

## Minutes of Woore Annual Parish Council Meeting



**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 7.30pm, The Victory Hall, Woore**

### **PRESENT:**

Cllr M. Cowey (Chairman), Cllr R. Goodman (Vice Chair), Cllr C. Hamilton, Cllr M. Carter and Cllr J. Higgin.

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Cllr R. Aldcroft (Ward Councillor Shropshire Council)  
Ms C Burnard, Clerk to the Council

### **PUBLIC:**

There were no members of the public present.

### **23074 Welcome / Present, Apologies and/or absent**

The Chair welcomed councillors to November's Parish meeting and opened the meeting requesting a minute silence to honour Frank Riseley who sadly passed away in October. His work as a councillor was invaluable to the Parish and greatly appreciated. He will be missed.

Apologies were received from Cllr M. Blake due to illness.  
It was unanimously **resolved** to accept apologies.

### **23075 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or any other Interests**

Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting and which is not included in the register of interests. Members are reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer. Members are reminded to declare any gifts and/or hospitality. (LGA 1972 s94).

No declarations were received.

### **22076 Requests for Dispensations of DPI's**

No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared.

### **23077 Open Forum: to last no longer than 15 minutes**

The Chair thanked Tin Tin and John for their work on the Remembrance display.

He also thanked residents for their help on Remembrance day including those who provided the Shire horse and those who helped with traffic monitoring.

The Chair informed councillors that the Lord Lieutenant was really impressed with the work they and the Primary School had done.

It was noted that the Halloween Party held at the Victory Hall was a massive success and was a great community event.

Also the Woore Cricket Club Firework display had a fantastic turn out and it was felt that this did help to minimise smaller displays across the village.

Date of Next Woore Parish Council Meeting: 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023

The Chair informed councillors that the 'Coffee with a Copper' morning held in October, organised by himself to allow residents to raise concerns with the Police Officer directly, had no attendees. Cllr M. Carter suggested a coffee evening might have a better turn out. The Chair will enquire with West Mercia Police to see their availability.

Cllr R. Goodman informed councillors that Woore Primary School is having an OFSTED inspection on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of November and all the Parish wish them luck.

**23078 Approval of the Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (Local Government Act 1972, s12p41(1)).

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes of meeting 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

**23079 Matters arising: to cover any matters arising from Minutes referred to in 23070.**

Cllr R. Goodman informed Councillors that the knotweed issue raised by a resident has been passed to Shropshire Council. Unfortunately, it has come back that no further action is required. Cllr R. Aldcroft replied that this could mean the issue has been passed to another department. Fix My Street shows it as completed but it is being investigated. Cllr R. Aldcroft will investigate with Shropshire Council and relay the information to Woore Parish Councillors.

The Chair added that he had received a few more concerns of patches of knotweed growing.

Cllr J. Higgin noted that the new lengthsman should be getting in touch and will hopefully be starting work week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Cllr J. Higgin and Cllr R. Goodman will be finalising the Christmas Tree arrangements shortly and the tree will be erected first few days of December.

Cllr J. Higgin confirmed that the winter planting is being sorted. The Chair asked Cllr J. Higgin to confirm that all the 27 planters that the council have paid for are being planted.

Cllr J. Higgin is still working on the Coronation benches. Cllr R. Goodman will help to progress this matter.

**23080 Shropshire Council Representative Report** for Cllr R. Aldcroft to provide reports/updates on any relevant matters.

Cllr R. Aldcroft referred to a full report circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting

- **For Market Drayton East Division**

*Firstly, may I say a big thank you to all who took part in and supported the **Armistice and Remembrance Ceremonies** over the weekend. There are many families and service personnel who benefit from the work of the Royal British Legion throughout the year and from the Armed Forces Covenant to which Shropshire Council is a signatory.*

*This is the first report since the scrapping of **HS2** which no doubt brings relief to the residents of Woore, however there are some issues to be resolved regarding land purchases, works to improve road surfaces, school crossings. Road Safety improvements funding from HS2 may now be lost which may affect when and how we proceed in the near future.*

- **North - West Relief Road**

*The Northern Planning Committee gave approval to this controversial project two weeks ago, which should improve traffic flows around Shrewsbury and particularly from our end to the A5 and hospital.*

