

**THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHBURY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2022
AT 8:00PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, RUSHBURY VILLAGE HALL, RUSHBURY**

The meeting commenced at 7:30pm for the public session with one member of the public present, along with a representative from the Police.

The member of the public advised Councillors of the reason for requesting from the Parish Council a letter of local connection. Some points of clarification were raised by Councillors to which the member of the public responded.

2851. WELCOME

Councillor Dr C Stevenson welcomed everyone to the meeting of Council.

2852. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillors Ms A Henderson, M McFarland and M Pye. Apologies for possible absence were provided by Councillor G Gough where he may be prevented in attending in time due to work commitments. Apologies were also received from Councillor A Dixon who was returning from a work commitment but would be late in attending.

2853. PRESENT

Councillor Dr C Stevenson - Chairman, Councillors P Bodimeade, A Dixon (from 8:40pm), T Flashman, A Richards and Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley.
Clerk C Maclean.

2854. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

2855. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 20 JUNE 2022

Councillor A Richards proposed, Councillor P Bodimeade seconded that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20 June 2022 be adopted and it was resolved that the Chairman sign these as a true record.

2856. CONFIRMATION OF LOCAL CONNECTION

Councillor considered the request for the provision of a letter of confirmation of local connection. Having reviewed the eligibility criteria, Councillors considered that these were satisfactorily met.

Councillor A Richards proposed, Councillor T Flashman seconded and it was resolved that the Parish Council issue a Letter of Potential Confirmation of Local Connection.

2857. POLICE UPDATE AND REPORT

PCSO St John provided Councillors with an update on issues reported in the parish. No issues had been reported in relation to theft, but some instances of speeding in Wall Under Heywood had been dealt with.

Councillor T Flashman expressed concerns over recent known incidents within the parish and adjoining parishes which did not appear to be followed up by the Police. PCSO St John

noted these but advised that current resource constraints were contributing to the challenges faced in dealing with reported incidents.

PSCO St John advised recent Police activity included late night operations.

Councillors considered the merits of Smartwater which had been covered at previous meetings.

Councillors considered the current priorities set in the Community Charter for the parish. It was agreed these remain at (i) theft; (ii) anti-social behaviour; and (iii) speeding.

Councillors agreed the merits in the online links to the Police for reporting incidents should be forwarded to the editor of the parish magazine for inclusion in future editions.

Councillors thanked PSCO St John for taking the time to attend the meeting and providing her report and feedback. PSCO St John thanked Councillors and left the meeting at 8:08pm.

2858. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

2858a. **Online Network Meeting:** Councillor Dr C Stevenson advised of recent meeting and focus on emergency planning.

2858b. **Neighbourhood Plans:** Councillor Dr C Stevenson noted recent events in other areas within the county in relation to housing developments. It was acknowledged that creation and maintenance of neighbourhood plans were important where there was the potential for housing development.

It was noted that the effort to create such a plan is extensive and requires professional assistance and advice. Process involves a local referendum and subsequent referral to the planning inspector for scrutiny and judgment.

2858c. **Solar Farms:** Councillor Dr C Stevenson advised Councillors that there has been considerable debate within SALC and town and parish councils in relation to the element of community benefits being linked to planning applications for solar farms.

2858d. **EV Charge Points:** Concern had been noted over the lack of provision of these to date. Councillors considered the question whether in light of the bigger picture they provided more economy compared to fossil fuels.

2859. **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk advised items he would have covered were in the meeting's Agenda.

Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley joined the meeting at 8:15pm.

2860. **SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley provided an update on recent events of interest to the parish.

2860a. **Central Government Direction:** Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley advised that this appeared to be lacking at the current time which presented particular challenges to Shropshire Council.

Considerable discussion had been taking place within Shropshire Council on budgetary matters and the continued impact of providing funds to support social care along with its

other services. A peer review of Shropshire Council had been undertaken by the Local Government Association which resulted in a positive report being fed back.

