

Donington with Boscobel Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Donington with Boscobel Parish Council held on Tuesday 19th December 2023 at the Methodist Church Hall, Albrighton at 7pm

In attendance: Cllrs Lee Chatburn, Suzy Francis, Dawn Harper, Christine Jones, Robert Parry, Adrian Robinson, Virginia Sankey, Phil Ogle, David Williams, and the Parish Clerk (Vanessa Voysey)

2023.90 Welcome by the Chair

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished Cllr David Beechey a swift recovery

2023.91 Apologies for absence and reasons:

The Council accepted an apology of absence from Cllr David Beechey (unwell)

2023.91 Declarations of Interest: a) Pecuniary b) Personal

There were no declarations of interest at this time

2023.92 Public Session:

A member of the public has written to the Parish Council regarding the decision to award £1632 towards the upkeep of St Cuthbert's Churchyard. It was noted that the minutes of September 2022 recorded that the Chairman had expressed concern at the legal status of giving money to the church and that SALC advice had been that it was not legal.

Cllr Christine Jones said that there was a distinction in giving monies for the fabric of the church and for the maintenance of the churchyard, and noted that the monies for the churchyard were ring-fenced in the church's accounts. Cllr Robert Parry noted that if the churchyard were to close, the Parish Council would be responsible for its upkeep.

2023.93 Minutes:

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved, to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 21st November 2023

2023.94 Matters Arising

- a) **St Cuthbert's Meadow Working Party:** there was nothing to report at this time. The Chairman requested that this item be moved to reports on the next agenda.
- b) **Asset Register:** consideration and approval of the updated Asset Register was deferred so that the work is completed, this is to include land owned by the Parish Council with Land Registry numbers.
- c) **Councillor Surgeries:** there will be an informal meeting on 3rd January to consider planning of Councillor surgeries in the next year

d) Nature Reserve Legal Agreement 1999 there were no updates at this time

e) Freedom of the Parish Cllr Christine Jones will be contacting Mrs Kirton regarding offering a certificate of Freedom of the Parish to retired Councillor Hugh Kirton

2023.95 New Business

a) Flood Resilience Planning

The Chairman of AFLAG has contacted the Parish Council about the intention to call a flood resilience planning meeting in January. The meeting's aim would be to draw up a flood resilience plan for the area. The Parish Council's representatives are Cllrs Christine Jones and David Williams. Both councillors indicated that they intended to attend the meeting.

2023.96 Correspondence: For Action

The following items were received after the publication of the Agenda:

- a) Shropshire Council has sent details of a consultation on a Community Governance Review of the Parishes of Albrighton and Donington. Dates for consultation submissions are 15th December 2023 to 26th January 2024 for stage one, and 27th January to 20th March 2024 for stage two.
- b) Albrighton Parish Council has requested that the Parish Council consider joining a Working Party to formulate a response to the Community Governance Review. It was agreed to join the Working Party with representatives Cllrs David Williams, Lee Chatburn and Christine Jones.
- c) Cllr Peter Iles (Albrighton Parish Council) has contacted the Parish Council about a new fence installed in the lay-by on the A41 bypass. A resident has questioned if it could be painted in a more sympathetic colour. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should advise Cllr Iles to contact Shropshire Council directly.
- d) Albrighton Village Halls Trust has written regarding a complaint made to the ICO about CCTV footage and its usage. This was noted. It was requested by the Chairman that this item be put on the next Agenda.

2023.97 Correspondence: For Information

A letter has been received from Albrighton Medical Practice regarding the suggestion to provide overspill parking at the Scout Hut. It has been decided by the Medical Practice not to pursue this idea out of consideration of liability issues.

