

MINUTES

OF THE MEETING HELD on MONDAY 17th APRIL 2023
7.30pm at TICKLERTON VILLAGE HALL

038/23 - Present

Cllr. Graham Watts - Chairman
Cllr. T. Madeley
Cllr. S Jones
Cllr. L. Gray
Cllr. C Pugh
Cllr. B Orme

Apologies received and accepted from:

Cllr. Peter Jenkins

In Attendance

The Clerk, Unitary Councillor Motley and one member of the public.

039/23 - 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.

040/23 – Public question time

No issues were raised.

041/23 – Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2023

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th March 2023 had been circulated and considered by the councillors. No objections were raised to the Minutes.

Cllr. Jones **proposed** that the Minutes of 20th March 2023 be approved by the members. Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Gray

Vote: Unanimously members present voted to approve the Minutes of 20th March 2023 and they were duly signed by the Chairman as being a true record of the meeting.

042/23 – Matters arising from the Minutes of 20th March 2023

No matters were raised.

043/23 – Report from Unitary Cllr. Motley

Cllr. Motley reported that the conclusions of the various boundary reviews were looming. They are aiming to achieve 3600 residents per division: Corvedale only has 1300 so there is a danger of parishes being amalgamated to achieve 3600 or so residents.

A revised Local Plan has been five years in production but the Planning Inspector keeps raising problems which need to be resolved, including providing housing for the Black Country and sites for the traveller community.

Place Plans are also being revised so parish councils are having to consider whether to update their Parish Plans: Eaton's is dated April 2013. This led to discussions. If we are to amalgamate with Rushbury Parish Council, is there any point in revising our Parish Plan now? Equally, how would it be funded? We had a grant of £750 last time and that barely covered the cost, even with a lot of free help from Lisa Bedford. Cllr. Motley advised that Vicky Turner has taken over Lisa Bedford's role and suggested we contact Vicky to see what money and/or help is available for a revised Parish Plan. Alternatively, we could just re-write our last Place Plan entry.

Finally, Cllr. Motley reminded that voter photo ID is now required for the forthcoming elections and suggested we raise the matter at the Annual Parish Meeting, in the Parish Magazine and by notices on our notice boards.

044/23 – Planning applications considered

No new applications had been received but the councillors discussed the ongoing lack of response from the Enforcement Department of SC's Planning Department re the Oaklands camping site in Harton. Mr Beeston at SC has not responded to a further reminder from the parish council that it had submitted an enforcement request in April 2022 and had received no response to it. Cllrs Jones and Orme noted that the site was very busy and was generating a lot of traffic which caused congestion problems for local residents, agricultural and commercial vehicles in the narrow lanes. Local residents are outraged that a site with no planning permission has been allowed by Shropshire Council to continue operating commercially for yet another year. The Clerk was requested to write to SC yet again, seeking action.

045/23 – Boundary Review – to consider response from Acton Scott Parish Meeting concerning possible transfer of residents from Hatton to Acton Scott.

An email dated 2nd April 2023 had been received from Mr Francis Acton on behalf of Acton Scott Parish Meeting, stating that he wrote to all the residents of Hatton asking if they wished to remain in Eaton & Hope Bowdler Parish or if they wanted to transfer to Acton Scott parish. He advised: "2 indicated they wanted to join Acton Scott, 0 wished to remain in Eaton & Hope Bowdler Parish." Mr Acton went on to state "This is a majority of electors in favour of moving to Acton Scott". Councillors were baffled by this statement as it seemed to have no basis in logic or mathematics. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Acton seeking clarification of his views.

046/23 – Consideration of Correspondence and Communications

List of Correspondence/Communications to be considered at meeting on 17th April 2023

1. Email from SALC inviting the parish council to complete a consultation form concerning the proposed new Infrastructure Levy. Contact Chris Borg, Policy Manager, NALC – nalc@nalc.gov.uk – for details.