- 2860b. **Cost-of-Living Crisis:** Councillors were advised that aside from normal business Shropshire Council is focusing on support to residents in light of the cost-of-living crisis. Warm hubs are being established in public buildings with staff being advised to not challenge anybody who enters premises and remains for extended periods of time. Guidance notes are being provided to interested organisations such as churches and committees of village halls were being requested to consider what support could be provided. It was also noted that if a cold winter is experienced, Public Health will look to assist where possible.
- 2860c. **Integrated Healthcare:** Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley updated Councillors on the latest developments relating to the integration of the healthcare system. There are proposals to establish a super-surgery effectively creating a mini hospital with patients from communities being bused in and back. The overall situation relating to lack of doctors and surgeries was being exacerbated by retirements from the profession and surgeries being sold to free up the finance for pensions.
- 2860d. **Boundary Commission Review:** The Local Government review was underway and a review of the seat numbers within Shropshire Council suggested that two more may be added to cover communities which had seen a material increase in number of residents.

Councillor A Dixon joined the meeting at 8:40pm.

- 2860e. **Local Plan:** Councillors were advised that Shropshire's Local Plan was being challenged in light of the proposal from West Midlands authorities that further housing be established within the county. The proposed development at Tong previously refused by Shropshire Council was under further scrutiny.
- 2860f. **Local Connection:** Councillor T Flashman expressed his concerns over the amount of time taken by Shropshire Council to process requests for approval of local connections. Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley requested Councillor T Flashman to resend the details and she would investigate.
- 2860g. **Shropshire Highways Communications:** Councillors were advised that Laura Howells had assumed the role of communicating with town and parish councils and would be seeking feedback on performance.
- 2860h. **Community Governance Review:** Councillor Dr C Stevenson enquired whether the Parish Council should proceed with its expression of interest. Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley confirmed that the Parish Council could proceed and once complete, this should be forwarded to the team at SALC who would give it a first level review and then forward to Mrs Motley.

Councillors thanked Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley for her updates and having expressed her apologies she left the meeting at 9:00pm.

2861. CORRESPONDENCE

- 2861a. **Request for Confirmation of Local Connection:** Councillors noted this item had been covered earlier in the meeting.

2861b. **South Shropshire Area Committee Agenda:** Councillors noted the Agenda for the meeting scheduled for 17 October. Apologies for absence would be extended as the meeting clashed with the next meeting date of the Parish Council.

2861c. **Application to Shropshire Council for Feathered Trees for the Parish:** Councillors considered the details provided by Shropshire Council and it was agreed not to apply.

2861d. **Expiry of Listing of Longville Arms as an Asset of Community Value:** Councillors noted the advice from Shropshire Council of the expiry of the listing of the Longville Arms as an Asset of Community Value.

2861e. **Other Correspondence:** Councillors noted there was no other correspondence to consider.

2862. **COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

Councillors considered the merits of considering the proposal in view of the number of Councillors absent from the meeting. It was agreed to defer the item to the next meeting.

2863. **LOCAL POLICING COMMUNITY CHARTER**

Councillors noted that this item had been covered earlier in the meeting with PCSO St John.

2864. **PLACE PLAN**

Councillors noted no current developments as further advice of a meeting were awaited from Shropshire Council.

2865. **PARISH PLAN AND SURVEY**

Councillors agreed attempts should be made to progress the plan and survey. It was agreed that a meeting should be held with Councillors of Eaton Under Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council to consider opportunities for a combined plan in terms of points of reference. This was considered appropriate given the similarities between the two parishes. Consideration to be given to meeting arrangements.

2866. **TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

The Clerk advised Councillors that he awaited a response from Shropshire Council Highways team on the proposal to meet and discuss the planned locations for the speed indicator devices. It was also planned to discuss other opportunities for traffic calming within the parish.

2867. **LAND AROUND THE VILLAGE HALL**

Councillor Dr C Stevenson advised Councillors that there had been proposals to hold a joint meeting between representatives of the Parish Council, Village Hall and Millennium Green to discuss ownership and responsibilities for the land around the village hall. This was proposed to address responsibilities for maintenance in the future.

Councillors considered the merits of the Parish Council continuing to possess and maintain the tennis and ball court. Councillor T Flashman advised that he planned to meet the previous Clerk to learn some of the history for the fact this lay with the Parish Council. Details of the meeting arrangements on the discussion of the land are awaited.

2868. **PLANNING**

Planning Application received for:

2868a. 22/03814/FUL (validated 25/08/2022): Brook House, Wall Bank, Wall Under Heywood, Church Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 7DR.