- **MD Markets Internal and External**

*Extensive talks have and are taking place between MDTC, LSD and Officers of Shropshire Council to breathe new life into both the Indoor and Outdoor Markets in the town. Firstly with better promotion and then a reduction in stall costs until March 2024.*

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- **Nursing Home Gt Hales St**  
*A planning appeal hearing has now been held in Oswestry with an Inspector due to give a decision on whether a 60bed nursing home can be built on the site of the old Phoenix Garage.*
- **Environment**  
*Shropshire Council currently has a working group examining water quality throughout the county. Liaising with all agencies and voluntary organisations. As I am a member I would like to hear from Town or parish councillors who have concerns regarding water sources and contamination in our division.*
- **Taxi's**  
*I shall be meeting with Officers from the Licensing Dept of SCC shortly to discuss the shortage of Taxi vehicles available particularly from early evening onward.*
- **Planning enforcement**  
*Enforcement Officers have visited five sites within our area in the last 6 weeks, no serious actions have been taken.*

The Chair pointed out to Cllr R. Aldcroft that recently, Shropshire Council had redone the white lining on the road from Pipe Gate to the county boundary, however they were unable to finish this satisfactorily due to the plants growing and dirt in the gullies on the road side. The Parish Council has received photos from residents. Cllr R. Aldcroft will bring this up with Shropshire Council.

### **23081 HS2 update**

The Chair reminded councillors that HS2 is not completely closed off yet and Woore has a new Engagement Officer to correspond with going forward.

There are a few issues outstanding for Woore; the main one being the road safety fund that was due to the village worth £114,500 for upgrades including the new school crossing and widening of the road by the village shop. The Engagement Officer has neither confirmed nor denied this money is still due.

The Chair pointed out that the Parish has spent £3,000-£4,000 dealing with HS2 and ensuring the Parish gets the upgrades it deserves. The Councillors will continue to fight for this funding.

All land compulsory purchased during the HS2 project is still held by HS2 LTD and is yet to be put up for resale.

The Chair will be attending a public meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 with Stone Railway Crisis Group and will update councillors on any points of interest.

*Cllr R. Aldcroft left the meeting.*

### **23082 Dispute regarding land in front on Manor House maintained by the Parish Council to be discussed with Councillors.**

Background – Parish Council volunteers have been helping to clean up the Parish due to the lack of a lengthmans. We have had some success with aspects of this including the Cooper Arms being tidied up and the volunteer litter pickers.

The Falcon Inn has taken it upon themselves to clean up the area outside their establishment.

However the Parish was left with the area next to the Falcon opposite the junction. HS2 was due to take most of this area to widen the junction for their lorries however with this scrapped, volunteers offered to tend to the area.

The Chair noted that before we continue, he would like to express his sincere gratitude to all the volunteers.

Regarding the Manor bed - The volunteers were instructed that they could cut all foliage overgrowing the boundary onto Council land to 1.8 meters and clear and debris on the Council side of the

boundary.

While on holiday, The Chair received an email from the land owners behind the manor bed claiming the volunteers have damaged their property and requesting that the Parish Council pay for the repair to the fence.

It was unanimously **resolved** that the next course of action would be to contact the complainants directly.

### **23083 Planning**

a) Applications: to adopt comments submitted via delegated powers in response to the following applications and as approved by Councillors prior to the meeting

- i. Reference: 23/03956/FUL (validated 22nd September 2023) Address: Barn India, Newcastle Road, Woore, Crewe, Shropshire Proposal: Proposed elevational alterations to dwelling (previously approved under application No: 22/03761/PA3MA) and erection of detached garage with room above.

It was unanimously resolved to **object** to the application with comments submitted via the Clerk as below.

