

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 14th March 2024 Millennium Hall, Cockshutt at 7.30pm

Present:

Councillors: J. Bowers, Mrs. P. Edwards, P. Griffiths, R. Hadley, Ms. J. Harrison, S. Lewis and I. Webb (Chairman)
Shropshire Councillor: Brian Williams
Members of the Public: Five

29/24 Apologies for Absence

- a. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Ms. P. Inglis
- b. Apologies were received from Shropshire Councillor Brian Williams

30/24 Public Participation

A local resident and gardener attended the meeting and offered advice regarding management of the wildflower meadow. He gave a short history of wildflower meadows. Members would like to meet with him to benefit from this advice.

In respect of the Parklands development and the recent planning application, residents from Parklands added two points; firstly, the development land has flooded onto the road in 4 instances when it has been up 1-2 ft deep outside the houses opposite, and secondly, the pumping station has been overwhelmed at least twice this year.

A governor of Cockshutt Primary School attended and updated the Parish Council that the schools are to change to academy status following consultation with the parents. They are applying to join Marches Academy Trust schools. The considerations which led to this decision, that Shropshire Council no longer has the resources now to support the schools as they would like & Marches has access to staffing and funding; the schools remain independent and have a strong community focus. Hopefully the process will be complete by 1st August in time for September intake. The Parish Council may well be consulted on the proposals later in the year.

31/24 Approval of minutes of the last meeting.

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th February 2024 were approved and by the Chairman subject to date amendment to Thursday not Tuesday.

32/24 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

- a. Members were reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, whether or not the Interest is entered in the Register of Members' Interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.
None Declared
- b. Other Registrable Interests: None
- c. To consider any requests for Dispensations: None

33/24 Planning:

a. Decisions Received for information:

Reference: 24/00065/FUL (validated: 23/01/2024)

Address: The Brambles, 11 Petton Hall, Petton, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 5TH

Proposal: Erection of extension link between house and existing garage to create new plant room

Decision: Grant Permission

b. Applications for Consideration received since the February meeting:

Reference: 24/00497/LBC (validated: 08/02/2024)

Address: 32 Shrewsbury Road, Cockshutt, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY12 0JH

Proposal: Replacement of existing fence with new brick wall and alterations to existing stone wall

View online at: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=S8JETITD07V00>

Comment: Members proposed and agreed unanimously to support the application with no objections

c. Applications Received after 7th March :

Reference: 24/00748/OUT (validated: 08/03/2024)

Address: Proposed Residential Development South Of, The Parklands, Cockshutt, Shropshire

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of six dwellings

View online at: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=S99UBMTDFX100>

Comment: Members proposed and agreed unanimously that the re-submitted application did not address previous objections with the additional point that more dwellings will continue to overwhelm the pumping station, the land has sub surface springs and the pond which provided a natural water catchment area has been filled in. Members agreed to object on similar grounds to the previously withdrawn application.

34/24 Financial Matters:

a. Balances for information circulated to members were noted and accepted

b. Payments were approved:

- Audlem Printers 125.00
- Shropshire Council 172.43
- D. Bywater 40.00

c. Grant Application – Cockshutt Church - see Clerk's report

The Church Warden explained that there are 3 elements to the application, the loop system, live streaming of services and events, and redecoration.

The two more important elements are the loop system and redecoration. The Church would charge for live streaming of weddings & funerals.

Members noted that the quotes are now some 10 months old and asked if the Church would refresh the estimates & quotes for the next meeting.

- d. Grounds Maintenance
Cllr. Harrison will meet with JG, gardener to discuss cutting regime for the wildflower meadow.
- e. Graveyard Maintenance
*S214 LGA 1972 Confirms the PC is a burial authority for the purposes of the Act.
(6) A burial authority may contribute towards any expenses incurred by any other person in providing or maintaining a cemetery in which the inhabitants of the authority's area may be buried.*
RESOLVED: It was proposed and seconded and agreed unanimously that the Parish Council make a contribution to the grass cutting in the graveyards at Cockshutt (£300) & Petton (£150) respectively as budgeted.

