

Minutes of Woore Parish Council Meeting

Monday 10th January 2022, 7.30pm, Victory Hall, Woore



PRESENT:

Cllr M. Cowey (Chairman), Cllr K. Davies, Cllr M. Blake, Cllr J. Higgin, Cllr C. Hamilton and Cllr. R. Goodman.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr R. Aldcroft, Shropshire Council and Mrs H. Jackson, Clerk to the Council.

PUBLIC:

There was 1 member of the public in attendance.

21124 Welcome / Present, Apologies and/or absent

Cllr Cowey welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished Councillors and residents a very Happy New Year. Apologies were received from Cllr Carter and Cllr Daville due to sickness and personal commitments respectively. It was unanimously **resolved** to accept all apologies. No apologies were received from Cllr D. Beeston.

21125 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or any other interests

No pecuniary interested were declared.

21126 Open Forum – to last no longer than 15 minutes.

The Chair reported a build up of debris in the drains and gullies on the A51/A525 adding further concern to the numerous issues of flooding within the Parish. It was noted that the Clerk would write to Shropshire Council requesting a road sweep.

The Clerk noted that West Mercia Police will be attending the Village Hall car park on 24th January to carry out property marking for residents and anyone is welcome to attend. This has been advertised on social media and in noticeboards.

21127 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th December 2021 (Local Government Act 1972, s12p41(1)).

It was **resolved** by majority to approve minutes from the meeting 13th December 2021.

21128 Matters arising: to cover any matters arising from Minutes 13th December, referred to in 21127.

The Chairman provided an update on the following;

- Action taken by the Clerk regarding planning enforcement issue on Candle Lane reported by multiple persons.
- Numerous scheduled roadworks – issue raised with Shropshire Council. WPC are using One Network for regular alerts and communicating plans with residents where possible. Roadworks include HS2, Western Power and Airband between January to May 2022. The Chair requested that Cllr Aldcroft raise WPC's dissatisfaction with the communications from Shropshire Council with the relevant persons. Still no notification from Shropshire Council of road resurfacing referenced in recent roadwork notifications or explanation as to whether this is related to HS2 or not. Chair to keep all updated on progress and Cllr Aldcroft to report an update at the February meeting.

- Continued activity on London Road land including dumping of tyres, bricks and a skip. Neighbourhood Plan marks land as sensitive gap, agricultural land. Clerk to take action to raise with Planning Enforcement, Shropshire Council.
- No update on confirmed adoption of streetlighting on the Hedgerows/Grove development. WPC has received notification of the Shropshire Council adoption of streetlighting on the Candle Lane development.
- No update on the Pipe Gate overgrown brook issue reported to John Bellis, Shropshire Council. No response received to date.
- No update on the request to SC planning by WPC for a pause on new developments due to severe drainage concerns in the Parish, made in correspondence to Tim Rogers August 2021. No response received to date.
- Audlem Road flooding – Cllr Aldcroft involved re. license renewal for clearing of ditches. Assurances given from contractor that work will take place ASAP.
- Operation Snap – the Clerk engaged West Mercia Police Safer Roads to erect signage in the Parish for Operation Snap in response to social media comments about speeding on minor roads. The initiative enables members of the public to report and submit digital footage showing potential traffic offences via a secure online form. This can range from driving dangerously or carelessly to overtaking on solid white lines, using a mobile phone while driving, ignoring traffic lights or dangerous driving around other road users, such as horse riders and cyclists. The Clerk to share details on the website/Facebook and with the Community Speed watch Team.
- Woore Parish Streetlighting – it was noted at the Chairman’s request that his vote against the motion was specific to the cancellation of the Direct Debit and the decision to no longer take responsibility for repairs to streetlights. The Chairman supports the Parish Council’s query over streetlight ownership. At Cllr Blake’s request it was noted that he understood the motion to include that Shropshire Council should take the appropriate action to repair all lights as required to make them safe or as issues occur, billing the party they deem responsible for all associated costs and questioned why this was omitted from the correspondence to Shropshire Council. The Clerk responded that it was not her understanding that the motion was to include that detail and that to do so gave Shropshire Council authority to deliver repairs/maintenance at its own choosing and recharge the Parish Council an un-budgeted and/or unaffordable figure. The Chair commented that streetlighting replacement is noted on the Woore Parish Place Plan and therefore should be applied for via CIL funding, explaining that if Shropshire Council were to invoice WPC there would be no way to recover those costs. It was noted that the Clerk would chase Shropshire Council for an update prior to the February meeting.