*Woore Parish Council OBJECTS to this application*

*Woore Parish Council acknowledges that under 22/03761/PA3MA a change of use from Commercial, Business and Service (Use Class E) to Dwellinghouses (Use Class C3) was granted and does not have any material objections to the proposed alterations to "Barn India" in the plans submitted.*

*We are objecting to this application due to the addition of the "detached garage with room above". The location of both Barn India and the detached garage is outside the Woore Parish Neighbourhood Development Boundary. The proposed detached garage is not a small structure, with the inclusion of the dwelling above and to the side of the garage bays. It is located away from the existing buildings in Rural Countryside.*

*As stated in our comments to application 22/03761/PA3MA: "We note that this is outside of the Woore Parish Neighbourhood Development Boundary and a condition that no further development in the future should be considered, as it is in Rural Countryside."*

*Woore Parish Council request that if this application is granted that there be a condition on the garage with room above that it remain part of the Barn India land parcel for perpetuity.*

*\*All comments are subject to consultee comments.*

*\*Woore Parish Council request that it is notified of all changes to planning conditions relating to this planning application and subsequent applications relating to it.*

- ii. Reference: 23/04252/FUL (validated 6th October 2023) Address: 4 The Boundary, Woore, Crewe, Shropshire, CW3 9QY Proposal: Conversion of existing garage to kitchen.

It was unanimously resolved to **support** the application with comments submitted via the Clerk as below.

*Woore Parish Council SUPPORTS this application.*

*Woore Parish Council supports this application and even with the conversion of the garage, the Block Plan highlights sufficient remaining car parking spaces.*

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*\*All comments are subject to consultee comments.*

*\*Woore Parish Council request that it is notified of all changes to planning conditions relating to this planning application and subsequent applications relating to it.*

- iii. Reference: 23/04439/FUL (validated 18th October 2023) Address: The Orchard, Northlands, Woore, Crewe, Shropshire. Proposal: Erection of single storey annex extension.

It was unanimously resolved to **support** the application with comments submitted via the Clerk as below.

*Woore Parish Council SUPPORTS this application.*

*Woore Parish Council notes that in a previous application (21/03961/FUL) there were ecology recommendations due to the large pond in the garden and would expect any requirements made by the SC Ecologist for this application, to be adhered to.*

*\*All comments are subject to consultee comments.*

*\*Woore Parish Council request that it is notified of all changes to planning conditions relating to this planning application and subsequent applications relating to it.*

- iv. Reference: 23/04557/FUL (validated 30th October 2023) Address: Moss Cottage, Gravenhunger, Woore, Crewe, Shropshire. Proposal: Erection of single storey outbuilding, gate and pillar.

It was unanimously resolved to **support** the application with comments submitted via the Clerk as below.

*The submitted planning application 23/04557/FUL requests permission for a single story outbuilding. The location plan and proposed elevations drawing identify the proposed single story outbuilding to include an equipment store and double garage measuring 14m by 6.460m. The location of the proposed outbuilding and double garage is not within the Woore Neighbourhood Plan. The plot size appears able to accommodate the building and garage and it is noted due to its siting it is of a size similar to that of a detached bungalow and due to the plot size and location, it would appear could be split into 2 plots. No design and access statement has been submitted.*

*The proposal is the application is supported only on the basis that it is subject to complying with consultee comments and that if approved Shropshire Council place a planning condition on the approval that the outbuilding and double garage must remain as approved in perpetuity and must never be converted for residential use.*

The Chair added that he had received an email from Mark Perry regarding Audlem Road and states that the Parish Council's original planning comments and views remain unchanged.

Added to this matter, The Chair noted that he had emailed Shropshire council regarding the choice of name for the new build houses as it was felt that 'Mayfair' did not fit in with the surrounding area. He is awaiting a response.

b) Decisions: to acknowledge all planning decisions made between 11th September and 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

The Chair informed councillors that planning application 22/04269/FUL - Proposed Holiday Let Barn at Onneley Hall Farm, Newcastle Road, Woore, Shropshire which was refused by Shropshire Council on January 2023 has now gone to appeal.

The Parish Council supported this original application and feels no need to amend its comment.

