

Minutes of Woore Parish Council Meeting

Monday 12th April 2021, 7.30pm

Remote meeting 248 986 6234



PRESENT:

Cllr M. Cowey (Chairman), Cllr K. Davies, Cllr. M. Blake, Cllr C. Hamilton, Cllr D. Beeston and Cllr M. Carter.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr Roy Aldcroft, Shropshire Council and Mrs H. Jackson, Clerk to the Council.

PUBLIC:

Mr M. Taylor and Mr G. Deville were in attendance.

The meeting opened with a Minutes silence in honour of H.R.H Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, following the announcement of his passing on the 9th April 2021.

20169 Apologies for absence

Cllr. G. Irwin (Vice Chairman) and Cllr J. Higgin were both absent due to personal commitments. Sally Tyson (Tree and Path Warden) was absent due to work commitments. It was unanimously resolved to accept the apologies.

20170 Declarations of Pecuniary Interests

Cllrs Beeston and Blake requested to be muted during discussions relating to 20175 (ai) Planning

20171 Open Forum – To last no longer than 15 minutes

No members of the public wished to raise any matters.

The Chairman thanked Sibaxo Ltd for their efforts to clean the signage within the Parish as a gesture of goodwill, noting the improvements that had been made.

He thanked the WI members for the community walk and treasure hunt that took place on Saturday 10th April, noting the community spirit of all those who supported the event and thanking the Falcon Pub for their support in hosting.

The Chairman reported graffiti on the water tower which is owned by United Utilities and is not on a public right of way, noting that this was reported to the Police. Additionally, graffiti has been reported at the rear of the Swan car park which will require reporting to the Shropshire Council to attend for cleaning.

20172 To approve and sign Minutes of Remote Meeting held on 8th March 2021

The resolution to accept the minutes of 8th March 2021 was passed unanimously.

20173 Matters Arising

The Clerk reported an amendment to Minutes 8th February 2021, as referenced in Appendix 3.0.

The Chairman reported that there was still no update on the adoption of the streetlights at the Grove development and Cllr Aldcroft reported that he had also received no response.

Cllr Aldcroft reported that still no response had been received from Shropshire Council regarding concerns raised over lack of recognition of the Woore Neighbourhood Plan in planning decisions but that this had been raised with Ian Kilby at the recent North Shropshire Area Committee Meeting.

The Chairman reported that the issue at College Fields Farm regarding HGV traffic had been referred as priority 3 to the Planning Enforcement Team at Cheshire East and a case reference received. An update will be provided in due course.

20174 Representatives Reports

To receive reports concerning the following matters:

(a) Movable and Stationary Vehicle Activated Signs - Cllr M. Blake

Cllr Blake advised that the MVAS data continued to be circulated to all parties fortnightly and no queries had been raised. It was noted that traffic numbers and speeding percentages remain high. The Chairman reported that the data had been shared with Shropshire Council representatives in respect of HS2 mitigation discussions and would also be shared with Andrew Stephenson, HS2 Minister, at the upcoming HS2 meeting.

(b) Community Speed watch - Cllr C. Hamilton

No further progress regarding the community speed watch was reported due to COVID delays and a backlog of groups requiring training and support from the Safer Roads team. The issue remains that speeds within the Parish are possibly too high to implement the community speedwatch and further updates will be provided. Further volunteers have registered their support. The Chairman reported that this issue has been shared with Rt Hon Owen Paterson MP, noting his astonishment at that issues Woore Parish Council is facing.

(c) Tree and Path Wardens – Ms S. Tyson & Ms C. Bedson

The Chairman noted that a public footpath on Gravenhunger Lane had been reported for attention due to deterioration and works had now been completed by Shropshire Council Outdoor Partnerships Team, who had been thanked for their work. A vast improvement was reported. Additionally, the issue of protruding stones on the pathway bordering the bowling club had also been resolved, with the path now in a far better condition.

