

Sheriffhales Parish Council
*Including the communities of Sheriffhales, Lilyhurst, Burlington, Heath Hill,
Weston Heath, Redhill and Chadwell*
Minutes of a the Parish Council Meeting
held in Sheriffhales Village Hall
on the 14 May 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs **Peter Bonsall** (Chairman); John Horne; Mrs Anne Jackson; Mrs Janet Jones; Alan MacWhannell; Neil Pulker; Gordon Tonkinson and John Webb.

In attendance: Anne Chalkley – Clerk. Shropshire Council Cllr Kevin Turley. Public 7

1/15 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN –

- a) It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Tonkinson and **SECONDED** by Cllr Pulker that Cllr Bonsall continue as Chairman. **ALL AGREED.**
- b) Chairman signed the Declaration of Office

2/15 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN –

- a) It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Pulker and **SECONDED** by Cllr MacWhannell that Cllr Tonkinson continue as Vice Chairman. **ALL AGREED.**
- b) Vice Chairman signed the Declaration of Office

3/15 CHAIRMAN’S WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Cllr Bonsall welcomed all present.

4/15 APOLOGIES – Cllr Maddocks (other commitment)

5/15 DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS – There were no pecuniary interests.

6/15 DISPENSATION – There were no dispensations.

7/15 PRESENTATION BY ANDY DAVIES – Andy Davies gave a presentation on the village having a Automated External Defibrillator (AED). The Chair thanked Mr Davies and he left the meeting. It was **AGREED** to advertise this in the Parish Newsletter to call a public meeting for Andy to give his presentation to the community of Sheriffhales to have an AED in the village. It was further **AGREED** to have this as an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting.

8/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION – There were none.

9/15 MINUTES, MATTERS ARISING – It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes dated the 12 March 2015 to be signed as a true record.

10/15 MATTERS ARISING - Cllr Webb reported that the Clerk had sent out an e-mail from Highways to all councillors informing them that the Burlington Junction was now being address and a road closure for five weeks will commence from the 1 June.

11/15 MEMBERS TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING:

- a) Standing Orders – It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Tonkinson and **SECONDED** by Cllr Pulker to adopt the Standing Orders. **ALL AGREED.**
- b) Financial Regulations – It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Horne and **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs Jones to adopt the Financial Regulations. **ALL AGREED.**
- c) Financial Risk Assessment – It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Horne and **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs Jones to adopt the Financial Risk Assessment. **ALL AGREED.**
- d) Assets Register – It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Webb and **SECONDED** by Cllr Pulker to adopt the Assets Register. **ALL AGREED.**
- e) General Power of Competence – It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Horne and **SECONDED** by Cllr Webb to adopt the General Power of Competence. **ALL AGREED.**

12/15 REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL’S REPRESENTATION ON EXTERNAL BODIES – *To select Members’ to represent the Parish Council on the following committees and organisations.*

Signed:..... Date:.....

Organisation/Committee	Current Representative/s
Planning	Any 5 Councillors
Community Council	Cllr John Horne
Highways Liaison	Cllr Gordon Tonkinson
Joint Local Committee	Cllrs Alan Macwhannell and Janet Jones
Parish Footpaths	Cllr Alan Macwhannell
Press Contacts	Cllr Peter Bonsall and Clerk
Public Transport Contacts	Liaison Cllr Anne Jackson
Road safety Committee	Cllr Gordon Tonkinson
Tree Warden	Cllr John Horne
Village Hall Committee	Cllr Neil Pulker
Website Liaison	Cllr Peter Bonsall and Clerk
Young People and Children Officer	Cllr Anne Jackson

13/15 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS –**

Reference: 15/01366/FUL (validated 27 .03.15)

Proposed: Installation and operation of a solar farm and associated infrastructure

Location: Proposed Solar Farm to the West of Sheriffhales.

Applicant: Lightsource SPV 39 Limited

Resident Peter Ward explained the difference between the levels of land stated in the application. If there was to be a fence put round the field the public footpath could not been used. Cllr Tonkinson gave his objections as follows:

1. Totally inappropriate use of good agricultural grade 3, 3A and 3B land, where excellent and high yielding crops such as wheat, oil seed rape, barley, oats, grass are produced year by year on immediately adjacent land.
2. On farm BIO Digester Plants are being set up across the country to use waste residues from crops and crops grown specifically for such use. They produce electricity 24 hours per day so much more efficient and dependable than relying on the sun to shine and very short daylight hours in winter.
3. The size of the site, 44 acres is totally out of scale and character with anything in our very rural Parish of Sheriffhales, thus bringing industrialisation into farmland. It will have serious visual impact.
4. Such developments should be on Industrial/Factory Roofs and there are thousands in Shropshire where most of the power could be used on site.
5. None of the power that would be produced is for use on the farm involved in the application. Therefore, this proposed development would purely be taking good land away from the production of food.
6. On 25 April 2013, the Minister for Energy, the Rt. Hon. Gregory Barker, MP quoted “the Government will focus deployment of solar panels on buildings and brown field land”. This is now reconfirmed by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Liz Truss “that good agricultural land should not be used for Solar Panels, but for producing food”.
7. The site can be seen from adjacent paths, from the Young Persons Education Facility (at Big Wood), the centre of Sheriffhales Village, Pinfold, The Evergreens, Church Lane, Dukes Drive, Crackley Bank to the Lilyhurst Road, the A5 Crackley Bank, Sandy Lane, Red Hill, Haughton hill, Decker Hill and near to the Crematorium.
8. Any guaranteed financial offer from the developers to the Parish Council will only be accepted

