

Withington Parish Council Annual Meeting

Wednesday 2nd May 2018 in the Parish Room at 7.30pm

Minutes

01/2018 Present: Councillors Phil Heath (Chairman), Neil Maxwell, Lesley Stone, Martin Timmis, Alan Williams, Denise Rosoce (Clerk), Mathew Mead (SC Community Enablement Officer), Lezley Picton (Shropshire Councillor Tern Ward) and 10 members of the public.

02/2018 Welcome: Cllr Heath welcomed everyone

03/2018 Election of Chairman: Councillor Phil Heath was elected Chairman unopposed. He signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

04/2018 Apologies: Shirley Davies

05/2018 Declaration of Interests: There were no declarations of interests

06/2018 Election of Vice Chairman: Councillor Martin Timmis was elected unopposed

07/2018 Election of Responsible Finance Officer: Councillor Alan Williams was elected unopposed

08/2018 Approval of the Minutes of the AGM held on 10th May 2017 & 14th March 2018: Minutes accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.

09/2018 Responsible Finance Officer's Report

WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As at 2nd May, 2018

<u>Parish Council</u>	<u>Village Green</u>
Brought Forward from 14/03/2018	£2,994.63
Receipts since 14/03/2018	£6,373.37
SALC Transparency Funding	£310.86
Wayleave Payment	£62.51
Precept	£6,000.00
Payments Approved - 14/03/2018	£245.59
Room Hire (14/03)	£12.00
Clerk's Salary (Mar-18)	£233.59
Payments made since 14/03/2018 for approval	£40.00
SALC - Data Protection Seminar	£10.00
K. Maloney (Internal Audit)	£30.00
Balance Carried Forward to 02/05/2018	£9,082.41
Payments for approval - 02/05/2018	
Room Hire (02/05)	£12.00
SALC Affiliation Fees	£120.85
Shropshire Council Loan Repayment	£3,575.00
Zurich Municipal Insurance	£257.60
Authorisation to pay the following if within budget amount:	
Apr-18 Shropshire Council (Election Fees)	£100.00
Clerk's Salary (Jun-18)	£470.83
Defibrillator Training	£118.00
Lawn Mower Maintenance	
Hedge Cutting	
Fuel	
Vehicle Insurance	
Brought Forward from 14/03/2018	£4,585.28
Receipts since 14/03/2018	£143.00
Friends of the Green (2017/18)	£17.00
Friends of the Green (2018/19)	£126.00
Payments Approved - 14/03/2018	£0.00
None	£0.00
Payments made since 14/03/2018 for approval	£48.00
J.O. Nicklin & Sons (Diesel Fuel)	£48.00
Balance Carried Forward to 02/05/2018	£4,680.28
Payments for approval - 02/05/2018	
None	0.00

Minutes confirmed as correct 4th July 2018 _____

Chairman

Payments approved at the meeting for both accounts.

All payments made since 14/3/18

£10.00 SALC – Data Protection Seminar
£30.00 Internal Audit
£48.00 J O Nicklin & Sons (Diesel Fuel)

Payments to be made

£12.00 Room Hire
£120.85 SALC Affiliation Fees
£3,575.00 Shrop Council Loan Repayment
£257.60 Zurich Municipal Insurance

Payment to be made if within budget

£100.00 Shropshire Council (Election Fees)
£470.83 Clerks Salary (Jun 18)
£118.00 Defibrillator Training

- The internal Audit was conducted by Karen Maloney and no issues were reported.
- The Council approved the Annual Governance and Accountability Return which was signed by the Chair of the Council."

10/2018 Appointment of representative to the Local Joint Committee:

Councillor Lesley Stone was elected unopposed.

11/2018 Reports on Parish Plan

Church

The normal pattern of weekly services was maintained throughout the year. We hosted the Deanery farewell service for Bob and welcomed Andy Ackroyd's enthusiastic leadership since September. The regular congregation at each service saw some growth. Sadly, there has been no increase in the number of families attending the family service, but the growth of Messy Church has included several of our village families. We have a faithful core who all continue to play their part in the running of the Church. Last Summer, the Churchyard looked more cared for than for many years.

We had special services for the main festivals of the Church's year but the attendance at our Easter Holy Communion was poor. Services around Christmas were well attended, and in spite of deep snow, the Christingle was a real coming together of the Church's family.

The monthly Coffee Mornings, part of our outreach and mission to the community, continue to be popular. As well as Messy Church members of our community have provided outreach to children and young people through Open the Book and Youth Café.

