

CLIVE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES 23 NOV 2023

Minutes of the Clive Parish Council meeting, held in Clive Village Hall on Thurs 23rd Nov 2023, at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Sharon Cunliffe (Mattu), Ian Donoghue, Sandy Goldwyn (Vice Chairman), Paul Hewitt, Peter Slark, Peter Walters (Chairman).

Minute taker: Cllr Sharon Cunliffe (Mattu)

Meeting started at: 7.30pm

74/23: CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting. It was **NOTED** that the Clerk was unwell and would be off until at least 17/12/2023.

75/23: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Rob Dennis (work commitments). It was **RESOLVED** to note these.

76/23: DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS & DISPENSATION REQUESTS

None made.

77/23: OPEN FORUM

A period set aside to allow the public the opportunity to speak on an agenda item (maximum 3 minutes per person).

Public participation is only permitted during this session and is at the chairman's discretion.

No comments.

78/23: MINUTES

No minutes available for Sept meeting yet. It was **AGREED** to defer until the next meeting (provisionally Dec 2023).

79/23: REPORTS

a) Sansaw Estates

- **Drone flying over farm** – 13, 14 and 15th (not known if Oct or Nov), concerns this may be potential thieves. Police informed on drone activity.
- **Various stolen vehicles** found in woodlands.
- **Tree leaning on cable** – There is still a high-tension cable with a branch leaning against it on Hillside. Cllr Goldwyn last looked at this following a resident request. It was thought unlikely that the branch would shift and cause damage to the cable.
- **Cutting trees back on Hillside** - Cllr Slark believes this work has now been done.

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Donoghue will pass on report of drone to RAF Shawbury. The latter may then also report to Police and may carry more weight.

b) RAF Shawbury

- Night flying continuing until 30/11/2023
- High-vis horse riders – orange visors to those on back list.
- Drones – reminder to comply with Drone Code.
- Magazine now available online
- Course community projects – cannot guarantee support, depends on dates (generally only available weekdays).
- New liaison Adrian Vine
- Upcoming significant event – Christmas concert at St Chad's 15/12, need to book through Eventbrite via Parish Clerks or from link on RAF Shawbury website

c) Shropshire Councillor's Report

No report or apologies received.

d) **Reports from Meetings/Training**

- Area Chairman's Meeting – Cllr Walters attended on 19/11.
- Question of purchase of VAS signs – ongoing issues trying to establish the guidelines. Current guidelines unsatisfactory and trying to resolve with Shropshire Council (SC). It was **AGREED** that Cllr Walters will provide update when available.
- Cllr Walters raised issue of Neighbourhood Plans. 3 out of 4 parishes who had recently achieved Neighbourhood Plans had voiced concerns that they are not being heard and Shropshire planning are not taking their Neighbourhood Plans into account for planning decisions. This is a hot topic of conversation at the Chairman's Network meeting, SALC will now put it as a County issue at next meeting as want to find out how widespread this issue is.

e) **AED management**

It was **NOTED** that volunteers had reported AED battery status is only showing two out of three bars. Manual indicates a 50% remaining battery life and recommends when it drops to 25% that PC replaces the battery. It was believed that PC purchased a whole new AED unit in early part of last year as a replacement for the old model (which was donated for training purposes). It was believed the equipment should have a minimum 5 year life span. It was **AGREED** that volunteers and Cllrs will keep this under review.

f) **Community Speed Watch**

No update.

80/23: PARISH MATTERS

a) **Wildflower verges/meadows**

It was **NOTED** that Cllr Goldwyn has purchased seed on behalf of group. Work had been pencilled in for Sunday but it was uncertain if this would go ahead. Group is considering whether extra help is needed. Will fix another date if necessary, and promote on village Facebook page and notice boards. Group will consider RAF Shawbury availability and/or whether to involve Scouts. Aim is still to sow seeds before end of year.

b) **Highways concerns**

- **Flooding:** Chairman Cllr Walters gave an update. Prior to the meeting, the village had been flooded in all directions and impassable; no buses or residents were able to leave for work. It was **NOTED** that ditches had been cleared on Wem Road by a resident. It was believed that Severn Trent (ST) had undertaken work on Wem Road prior to the PC meeting to address the floods, and drainage issues had also been reported to SC on Fix my Street.
It was **AGREED** that the PC will send formal thanks to Severn Trent, to acknowledge their hard work. PC will find out who to contact. **ADDENDUM:** Following the PC meeting, it was subsequently established that it was in fact Shropshire Council Highways who had undertaken the necessary work and not Severn Trent.
- **Request for mirror on Back Lane:** Contact from resident on Back Lane requesting a traffic mirror to facilitate a safe exit onto High Street. Garage parking on roads is not helping matter but it was **NOTED** there are no parking restrictions. It was queried if this was a matter for Shropshire Highways if so, the reasons why no mirror has been erected in this location. It was **AGREED** that PC will write to Shropshire Highways to enquire and Cllr Walters will liaise with SALC.
- **VAS signs:** Cllr Walters had spoken to police regarding VAS data for traffic between 8.30am and 9.30am time period. Cllr Donoghue would put together samples of VAS data during term time to share with police. It was **NOTED** that Quarry View VAS doesn't appear to be working despite tests.
- **Back Lane:** This has been marked up for repairs along the whole length, which suggests it will be resurfaced but no work has taken place yet.
- Cllr Goldwyn confirmed that the owners of Red Marley have cut back the roots of the oak tree that were causing the stone wall to expand, and have remounted the stone.

