

MINUTES

OF THE MEETING HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

on MONDAY 15th MARCH 2021 at 7.30pm

023/21 - Present via Zoom:

Cllr. G. Watts - Chairman
Cllr. L Gray
Cllr. S Jones
Cllr. B Orme
Cllr. Madeley
Cllr. C Pugh
Cllr. P Jenkins

Apologies: were received from Unitary Cllr. Motley

In Attendance

Clerk, Mrs J de Rusett and two members of the public

024/21 - Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting.

Members are requested to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests they may have in matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

No declarations of interest were made.

025/21 – Public question time

Ms Nicole Carter of No, 2 Woodland View attended to raise two matters: (1) the planning application relating to No's 1 and 4 Woodlands View, which was dealt with under 029/21 and (2) seeking assistance from the parish council with her purchase of some land behind No's 1 and 2 Woodland View which belongs to Shropshire Council. She has made two offers to purchase the land but is getting no definite response from SC and in the meantime problems which impact on her enjoyment of her property are being created on the land in question. Cllr. Pugh gave background information on how the land, which is landlocked, came into the possession of SC. The Chairman briefly perused the papers provided by Ms Carter and her neighbour Ms Reed who wishes to rent the land immediately behind her home, 1 Woodland View. The Chairman felt the matter was somewhat complicated and perhaps not a parish council matter. He felt Ms Carter needed to liaise with her neighbours over the problems. However, he agreed the parish council would contact SC asking them to respond as soon as possible to Ms Carter and Ms Reed so the matter can be resolved.

026/21 – Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2021

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15th February 2021 had been circulated and considered by the councillors. Two small amendments were made to correct typographical errors to the Minutes.

Cllr. Jenkins **proposed** that the Minutes be approved by the members.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Jones

Vote: The members present voted unanimously to approve Minutes of 15th February 2021 and they were duly signed by the Chairman as being a true record of the meeting.

027/21– Matters arising from the Minutes of 15th February 2021

No matters arose which are not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda.

028/21 - Reports

In response to the Community Governance Review, the Chairman and Cllr. Motley had a meeting with Mr McFarlane, Chairman of Rushbury Parish Council to see what areas the two parish councils could promote in a unified way. It was felt issues involving footpaths was one area and the other was speeding traffic on the B4371, which affects both parishes. A call has been put in to Rod Lake to discuss the matter and if no response has been received in two weeks' time, it will be pursued.

Cllr. Grey felt no assistance would be forthcoming from SC on this issue. The Chairman felt there was now so much pressure on SC to deal with speeding and that the use of police speed traps might increase: he is pressing for speeding motorist to be fined, not cautioned.

029/21 – Planning Application

21/00791/FUL – application by Connexus Housing Association for the installation of external wall insulation with render finish, to include associated alterations to eaves and verges, relocation of rainwater goods and SVPs, relating to No.1 and 4 Woodland View, Ticklerton.

Cllr. Jones, who is a builder, had viewed the 33 plans submitted with this application and found them to be completely incomprehensible and devoid of explanation as to how the works are to be configured to No's 2 and 3 which are in private ownership: the plans give no indication on how the works' impact on these properties is to be dealt with. No consultation had taken place with the private owners.

After discussion the Chairman **proposed** that the parish council objects to this application on the basis it cannot be considered until intelligible plans are submitted and a consultation with the private owners has taken place.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Jones

Vote: Proposal carried unanimously.

030/21 – Consideration of Correspondence and Communications

The councillors considered the following items:

1. 18.02.21 Email Clerk to Mr Singh in response to his emails concerning grit problems and infrastructure works requested for Mount View, Hope Bowdler.
2. 18.02.21 Email – Clerk's response to Mrs Joelson's email in which she requests action over speeding in Hope Bowdler and overgrown bushes and verges.

3. Bundle of emails from two residents of Woodland View, Ticklerton, concerning a plot of land owned by Shropshire Council about which they seek the parish council's support, together with emails from councillors dealing with the issue. To be discussed at meeting on 15.03.21
4. Bundle of emails passing between the Clerk and David Gradwell of SC Highway's Dept and the Highways Dept. in Craven Arms seeking information about the cleaning of road signs on the B4371.
5. 10.03.21 – email from Danial Webb, Scrutiny & Overview Officer at Shropshire Council seeking views on SC's highways winter service plan. Responses required by 14.03.21
6. Elections Bulletin No. 2 from Shropshire Council

Responses:

Item 2: Cllr. Jenkins advised the overgrown vegetation has now been cut back and removed.

031/21 – Highways and Environmental matters, to include measures to enforce the speed limit through Hope Bowdler

031/21/1 The anti-speeding measures discussed in February with the Highways engineers had been investigate by the Clerk. She had circulated details of the Entry Gates mentioned. They cost up to £1400 each and had been considered not very effective by the engineers.

