EATON UNDER HEYWOOD & HOPE BOWDLER PARISH COUNCIL

**M I N U T E S**

# OF THE MEETING HELD AT TICKLERTON VILLAGE HALL

**MONDAY 16h MAY 2016 at 7.30pm**

**058/16 Present & Apologies for absence**

**Present**

Cllr. G Watts - Chairman

Cllr. S Jones

Cllr. C Pugh

Cllr. M Young

Cllr. L Gray

## Apologies for absence were received and accepted from

Cllr. T Madeley

Cllr. B Orme

### In Attendance

Clerk, Mrs J de Rusett

Unitary Cllr. C Motley

**059/16: Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting.**

Members are requested to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary 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 were made.

**060/16 - Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting 18th April 2016**

The Minutes of the meeting of 18th April 2016, having been previously circulated to all members and considered by them, were approved by the members and signed by the Chairman as being a true record of the meeting.

**061/16: Matters arising from the Minutes of the 18th April 2016 not dealt with elsewhere in the Agenda**

No matters arising were raised.

**062/16 - Unitary Councillor's Report**

Cllr. Motley raised a few issues in addition to the report contained in the Annual Parish Meeting's Minutes. She fears the NHS Future Fit initiative is faltering and the issue of Urgent Care Centres seem to have gone into abeyance. The next round of budget cuts may force Shropshire Council to close leisure centres unless town councils are prepared to take over their running. She believes Church Stretton Town Council is going to ask outlying parish council to precept for part of the cost of running the Leisure Centre and the library in Church Stretton. She also believes taking over the administration of leisure centres may be problematic as some have been set up as trusts. If the school takes over the Church Stretton leisure centre, its opening hours would be limited to normal school opening hours. Lisa Bedford has some statistics on how many people from outlying parishes use the library and leisure centre in Church Stretton. The members felt it was better to raise the general precept to cover these issues than to make all out-lying parishes pay for facilities which may only be used by a few. The problem is if the Shropshire Council's budget goes up more than 2%, a referendum has to be held, which will cost around £800,000.

Cllr. Motley also reported on the present situation concerning the Sayang House planning application for the new dwelling. Trystan Williams, Planning Officer, has been in touch and says the agent believes the parish council didn't understand the plans. Her view is the application should go to the planning committee. If it does go forward, one of the councillor must go to speak at the committee meeting. We had not been able to challenge it at the outline planning stage as the five year land supply was not in place and SAMDEV not then adopted.

She also reported on the disappointing visit to Shropshire Council by the Minister for local government matters, Greg Clarke MP. He had refused to accept any of the arguments put forward that Shropshire has been historically underfunded and was burdened with a large number of elderly people and children with complex needs to fund. His suggestion was it should amalgamate with Telford & Wrekin in order to achieve savings.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Motley for her reports.

**063/16- Reports from Councillors**

Cllr. Gray reported that the food bank in Church Stretton urgently needs more donations.

The Town Council is concerned about the scale and speed at which Shropshire Council is withdrawing support from local amenities, such as the leisure centre. Full details are available from the town council offices.

There was no LJC report: Cllr. Jones will be attending the next one at Acton Scott on the 9th June 2016.

**064/16 - Consideration of the Internal Auditor's Report on the Accounts for 2015/2016.**

The Report prepared by the Internal Auditor, Mrs Sue Hackett and dated 1st May 2016 was read and considered by the members. The report raised no criticisms or matters which need to be addressed.

**065/16 - Consideration and approval of the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement in the Annual Return for the year ended 31.03.16**

Copies of the Annual Return for the year ended 31.03.2016 were circulated to the members. The Internal Auditor had audited the accounts and signed the Internal Auditor's Report in the Annual Return.

Cllr. Jones proposed that the Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement in the Annual Return be approved; seconded by Cllr. Pugh and unanimously carried by the members.

The Clerk and the Chairman duly signed the Annual Return, in readiness for forwarding to Mazars, the External Auditors.

**066/16 - Review of Financial Risk Assessment adopted 24th October 2011**

The Clerk had reviewed the Financial Risk Assessment and made minor amendments to it, which were approved by the members. A revised Risk Assessment was signed by the Chairman

**067/16 - Correspondence and communications**

There was only one item of correspondence to consider -

13.05.16 - Report/Consultation setting out link to latest information about services at risk of being decommissioned by Shropshire Council. (NB This appears to include Lisa Bedford's role.) Members are invited to respond.

**068/16 - Finance reports for May 2016 and cheques to be authorised for payment**

068/16/1 - Finance Report

**Precept balance b/fwd. from 18th April 2016 £2,352.11**

**ADD:**  Precept for 2016/2017 rec'd 27.04.16 £3,240.00 **£5,592.11**

**LESS**: cheques authorised for payment on 16th May 2016

1. Clerk’s net salary for May 2016 £125.96
2. HMRC – PAYE on Clerk’s May 2016 salary £ 31.60
3. SDH Accounting - 2015/2016 internal audit fee £ 85.00
4. Came & Co. - 2016/2017 insurance premium £273.75
5. Eaton PCC - annual graveyard maintenance grant £100.00
6. Hope Bowdler PCC - annual graveyard maintenance grant £100.00

7. Expenses incurred by the Clerk in May

2016 in connection with Parish Council business:

* Contribution to Broadband/telephone and

office overheads - May 2016 £10.00

* 12 x 2nd class stamps £ 6.60
* 1 x HP364 black & 1 red ink cartridge £16.40
* Travelling expenses claimed at 30p per mile:

24.04.16 -to Condover to take Accounts to auditor

09.05.16 - to Condover to collect Accounts from

auditor & to put May agendas on notice

boards in parishes - total mileage 100miles

16.05.16 - To Ticklerton Village Hall for

PC meeting - 46 miles

Total: 146 @ 30p per mile £43.80

Total of Clerk's expenses April 2016 £76.80 £ 76.80 £793.11 £ 793.11 **Balance of Precept as at 16.05.16 £4,799.00**

**Ring Fenced Funds**

**1. Highways & Environmental Grant**

Bal. of Highways & Environmental Grant b/fwd from April £1,518.73

Add: 2016/2017 Grant received 27.04.16 £3,000.00

Less: Invoice from Mr Clive Pugh, Clunbury £ 355.00

£4,163.73 **£4,163.73**

**2. Transparency Code Grant** balance b/fwd from April 2016 **£ 840.20**

068/16/2 - HSBC Bank Statement number 55 dated 4th May 2016

presented to councillors for verification of cash book/bank statement reconciliation, and duly verified by Cllr. S Jones

**069/16 - Minor Highways & Environmental matters**

Three members mentioned having seen the new Highways Maintenance Officer (Graham Reynolds) at work around the parish. The bus shelters have been cleaned and road signs washed.

Cllr. Gray reported that the passing places in Bull Lane need clearing again and of two large pot holes which need attention, one in Bull Lane and one on the lane from Soudley to Chelmick, known locally as Shalfields Lane.

**070/16 - Questions for the Chairman**

No questions were raised for the Chairman.

There being no further business to conduct, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm

**Date & Venue of next Meeting**

Monday 20th June 2016, 7.30pm at Hope Bowdler Village Hall

**MINUTES SIGNED BY:**

**DATED**