

MINUTES OF THE SHERIFFHALES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 7th SEPTEMBER 2021 AT SHERIFFHALES VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: Dr Alan Macwhannell, Mr G Tonkinson; Mr J Horne, Mr A Edwards, Mr D Himsworth and Mr N Pulker.

In attendance Clerk to the Council – Ms Jennifer Cree and Councillor K Turley

100/21. Apologies for Absence.

Councillors Miss M Gardner and Mr N Edwards (Vice Chairman) sent their apologies for the meeting.

101/21. Declaration of Councillors' Pecuniary Interests.

Councillors N Pulker and A Edwards declared a pecuniary interests in relation to the Solar Farm.

102/21. To Agree and adopt the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th July 2021.

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

103/21. Public participation

No members of the public present wished to speak.

104/21. To receive an update on the arrangements for a Parish Wide celebration September 2021

Mrs P Hodgetts has been working with the Chairman to organise the above Parish event, we have investigated the costs for hiring of toilets for the afternoon, but this is no longer required as they will be using the Village Hall facilities. The Parish Council discussed purchasing 2 x gazebos for the event, as initially the weather forecast had not been favourable, however members agreed not to purchase any gazebos at this time and if any were required to look at borrowing them from the Community or a neighbouring Council like Shifnal.

The Tractor Rally is organised for the 12th September, the tractors will be leaving at 9.45 and return early afternoon. There are a 100 drivers booked already. The raffle draw is 1.30pm.

The Civic Service is provisionally booked for the 19th September, 5 members are able to attend. The date is to be conformed and it may be in October. This was noted.

105/21. Regular Unitary Councillor Feedback and Question time Session

Councillor K Turley reported on the following items:-

- Public rights of way no feedback has been received from Shropshire Council.
- A meeting with Graham Downs is being organised with Gemma Lawley and the Parish Council to discuss Woodcote corner
- Pothole filling – more should be happening.
- Draft Shropshire Local Plan has been approved and has been sent forward to the Secretary of State. It will be in the public domain shortly.
- A new planning application has been received for Bloomsbury Nurseries for a tea room.

- No further information has been received for the Enforcement action for the company on the A5

Action: Clerk to request an update on this application.

106/21. To note and agree further actions relating to New Seating within Parish

The Parish forwarded a list of requested several sites for locations of benches within the Parish. The Officer dealing with the application has been off work, and other staff have not dealt with the application / sites in their absence. She has now returned and picked up the request and of the 4 or 5 locations only 1 location is the responsibility of Street Scene the rest are Highways. All of the sites are acceptable, the Chairman is progressing this matter further.

Action: Chairman to progress

107/21. To discuss and make a decision Grant Application for the Village Shop

The Clerk has written and emailed the applicant 3 times since the last meeting requesting a meeting with the agreed Parish Councillors to find out more information on this, and the response received to the last email was to request a meeting with Miss Bonsall and her parents. The Clerk replied to this email stating that due to GDPR the grant application can only be discussed with the person that has submitted the form. The original applicant has withdrawn from the Village Shop and Miss Bonsall has taken over. The Clerk has written to Miss Bonsall and asked for her to resubmit a grant application as we need an application in the correct name. A meeting has been requested several times and Miss Bonsall has come back this week to suggest a meeting at very short notice which was not feasible to attend.

It was proposed by Councillor J Horne and seconded by Councillor A Edwards that until a new grant application has been received this item will be deferred. On a vote this carried.

108/21. To discuss supplying smart water packs to residents of the Parish

The Smartwater packs have been ordered and the 25% grant applied for from the Police Commissioner. Delivery has been confirmed and due at any time. This was noted.

109/21. To discuss updating the Defib and also request for a further defib with the Parish

The Defib has been updated with the required parts, as per the correspondence reported to the last meeting.

A further request has been submitted for a defib on a farm in the Parish that employs many summer workers. The cost for a new defib is circa £1000. It was proposed by Councillor N Pulker and seconded by Councillor J Horne that the Parish could not support an application from a commercial organisation as the defib should be in an external cabinet and it is thought that the location is not within the Parish Boundary. On a vote this was carried.

110/21. To discuss the Contract for Playing Field maintenance 2022/23

The playing field contract ends this season. It was proposed by Councillor G Tonkinson and seconded by Councillor N Pulker to prepare a new tender document to be approved by the members with all amendments / additions included and go out to tender, on a vote 4 for and 2 abstentions.

Action: Clerk to prepare a tender.

There is an annual Arboricultural inspection and it is ok for this year as previously noted.

111/21. Playing Field Safety Inspection June 2021 report / actions

The report is still awaited.