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**23084 Committee and Representatives Reports: for Councillors/representatives to provide reports/updates on any relevant matters.**

Cllr R. Goodman submitted the village Hall report -

*Events:*

*Community Café - 24th November (HS2 engagement office present)*

*WI Christmas Fair – 25th November*

*Christmas Quiz – 9th December (I have tickets £12 per person teams are 4 people max – please let me know if you would like tickets and I'll bring them on Monday)*

*Films:*

*13th January 2024 – The unlikely pilgrimage of Harold Fry*

*10th February – The golden years grand theft OAP*

*9th March TBA.*

*No film in April*

*May – TBA possibly a musical*

*June 2024 – The Great Escaper*

*Community Café 2024:*

*No café in December 2023*

*26th January 2024*

*23rd February*

*22nd March*

*26th April*

*Alternative grant funding being investigated and discussed.*

*Plumbing maintenance work almost complete.*

Chair M. Cowey submitted the Shropshire Area Chairperson's Meeting minutes held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023

The remote meeting of Shropshire Area Chairperson's Meeting was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November and the following key items were discussed; it was attended by 31no Town & Parish Chairpersons from Shropshire & Telford & Wrekin.

- *Town & Parish Councils were advised of an initiative by Wem Rural Council of engagement by the Parish Council in the formation of a Business Hub. This was to support the businesses within the Parish to encourage growth and what funding was available.*
- *A number of Council's have purchased VAS's and SID's and due to issues with Local Authority then a request for clear Guidelines & Policies from SALC & NALC was requested to be circulated. It was discussed on the process of distribution of the information obtained from VAS's & SID's and the following was proposed as the communication stream:*

*West Mercia Road Safety. (West Mercia Police)*

*Local Authority (Shropshire Council Highways)*

*Ward Councillor of Shropshire Council.*

*Residents of the Town/Parish (via website, newsletter, Annual Parish Meetings etc.*

*This should also be used by the CSW Teams were any Parish/Town Council as this scheme, particularly to "Tell the Residents".*

- *Additional Burial Grounds again becoming a major issue and all present that it was the responsibility of the Local Authority (Shropshire Council). Some Parishes are having to look at relocating outside their*

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*own Parishes due to the new regulations of water tables, size of burial plot increasing by 50% and other regulations.*

- *Live Stream Parish/Town Council Meetings was raised, and guidelines would be circulated, particular regarding Councillors responsibilities. There is no issue in recording a Meeting, provided all attendees are advised at the start of the meeting.*

*Next Meeting Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.*

The Chair submitted the minutes from the Tree & Paths Report November 2023 PC Meeting.

*The following is a Report on Trees & Paths covering outstanding issues.*

*Cherry Tree Lane*

*Public Bridleway 0236/7Y/1 and 0236/7Y/2 have now been inspected by the Rights of Way Officer (Enforcement Officer) and it was found that the temporary fences erected by the Landowner did not comply with the legally required widths. The Landowner was advised and given a period of time to comply, and a further visit was to be carried out w/c 6th November and WPC will be advised following the visit by the Enforcement Officer if these are now to the legal requirements. It was also noted at the time of the first visit that the boundary hedge was encroaching onto the Public Bridleway, again the Landowner was advised, and this would also be checked to see if it had been attended to. The posts for the two gates have rotted and making the gates difficult to operate, once the work carried out by the Landowner is accepted then Outdoor Partnerships will carry out the necessary repairs.*

*Ireland's Cross - Dorrington*

*Public Footpath ROW 236/36/1 of the issue regarding the resident who "claims it is not within his boundary" for the maintenance of removal of fallen tree and total access at all times. WPC issued letter advising of landowner's responsibilities and after no response with a follow up to Outdoor Partnerships. The Chair escalated this issue to the Rights of Way Officer (Enforcement Officer) and requested he carries out a visit when he carries out the inspection of Cherry Tree Lane issue.*

*The issue of the hedge encroaching the footpath running parallel with the A51 from the same property was advised to SC Highways as this is their responsibility to take appropriate action.*

*All other issues reported by a number of residents regarding footpath issues damaged bridges, etc are now logged with Outdoor Partnership for the necessary work to be carried out.*

The final note from The Chair is that the Church is running out of burial ground space and is looking for additional space.

The Chair added that Shropshire Council is starting to push that all Parish Council meetings become remote.

Cllr C. Hamilton reported that traffic calming measures for Newcastle Road are being looked into by Shropshire Council

The Chair added that he has had communications from West Mercia Police that they are planning on starting a once weekly visit to the Parish to monitor the speeding issue.

