

MINUTES

OF THE MEETING HELD on 21st FEBRUARY 2022, at 7.30pm at TICKLERTON VILLAGE HALL

012/22 - Present

Cllr. G Watts - Chairman

Cllr. P Jenkins

Cllr. L Gray

Cllr. S Jones

Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. T Madeley.

In Attendance: Clerk, Mrs J de Rusett, Unitary Cllr. Motley and three members of the public.

013/22 - 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 declarations of interest were made.

014/22 – Public question time

Mr Allen of Birtley raised the appalling state of the lane between Soudley and Birtley, which he had raised on an earlier occasion. He advised that a few pots holes had been filled but the majority of the road is seriously eroded, to the extent it is more cart track than highway. Although it is a narrow lane, it gets quite a lot of traffic, but in its present state it poses a danger of damage to vehicles. It was confirmed the Clerk will again contact Highways asking for the road to be completely resurfaced.

015/22 – Consideration of and response to a request for confirmation of a strong local connection.

Mr P Davies and Miss C Prince of Chelmick asked the parish council to provide them with a confirmation of their strong local connection to this parish, so they can pursue an application for an affordable home. The Chairman went through the criteria to establish a strong connection. The parish council was satisfied that the criteria was fulfilled and will contact Shropshire Council confirming their findings.

016/22 – Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2022

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

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

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Jones

Vote: The members present voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the meeting on 17th January 2022 and they were duly signed by the Chairman as being a true record of the meeting.

017/22 – Matters arising from the Minutes of 17th January 2022

011/22: Cllr. Madeley had asked councillors to support Rushbury P.C.'s petition that parish councils be allowed to resume remote platform (Zoom) parish council meetings.

The members present debated this request and were all in favour of it.

The Chairman **proposed** the council should support Rushbury's petition.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Jenkins

Vote: members voted unanimously to support the proposal.

The Clerk was asked to confirm this parish council's support to the resumption of meetings by remote platform, and to also send it to Mr Philip Dunne MP.

018/22 – Unitary Cllr. Morley's Report

Cllr. Motley reported on a number of matters. First was SC's budget negotiations with the government: they had sought a three year budget, but only a 12 month budget has been forthcoming and that was for a lot less money than is needed. Extra money available in the "levelling up" scheme had been applied for by Craven Arms, Oswestry and Shrewsbury but were all turned down. Shropshire received the third lowest grant in the country for Public Health.

Shropshire Council put together a good application for public transport funding: the Cabinet will take a final decision on bids, but as they slashed the available funding from £5 billion to £13 million, the scheme is 100% oversubscribed.

SC has been advised that if it wants to bid for levelling up funds it will need to join a County Deal, that is, it will have to join up with a neighbouring local authority and probably to appoint a mayor to be in overall charge: for SC this would mean joining Telford & Wrekin. As far as Cllr. Motley can see, all this would achieve is yet another layer of bureaucracy. Next discussed was Acton Scott Museum, the land for which is leased from the Acton family; the lease still has a while to run. It is heavily subsidised by SC. Questionnaires were sent out to seek views on what its future should be and over 1,000 responses were received plus a public meeting in Acton Scott was well-attended. The Acton family put forward a number of plans to keep it functioning. A final decision is awaited.

Cllr. Motley then discussed the Community Governance Review (boundary changes). She indicated Acton Scott Parish are keen to absorb Hatton and Birtley, which would involve a number of houses and farms and about 22 adult residents. It was agreed the Clerk will contact all the householders in Birtley and Hatton who are on the Electoral Roll and invited them to attend the Annual Parish Meeting, in order to seek their views on the matter. The Chairman will get in touch with Rushbury PC to see if a closer alliance can be forged between the two parish councils in preference to any closer links to Church Stretton Town Council. The Chairman will report back to the March meeting. The new chairman of Church Stretton Town Council is Mr Munro.

019/22– planning application

21/05955/FUL – a retrospective application made pursuant to S.73a of the T&CP Act for the erection of a building to house alpacas at Mount Flirt, Soudley, SY6 7HQ.

The council had considered an identical application at its October meeting (21/ 04516/FUL), proceeding with the application on the basis it was yet to be built. This second application

made it clear that in October 2021 the building had already been constructed and was in use. Photographs submitted with the 21/0456/FUL application were stated to be examples of the type of building proposed: in fact it is more likely they were of the actual building which had been built before the first application was even submitted.

The council had objected to the application in October 2021 and remained of the view that it was overdevelopment of the site and was an over large, ugly and unsuitable industrial style building to be constructed in an AONB.

The Chairman **Proposed** that the parish council should again object to this application.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Jenkins

Vote: Councillors voted unanimously in support of the proposal.

The Chairman discussed applications 19/0297/FUL and 20/07296/ENF, Oaklands Leisure at Harton. Enquiries were being made by local residents as to whether enforcement action is to be taken by SC. Cllr. Motley did not know but asked to be sent information about the site, preferably with current photographs.

020/22 – To consider action to be taken in connection with the Community Governance Review and to prepare a response.

