

## **MINUTES**

### **OF THE MEETING HELD on MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2022** **7.30pm at TICKLERTON VILLAGE HALL**

#### **117/22 - Present**

Cllr. P Jenkins who acted as Chairman for this meeting  
Cllr. S Jones  
Cllr. L. Gray  
Cllr. C Pugh

#### **Apologies received and accepted from:**

Cllr. Graham Watts and Cllr. Bruce Orme

#### **In Attendance**

The Clerk, Unitary Cllr. C Motley and three members of the public.

#### **118/22- 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 declaration of interest were made.

#### **119/22 – Public question time**

No matters were raised.

#### **120/22 – Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 had been circulated and considered by the councillors. No objections were raised to the Minutes.

Cllr. Jones **proposed** that the Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 be approved by the members. Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Gray

**Vote:** Unanimously members present voted to approve the Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and they were duly signed by the acting Chairman as being a true record of the meeting.

#### **121/22 – Matters arising from the Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

No matters arising from the Minutes were raised.

#### **122/22 – Reports**

Cllr. Motley advised that due to a further SC Cabinet reshuffle, she is now responsible for Communities, Adult & Social Care and Public Health matters, the latter of which will involve her in the new integrated health care system.

There are now three boundary reviews actively in progress: (a) the constituency boundary review, (b) a divisional boundaries review and (c) a town and parish councils boundary review. The proposed constituency boundary review is available to view on-line. The divisional boundaries are proving difficult as the government wants 3500 residents in each division: due to much development in Shrewsbury, Shifnal and Ludlow agreeing new divisional boundaries which accommodate the increased housing is proving difficult. Cllr. Motley thinks parish and town council boundary reviews should be placed on hold for the time being as they may have to be redrawn as a result of the divisional boundaries review, which could affect existing rural communities.

SC's financial situation remains difficult as the long-awaited Local Government Financial Statement from the government has still not been received and is not now due until 21<sup>st</sup> December 2022. As always, the cost of adult and social care dominates the budget and pressure continues to come from the NHS onto local authorities to provide care for those people currently bed blocking NHS beds.

The Local Plan remains unresolved and won't now be available until after the New Year. Shropshire is being pressurised by a local landowner who wants to build a 3000 acre urban settlement in Shropshire and wants it included in SC's Local Plan. SC are objecting as it is intended to house mainly non-Shropshire residents in the proposed new development.

After Cllr. Motley's report, Cllr. Jenkins asked Cllr. Motley why the parish council has been notified by the planning department of an application, 22/04912/CPE - but has been told it is not entitled to make any comment on the application. Cllr. Motley was shown the supporting plans and photographs, which relate to a development near Acton Scott but sited in this parish, which was built and has operated without planning permission. Cllr. Motley was unaware of this development and could not understand why the parish council was being forbidden to comment on it. She will take the issue up with the planning department.

On behalf of a parishioner, the Clerk asked why, when that parishioner had visited the Shirehall recently to try and progress an adult social care matter, she had found the car park almost empty and was told by a bystander that almost no one worked at Shirehall now; she found the front door locked and had difficulty attracting the attention of a receptionist, who grudgingly accepted a letter. Cllr. Motley responded that the door was not locked – there is a keypad near it, but did not explain how one accesses the key code. She said most people were still working from home – but was unable to offer an explanation why that should be and whether it was appropriate or efficient for the administration of local government for them to do so. Cllr. Motley asked the Clerk to provide her with the parishioner's name and telephone number so she could contact her.

### **123/22 – Planning applications and matters considered**

**22/04872/FUL** application for the erection of a single plot exception site (SPE) affordable dwelling and garage, amendment to vehicular access and installation of a septic tank, on land adjacent to Manor Farm, Chelmick.