21129 Committee and Representatives Reports: for Councillors/representatives to provide reports/updates on any relevant matters.

a) **MVAS & Community Speed Watch Scheme:**

Cllr. Blake referred to the MVAS report circulated to Councillors and all relevant parties prior to the meeting. It was noted that upcoming roadworks were expected to disrupt the rota for MVAS locations. Cllr Blake offered to share figures for the number of prosecutable instances moving forward.

Cllr. Hamilton noted the addition of the CSW location in Pipe Gate, where several drivers were recorded at above 46mph on the latest visit. Reference was made to the desperate need to reduce the 40mph limit to a 30mph on the A51 and A525, with the Chair noting that this is the primary mitigation being sought in discussions with HS2/Shropshire Council and

that West Mercia Police support the Parish Council who is awaiting the upcoming speed consultation design from Shropshire Council.

b) **Village Hall & Queens Jubilee:**

No report was provided in the absence of Cllr. Beeston.

c) **Fix My Street:**

Report circulated and available on the WPC website. The chair noted that FMS has not yet been officially launched by Shropshire Council.

d) **Trees & Paths:**

The Clerk noted apologies from Tree and Path Wardens with nothing to report.

e) **Chairman's Network Meeting:**

The Chairman noted the next meeting to be 27th January with Tracy Darke, Shropshire Council Assistant Director of Economy and Place in attendance.

21130 Shropshire Council Representative Report: for Cllr R. Aldcroft to provide reports/updates on any relevant matters.

HS2: correspondence from Steve Brown, Head of Transport and Environment Shropshire Council received shortly before the meeting confirmed the following;

- Work on the 30mph speed limit has started with an indicative plan for agreement to be sent to WPC in the next few days to confirm its extent. The process normally takes 21 days. Following, SC will need to implement physical works such as signs, lines etc. Noting, this is contingent upon no objections, and if there are SC will need to deal with these in turn. The Chairman confirmed no update had been provided to WPC and Cllr Aldcroft suggested he chase if no update is provided before 14th January.
- Kier (HS2 Contractor), SC, WPC and Cllr. Aldcroft to meet to outline scope of modifications and to share thoughts on engagement regarding ECW2 contract. 21no. highway modifications to areas of the local highway network to allow construction traffic to use certain routes outlined by the Environment Statement in the HS2 act. Only one of the 21 sites, site 6 at Woore, is within the Shropshire boundary. The extents of site 6 bisect the boundary of Staffordshire and Shropshire. HS2 are looking to have regular engagement over the design of the highway modification progresses to make sure all are happy with the designs. A decent outline drawing of the site will be available by the time of the meeting and shared with WPC. SC will ensure representation at this meeting as required.
- SC attempting to close out final list of modifications with HS2. Update to be provided ASAP prior to meeting with WPC and Cllr Aldcroft to ensure final version is agreed with sufficient time to for works to be implemented. Update within the next few weeks.