The Chairman reported that on 14th April, Shropshire Council North Street Scene Officer is attending a meeting with The Chairman and Cllr Aldcroft to conduct a full patrol of the Parish and identify areas of concern after resident complaints regarding pavement condition.

The Clerk reported reports of a broken stile and electric fence on the North boarder of the Parish, to which the tree and path wardens will investigate as it could be outside of the Parish border.

(d) Village Hall – Cllr D. Beeston

The first face-to-face meeting had been held on 12th April and the hall is now taking bookings in line with government guidance.

(e) Shropshire – Councillor Mr R. Aldcroft

Cllr Aldcroft provided the following report, noting current restrictions during the period of PURDHA. Free parking is now available within Market Drayton until 25th April. The swimming pool is also now open. A service of remembrance will be held on Thursday 15th April at 7pm at St. Marys Church for nominated Parish Council representatives to attend. Claire Porter, County Solicitor will be retiring following elections after many years' service. SALC had been contacted for clarification on the Remote Annual Town Meeting, confirming that Councillors are encouraged not to make comment in

response to questions raised by members of the public and that the Clerk should instead manage that process.

(f) North Shropshire Area Committee – Cllr G. Irwin

In Cllr Irwin's absence, the Chairman referred to a report circulated prior to the meeting, following attendance of the 15th March NSAC meeting.

The meeting opened with an address by the Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire, who urged councils to put forward two names of deserving parishioners who would be invited to her annual garden party which will now take place in 2022.

The Lord Lieutenant also outlined the Royal Honours procedure and how to nominate candidates.

Cllr Irwin questioned James Wilcock, Head of Public Transport Shropshire, if anyone in his department had been asked to answer questions 3 and 4 of the HS2 Consultation on behalf of Shropshire Council, to which he replied that no one had responded and that they had no knowledge of the consultation. All Councillors shared their disappointment that this was the case stating that each department could have responded in relation to their area of expertise.

Cllr Aldcroft raised Woore's concerns regarding Shropshire Council's adoption of Neighbourhood Plans when considering planning applications with Ian Kirby, Head of Planning, who replied that where a Neighbourhood Plan had been ratified and agreed, these would afford full weight in making planning decisions for that area. Mr Kirby also explained that Council's with such plans would be entitled to 25% of CIL monies.

It was announced that all council meetings would return to being face-to-face from the 6th May 2021.

The issue of flooding was raised. Cllr Aldcroft reported that he and Steve Davenport had inspected the ditches around Norton-in-Hales.

20175 Planning

- (a) To consider and, if appropriate, to resolve on a response to the following planning application;
 - i. 21/00738FUL dated 4th March for the erection of a self build 5 bedroom detached dwelling house, with a link attached garage, installation of ground mounted solar panel array, vehicular access; and associated landscaping works (revised scheme) at 28 Grove Crescent, Woore, CW3 9SX.

Cllrs Beeston and Blake left the meeting.

The Lead Councillor referred to a report circulated prior to the meeting and discussion took place. It was **resolved** by majority that Woore Parish Council objects to this application because it does not conform with:

Woore Neighbourhood Plan

Policy HOU2 Housing Development

- a) It does affect local landscape character and visual amenity.
- g) It adversely affects heritage assets or their settings.

Policy HOU3 Design

- a) When adjoining open countryside, it does not provide a sympathetic built-to-unbuilt transition.

Also, in support of this objection, we refer to the two attached appendices (See Appendix 1.0 and 2.0) regarding development of this land. The correspondence of the 16th of October 2019 (Appendix

1.0) refers to Planning Application 19/03631/FUL by the same applicant for the same land that was due to be refused with reasoning given, which support the Parish Councils views.

Also, the second appendices dated the 25th of October 2019 (Appendix 2.0) where the applicant withdraws Planning Application 19/03631/FUL with also a commitment to re-opening the open space land. This was never carried out or enforced enabling the applicant to gain support for the new proposal due to the condition/state of the current land.