This matter had been dealt with during the course of Cllr. Motley's report – 018/22.

021/22 – Consideration of Correspondence & Communications received in February 2022

1. Confirmation from Highways Dept. that they have logged the parish council's complaint about the semi-permanently blocked drain by the old railway bridge in Eaton. They respond that we will be updated when appropriate.
2. Announcement about arrangements for those taking part in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons. Visit www.queensjubileebeacons.com for information.
3. Email from Francis Bridgewater, West Mercia Police expressing disappointment that this parish council will not be getting involved in the SmartWater project.
4. Notification from Planning re 21/03832/FUL, application for erection of an annexe following demolition of existing stable/shed building, to include change of use of land to domestic curtilage at Hazler Farm, Hope Bowdler. Planning permission granted 21.01.22
5. Paper from Cllr. C Motley re future of Acton Scott Historic Working Farm Museum.
6. Email from SALC requesting that parish councils submit their response concerning the Community Governance Review.
7. Email Clerk to Mr James Bent requesting that he attend to repairing the roof of Hope Bowdler bus shelter. He confirmed on 9.2.22 that he will attend to it urgently.
8. Email Clerk to Cllr. Colin Carson, Church Stretton, advising that this parish council is withdrawing from the Church Stretton Emergency Plan. He responds on 15.2.22 wishing the parish council success with its own emergency plan.
9. Email from Chairman of gleam-uk.org (Green Lanes Environment Movement) advising the parish council that there is to be a Government consultation on the Glover Landscapes

Review, which is an opportunity to stop “off-roading” on green lanes and unsealed unclassified roads in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The consultation closes on 8th April 2022 and is available on: <https://consult-defra.gov.uk/future/landscapes-strategy/government-response-to-the-landscape-review/>. Questions 14 – 17 are important. Contact Gleam on 01423 771713 for more information.

Responses: It was agreed the Clerk will respond to the off-roading consultation paper, supporting the view that vehicles should not be permitted to use green lanes.

022/22 – Highways and Environmental matters

The Clerk reported that Mr Bent had been asked to repair the roof of the Hope Bowdler bus shelter. She had driven past it tonight and it looked as if it had been repaired. Cllr. Jenkins will check it in daylight and report back.

Cllr. Jones had provided the Clerk with photographs of damage to a bridge in Common Lane, Soudley. She had passed it on the Highways and mentioned she had reported it last year and no action had been taken.

023/22– Financial Matters

Finance Report for February 2022

1. Precept Funds – balance b/fwd from January 2022 **£3,490.32**

Less: Payments to be made on 17.02.22 from Precept Fund

• HSBC bank charges for February 2022	£ 5.40	
• Clerk’s net salary for February 2022	£159.86	
• HMRC - PAYE on Clerk’s February 2022 salary	£ 40.00	
• Information Commissioner’s fee (data protection)	£ 40.00	
• <u>Admin expenses incurred in February 2022</u> <u>paid by Clerk and reclaimed by her.</u>		
• Contribution towards telephone/internet provision for February 2022 @ £20 per month	£20.00	
• Payment made for IT support - problems with Microsoft Outlook (A Holmes)	£20.00	
• Pkt. A4 copy paper	£ 3.99	
• 17.01.22 Electricity for meter for heating at Hope Bowdler Village Hall	£ 6.00	
• Travelling expenses @ 45p per mile 21.02.22 – to Ticklerton Village Hall for Parish Council Meeting – 32 miles:	£14.40	
	£64.39	£ 64.39
	<u>£309.65</u>	<u>£ 309.65</u>

Balance of Precept Fund c/fwd to March 2022 **£3,180.67**

The Chairman **proposed** that the cheques listed above be approved for payment.

Cllr. Gray **seconded** the proposal

Vote: members voted unanimously in support of the proposal.

Ring Fenced funds held by Parish Council

Balance of Environmental Grant b/fwd from January 2022 **£130.93**

Transparency Code Grant- balance b/fwd from January 2022 **£ 43.17**

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

- **Precept Fund** **£3,180.67**
- **Environmental/Asset Maintenance Fund** **£ 130.93**
- **Transparency Code Grant** **£ 43.17**
- **Neighbourhood Fund grant** **£ nil**

Total: £3,354.77

Bank Statement/Cash Book reconciliation.

Cllr. Jenkins verified the Clerk's reconciliation between PC's cash book and HSBC bank statements 123 & 124.

024/22 – To consider and/or adopt a revised set of Standing Orders

The Clerk had revised and up-dated the Standing Orders and circulated them to all members prior to the meeting. Members approved the revisions.

The Chairman **proposed** that the council should adopt the revised Standing Orders.

Cllr. Jones **seconded** the proposal.

Vote: Councillors voted unanimously to adopt the revised Standing Orders.

025/22 – Questions for the Chairman

No matters were raised with the Chairman.

There being no further business to conduct, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm

Date & Venue of the next Parish Council meeting
Monday 21st March 2022, 7.30pm at Hope Bowdler Village Hall.

SIGNED Peter Jenkins

DATED: 21st March 2022