Signed:..... Date:.....

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if any permission is given by Shropshire Council decision, other than to note the offer.

Cllr Webb would like to add the following to Cllr Tonkinson's objections. This proposal is robbing the poor to pay the rich. It takes advantage of an obsolete and morally bankrupt government policy, now being withdrawn piecemeal, which is charging electricity customers to line the pockets of investors, disadvantaging the poorest in society the greatest.

Cllr Bonsall reported that he had spoken with Lightsource regarding the Community Ownership Opportunity and explained this to the members present.

After further discussion a vote of hand was called by the Chairman. 7 objected to the planning application and one was in favour. It was **AGREED** to use both Cllrs Tonkinsons and Webbs objections above in a letter of objection from the Parish Council.

14/15 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** – *To consider any other planning applications received after the issue of the agenda (to be notified at the meeting).*

- a) **Reference: 15/00859/LBC and 15/00858/FUL**
Proposed: Erection of single storey garden room following demolition of existing single storey extension; replacement of flat roof over garage with tiled pitch roof affecting a Grade II Listed Building.
Decision: No objections
- b) **Reference: 15/01855/FUL** (validated: 29/05/2015)
Address: Littlehales House, Littlehales Road, Sheriffhales, Shropshire, TF10 9AW
Proposal: Conversion of existing 'Dutch Barn' to Cinema/Gym with erection of an external staircase access to existing mezzanine floor
Applicant: Mr Timothy Middleham (Littlehales House, Littlehales Road, Sheriffhales, Shropshire, TF10 9AW)
Decision: No objections

15/15 **SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL PLANNING APPLICATIONS DECISIONS** –

- a. **Reference: 13/02476/FUL** - Laburnum Farm, 68 Heath Hill, Sheriffhales - Erection of an affordable dwelling and detached garage – **Pending Decision**
- b. **Reference: 14/04830/FUL** - Proposed Residential Development SW Of Village Farm, Sheriffhales, Shropshire - Erection of 2 no. dwellings; formation of vehicular access, Shropshire, TF11 8RD) – **Pending decision.**
- a) **Reference: 14/04830/FUL** - Proposed Residential Development SW Of Village Farm, Sheriffhales, Shropshire - Erection of 2 no. dwellings; formation of vehicular access, Shropshire, TF11 8RD) – **Pending decision**
- b) **Reference: 15/00858/FUL** - The Manor, Sheriffhales, Shropshire, TF11 8QY - Erection of single storey garden room following demolition of existing single storey extension; replacement of flat roof over garage with tiled pitch roof. – **Pending decision.**
- c) **Reference: 15/00859/LBC** - The Manor, Sheriffhales, Shropshire, TF11 8QY - Erection of single storey garden room following demolition of existing single storey extension; replacement of flat roof over garage with tiled pitch roof affecting a Grade II Listed Building – **Pending decision.**

Cllr Turley reported that he was under the impression that Planning Application 14/04830/FUL had been refused by Shropshire Council. He will check on behalf of the council.

16/15 **SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL PLANNING APPLICATION DECISION PROCESS** – Cllr Tonkinson said that the Parish Council should make representation to keep the process the same as it is now. **ALL AGREED**. The Clerk to write to Shropshire Council.

17/15 **FINANCE** – It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the following cheques.

a) *Cheque payments*

Cheque No	Payment to	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
1029	Anne Chalkley	Expenses	13.80	0.00	13.80
1030	Anne Chalkley	Salary April and May	502.65	0.00	502.65
1056	HMRC	NI Contribution	40.20	0.00	40.20
1057	SALC	Training/Affiliation fee	289.70	0.00	289.70
1058	Account Ability	Internal Auditor	120.00	0.00	120.00

b) *Cheque payments after the agenda had been sent out.*

Cheque No	Payment to	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
1059	PCC	Laptop repair	36.56	7.31	43.87
1060	Alan Harding	Grass cut 25/3.11 & 25/4	240.00	48.00	288.00
1061	Pat Kind	Key for village hall	13.95	2.79	16.74

- c) It was **RESOLVED** To sign the End of Year Accounts:
- Reconciliation and Bank Statements for the month of March 2015
 - Receipts and Payments including income and expenditure spreadsheets
 - Annual Governance form
 - Sign the Annual Return for 2014-15

After discussion it was **AGREED** the Clerk contact the Internal Auditor and ask for a written report outlining the conversation with the Clerk on the telephone where he stated that there were no concerns with the annual return.

