

# **Donington with Boscobel Parish Council**

## **Minutes of the Meeting of Donington with Boscobel Parish Council on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 At 7.00pm Zoom Meeting ID: 875 1115 2490**

Present: David Beechey, David Dale, Hugh Kirton, Christine Jones, Philip Ogle, Robert Parry, David Williams, Chris Wilson, Shropshire Councillor Ed Bird, Parish Clerk (Vanessa Voysey, and two members of the public

### **20.110 Welcome by the Chair**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **20.111 Apologies for absence and reasons:**

The Parish Council received apologies from:-

Don Hickman – personal commitment  
Malcolm White – no internet connection

The above apologies were received and accepted

### **20.111 Declarations of Interest: a) Pecuniary b) Personal**

The following personal interests were declared:

Christine Jones – School Governor, Albrighton Primary School  
David Dale – School Governor, Albrighton Primary School

The above was noted.

### **20.112 Public Session:**

The Vice Chairman of the Donington Nature Reserve Management Committee was welcomed to the meeting. The Vice Chairman thanked the Parish Council for its support. He said that the volunteers do a lot of work, during Covid restrictions this work is only done if it is safe to do so. If two people are working this is done at a distance.

On a negative note, youths have broken into the nature reserve's gate and have been using the bird hide to take drugs. Cllr Robert Parry has repaired the gate post and the height of the fences has been raised. Motion cameras have been fitted so there are faces and a name. Hopefully the situation will be resolved.

On a positive note, a path and new bridge is being planned that will create a circular walk around the woodlands for when it opens. A good maintenance programme is planned, a sub-committee is meeting regularly to forward plan on maintenance, daily work and larger projects. An insect and bee hotel has been constructed and a local school is coming in to plant new trees.

Access to allow machines to go through would be useful.

The Chairman brought forward the planned Agenda item 6)b)to discuss any updates to the Church Centre car park and rights of way. The Land Registry is establishing what land belongs to the Church Centre. The Chairman advised that there had been an issue in the past with getting land registered to the Parish Council and that this might need to be looked into.

### **20.113 Minutes**

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to accept the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021 as a true record

### **20.114 Matters Arising**

#### **a) Burial space in Albrighton**

A report on the implication of burial spaces had been forwarded by Cllr Robert Parry by email prior to the meeting. There are 400 burial spaces in Donington, but none in Albrighton. The Churchyard is part of the United Benefice and is administered accordingly. Cllr Parry noted that if the churchyard were to be closed the costs would fall onto Donington Parish. In his view, cemetery space represents as contribution to the shared asset principle as raised in discussions with Albrighton Parish Council.

There was some discussion on the principle of shared assets, and that it should not be a one-way thing, the historic investment burial spaces and the Nature Reserve being assets equal to the library. Cllr David Dale said that as the Parish Council had written to Albrighton Parish Council to say no to cost-sharing, it would perhaps be appropriate for the church to deal directly with Albrighton Parish Council, and similarly the Nature Reserve.

#### **b) Donington Church Centre Car Park and Rights of Way**

Further to the discussion on the nature reserve held in the public session, it was agreed that the Parish Clerk should look for a suitable conveyancing solicitor to progress the issue.

### **20.115 New Business**

#### **a) Twinkling Stars Charitable Trust**

A grant request from Albrighton Twinkling Stars had been circulated prior to the meeting by Cllr David Dale. This included an appendix outlining project costs, and profit and loss figures for the last three completed financial years.

Twinkling Stars is a Charitable Trust that provides pre-school facilities at Albrighton Primary School, it also has a small crèche. It is looking for funding for a covered outdoor play area to include a safe surface and a canopy. The overall cost of the project will be £22,132. Cllr David Dale advised the Parish Council that £6k of the funding had been found towards the total project cost. Covid has brought financial restrictions, but with the end of lockdown the PTA may be able to put on more activities.

There was a discussion on the merits of the facility for the community. Nursery figures are unknown at this time, but it is understood that 90 children out of the 220 in the school are from Cosford. A figure of £5k was recommended as appropriate by Cllr David Dale, who had looked at the figures supplied by the Parish Clerk and had taken into account the likely surplus in grant budget availability because of events cancelled by Covid. Cllr Robert Parry questioned if this was not a high amount, and pointed out that a nursery facility in the Parish

had closed down. However, Cllr Christine Jones said that this was because of retirement considerations.