We had the regular series of social events during the year which brought people together and raised much need funds. We had a wine tasting evening, an Easter Egg trail, the Scarecrow weekend, Summer Fete, Harvest Auction, Bonfire and Fireworks evening and the Christmas Bazaar, all of which organised by the Social Committee and well supported by many of the wider village community. We are very grateful to Brian and Josie Smith for the donation from the Tractor Rally.

Parish Room

The Parish Room continues to be used regularly for various parish activities including: Messy Church, Yoga, Tai Chi, WI, Sewing groups, Coffee Mornings, Parish Council Meetings, Flicks in the Sticks as well as private parties and other ad hoc events.

This year has been one of consolidation after we had the kitchen renovated and purchased a new cooker in 2016. We were helped by some generous donations and this helped us purchase the new square tables to replace the wooden card tables that were riddled with wood worm and in a poor state of repair. And we have recently had a thorough electrical check and had all appliances PAT tested.

Minutes confirmed as correct 4th July 2018 _____

Chairman

We are confident that rental income will cover running costs in the year to December 18 and we can keep rental prices at the same level once again. We are monitoring the position regarding Council Tax which Shropshire Council are reviewing.

Hare and Hounds

Food continues to be served on Friday evenings and Sunday lunch time. The "Great Buswell Bake off" in February was well attended and started this year's fund raising for the Macmillan Cancer Support.

Work started on converting the outbuilding. The roof is now finished, and work will continue over the coming months.

Footpaths

Report from Helen Thomas. I have only just started to walk the footpaths, due the appalling weather and wet, muddy fields since my appointment. I have already encountered one or two access issues and spotted a stile that will need repairs soon. Once I have walked all the paths I will do a more comprehensive report for the Parish Council and report any matters requiring action to Shropshire Council.

Canal

Wappenshall Wharf - we were unsuccessful in our bid for funding to the HLF, but we have now broken the project into 3 phases and Phase 1 is now underway, which will see the smaller, Telfordian Warehouse restored, and cafe installed, plus the East Basin will be dug out and filled with water. Phase 2 will be to restore the Transhipment Warehouse from funds raised via the cafe income. Phase 3 will be to landscape the remainder of the wharf.

Berwick Tunnel North Portal- much work has been recently carried out here to make a circular walk from the Portal to the A5 along the towpath and back again on the opposite side of the canal. Some information panels will be provided and a small parking area. We are also working with the National Trust to progress their clearance of the canal at Berwick Wharf and the long term plan will be to link the canal from here through the Berwick Tunnel for a "there and back" canal boat ride.

Work to improve the canal through the Newport section has received funding from Newport Town Council and a lock at Meretown has been restored, a new towpath surface has been completed to the West and the Black Shed in Water Lane has been significantly improved.

With financial support from Hadley & Leegomery PC and some funding via a Section 106 from Miller Homes, we have started to restore the two Telford designed Guillotine Locks on the Trench Arm. This will also include a "linear park" from the locks to Wappenshall. Work is being held up at present by Melrose, who recently bought GKN and own part of the land involved.

Village Green

Meetings. There have been 4 meetings since the last Parish AGM.

Events. There have been the usual successful Village fete and Bonfire events. In addition, this year a very successful Vintage Tractor Rally in September in aid of a village defibrillator was held.

Maintenance.

Path. We continue to maintain the path with weeding and where necessary dusting.

Trees. We have trimmed the fruit trees and thinned out the ones in the wet area. In addition, we continue to encourage "Phil" the Christmas tree to grow.

Grass. Ron continues to cut the grass and the mower is being maintained.

Hedge. This has been cut and gaps will have to be filled in the future.

Gate. This has a new padlock and will shortly have a new bolt to allow it to close securely.

Benches. One of the benches has been removed and its plaque placed on the oak bench behind the wet area. A new bench policy has been agreed to ensure that new benches are of sufficient quality and durability.

Insurance. We have discussed this and will follow advice from the Parish Council.

Minutes confirmed as correct 4th July 2018 _____

Chairman

Finance. We continue to have sufficient funds to allow us to replace the mower and carry out general maintenance. This is thanks to friends of the village green and a generous donation from the Vintage tractor Rally by Josie and Brian Smith.

12/2018 General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR): Meeting arranged for 10th May to sign off the General Data Protection Policies for the regulations that start on 25th May 2018.

13/2018 Date of the 2019 Annual Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 8th May 2019

14/2018 Dates of the Parish Council Meetings for 2018/19

4th July 2018

12th September 2018

7th November 2018

9th January 2019

20th March 2019

Minutes confirmed as correct 4th July 2018 _____

Chairman