2023.98 Planning

a) Applications:

23/05094/HHE: 2 Woodland Close, Albrighton. Erection of a single storey rear extension to a terraced dwelling, dimensions 5 metres beyond the rear wall, 4 metres in maximum height and 2.4 metres high to the eaves *No comment*

b) Permission Granted:

The following were noted:

Reference: 23/04594/FUL: Cosford Water Treatment Works, Cosford, Albrighton, Installation of 1 No. Dosing Kiosk

Reference 23/04658/FUL: Copper Beeches, 7 White Ladies Barns, Shackerley Lane, Cosford: erection of a shed and gate

c) Application Withdrawn:

The following was noted:

Reference: 23/04874/OUT: Proposed Rural Workers Dwelling North Of JK Fresh Produce, Long Lane, Neachley. Outline application for the erection of dwelling for rural worker to include access

d) Permission Refusals: none at this time

e) Any other planning matters:

It was noted that a confidential notice of a Planning Enforcement Case had been sent by Shropshire Council. This was emailed to Parish Councillors prior to the meeting.

Plans for converting the old school on Rectory Road to a domestic dwelling have been withdrawn due to a 'reverter clause' on the land. It was suggested that there would be ways of working around this long-term.

2023.99 Finance

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved to approve the following payments –

Clerk	Clerk's salary (December)	<i>Net £1016.20 (gross £694.20, backpay£346.40)</i>	LGA 1972 s 112 (2) LGA 1972 s 111
HMRC	Tax	<i>£24.40</i>	LGA 1972 s.111
Clerk	Travel Expenses (November)	<i>£13.50</i>	LGA 1972 s.112
Hugo Fox	Website (December)	<i>£11.99</i>	LGA 1972 s.111
Unity Bank	Bank Charges	<i>£18</i>	LGA 1972 s.111

- **The following grant payments made following a decision made at the meeting of November 21st 2023 were noted:**
£1632 towards the cost of cutting the grass at St Cuthbert's Churchyard
£50 donation to the Royal British Legion.
- **The following income received was noted:** Dividend – £431.24 to the Public Sector Deposit Fund (November)

- **Bank Reconciliation** – it was proposed, seconded, and resolved to receive and approve the bank reconciliation until the end of November 2023
- **Spend to Date** – it was proposed, seconded, and resolved to receive and approve the spend to date to the end of November 2023
- **Draft budget** – consideration was given to the draft budget prepared by the Parish Clerk as a starting point for setting the budget for the financial year 2024-2025.

Information received from Shropshire Council has advised that a 0% increase in precept request would be £36,564 compared to £36,390 requested in 2023/2024. Cllr David Williams suggested that the Parish Council should be mindful of interest and inflation levels when setting a precept. Cllr Robert Parry said that the level of reserves could be significant in changes of Parish boundaries.

2023.100 Reports:

- (a) **SALC** (Cllr D. Beechey): there was none at this time
- (b) **RAF Cosford** (Sq. Ldr. C. Wilson): planning is underway for the 2024 Cosford Air Show. Events planned for the festive season includes 90 local senior citizens being invited for dinner at the station.
- (c) **Nature Reserve Report**: none at this time
- (d) **Clerk's Report**: Shropshire Councillor Ed Bird has followed up the issue of flooding on Long Lane with Shropshire Council highway engineers.
- (e) **Royal British Legion** (Cllr D. Williams): none at this time
- (f) **Royal British Legion – 2023 Poppy Appeal & Remembrance Day** (Cllr D. Williams): contributions had increased compared to the previous year, it was noted that contributions paid by card go directly to the county and an estimate is given
- (g) **Footpaths** (Cllr V Sankey): a meeting will be held on 11th January, work has taken place in the Parish regarding stiles and dog gates
- (h) **RAF Cosford Cadets** (Cllr R. Parry): a formal squadron dance took place at Park House, Shifnal. A Christmas Party will be held at RAF Cosford.
- (i) **War Memorial Working Party** (L Chatburn): a replacement has been found for Jubb-Clews
- (j) **Any other reports**: thanks was given for the OAP Christmas Dinner given to residents at the Red House

2023.101 Training

Training information is available on: www.alcshropshire.co.uk/training

2023.102 Date of the Next Meeting 16.1.24

Items for the agenda to be notified to the clerk by **6.1.24**