The Chairman noted SC's failure to respond to actions of the 22nd July and 4th November meetings relating to HS2, noting that all attempts by the Clerk and WPC HS2 working party to access an update have been ignored. No response from Andy Begley or Lezley Picton to direct correspondence. It was noted once again that full transparency of meetings between SC and HS2 has not been upheld as was a requirement of the Select Committee. It was agreed that SC must not agree anything with HS2 without prior agreement of WPC. SC have failed to respond to the agreed date of 20th January for a community meeting to be held in Woore Parish, resulting in the event being cancelled. It was noted that the consensus of Councillors is that Shropshire Council are failing the residents of Woore Parish in regard to HS2. SC have had 4 years to take action and in failing to do so, much of the cost for these

mitigations is now being funded by SC (taxpayers) rather than HS2. WPC are tired of false promises of action. It was agreed that the Chairman would investigate a route for complaint via the Monitoring Officer. It was noted that recently appointed Helen Morgan MP required to be bought up to speed on the impact of HS2 on the Parish of Woore and the Clerk/Chairman would draft a letter of introduction.

Other updates:

- Shropshire Council funding crisis is significant.
- New bins to replace the black boxes/blue bags for recycling are to be introduced soon with residents able to apply online now.
- COVID infection rates up by 173% noting a shift of public health staff to support the test/vaccination centres and the impact is noticeable across all areas within Shropshire Council.
- Market Drayton regular Police Panel launched with quarterly meetings.

21131 Planning

- a) Applications: to adopt comments to be submitted in response to the following applications and as circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting;
- i. Reference: **21/04881/FUL** (15th December 2021)
Address: Onneley Hall Farm, Newcastle Road, Woore, CW3 9QJ.
Proposal: Erection of single storey extension with link to converted outbuilding
*comments re-submitted via delegated powers, 22nd December 2021, following re-consultation as previous application deemed invalid.

It was noted that as this is a re-submission of already resolved comments, this is noted in the minutes for reference only.

- ii. Reference: **21/05785/OUT** (14th December 2021)
Address: Station Yard, Pipe Gate, Market Drayton, Shropshire
Proposal: Outline application Phase 2 residential scheme: Development of up to 10 housing plots for self-build/custom dwellings

Lead Councillor referred to a report circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Discussion took place. It was unanimously **resolved** to object to the planning application with comments as follows;

Woore Parish Council OBJECTS to the above Planning Application and request that this is refused on the following grounds:

- *The proposal is for a Development of up to 10 housing plots, but it is noted that Plots 9 and 10 may be developed into semi-detached dwellings which would total 12no dwellings. Woore Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2036 (WNP) clearly states in Policy HOU1, "small scale developments of up to ten dwellings per development".*
- *On the 8th November permission was Granted for 21/02241/FUL for 4no Detached Dwellings for the same site. The Applicant is trying to classify these as two separate phases to circumnavigate the Policy HOU1 and therefore should be refused. The maximum number of further dwellings for this site that should be considered is 6no.*
- *The current application does not provide any Open Space for the overall site development with the proposal over developing the site with dwellings. The nearest Local Green Space is identified in the WNP Policy COM3 as LGS2 St Leonard's Way Play Area some 1.5 miles from the proposed development. To reach the Play Area would mean pedestrians crossing the A51 three times.*
- *Woore Parish Council during the Consultation for Planning Application 21/02241/FUL again referred to the following: "The Parish Council are also still concerned about the sewerage network capacity as well as surface water drainage in Woore Parish, this was reported as critical in 2012/13 Place Plan with no work carried out to upgrade the systems and they wish Shropshire Council Planning Officers to take this into consideration." This was also re-enforced with a communication to Shropshire Council in August 2021 requesting that no further Planning Applications be Granted until further full investigations are carried out. The Parish Council are still awaiting a response from Shropshire Council on this issue, it is noted that a further objection to this Planning Application is submitted from a Resident also on this matter.*

Woore Parish Council are also very disappointed that Shropshire Council have failed again in recognising the Woore Neighbourhood Plan in that in the Pre-Planning Advice on the 30th November 2021 it states "Development of site would 'in principle' be development plan and national planning policy compliant". This is not the case and reference to the WNP should have been advised when any advice was given.

**the above is subject to consultee comments.*

- b) Decisions: to acknowledge all planning decisions made between 13th December 2021 and 10th January 2022.

There were no decisions to report.