18/15 **SHERIFFHALES PLAYING FIELD –**

- The Chair reported that he had noticed that one of the play equipments were broken. He contacted the maker, Proludic and they had sent a quotation for parts to repair the item. After discussion it was **AGREED** the Clerk contact the company and arrange the purchase of the items. Cllr Bonsall **AGREED** to repair the item once the parts arrive.
- The Chair reported that the Clerk had spoken to the Land Registry Office regarding registering the access from the road to the playing field. The Clerk reported that the Land Registry suggested instructing a solicitor to look into the right of way as there may be a wayleave and registering the land. After discussion it was **AGREED** the Clerk contact Fields in Trust to ask if they could recommend a solicitor to carry out this work on behalf of the council.

As the time was approaching 9.30pm it was **AGREED** to suspend Standing Orders to continue to conduct the Council's business.

19/15 **COMING EVENTS –**

- Civic Service – 17 May 2015 at 3pm – Apologies were received from Cllr Hone, Pulker and Turley.
- V Festival – 22-23 August 2015. The Clerk to write for a donation.

20/15 **POST OFFICE/SHOP PROVISION FOR SHERIFFHALES -** Nothing to report.

21/15 **VILLAGE MATTERS - TRAFFIC CONCERNS/ROADWORKS ECT –**

- Bin for cemetery – The Clerk had included with the agenda an e-mail from Shropshire Council regarding waste disposal at the cemetery. After discussion it was **AGREED** the Chair speak to Peter Young.
- Playing field what now? Cllr Tonkinson made some suggestions as follows: Fencing for the south side of the playing field as it is very old. Fund raising for changing room facilities. Dog free area.
- Hamlets outside the village of Sheriffhales – Cllr Pulker reported we need to look at the needs of our Hamlets and not just Sheriffhales Parish.

- d) Road Conditions – Cllr Webb reported that we need better vision on the junctions. Weight of agriculture vehicles on the narrow lanes that not only break down the edge of the roads put cause potholes etc. The Chair asked Cllr Turley if he had any suggestions. Cllr Turley suggested contacting Shropshire Council Graham Downs or Alice Dilley.

- 22/15 **PARISH PLAN** – Cllr Webb reported that it has been a long period of time between meetings having been a hiatus due to a bereavement in the family of the working party/group chairman to produce a Parish Plan. This has been shared with Mark Smith who has pulled together a working document for discussion and approval. Mark reported he had put everything together and produced a document but now needs to be consulted with the community for feedback. It was suggested that the existence of the Parish Plan to be advertised in the Newsletter asking if they would like an electronic version or a hard copy. Mark would set up an e-mail address for this purpose. Mark handed this document out to the members, but he will also e-mail it out as well.

Cllr Horne asked if a vote of thanks be given to Mark Smith.

- 23/15 **REPORT FROM MOST RECENT SCHOOL GOVERNORS MEETING** – Cllr Tonkinson reported that there was nothing to report at present.

- 24/15 **DELEGATES REPORTS** – Cllr Macwhannell reported that both he and Cllr Mrs Jones attend the Local Joint Committee at Shifnal. Cllr Mrs Jones reported that the police station was closing at the end of May in Shifnal, there was a meeting that night regarding the Doctors Surgery. She asked about the housing development and also the one way system. Cllr Horne explained to the members about Shared Spaces in Shifnal. Cllr Mrs Jones reported that the attendance at meetings had dropped and mentioned that when the LJC was first set up, it was agreed to have one meeting at Sheriffhales and two at Shifnal each year and all meetings at the moment appear to be at Shifnal. After discussion, it was agreed the Clerk contact the organiser, Andrea MacWilliams, to ask that the agreement when the LJC was set up to be put in place and that a meeting at Sheriffhales is arranged..

- 25/15 **CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING** –

- a) HMRC VAT Refund
- b) Shropshire Council Precept Remittance Advice

- 26/15 **URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA** – Cllr Tonkinson reported that the car park by the village hall is the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Clerk informed the members that she was under the impression it belonged to the school because when the accident had been reported to her she arranged for Shropshire Council Highways to repair the pothole in the car park. The person from the Church had contacted her this week as they had received a letter from a solicitor regarding this accident in the car park and did not know of any accident. The Clerk had explained to her about the WI lady falling due to a pothole in the car park and though the car park was the responsibility of the school. The person from the Church informed the Clerk that she would check through the documents to find out who was responsible for the car park.

Next Meeting: 9 July 2015 at 7.30pm in Sheriffhales Village Hall

Meeting Closed 10.30pm