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** that the Albrighton Twinkling Stars Trust should be offered £5k towards its outdoor play area project.

## **b) Flooding**

Cllrs David Williams and Christine Jones had been to an informal AFLAG (Albrighton Flood Action Group) where flooding issues were discussed including the main development at Newport Road Bridge where work has been scheduled in.

Newport Road Bridge: Road closure has been a sticking point, it will now be a lane closure rather than a road closure as this can be done quicker, and it is hoped work will commence within the next few months. Pipes will have new linings, and hopefully this will solve the problem for some considerable time.

Station Road: Drains have been blasted by the station.

Long Lane: this issue was raised at the AFLAG meeting by Donington with Boscobel representatives. This needs to be reported to Shropshire Council so that AFLAG can take it up. Using the 'My Shropshire' app to report any incidents would be helpful in this respect.

### **20.116 Correspondence: For Action**

There was no correspondence to consider at the time of the Agenda being published.

### **20.117 Correspondence: For Information**

The following were noted:

- a) **Shropshire Council** – Polling Station Review – an update from Shropshire Council advises the Parish Council that the possible alternative polling station of the Former Church Centre is not going to be reviewed at this time as it is a care home setting. The Parish Council will be contacted when Shropshire Council is in a position to undertake the review.
- b) **Footpath on Neachley Lane** – a member of the public has contacted the Parish Council about the closure of a footpath on Neachley Lane. The Parish Clerk has contacted Shropshire Council's Countryside Partnership for information.
- c) **Temporary Road Closure** – Shackerley Lane will be closed from 12<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> April between 9.30 and 15.30 for fibre cabling and jointing. BT Openreach.

### **20.118. Planning.**

a) **Applications:** there were none at this time

b) **Permission Granted:**

The following were noted:

#### **20/04521/FUL**

Proposed Commercial Development Land to the West of Neachley Lane, Cosford  
Erection of new air ambulance HQ and airbase

c) **Permission Refusals:**

The following were noted:

**20/04911/FUL**

White Ladies Farm Barns, Shackerley Lane, Cosford

Conversion of outbuilding to one dwelling to include erection of single storey extension

d) **Any other planning matters**

The Parish Clerk's report, circulated prior to the meeting, reported back from SALC and their advice on strategies for dealing with untidy properties. The advice about appealing against Shropshire Council's decision to take no further action in an individual case was that an ombudsman would look at procedural matters and not outcome.

**20.119 Finance.**

**20.119.1**

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

Clerk	Clerk's salary & expenses (January)	£449.37	LGA 1972 s 112 (2) LGA 1972 s 111
HMRC	Tax	£0	LGA 1972 s.111

**20.119.2**

- a) **Bank Reconciliation** – it was proposed seconded, and **resolved** to receive and approve the bank reconciliation until the end of January 2021
- b) **Spend to Date** – it was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to receive and approve the spend to date to the end of January 2021

**20.120 Reports:**

(a) **SALC** (Cllr D. Beechey): there had been a constructive meeting with the Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin MPs.

(b) **RAF Cosford** (Cllr. C. Wilson): the Air Show has been postponed until September and will be smaller than usual

(c) **Nature Reserve Report:** a written report was filed in advance of the meeting

(d) **Albrighton Village Halls Trust** (Cllr H. Kirton): the Red House remains closed and this will continue for some time. Maintenance is being undertaken

(e) **AFLAG** – Albrighton Flood Action Group (Cllr D. Hickman): this was covered earlier in the meeting

(f) **ACT** – (Cllr Robert Parry): the Cadets have not paraded since March. There are no dates as yet for recommencement. The AGM will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> March.

(g) **Clerk's Report:** a written report was filed in advance of the meeting. Progress is being made on banking changes.

**(h) Albrighton Fayre** (Cllr Robert Parry): the future of the fayre is uncertain at this time

Any other reports.

**20.121 Training**

Training information is available on: [www.alcshropshire.co.uk/training](http://www.alcshropshire.co.uk/training)

**20.122 Date of the Next Meeting 16.03.21**

Items for the agenda to be notified to the clerk by **06.03.21**