- c) Reviews: to discuss actions associated with the following applications:

- i. Reference: **21/02985/REM** (6th October 2021)
Address: Proposed Residential Development Land To The South Of Audlem Road, Woore, Shropshire.
Proposal: Approval of reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to outline permission 20/05302/OUT comprising 4no detached dwellings
Decision: Granted Permission
*Correspondence dated 20th December 2021 and 4th January 2022 with Tracy Darke, Shropshire Council to be discussed.

It was reported that correspondence had been sent to Tracy Darke, Shropshire Council Assistant Director Economy and Place, noting that in the case of this application and others, Woore Neighbourhood Plan has been ignored. Much discussion took place including the option of a judicial review. It was agreed that the offer of Tracy Darke and Tim Rogers to attend the February WPC full council meeting would be accepted, with a 30-minute session to open the meeting being dedicated to planning (February meeting to start at 7.00pm to accommodate).

21132 HS2:

- a) To receive an update from the HS2 working party on Traffic Calming/Mitigation discussions/next steps and HS2 Consultation.
b) To receive an update from the HS2 working party on actions from the meetings 22nd July & 4th November 2021 with Shropshire Council representatives.

The Chairman addressed both items at once, noting that minutes for the Annual Parish Meeting were expected soon. No response to any emails to Shropshire Council requesting an update to HS2 meeting actions. No response from SC to the community meeting scheduled 20th January resulting in the event being cancelled. Shropshire Council failed to respond to the Cheshire East Planning Application sent to them as a Consultee. WPC submitted an objection under delegated powers noting the impact of increased volumes of HGV traffic on roads already severely impacted by HS2 construction traffic. The consultation process is now closed. No decision on the application has been published to date. Much discussion took place and it was agreed that there was support for a referral to the Monitoring Officer for advice should the HS2 working party wish to pursue.

A meeting with HS2 Community Engagement Team 18th January scheduled for an update on the Woore specific web page and newsletter for residents. The Engagement Team have arranged for a 'Play it Safe' play for the children of Woore Primary School, 16th February 2022. Further, introductory meetings between WPC HS2 working party and HS2 contractors Balfour Beatty and Kier are also scheduled.

21133 Budget 2022-2023 *deferred Dec 21

- a) To discuss and determine the budget for financial year 2022-2023.

The Clerk presented the budget document, circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Discussion took place, noting the inclusion of a contingency liability fund for streetlighting costs associated with the ongoing dispute with Shropshire Council over ownership and responsibility for streetlighting within Woore Parish. An explanation of variances was provided and possible additional items of expenditure listed for consideration. Councillors were provided the opportunity to ask questions. The Clerk referred to WPC monies available 2022/23 and it was noted that CIL payments for financial year 2022/23 were not yet available. It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the budget for financial year 2022/2023 with no amendments, recognising the impact on reserves as detailed in the document provided by the Clerk.

- b) To approve the precept request figure for financial year 2022-2023.

With reference to the proposed budget, discussion took place with Councillors noting that in the current climate an increase in the precept is undesirable. It was acknowledged that WPC should look for funding from alternative means for projects where possible. It was unanimously **resolved** to levy the amount of £31,249, noting that to show a 0% increase in the Band D Council Tax charge on the 2022/23 Council Tax Demand Notices, WPC's precept requirement for 2022/23 would need to be £31,249 compared to £30,727 requested in 2021/22. It was acknowledged that Parish Council monies would be used to cover forecast expenditure over and above this amount. The Clerk agreed to respond to Shropshire Council with confirmation of the precept figure and to confirm CIL figures in due course.

21134 Woore United Charities:

- a) To resolve to appoint representatives to represent Woore Parish Council following trustee changes within WUC.

The Clerk explained that due to loss of trustee with the sad passing of Mr Hoy, Woore United Charities is looking to appoint a Chair. It was unanimously **resolved** for Cllr. J. Higgin to step down as WPC representative and for Cllr. M. Cowey to be appointed in her place. It was noted that the expectation is that Cllr Higgin will stand as a WUC representative for St. Leonards Church. Cllr Cowey joins Cllr G. Daville in the role as WPC representative (2no total).

