM Hedgerow 1: removal of 230m of hedge; Hedgerow 2: removal of 201m of hedge, Newin House Farm, Upper Aston, Claverley for Mr. R.T. Wilkes and Mrs. J.C. Wilkes

New Applications

15/02278/FUL Erection of single storey side extension, Galatea Farm, Rudge Heath for Mrs. M. Gledhill
The Parish Council did not have any objections

15/03067/TCA Application to fell 1 Silver Birch, 1 Hazel and 1 Mountain Ash trees within Claverley Conservation Area, The Old School House, Bull Ring, Claverley for Mr. Julian Dwane
The Parish Council did not have any objections

15/02942/FUL Erection of detached garage and perimeter fence and gated access, 6 Aston, Claverley for Mr. Nick Beere
The Parish Council expressed concern about the size of the proposed garage.

115/15 **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

To comply with Financial Regulation 2.2 Councillor Lawrence had verified the bank reconciliations at the close of business on 30th June 2015. Total net balances amounted to £68378.09.

SALC had forwarded information that the Government had backed a proposal from NALC to lead the national procurement of audit for parish and town councils and other smaller bodies from 2017. A copy of the Department for Communities and Local Government guide on the changes to the smaller authorities' local audit and accountability framework had been received.

116/15 **PARISH MATTERS**

Councillor Edwards commented on the article in the August edition of 'Halo' regarding churchyard maintenance.

Action: Clerk to find out how the Church can hand over the churchyard for a parish council to maintain

Councillor Caswell commented on the lack of maintenance of the roads in the parish. Councillor Cook reported a bad pothole in High Street near Claverley Hall Farm.

Action: Clerk to inform Shropshire Council

Councillor Harris informed the meeting that some residents of the Spicers Hall chalet site were trying to establish residency and had obtained postal addresses of 1-18 Digbeth Lane. The locks on the rubbish bins had been vandalised again.

117/15 **CORRESPONDENCE**

SALC Training

The training session on pensions and pension changes affecting parish and town councils had been postponed to 15th September. A training session on VAT for town and parish councils had been arranged for Monday, 5th October.

Action: Clerk to attend and obtain advice regarding reclaiming VAT on the bonfire/fireworks expenditure.

Department for Communities and Local Government – Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities

The code had been issued to meet the Government’s desire to place more power into citizens’ hands to increase democratic accountability. Transparency gives local people the tools and information they need to hold local public bodies to account.

The Code applies to parish councils with an annual turnover not exceeding £25,000.

Broadband Update

This item was covered in the Unitary Report given by Councillor Woodward.

Public Health in Year Funding Cuts Consultation

Information on the full consultation document had been sent to all the councillors. The consultation period ends on 28th August.

118/15 REPRESENTATIVES’ REPORTS

Councillor Parr reported he had been contacted by Mr. Withers who was unhappy about the frequency of low flying aircraft over his property at Beobridge. He had written to the Airport’s Operations Manager, Alastair Mackinnon and was awaiting a reply.

119/15 CHEQUES

Chq. No. 001256 Npower Ltd. – energy for street lights 01/04/15 to 30/06/15.....	£1007.21
001257 D.W. Vaughan – maintenance of seats and noticeboard.....	£47.99
001258 Mrs. G.M. Price - - reimbursement for purchase of gift token for Internal Auditor.....	£75.00

It was proposed by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Whitmore 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 the next Parish Council Meeting: Monday, 14th September at 7.30 p.m. in the
Village Hall