Proposal: Erection of detached double garage with office at first floor, first floor extension to dwelling and alterations to vehicular access.

Decision: Not required as application withdrawn at time of Council meeting.

Councillors shared concerns over the post box that had been installed on the property. It created impression that it was a facility for placing mail in for collection by the Post Office and siting of this was at a dangerous point for drivers.

2868b. 22/03952/FUL (validated 30/08/2022): The Old Parlour, Longville In The Dale, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, TF13 6EE.

Proposal: Erection of rear two storey extension, garden room extension, new front door, fenestration alterations and internal alterations to existing dwelling (resubmission).

Decision: No objections.

2868c. 22/03938/FUL: The Bull Pen and Plot 2, Longville In The Dale, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, TF13 6DS.

Proposal: Application under Section 73A of the Town And Country Planning Act 1990 for the repositioning of Plot 2 dwelling and garage (not yet built) relative to that indicated on approval 17/01564/REM and 16/00927/OUT including minor changes to elevations and floor plans of Plot 2. Change of use of agricultural land to become garden Repositioning of Plot 1 dwelling (The Bull Pen) on approved plans (already built) relative to that indicated on approval 17/01564/REM and 16/00927/OUT and variation to related S.106 agreement. Change of use of agricultural land to become garden.

Decision: As the application had been received close to the Council meeting Councillors had not had the opportunity to consider it. This would be undertaken post the meeting.

2868d. **Planning Decisions**

Ref:21/04223/FUL (validated 16/09/2021): Longlea Farm, Longville In The Dale, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, TF13 6DS.

Proposal: Repositioning of plot 2 dwelling and garage relative to that indicated on approval 17/01564/REM and 16/00927/OUT together with minor changes

Decision: Withdrawn.

2868e. 22/03814/FUL (validated 25/08/2022): Brook House, Wall Bank, Wall Under Heywood, Church Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 7DR.

Proposal: Erection of detached double garage with office at first floor, first floor extension to dwelling and alterations to vehicular access.

Decision: Withdrawn.

2869. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

2869a. **Current Finances:** Councillors noted the balances on the Council's accounts.

Community Account at 02.07.2022	£7,474.58
Deposit Account at 01.07.2022	£3,501.50
Community Account at 02.08.2022	£1,878.55
Deposit Account at 01.08.2022	£10,000.00

Community Account at 02.09.2022 £1,717.18
Deposit Account at 01.09.2022 £10,000.00

2869b. Invoices Paid July

Tivoli Group Ltd (SLINV/00040353) £149.77
Rushbury Village Hall (3374) £15.00

2869c. Invoices Paid August

Tivoli Group Ltd (SLINV/00041340) £149.77
Jason Gough Computing Services Ltd (120015) £3.60

2869d. Invoices to Pay September

Tivoli Group Ltd (SLINV/00042370) £149.77
Jason Gough Computing Services Ltd (120171) £3.60
Jason Gough Computing Services Ltd (120321) £3.60
Jason Gough Computing Services Ltd (120273) £21.00
Clerk Salary £250.00

Councillor A Richards proposed, Councillor A Dixon seconded and it was resolved the payments be made and note the previous payments made.

2869e. Bank Reconciliation

Councillors noted the bank reconciliation presented for the period 1 April to 30 June 2022. Councillors considered Councillor responsibilities relating to checks of the financials throughout the year. No clear agreement at the meeting on how these would be met.

2869f. Receipts and Payments Against Budget

Councillors noted the schedules presented to the meeting for the period 1 April to 31 August 2022.

2869g. SAAA Central External Auditor Appointment Arrangements

Councillors noted the opportunity to opt out of the SAAA Central External Auditor Appointment arrangements. It was agreed to remain within the current existing arrangements.

The Clerk advised Councillors that the meeting exceeded the two-hour period and to continue would require suspension of the Standing Orders. The Clerk advised that the remaining items on the Agenda could be deferred to a subsequent meeting.

Councillors agreed that in the circumstances the meeting end and remaining items be deferred to the next meeting.

2870. FURTHER MEETING DATES

17 October 2022

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:35pm.

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Chairman

Date: 17 October 2022