21135 Finance:

- a) Invoices/payments & receipts: to resolve to approve the below detailed expenditure:

Date	Recipient	Reason for Payment	Cheque Number	Amount (Ex. VAT)	VAT Amount	Power of Expenditure
10.01.22	Helen Jackson	Clerk Salary (Nov): Gross Pay Holiday Pay NI deduction Income Tax deduction Expenses Sundry *Inc stamps, Clerk phone, printer ink and domain renewal.	1831	£640.49 £4.95 £0.00 £0.00 £45.42 £50.81 (£741.67)	9.64	LGA 1972 s.112 (2) LGA 1972 s.112 (2) LGA 1972 s.112 (2) LGA 1972 s.112 (2) LG (FP)A 1963 s.5

					<u>£751.31</u>	LG (FP)A 1973 s.5 LG A 1972 s.111 LGA 1972 s.137
22.12.21	The Play Inspection Company Ltd	St. Leonards /Outdoor Gym Annual Inspection (*Rec Fund)	1829	£200.00	£40.00	LG(MO)A 1976 s.19(3)
09.12.21	SALC (3no invoices)	Training: GDPR Clerk (£30 9.12.21) Be a better Cllr: D. Beeston (£75 13.12.21) Code of Conduct: D. Beeston/G. Daville (£20 14.12.21)	1830	£125.00	£0.00	LGA 1972 s.111

Note: £200.00 (ex VAT) Play inspection cost to be deducted from recreational fund. The Clerk noted for minute purposes only the VAT claim refund of £192.24 not shown on November 2021 minutes.

b) Bank reconciliation: for the Council to receive and accept the month end bank reconciliation

The Clerk provided a report as follows;

Current Account: £100.00

Reserve Account: £110,585.27

Unpresented cheques: £1,354.62

Balance 7th January 2022: £109,350.65

*Note £20 difference applies to overpayment identified from previous month, yet to be adjusted

Split as follows;

Recreational fund: £10,346.00

CIL fund: £52,063.24

General fund: £46,941.41

21136 Clerk's Report and Correspondence

To receive a summary of Reports and Correspondence for the period from 13th December 2021 to 4th January 2022.

The Clerk confirmed that all correspondence for the period had been circulated, noting the below;

- Shropshire Council Budget Consultation opened 16th February.
- Clerk Networking Meeting 25th February 2022 guest Helen Morgan MP.
- Confirmation via Clerk Networking that the Environmental Maintenance Grant will continue for 2022/23. Further details to follow.
- HMRC PAYE account credit for £1,915.06 requires attention. Clerk to provide an update in due course.

- Outstanding account with SSE can not be settled until Shropshire Council approve COT for streetlighting energy supply. Owed balance from date of last paid direct debit to cancellation of contract 16th December will be owed regardless of outcome of dispute, yet to be calculated.
- Email dated 21st December 2021 from Eddie West, Planning Policy and Strategy Manager Shropshire Council received noting a 'pause' on future expressions of interest for CIL funding until April 2022 allowing officers time to consider the implications of a number of on-going relevant work streams, notably: the draft Local Plan; the emerging Local Transport Plan and School Place Planning. It was agreed that the Clerk/Chairman would respond accordingly noting projects that require urgent review for CIL funding (notably Woore Primary School classroom expansion) and requesting inclusion in briefing sessions to discuss further.

The meeting closed at 9.49pm.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

21st February 2022, 7.00pm and 14th March 2022, 7.30pm

Signed.....(Chair)

Dated 21st February 2022

Agenda Item	Motion	Cllr	For	Against	Abstain
21127	Approval of Minutes of meeting held 13th December 2021: resolved by majority to approve minutes from the meeting 13 th December 2021.	Cowey, M	X		
		Davies, K	X		
Hamilton, C				X	
Goodman, R		X			
Blake, M		X			
Higgin, J				X	
Prop: Davies, K Second: Goodman, R					