- ii. 21/00938/FUL dated 8th March for the erection of a detached garage at Ivy House, 20 London Road, Woore, Crewe, Shropshire.

Cllrs Beeston and Blake re-joined the meeting.

The Lead Councillor referred to a report circulated prior to the meeting. It was unanimously **resolved** to support the application subject to consultee comments and preservation of the hedgerow.

- iii. 21/00896/FUL dated 9th March 2021 for the conversion of existing brick barn into a single dwelling and erection of a detached timber garage following demolition of existing agricultural buildings at Sandyford Farm, Audlem Road, Woore, CWS 9RN.

The Lead Councillor referred to a report circulated prior to the meeting. It was unanimously **resolved** to support the application subject to consultee comments.

- iv. 21/00940/FUL dated 11th March for the erection of a two-storey extension following demolition of existing single garage at 19 St Leonards Way, Woore, CW3 9SS.

The Lead Councillor referred to a report circulated prior to the meeting. It was unanimously **resolved** to support the application with the following comments;

There have been no objections to the proposed planning application. The application proposes replacement of an existing single garage and car port with a 2-storey extension incorporating a garage; the extents of which do not go further than the existing front and rear building line of the property. The proposal would appear suitable for the property and subject to complying with any consultee/statutory comments/requirements, the Parish Council supports this application.

- v. 21/01151/FUL dated 19th March for the erection of a small green house (approximately 6ft 6in x 6ft 6in) in the front garden at 2 Oak Farm Barns, Dorrington Lane, Woore, Crewe, Shropshire.

The Lead Councillor referred to a report circulated prior to the meeting. It was unanimously **resolved** to support the application subject to consultee comments.

20176 HS2

- a) To receive an update from the Chairman on Traffic Calming/Mitigation discussions/next steps

The Chairman referred to a recent report circulated prior to the meeting, summarised below:

- March 16th - Presentation from Stone Railhead Crisis Group on Aldersey's Rough Proposal attended by Cllr. Irwin and Cowey and including representatives from WPAG
- March 18th - Mitigation Review Meeting, Chaired by Mr Owen Paterson with WPC Working Party and Shropshire Council representatives.
- March 22nd - Additional Car Parking requirements, email discussion ongoing in reference to use of the Falcon Pub car park.

Forthcoming Presentations/Meetings:

- April 13th - Stone Railhead Crisis Group to give shortened Presentation to Mr Owen Paterson, WPC Working Party in attendance.
- April 15th - Mr Owen Paterson's Meeting with HS2 Minister (Andrew Stephenson) including WPC Working Party and two representatives from Shropshire Council. (Pre-meeting to take place 30 mins before with Mr Paterson prior scheduled meeting)

Following receipt of a Briefing Note for HS2 HGV Mitigations dated 25th March 2021, prepared by Shropshire Council Strategic Infrastructure Works Manager, an email has been sent to Shropshire Council representatives 2nd April summarising the response from WPC Working Party on behalf of Woore Parish Council, and referencing the meeting with the HS2 Minister, specifically noting Speed Limit discussions.

The Chairman noted that the HS2 Engagement Team have reported that moving forward, community areas will be used for providing updates for residents on road closures and other matters and that Woore Parish will be covered within CA4 communications.

- (1) To receive an update from the Vice Chairman

The Vice Chairman was absent from the meeting and no further update was provided.

20177 Summer Planting

The Clerk referred to a report circulated prior to the meeting and discussion took place. It was unanimously **resolved** to accept proposal A & B and to reject C & D, meaning that an order for a total of 25 planters at £600.94, including the addition of a planter at the Audlem Road corner bed, and summer bedding for all Parish troughs at the value of £352.50 (all prices excluding VAT), could be placed with Westholme Nurseries (noting the possible requirement for additional compost). It was agreed that all troughs will be planted by volunteers at a date to be agreed.

Support of Proposal A & B also included winter planting to the value of £350 plus VAT, or order for which is not required until October.