The parish council had provided a confirmation of local connection for the applicants, and has now studied the plans and their application carefully. It was noted there were no public objections; pre-application advice had been sought from SC. SC's Ecology team had made suggestions which the applicants confirmed they are complying with, and they had submitted a revised scheme for access to the plot from the highways, as requested and a sustainable scheme for the disposal of surface water, which will be accommodated by soakaways.

After consideration of the application, Cllr. Pugh **proposed** that the parish council should support this application and raise no objections to it.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Gray

**Vote:** Councillors voted unanimously to support the proposal.

**22/04912/CPE (NB CPE indicates the applicant is seeking a Certificate of Existing Use)**

an application for a lawful development certificate in respect of an existing glamping site with units in semi-fixed positions and mobile shepherd's huts with connected services/utilities, logs stores, septic tanks and a drainage field to serve the glamping site, all located in woodlands to west of Hatton Grove Farm. (Near Acton Scott Farm but within Eaton Under Heywood & Hope Bowdler Parish Council.)

On the face of the application SC had stated that it was sent to the parish council for information only and they were not entitled to comment on it. The Clerk had telephoned to query this and was told that the applicant is just asking if the development is lawful, given that it has been up and operational for 10 years, albeit without any planning permission.

Apparently only SC can decide whether its continued use is lawful. If SC decides it is not lawful, then a full planning application will have to be lodged, at which point the parish council can comment. The plans, photographs and publicity material lodged with the application showed a very sophisticated and expensive looking set up. Local knowledge suggests there are also two holiday cottages in these woodlands.

Councillors discussed the matter with Cllr. Motley: it was felt that it would set a grievous precedent if this glamping site was given in effect retrospective permission: this would open the way for other landowners to ride roughshod over the planning laws, which most people adhere to. It was felt the application had come forward now as further development is likely at Acton Scott due to the closing of the museum, so they are perhaps putting their house in order. It was agreed that the parish council will write a letter of protest to the Planning Officer (Dunya Fourie) about this unsatisfactory matter.

**124/22 – Consideration of on-going Community Governance Review negotiations with Rushbury Parish Council and Acton Scott Parish Meeting re boundary changes/amalgamation.**

The Chairman had instructed the Clerk to draft a letter to all residents of Hatton advising them of the boundary review and sending them a copy of the proposal to amalgamate with Rushbury Parish Council. Councillors approved the letter which the Clerk had drafted.

**125/22 – Consideration of Correspondence and Communications**

Correspondence/communications received during November 2022 to be considered at meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022

1. Letter, Clerk to Mr F Acton. Acton Scott Parish Meeting, with information as requested concerning proposed boundary changes and his acknowledgement.
2. Email from Shropshire Council inviting the parish council's response to a proposed tenancy strategy, in particular in respect of their proposal to phase out Flexible Tenancies. Responses to be received by SC by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Contact [melanie.holland@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:melanie.holland@shropshire.gov.uk) for further details.
3. Email from SALC advising that free Broadband for village halls is available, through Rural Services Network. Contact [rsnonline.org.uk](http://rsnonline.org.uk) for details.

4. Email via SALC from Jessica Lancod-Frost ([Jessica.Lancod-frost@nalc.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.Lancod-frost@nalc.gov.uk)) concerning the Boundaries Commission for England (BCE) 2023 Boundary Review. BCE has consulted widely and has produced a consultation review on the redrawing of constituency boundaries and parish councils are invited to study the proposed review and provide any feedback by the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Contact <https://www.bcereviews.org.uk> to read the latest version and map of the proposed review Ludlow Constituency. Any comments or observations to be sent using BCE's Partner Toolkit.
5. Highways Works notifications:
  - 5.1 – B4370 Marshbrook to Hordley road will be closed for carriageway repairs from 19.00 – 06.00 on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022.
  - 5.2 - A49 will be closed to the junction of the B4365 junction to the Racecourse, for Network Rail drainage works, from 23.00 – 09.00 on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Diversion information can be obtained from Customer Services on 0345 6789006 or [streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk)

### **126/22 – Highways and Environmental matters**

The Clerk has spoken to Ray Hall who says he has cleaned and repaired Hope Bowdler bus shelter and obtained the materials to paint the bridge in Eaton and will do the work when weather permits. Cllr. Jenkins did not believe that the wood on the apex of the bus shelter roof had been replaced. The Clerk will raise the matter with Mr Hall.