112/21. To discuss planning applications received and note any decisions

21/03700/FUL Burlington Farm – Change of use of agricultural building to commercial

It was proposed by Councillor A MacWhannell and seconded by Councillor J Horne to recommend refusal on the grounds that:-

- The original planning application for the barn, was approved on the grounds that a barn was required due to conversion to houses of other buildings and the original barn was supposed to be demolished when this was erected. This is still standing.
- The access for HGV vehicles is totally inappropriate onto the A41 and the A5. If the application were approved at least ½ an acre of land would be required to turn vehicles around.
- The traffic impact assessment has not been submitted so this application should not be considered until all reports have been received.
- The planning application should be discussed fully at the Planning Committee not decided by Officers

On a vote this was unanimous.

Action: Clerk / Chairman to submit comments as above

21/03086/FUL Agricultural Buildings, Chadwell Court – Erection of a building for the covered storage of agricultural machinery with Photovoltaic panels applied to the roof (amended application to 20/01303/FUL Permission agreed) **No Objection**

113/21. To discuss and progress the delivering Phase 2 of Playing field development including water supply , fencing to southern boundary , conclusion of establishing new boundary and new equipment.

The original consultations with the residents were undertaken several years ago. Those comments were wanting equipment for older children and a trim trail. Part of the discussions were increased seating and the orchard planting. This part of the project has been completed.

Fencing was discussed and agreed at a previous meeting following a health and safety report that clearly stated this fence was not required.

114/21. To receive any updates relating to the outstanding items if received in time for the meeting (details below)

Neighbourhood Plan – Members discussed the usefulness of a Plan for the Parish. It was proposed by Councillor A MacWhannell and seconded by Councillor J Horne to reactivate the Neighbourhood Plan. On a vote this was carried.

Action: Chairman of the Council

Manor Farm planning applications – the housing application has been refused, but the Equestrian and Pig unit applications have been approved.

Woodcote Quarry and SC implementation of S106 Traffic Management scheme – Councillor K Turley had a meeting with the Officer from Highways in July.

A resident has come forward to ask for the Council's support to improve the sight lines and reseed the junction of the A41 and the B4379. They were asking for financial support towards these costs. It was proposed by Councillor A Edwards and seconded by Councillor N Pulker that the Clerk write to the resident and request he formally writes to Shropshire Highways as this is their area of responsibility not the Parish Council.

Action: Clerk to write to the resident.

SC proposals for managing surface water drainage on Kettlemore Lane and Marsh Lane/Road – Mr Faure has left the employment of the Council, so the Clerk / Chairman is trying to arrange to speak to his replacement / Line Manager.

Action: Clerk to progress

Traffic Management across the Parish including traffic speeds and HGV routes and speeding

The cost for adding speed logging devices to the signs is £650 per unit plus £575 installation per day, the installation costs should cover the 2 signs being upgraded. It was proposed by Councillor A MacWhannell and seconded by Councillor J Horne we purchase the data logging equipment at the above costs. On a vote this was defeated with 2 for and 4 against.

Action: Councillor G Tonkinson to look at the 20's plenty scheme and prepare a full report and costs on this initiative.

In early July it was reported that foliage was growing over the speed signs, this has been reported to the Highways team. No action has been taken.

Addressing damage to grass roadside verges

Members thanked Councillor D Himsworth for his time in preparing the report which was attached to the agenda papers and photographs supplied from Councillor A Edwards.

Solar Farm Sale correspondence – this was noted.

A5 Traffic lights updates – correspondence was noted from the Highways Engineer and we are awaiting a report on their findings. It was proposed by Councillor N Pulker and seconded by Councillor J Horne to ask that the Engineer be asked if there are cameras on the traffic lights, what data is recorded and if there are no cameras what would be the procedure for Shropshire Highways to add them to the lights. On a vote this was carried.

Action: Clerk to progress

New Residents welcome pack

Councillor N Pulker suggested that anyone moving into the area, a pack of useful information, with what activities that happen in the village. It was proposed by Councillor A MacWhannell seconded by Councillor J Horne, to give permission for Councillor N Pulker to speak to the Parish Magazine editor to see if a copy of the Parish Magazine could be put through the letterbox of new residents. On a vote this was agreed.

Action: Councillor N Pulker

Exit interviews for former Councillors

It was agreed not to progress this item any further, however if a Councillor is missing meetings, and coming towards the 6 months rule, members contact them and discuss any issues that there may be.

115/21. Items for a future agenda

Setting 2022/23 Base Budget and Reserve Fund proposals for Nov 21; To discuss Developing a Parish approach to Public Rights of Way; Invite to new leader of Shropshire Council; Neighbourhood Plan; Invite the Police Commissioner;

116/21. Date of Next Meeting

12th October 2021
9th November 2021
14th December 2021
11th January 2022
8th February 2022
8th March 2022
12th April PC/APM
10th May 2022 AGM

Councillor G Tonkinson left the meeting at 9.30pm.

117/21. Exclusion of the Press and public as the business to be discussed related to staffing matters.

On a vote this was agreed.

118/21. To discuss the Clerks Appraisal

The Clerks appraisal has taken place in July. This was noted.