c) **511/512 Bus service**

It was **NOTED** that Arriva's FOI response is passing the PC back to SC and claims there is no requirement to respond to the request as they are not a public authority, but a private organisation. PC considered whether it ought to reply to say we will raise the matter with ICO and see if that triggers a different response.

d) **Parish Council website**

It was **NOTED** that Hugo Fox is £9.99/month (incl. VAT), Cllr Walters will contact Clerk to make sure it gets paid for one more month. The PC will review again in the New Year.

e) **Severn Trent traffic management complaints**

It was **NOTED** that complaints had been made by various PCs including Clive, about the lack of roadworks signage and also signage and traffic management equipment not being removed following completion of roadworks. As a result, Severn Trent had been fined £56K for non-removal of traffic management.

f) **Neighbourhood Plan - Council to consider and agree actions**

No update on Neighbourhood Plan, but Cllr Dennis had sent an update to the PC re. the Shropshire Local Plan Review examination. It was **NOTED** that there has been no progress and there are some issues with the distinction between Shropshire Council's figures for housing need vs housing requirement

g) **Co-option of Councillor**

It was **NOTED** that Cllr Bushill had sadly resigned from the Council in Sept and the necessary legal notices had been published in October. The PC is now able to co-opt as no by-election had been called during the notice period. The PC **AGREED** a deadline of 12th December for receipt of applications for co-option.

81/23: PLANNING APPLICATIONS – Council to agree/ratify responses

1. Address: [Millstone House, High Street, Clive, SY4 3JL4, ref: 23/04621/FUL](#)

Proposal: Replacement and enlargement of conservatory and first floor to garage to provide accommodation

After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to SUPPORT the application with no comments.

82/23: FINANCE – Council to consider and approve

Cllr Walters had spoken to Village Hall Management Committee. Meeting room hire charges will remain at discounted rate of £20/session until April 2024, but if costs remain high the VHMC might need to increase charges by no more than £5 for PC meetings. It was **NOTED** that an invoice for £120 will be sent shortly. It was **FURTHER NOTED** that deadline for setting PC budget and precept is end of Jan 2024 when PC has to submit precept request to SC Finance.

It was proposed to hold two meetings in Jan, a regular PC meeting and a finance discussion to prepare the 2024-25 budget. It was **AGREED** to cancel provisional hall booking for December and agree a date for budget discussions in Jan.

83/23: PAYMENTS

It was **NOTED** that payments for staffing costs and other urgent items were being made via online banking and these would be formally ratified in January upon the Clerk's return.

84/23: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

It was **RESOLVED** to note the following:

- a) Neighbourhood Plan course Ellesmere Town Hall 04.01.2024, £30pp. It was **AGREED** not to book places on this course as there are concerns that Neighbourhood Plans may not carry much weight anymore.
- b) Tree planting and woodland creation – Strategic treescape officer wants to identify potential sites suitable for woodland creation – **NOTED** that PC does not own any land that could be considered for planting.
- c) Webinar on local food strategy – 07.12.2023 Climate health, water, transport, planning
- d) D-Day anniversary – 06.06.2024. Guide is available, but beacon is a lot of work for Sansaw estate if not tied in with any other kind of village event. PC could ask School if they have any plans. **AGREED** to defer to Jan meeting.
- e) Ringing for Peace Church bells
- f) Clerk correspondence – **NOTED** that national salary award back payment meant Nov salary was higher than usual.

It was **FURTHER NOTED** that the verge that has been dug out along Mine Bank looks very good and widens road.

85/23: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councillors are requested to use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas. **Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.**

- Budget proposals
- Co-option

86/23: NEXT MEETING – Council to agree

After discussion, it was **AGREED** to contact the VHC and request to an informal budget discussion meeting on 04.01.2024 at Clive Village Hall (not open to the public). It was **FURTHER AGREED** that the next ordinary Council meeting would be held on **Thurs 18th Jan 2024**, 7.30pm at Clive Village Hall.

There being no further business, the chairman thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting at: 20.25pm.

Confirmed as accurate: _____ Chairman Date: _____