The Chair asked Cllr C. Hamilton to provide a full report of the speeding through the village for him to forward onto Shropshire Council to further our case for permanent speed enforcement.

Cllr C. Hamilton requested that the advert be placed back in the Church magazine asking for Community Speed Watch Volunteers as they are still short of numbers. The Chair confirmed this would be done.

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Cllr J. Higgin asked about the new lengthsman. No councillors had heard from him. Cllr J. Higgin will chase.

**23085 Shropshire Council Place Plan** update to be given by Chair to Councillors.

The Chair, Vice Chair and the Clerk had a remote meeting with Lucy Roberts on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 where we discussed migrating all the Place Plan submissions onto a portal. This needs to be completed by the Clerk so the Parish Council can start using CIL money for these projects. Some Place Plan Projects have been removed as they have either been dealt with or are no longer required.

**23086 Meeting Dates for 2024** to be discussed and agreed upon by Councillors.

At was unanimously resolved to **approve** the meeting dates for 2024.

**23087 Finance**

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

Date	Recipient	Reason for Payment	Cheque Number	Net Amount	VAT Amount	Power of Expenditure
19/09/2023	Chelsea Burnard	Clerk Salary (Sept month): Gross Pay - NI deduction Income Tax deduction Mileage  Expenses - Subsistence Stamps	1934	£530.64 £0.00 -£106.00 £0.00  £6.57 £6.00 <u>£438.53</u>	     £1.32 £0.00	LGA 1972 s.112 (2) LGA 1972 s.112 (2) LG (FP)A 1963 s.5 LG (FP)A 1973 s.5  LG A 1972 s.111 LGA 1972 s.137
19/09/2023	PKF LittleJohn LLP	AGAR Annual Audit	1937	£210.00	£42.00	LGA 1972 s. 111
19/09/2023	Woore Victory Hall	Room Hire Q3 2023 Storage Charge Q3 2023	1940	£104.00	£0.00	LGA 1972 s.134 (4)
19/09/2023	Fiona Hamilton	Bus Shelter Paint	1941	£41.67	£8.33	LGA 1972 s.134 (4)
19/09/2023	Helen Jackson	Clerk Salary (July, Aug and Sept Salary)  Gross Pay Holiday Pay (accrued) Bank Holiday Pay (3no) NI deduction Income Tax deduction Mileage Expenses Sundry *stamps, printer ink	1933 (VOIDED) 1935/1936	£1,019.69 £0.00 £0.00 £0.00 £-21.00 £0.00  £134.69 <u>£1,133.38</u>	       £0.00	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 LG (FP)A 1973 s.5

19/09/2023	J Sparkes	Remembrance Display	1938	£272.97	£0.00	LGA 1972 s. 137
19/09/2023	Fiona Hamilton	Notice Board Wood Varish	1939	£8.00		LGA 1972 s.134 (4)
13/11/2023	Chelsea Burnard	Clerk Salary (Oct month): Gross Pay - NI deduction Income Tax deduction	1942	£530.44 £0.00 -£106.00 £0.00  <u>£424.44</u>		LGA 1972 s.112 (2) LGA 1972 s.112 (2) LG (FP)A 1963 s.5 LG (FP)A 1973 s.5
13/11/2023	J Sparkes	Remembrance Day Flags	1943	£37.29	£7.48	LGA 1972 s. 137

It was unanimously resolved to **approve** all payments.

b. Bank Reconciliation completed to September month end. No errors, comments nor queries were raised.

c. Preparation work for the budget for 2024/25 will commence in December and The Chair requested that all Councillors submit their requests for spending before 30<sup>th</sup> November as the Precept will need to be set in the December meeting.

d. Half year scrutineering is to be completed on 21<sup>st</sup> November at the Village Hall as organised by Cllr R. Goodman.

#### **23088 Clerk's Report and Correspondence**

No correspondence to share that has not already been dealt with by Councillors from the Clerk. However, The Chair noted that there is a conversation happening between himself and a resident regarding getting Fibre Broadband into the village. The Chair informed Councillors that he will be attending a meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 regarding this matter and he will relay all information to Parish Councillors once the meeting is completed.

**Meeting Closed 10pm**