

MINUTES OF THE SHERIFFHALES ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THE 14th MARCH 2023 AT SHERIFFHALES VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: Mr J Horne (Chairman); Mrs A Robinson; Mr N Pulker; Mr Gordon Tonkinson; Mr D Himsworth; Mr A Edwads; Mrs Clerk – Miss Jennifer Cree, Unitary Cllr Mr Kevin Turley Mrs A Horne, Mrs M Himsworth, Mrs K Frankly, Mrs P Hodgetts, Mr Robinson, Mr P Bonsall, Mr N Jones, Mrs Jones.

Apologies: None were received.

1. Chairman's welcome and announcements

The Chairman welcomed the members of the public and the Council to the meeting.

2. Community presentations

Mr Peter Bonsall is a member of CIC and kick on the Solar Farm. To update members, the group have managed to purchase the remaining shares in the Solar Farm by having a long term agreement with the bank and have successfully launched a bond scheme. The Solar farm is now in the ownership of the community. The debt will be paid off in full in 2036, then in the period from 2036 – 2040 there will be all of the profits available to the community for groups which should amount to circa £1m.

There has been a change in the structure of the funds reaching the community. The CIC decided to allocate the funds from the project, previously the trustees of SACREC did this, but this is no longer needed. It will remain a charity.

The Sheriffhales Solar Farm project has been mentioned in the National Press.

Mr Jones asked how to find out how the money should be spent. Mr Bonsall said that on the FCA website holds the details of the project and how the funds have to be distributed. He also clarified how the shares are broken down and who they are owned by.

Mrs Hodgetts asked if she has to apply directly to CIC for funds and this was confirmed.

The Chairman of the Council made a presentation to Mrs Edwards of a photograph of the dedication of the orchard for former Councillor Mr N Edwards.

3. To confirm the Minutes of the Sheriffhales APM held on 22ND May 2022.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May 2022, having been circulated in advance of the current meeting, were approved and signed as a true record of the proceedings at that meeting.

4. Matters Arising from the minutes

Cllr G Tonkinson reminded members that a Neighbourhood Plan was raised and this should be considered by the Council in the future.

5. Parish Council Report

Report of the Chairman of the Council – Cllr J Horne.

Sheriffhales is a lovely village and whilst I don't live here I try my best for the Parish as Chairman.

The EMG grant was received from Shropshire Council, and has been match funded and spent during the last year, to cut back overgrown hedges round signs and junctions and green spaces.

The orchard was formally named last year in memory of Former Cllr Mr N Edwards, we were lucky we had a break in the rain at just the right time for the unveiling.

The Smartwater signs have been installed by the Police.

The 9th July is to be the Celebrating Sheriffhales day of course the Remembrance day service in November which is always well attended.

The precept has been increased by 1% for the coming year for the whole Parish.

Unitary Cllr Mr K Turley mentioned that the Precept for Shropshire Council has been increased by 5%. On top of these increases there is a £50 Million savings to be found by Shropshire Council.

Another relief road is required around Shrewsbury but this may mean that Shropshire Council have to pay £10 million towards the cost.

Cllr Mr G Tonkinson reported that there are reports to do work to improve the A41, from Telford to Whitchurch. There are no signs for the quarry and a 40mph speed limit would be much safer. Shropshire Council needs to be told of this again (the quarry is ongoing with Enforcement at Shropshire Council).

6. Questions arising from the public relevant to the reports or with regards to the parish.

Mr P Hodgetts asked for clarification on the status of Sheriffhales, the Chairman informed him that under the Core strategy it is still as is this correct CS4. Shropshire Council are reviewing the Local plan 2028 – 2035.

Shifnal is working with Tong, to fight the Garden Village.

Cllr Mr D Himsworth – appear to be have a mixture of priorities at Shropshire Council, large projects go ahead and the smaller items such as roads should be prioritised. The mayor of Shifnal met with Highways and looked at the potholes in the area. 100 have been repaired in the Shifnal area over the past month. It was suggested to perhaps invite someone from Shropshire Council in a position of Authority to enable them to hear parishioners views – for the 2024 Annual Parish Meeting.

It was asked if the Parish could find out if there are any permissions required to hold the horse fair that happened last year and is being advertised again for this year.

Mr Robinson asked do the Parish Council identify any issues with relating to school pick up and drop off, and do we think there is a need for a new nursery to be set up. Would the council be open to looking into this, this will be an agenda item for May 23.

Mrs Himsworth asked if on the road going up to the A5 and the hedge was removed, could the hedge be replaced and contact the land owner to ask.

Cllr G Tonkinson reported years ago the Council looked at putting a new footpath to Marsh Lane and hedge planting, and he would like to see this done still.

The Defib box is being repaired by the insurers by a blacksmith.

The bus stop panels need to be replaced with Perspex.

It was noted that people are emailing the old Parish email address, the current email address will be put in the Parish Magazine.

Moles are back in the playing fields – and Cllr Mr A Edwards will look at this.

The visibility mirrors need to be repaired by the Pinfold – Unitary Cllr Mr K Turley will look into this.

Cllr Mr G Tonkinson reported that at Weston Heath – former Public House needs to be tidied, and no action has been taken due to issues with the insurance.

Mrs Edwards asked with the Public Noticeboards – what can be put in them, it was agreed to put a key behind the board for access.

The decommissioned noticeboard in the park needs to be repaired the Clerk will ask Tall Paul to look at it.

Some years ago it was suggested that a noticeboard should be put at Heath Hill, as previously agreed. The Parish Council will also look at this.

Cllr Mr D Himsworth, he has concerns over people claiming land that they do not own. One particular house has been reported to Enforcement. The chicanes at the B4379 should be looked at , the Parish Council had 6 options to look at and chose the chicanes.

Cllr G Tonkinson reported that on 20's plenty should be in place where there are children and the elderly.

There is also a missing solar bollard by the defib following the accident, this has been reported to Highways and they are claiming off the persons car insurance.

Mrs Hodgetts asked what is happening with regard to the Coronation – what are the Parish Council doing? Mugs etc., funds for the community. There is a Community Coronation meeting at 7pm at the Village Hall on the 16th March, this will be attended by Cllr A Edwards. The Council will call a special meeting of the Council to discuss what to do on the 22nd March.

7. Close

The Chairman thanked the members of the Parish Council and the public for attending the meeting, if there are any residents that want to join the Council to contact the Chairman or the Clerk. Meeting closed at 7.15pm.