Discussions raised the issue of ownership of the Woore Village bed the runs between the bus stop to the Audlem Road corner. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Shropshire Council to determine ownership before any planting expenditure was agreed. It was reported that a tidy up of that bed would be undertaken by the Lengthsman. It was also acknowledged that this bed will be removed when HS2 construction begins and therefore confirming ownership was a matter of importance.

20178 Lengthsman / Grounds Maintenance Contract Review

The Clerk provided an update on all matters attaining to the contract renewal for Lengthsman and grass cutting / general maintenance duties, including reference to a full list of duties for each, circulated prior to the meeting. It was unanimously **resolved** that a continuation of services at the existing pricing could be agreed for duties as defined by the Clerk.

It was noted that the Clerk had recently been contacted by the Lengthsman stating potential difficulty in honouring the arrangement moving forward and, in that instance, the defined list of Lengthsman duties would be put to tender. The Clerk agreed to provide an update in due course and that work had already taken place for the month of April.

20179 RFO Update

The Clerk provided a report on the following;

(a) End of Year Financial Report

Projected expenditure for end of year 2020/21	£30,870.95
Actual expenditure for end of year 2020/21	£31,23.37*

*Expenditure figures exclude total VAT (£7,507.61) and Shropshire Council CIL contributions of £24,000 for Newcastle Road. Variances include Woore Primary School grant of £750 in January 2021 and replacement defibs batteries (£352 plus VAT) in March 2021, both unprecedented spend at the time of projected expenditure.

Opening Balance as of 1 st April 2021	£54,374.89
Total Income 2020/21	£98,192.54
Total Expenditure 2020/21	£62,630.98
Bank Balance as of 31 st March 2021	£128,150.84
Unpresented cheques	£38,314.39
Closing Balance 2020/21	<u>£89,936.45</u>

Split as follows:

Recreational fund:	£11,436.00
CIL fund:	£46,501.14
General fund:	£31,999.31

Precept due 23 rd April 2021	£30,727.00
CIL due 23 rd April 2021	TBC*

*Shropshire Council have given notice that this has been delayed and will be published in due course. The Clerk reported that a full financial report including all expenditure will be provided at the Annual Parish Meeting, 29th April 2021.

(b) Internal Control Process (financial scrutineering) Q4

It was reported that this process had been completed with thanks to Cllrs Davies and Higgin and a report circulated to full Council.

(c) VAT Claim

It was reported that calculations for Q4 VAT Claim were prepared and notice of total claim would be provided in due course.

20180 Policy & Procedures

To resolve to adopt the Woore Parish Council policies/procedures as follows;

a) Defibrillator Policy

It was unanimously **resolved** to adopt the Defibrillator Operation and Maintenance Policy Procedure April 2021, with appointment of a representative deferred until post elections.

It was reported that the defibrillator at the Country Stores Shop was deployed to a major incident on the A525 in March and has since been checked, replaced and is confirmed as emergency ready.

The A525 will be closed 16th April for the reconstruction of the accident. Training for use of the defibrillators will be discussed later in the year.

b) Risk Assessment for return to face-to-face meetings

It was unanimously **resolved** to adopt the Risk Assessment for the return to face-to-face meetings and agreed that the Clerk will prepare all necessary arrangements. The right to hold meetings remotely ends 5th May 2021, with the scheduled meeting 17th May taking place at the Village Hall.

20181 Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk reported that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place Thursday 29th April, 7.30pm via zoom and that public notice (agenda) will also be shared via social media. The meeting is open to all members of the public and reports will be provided in advance. Any residents wishing to attend can contact clerk@wooreparishcouncil.org.

20182 Clerks Reports and Correspondence

To receive a summary of Reports and Correspondence for the period from 8th March 2021 to 6th April 2021.

Elections

Statement of Persons Nominated has been received naming 8 persons, along with Notice of Uncontested Election for which the charge is £100. Notice of co-option of the remaining 2 vacancies will be prepared in due course.

