

Melverley Parish Council

Minutes of the next meeting of **Melverley Parish Council** held by Zoom on **10th February 2021** at **7.30 pm**.

Present: Cllrs Rosy Harding, Sally Herbert-Jones (Chairman), Cath Jones, Roger Jones

In Attendance: Richard Jones Melverley Internal Drainage Board; Ian Cruise-Taylor, Parish Clerk

20.31 Apologies - none

20.32 To reaffirm Declarations of Interest(s). There were no declarations of interest

20.33 Public session: there were no members of the public present

20.34 Council approved the minutes of the meetings on 6th January 2021

20.35 To receive updates on:

(a) Flood defence developments to include Melverley Internal Drainage Board (MIDB) update: Richard Jones spoke of a number of actions taken by the IDB to improve flood relief and supported the continued joint working with Melverley Parish Council and other impacted parishes to put pressure on Shropshire Council and the Environment Agency to bring forward suitable long term plans to alleviate flooding, take short-term opportunities to impact on flooding, and to oppose those plans of others which could result in continued significant impact of flooding on Melverley and surrounding areas. Richard asked for support from the Parish Council in its communications with residents, which the parish council is pleased to give. A note setting out the respective roles of the two bodies would be jointly prepared and distributed.

The Parish council drew attention to continued issues with the riverbanks and embankments, which are breached too often in their current state and it was agreed that photos should be submitted to Martin Davies. The Council also drew attention to the problems of making sustainable contact with EA staff, while recognising the pressure on those staff of recent floods.

(b) Parish-wide Broadband improvements - not considered in detail

20.36 To consider and determine a response to proposals to seek funding to upgrade the rescue boat and purchase a second – Council had an initial discussion about the rescue punt, which would benefit from being replaced and possibly augmenting this with a second boat so that both ends of the parish could be served in the time of flooding. Concern was expressed at the possible cost, and the clerk referred to the opportunity to seek grant aid, sponsorship and support from both Shropshire Council and the Environment Agency. It was suggested that a flood bus should be considered and that other boats already existed in the parish could be used, but it was also pointed out that appropriate equipment and well as training of support staff would be an issue whichever boat was used. *The meeting ceased at this point due to internet problems.*

20.37 Correspondence and other matters:

(a) Community Governance – see email circulated

(b) Parish Online – report from Parish Clerk regarding invitation to subscribe

20.38 Financial

To receive and approve expenditure and bank reconciliation:

(a) Expenditure for January 2021:

Clerks Salary January - £132.13

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(b) bank reconciliation:

Balance brought forward from Year End 31st March 2020	£2,919.98
Add: Receipts to date	£4,165.94
Less: Payments to date	£3,517.85
Closing Balance at 31st January 2021	£3,568.07
Bank Balances as at 31st January 2021:	
Current account 70622206	£3,700.20
less unpresented payments	£132.13
	£3,568.07

20.39 Items for discussion at next meeting: (not for debate or decision)

20.40 Proposed dates of next meeting: 3rd March 2021

Ian Cruise-Taylor
Parish Clerk – Melverley Parish Council