She had obtained a quotation for the speed activated signs (VAR signs) obtained by Munslow Council. It is:

1 x 600 mm VAR sign	£2,420.00
1 x solar panel to operate it	£ 735.00
Installation by the manufacturers	£ 325.00
Delivery charge	<u>£ 90.00</u>
	<u>£3,570.50</u>

Plus VAT of approx. £714 – which the parish council can reclaim.

Mr Gradwell of Highways had agreed to provide a post to connect the VAR sign to at no cost to the parish.

The parish council has since 2019 been holding £3,145.35 by way of a Neighbour Fund grant. The Clerk fears this may be recouped if not spent soon. Thus the parish council could purchase one VAR unit now by combining the fund with £425 from reserves.

It was debated which end of the village the sole VAR sign should be installed and it was agreed the worst speeding offenders came from the Much Wenlock direction. The Chairman questioned whether the residents of Hope Bowdler wanted a VAR sign in their village. Cllr. Jenkins advised he has a list of 30 people who have approached him seeking speed reduction measures. He had visited a nearby village and watched motorist slow down when confronted by a VAR sign. Cllr. Orme supported this view. After debate Cllr. Jenkins **proposed** that the parish council purchases one VAR sign from its own funds, to be installed at the Mount View end of the village.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Jones

Vote: Six votes in favour, one against. Proposal carried.

The Clerk was asked to: obtain a second quotation; check on the maintenance costs and the insurance position.

031/21/2: Cllrs. Pugh and Jenkins both raised the dangerous state of trees on the verge of the Hope Bowdler to Soudley road, adjacent to Waen Farm. The Clerk was asked to take the matter up with Highways urgently.

031/21/3: Cllr. Jones raised the dangerous state of the road from Hope Bowdler to Ticklerton. His partner had today suffered a ruined new tyre due to the potholes. The Clerk was asked to raise this with Highways.

032/21– Financial Matters: Finance Report for March 2021

1. **Precept Fund:** balance b/fwd from February 2021 **£4,439.40**

Cheques to be authorised for payment on 15.03.21

1. Clerk's net salary for March 2021	£153.93		
2. HMRC – PAYE on Clerk's March 2021 salary	£ 38.40		
3. Data Protection ICO annual renewal fee	£ 40.00		
4. <u>Administrative expenses paid by Clerk in</u>			
<u>March 2021 on behalf of parish council and reclaimed</u>			
• Contribution towards telephone/Broadband provision for March 2021 @ £20 p.m.	£20.00		
• 1 pkt. A4 copy paper	£ 2.85		
• Travelling expenses claimed at 45p per mile			
14.03.21 -Travelling to Hope Bowdler and Eaton to get cheques signed, bank reconciliation approved and to leave Minutes & correspondence with Chairman for Zoom meeting, to put Election and Census posters on notice boards around the parish			
Total mileage: 38 miles	<u>£17.10</u>		
Total of Clerk's March 2021 admin. expenses	<u>£39.95</u>	<u>£ 39.95</u>	
		<u>£272.28</u>	<u>£ 272.28</u>
			<u>£4,167.12</u>

2. **Ring-fenced sums held by Parish Council**

Environmental Grant: balance b/fwd from February 2021 **£293.53**
 Less: Invoice from G Reynolds for work in November 2020 £147.60
£145.93 **£145.93**

Transparency Code grant: - bal. b/fwd from February 2021 **£271.17**

Neighbourhood Fund grant/CIL received 26.04.19 **£3,145.35**

Cllr. Pugh **Proposed** that the cheques listed above be authorised for payment.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Grey

Vote: Proposal unanimously carried by the members.

3. **Total funds held by parish council following presentation of the above cheques**

• Precept Fund	£4,167.12
• Environmental Grant Fund	£ 145.93
• Transparency Code grant	£ 271.17
• Neighbourhood Fund	<u>£3,145.35</u>
	<u>£7,729.57</u>

4. Bank Statement/Cash Book Reconciliation

HSBC Bank Statement numbered 113 was presented to members to verify the Clerk's reconciliation between the bank statements and the parish council's Cash Book. Cllr. Jenkins carried out the verification.

033/21 - Questions for the Chairman

No questions were raised.

It was agreed that the 19th April 2021 meeting of the parish council should be held via Zoom due to the ongoing pandemic restrictions on meetings, but on current advice the May meetings (Annual Parish Meeting, Annual General Meeting and ordinary business meeting) will be open meetings, held in Hope Boulder Village Hall.

There being no further business to conduct, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm

Date of the next Parish Council meeting

Monday 19th April 2021 – 7.30pm via Zoom: joining instructions will be included in the Agenda.

SIGNED Graham Watts

DATED: 19th April 2021