2. Confirmation from Shropshire Council that our Precept of £5,588 will be credited to our account on or after 12th April.
3. Details of UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Applications to be received by 12th May 2023 by 5pm. Contact <https://www.investingshropshire.co.uk/relovcating-and-investing/uk-shared-prosperity-fund/>.
4. Email Clerk to Shropshire Council’s Planning Enforcement Team concerning the lack of progress on 22/08713/ENF – Oakland Leisure and camping site.
5. Email from Nick Hall, “We don’t buy crime” co-ordinator, West Mercia Police, advising the parish council that the Police and Crime Commissioner will pay 25% towards the cost of provision for SmartWater kits for all households in the parish (£8.90 each). Statistics indicate SmartWater areas suffer 38% less crime. Signage is erected by the PCC free of charge to the parish.

Responses: Item 5: The Clerk was asked to advise at the next meeting of the cost of SmartWater kits for the parish and the amount of Reserves in parish council finances.

047/23 – Highways and Environmental matters

Cllr. Pugh advised of a problem with the railings along the stream opposite of Lower Farm, Ticklerton. Part of the bank has fallen away and seemingly part of the railings; the road surface has eroded leaving a dangerous drop into the stream. The Clerk will view the site and report it to Highways.

The Clerk was also asked to raise with Highways the fact that when road works are completed and the crews depart the various sites, their “Road Closed” signs remain in place, resulting in local residents having to make needless diversionary journeys. They should be removed along with litter often left behind at the sites. Littering remains a problem around Harton and Ticklerton.

048/23 - Finance Report for April 2023

Precept Funds – balance b/fwd from March 2023 **£4,988.13**

Less: Payments to be made on 17th April 2023 from Precept Fund

• Clerk’s net salary for April 2023	£166.60**	
• HMRC - PAYE on Clerk’s April 2023 salary	£ 41.60	
• DM Payroll Services Ltd - 2023/4 fees	£120.00	
• Information Solutions Ltd – website hosting fee 2023/2024	£228.00	
• <u>Admin expenses incurred in April 2023</u> <u>paid by Clerk and reclaimed by her.</u>		
• Contribution towards telephone/internet provision for April 2023 @ £20 p.m.	£20.00	
○ Book of 8 2 nd class stamps	£ 6.00	
• Travelling expenses @ 45p per mile		
17.04.23 Village Hall – 32 miles	£14.40	
Total of April admin. expenses	£40.40	£ 40.40
		£596.60
Balance of Precept fund c/fwd to May 2023		<u>£ 596.60</u>
		<u>£4,391.53</u>

** The Clerk's increased pay award, payable from 01.04.23, has not been applied by the Payroll Administrator. The error will be adjusted in May.

Cllr. Jones **proposed** that cheques totalling £596.60 be approved for payment

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr, Orme

Vote: Members voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

Ring Fenced funds held by Parish Council

Environmental/Maintenance Fund bal. b/fwd from March 2023 **£911.78**

Neighbourhood Fund – balance b/fwd from March 2023 **£451.59**

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

• Precept Fund	£4,391.53
• Environmental/Asset Maintenance Fund	£ 911.78
• Neighbourhood Fund grant	<u>£ 451.59</u>
	<u>£5,754.90</u>

2. Bank Statement/Cash Book reconciliation.

The Clerk's reconciliation between the Cash Book and Bank Statement 138 was verified by Councillor Jones.

049/23 – To consider the following audit 2022 – 2023 matters

049/23/1: Approval of the Schedule of all Receipts and Payments for 2022 – 2023

Cllr Orme **proposed** that the Schedule be approved by the members.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Jones

Vote: Proposal carried unanimously by the members.

049/23/2: Approval of the Year-End Cash Book/Bank Statement reconciliation

The Chairman **proposed** that the Year End Cash Book/Bank Statement reconciliation be approved by the members

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Gray

Vote: Proposal carried unanimously by the members.

050/23 - Questions for the Chairman

No questions were raised.

There being no further business to conduct, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.35pm

Date & Venue of the next Parish Council meetings: Annual Parish Meeting & Parish Council Meeting – Monday 15th May 2023, 7.30pm at Hope Bowdler Village Hall

SIGNED Graham Watts

15th May 2023

DATED _____