35/24 Review of Council Documents

- a. Members considered the draft Fraud and Corruption Policy circulated by the Clerk on 14/2/24
- b. Members to consider any further procedures relating to risk and fraud including approved contractors lists.
- c. Members considered documents to be updated to take account of procurement thresholds, as circulated by the Clerk on 14/2/24
- Standing Orders
 - Financial Regulations
 - Risk Assessment amended in line with internal audit recommendations
 - Asset Register to be amended in line with the internal audit recommendations and addition of the patio planters and defibrillator.
- RESOLVED: it was proposed and seconded to adopt the Fraud Policy as a. above and accept the amendments to the existing documents c. above as drafted.

36/24 Property Maintenance Update:

With regard to streetlights, in general, the casing lasts about 10 years and the lamp itself about 3 years. The contractors keep a record of which streetlights we own but don't record when lamps are replaced.

Lights which are too bright at night, the Parish Council could adopt part night lighting, which means switching lights off generally between midnight and 5:30 am. Shropshire Council has developed guidelines for streetlights which would be the exception and remain on all night. Clerk and Cllr. Harrison meet with Highline in respect of street lighting issues.

37/24 Environmental Maintenance:

The hedges on the corner of Crosemere/Shrewsbury Road and Park Lane need trimming.

38/24 Jubilee Field & Football Field

The Parish Council has received a suggestion for a sensory garden on Jubilee Field.

39/24 Highways

Cllr. Edwards raised a flooding issue at Kenwick Springs.

40/24 Reports of Meetings Attended:

- a. Clerk attended a presentation regarding Martyn's Law; information circulated to members 6/2/2024
- b. Clerk attended training provided by SALC/Parkinson Partnership on "Internal Controls". Whilst a well delivered course it was of limited assistance as it was aimed at new clerks with less experience of local government financial practices. It confirmed that CCP-PC adequately follow accountability and practice guidance.

41/24 Correspondence for information:

- a. SALC bulletins circulated 19/2/24
- b. Portrait of HM the King has been ordered
- c. Defibrillator training – 15 delegates are booked for 23rd March
- d. O2/other mobile coverage in the Parish – see dates for the diary below
- e. For information on switchover from analogue to digital landlines. West Midlands switchover is due in spring 2024. VoIP – <https://www.bt.com/about/all-ip>
- f. Members were minded to purchase a D day flag for the villages provided there is somewhere suitable to fly it.

42/24 Consultations

a. Government Consultation :

Second stage government consultation on the proposed Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill. The consultation is aimed at those responsible for smaller premises which would fall within the standard tier such as community halls.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/martyns-law-standard-tier-consultation>

Open until 18th March.

b. Shropshire Council Consultations:

Public Space Protection Order, (PSPO) which includes powers for dog wardens to issue fixed penalty notices to owners failing the clean up after their dog.

Re-consultation circulated 01/03 2024

Consultation on housing supply and the need for accommodation for vulnerable populations

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/draft-independent-living-and-specialistaccommodation-strategy/>

Open until 21st April 2024

c. Other:

Scottish Power Stakeholder Survey

Stakeholder engagement to inform priorities for the electricity network business plan

<https://spen.engage-360.co.uk/surveys/33>

Open until 31st March

43/24 Parish Matters & Items for the next agenda:

Consider a request for Blister Pack Recycling Box

Church grant application

44/24 Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday, 11th April 2024 @ 7:00 pm - Agenda items to the Clerk

45/24 Date of next meeting:

Date of next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council: Thursday, 11th April 2024 @ 7:30 pm

Other dates for the diary:

Project Gigabit progress update for Councillors webinar on Wednesday, 27th March 2024 @ 4:00 pm

SALC Area Committee, 18th March 2024 @ 7:00 pm - Venue TBC

Affordable Warmth & Energy Efficiency Retrofit Event
Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room at the Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND on
Monday 25th March 2-4pm

Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust Hospitals Transformation Programme
Tuesday, 16th April 2024 @ 18:30 via Teams

The Chair, Cllr Webb, declared the meeting closed at 9:25 p.m.

Signed.....(*by the Chairman*)

Date.....11th April 2024.....