Cllr. Jones reported the Police had been carrying out a number of speed checks in the area recently.

Cllr. Pugh advised that yet again Darby Lane had been badly flooded by Whitefields Farm bridge. The culvert under the road is too small to carry the volume of water from the three streams which converge on it. The Clerk will raise the matter again with Highways.

### **127/22 - Finance Report for November 2022**

<b>1. Precept Funds – balance b/fwd from October 2022</b>	<b>£6,611.79</b>
<b>Less: Payments to be made on 21st November 2022 from Precept Fund</b>	
• HSBS bank charges for October 2022	£ 5.40
• Clerk's net salary for November 2022	£166.60
• HMRC - PAYE on Clerk's November 2022 salary	£ 41.60
• <u>Admin expenses incurred in November 2022 paid by Clerk and reclaimed by her.</u>	
• Contribution towards telephone/internet provision for November 2022 @ £20 p.m.	£20.00
• Electricity for heating Ticklerton Hall	£ 3.00
• Travelling expenses @ 45p per mile	
21.11.22 Ticklerton Village Hall – 32 miles	<u>£14.40</u>
Total of admin. expenses	£37.40
	<u>£ 37.40</u>
	<u>£251.00</u>
<b>Balance of Precept fund c/fwd to January 2023</b>	<b>£6,360.79</b>

### **Ring Fenced funds held by Parish Council**

<u>Environmental/Maintenance Fund</u> balance b/fwd from Oct 2022	£1,130.93	
<b>Less:</b> Invoice from Mr Ray Hall for maintenance works	<u>£ 94.10</u>	
Balance c/fwd to January 2023	£1,036.8	<b>£1,036.83</b>

Neighbourhood Fund – balance b/fwd from October 2022 **£451.59**

Cllr. Jenkins **proposed** that the cheques listed in the Finance Report for November be approved for payment.

**Proposal seconded** by Cllr. Jones

**Vote:** Councillors voted unanimously to support the proposal.

### **Total funds held by Parish Council following authorisation & presentation of the above cheques.**

• <b>Precept Fund</b>	<b>£6,360.79</b>
• <b>Environmental/Asset Maintenance Fund</b>	<b>£1,036.83</b>
• <b>Neighbourhood Fund grant</b>	<b><u>£ 451.59</u></b>
	<b><u>£7,849.21</u></b>

### **2. Bank Statement/Cash Book reconciliation.**

The Bank statements for July, August, September, October & November 2022 were reconciled with the Parish Council's Cash Book by Cllr. Jones

### **3. Initial consideration of the parish council's 2023/2024 Precept Budget (to be finalised at the January 2023 meeting).**

The Clerk had circulated ahead of the meeting a draft Precept Budget for the financial year 2023-2024. Last year's Precept was £6,472. Subject to confirmation in January, after due consideration it was agreed that the 2023/2024's Precept Budget will be approximately £5,588, but to be confirmed at the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023. As the NALC pay scales had not been available when the 2022/2023 Precept was set, the appropriate hourly rate for the Clerk's salary could not be determined. The NALC scales are now available and show that the Clerk has been underpaid in 2022/2023 by £149.60. Councillors unanimously agreed the £149.60 should be paid to the Clerk before the year end (31.03.23).

### **128/22 - Questions for the Chairman**

There being no further business to conduct, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.45pm

**Date & Venue of the next Parish Council meeting**  
**Monday 16th January 2023, 7.30pm at Hope Bowdler Village Hall.**

**SIGNED** Peter Jenkins

**16<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**DATED** \_\_\_\_\_