Resident Enquiries/Reports

- Condition of roads through the Parish - multiple complaints have been received concerning the alarming condition of all roads through the Parish which have all been reported with several having been repaired already. Shropshire Council are aware of the concerns and as part of HS2 mitigation discussions this is being addressed.
- Pavement condition - multiple complaints received concerning deterioration of pavements including grass/dirt overgrowing the path. The Chairman has reported an inspection 14th April.
- Oil spillage Woore Village - reported to Clerk by Police 9th April dealt with in an hour by Shropshire Council Highways as an emergency.
- Village Green - conifers overgrowing Ash Mount footpath - grounds maintenance have quoted to cut this back and include back of Village Green which requires attention.
- Streetlight repair St Leonards - broken lamp reported and repaired by EON at cost.
- Vermin on Newcastle Road - Shropshire Council visited occupants and made recommendations which have been addressed and the issue is now resolved.
- Bins at St Leonards Way play area - reports of rubbish left on the park due to full bins. Thanks to the Chairman who attended and emptied the bins. It was noted that bins are emptied fortnightly and any increase in frequency will incur additional costs. To date the frequency has been sufficient and therefore the Clerk will monitor this ongoing.
- Bin at Village Green - damaged and will be reported to Shropshire Council for repair.

Correspondence from Childs Ercall in relation to the condition of rural roads was deferred until the 17th May meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that all correspondence for period 8th March to 6th April 2021 had been circulated.

20183 Payment of Accounts

It was unanimously **resolved** by to approve the following cheques for payment:

Date	Recipient & Purpose	Amount	Power of Expenditure
12.04.21	H.M.Jackson (March)		
	i Salary (gross)	£1168.33	LGA 1972 s.112(2)
	ii. Holiday pay (gross)	£843.07	LGA 1972 s.112(2)
	(NI deduction £145.73) (Tax deduction £192.60)	(-£338.33)	LGA 1972 s.112(2)
	iii Expenses	£45.42	LG (FP)A 1963 s.5
	iv Mileage	£0.00	
	v Sundry	£61.50	LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 LG A 1972 s 111 LGA 1972 s. 137
	TOTAL	£1779.99	
17.03.21	Bernard Morris (Microsoft Online Services License expense) (Inc VAT)	£113.76	LG A 1972 s 111
23.03.21	SALC (Clerk VAT training)	30.00	LG A 1972 s 111
12.02.21	SSE (Electricity supply streetlights) (Inc VAT) (PAID by DD)	£48.89	PCA 1957 ss.3(1) & 7, HA 1980 s.301
17.03.21	Natwest (Safe Custody Hold) (PAID by bank charge)	£65.00	LG(R)A 1962 s 4
29.03.21	Wel Medical (defibrillator batteries) (Inc VAT) (PAID)	£422.40	TBC
12.04.21	HMRC (NI/Tax E'ee contributions inc. deductions for overpayment as now eligible for employment allowance)	£203.15	LGA 1972 s.112(2)

The Chairman thanked all Councillors who have served in the last 4 years for their commitment and hard work.

The meeting closed at 9.42pm.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

17th May 2021, 7.30pm and 14th June 2021, 7.30pm*

*Meetings to return to face-to-face from 7th May and therefore to be held at Victory Hall, Woore.

Annual Parish Meeting, 29th April 2021, 7.30pm to be held remotely. Contact clerk@wooreparishcouncil.org for more details. Meeting open to all members of the public, with agenda and reports to be made available in advance.

Signed.....(Chair)

Dated 17th May 2021

Agenda Item	Motion	Cllr	For	Against	Abstain
20175 (ai) Prop: Cowey, M Second: Davies, K	<i>To object to the application 21/00738//FUL with comments as stated.</i>	Cowey	X		
		Davies	X		
		Blake, M			X
		Clarke	X		
		Carter	X		
		Beeston			X
		Hamilton	X		