

Wistanstow Parish Council

Clerk C E Williams 2 Jockeyfields Ludlow Shropshire SY8 1PU (01584 874661)

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The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Wistanstow Village Hall on Wednesday 19th January 2022 commencing at 7.00pm

Present:

Mr M Flanagan, Mrs J Woodroffe MBE, Mr J Morris, Mr M White, Mr A Carney, Mrs Andrea Minton Beddoes, Mr P Alderson
Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

Members of the public were present.

1. Apologies:

Mr P Jones and Mr P Powell

2. Items from members of the Public

Members of the public raised the following issues with the Parish Council:

- a) The proposed footpath modification application in Bushmoor were parties both for the application and against the application were given the opportunity to express their individual views. It was suggested by the Clerk that Parish Council Members should walk the proposed footpath before submitting observations on the application.
- b) The resident of the property adjacent to the Closed Church Yard expressed concern at the damage that had been caused to her property and land from the falling of branches from the fir trees along the Closed Church Yard boundary wall and that the Parish Council consider their removal.

3. Declarations of Interest

Mr M White – Personal Interest – Footpath modification order Bushmoor.

Mr M Flanagan, Mr A Carney and Mrs J Woodroffe – Personal Interest – Closed Church Yard as members of the Parochial Church Council.

4. Minutes

The Parish Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd November 2021 which were signed by the Chair.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes:

Mrs A Minton Beddoes reported on the proposed community consultation of the provision of a new modern design footway bridge at Newington Way Craven Arms. It was agreed that the Clerk request copies of the detailed proposed plans be sent to the Parish Council and the Craven Arms Town Council before Community Consultation as it was the opinion that the proposed modernisation was not appropriate for the area and would be a waste of money.

6. Chairman's Communications

No Items to report.

7. Planning Items:

No new applications for the Parish Council to consider.

8. Highway/Amenity/Footpath Items:

a) **Trees:** The Clerk provided an update on the four fir trees situated on the boundary of the closed church yard and the request by an adjacent resident to have them removed due to the recent storm damage to property caused by broken branches from the trees.

A survey of the trees had been obtained which suggested that the four fir trees were not in danger of falling but due to height may not be appropriate against adjacent properties.

The Clerk explained that the Parish Council was responsible for payment of any works to the trees in the closed churchyard however the Parochial Church Council was responsible for giving approval to the removal of the trees and for the insurance of the trees under public liability.

A quote of £1,950 had been received for the removal of the trees.

The Parish Council agreed that there would be no objection to the removal of the trees and to meet the appropriate cost however the decision to remove remains with the Parochial Church Council who may have to obtain a faculty from the church authorities.

c) **Footbridge:** Cllr Andrea Minton Beddoes referred to the consultation meeting with Shropshire Councillor David Evans and British Rail about the provision of a new modern design footway bridge at Newington Craven Arms at which they both questioned the need and expense of the footway bridge the design of which was not appropriate for the area.

d) **Defibrillators:** Mrs A Minton Beddoes will provide details to the Clerk on where the defibrillator in Cheney Longville is to be located so that an order for the supply of the equipment can be made.

e) **Footpath Modification:** The Parish Council agreed to walk the proposed footpath which runs along an existing Green Lane and to then hold a site meeting on Saturday 29th January 2022 to enable observations to be made to Shropshire Council.

f) **Highways:** A representative of Shropshire Council had visited Bushmoor to look at the surface water issue and it is anticipated that some drainage work will be undertaken during April/May 2022.

9. Financial Items:

The Clerk had produced an estimated Income and Expenditure statement for the financial year 2022/23 with estimated balances at the 31st March 2022 of £28,730.

It was agreed by the Parish Council that the Precept amount for 2022/23 should remain at £12,390 which would represent a 0% increase in the Parish Councils Tax Rate.

10. Other Items:

Mrs A Minton Beddoes reported on the recent South Shropshire Area of Parish Town Councils meeting which received a presentation from the Leader of Shropshire Council who provided an update on Highway Issues, Boundary Review, Bishops Castle Hospital and the Annual Budget.

11. Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Parish Council Wednesday 23rd March 2022 commencing at 7.00pm

Chairperson