

Donington with Boscobel Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Donington with Boscobel Parish Council
Tuesday 20th October at 7pm
Held on Zoom Video - Meeting ID: 814 2511 6666**

Present: Cllrs Christine Jones, David Dale, Chris Wilson, Robert Parry, David Beechey.
In attendance: Shropshire Councillor Ed Bird, V.N.Voysey (Parish Clerk)

20.54 Welcome by the Chair

Chairman Christine Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting.

20.55 Apologies for absence and reasons:

Apologies were received from:

Malcolm White – no internet connection
Don Hickman – personal commitment
David Williams – work commitment

The above apologies were received and accepted

20.56 Declarations of Interest: a) Pecuniary b) Personal

There were none at this time

20.57 Public Session:

There were no members of the public present and no questions filed in advance of the meeting

Cllr Chris Wilson joined the meeting

20.58 Minutes:

The list of Committee Representatives in the draft minutes required amendment to include Cllr Hugh Kirton on the Village Hall Trust, Cllr Don Hickman on the Nature Reserve Management Committee, and Cllrs David Beechey and Robert Parry on the Relief in Need.

With these amendments, it was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to accept the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 15th September 2020 as a true record

20.59 Matters Arising

- a) **Memorial Bench** – there has been no update on this project, the Parish Clerk said she would chase this up
- b) **Highways** - there has been no updates on the proposals regarding Rectory Road and Long Lane. Cllr Ed Bird agreed to make enquiries about it. The Parish Clerk said she would send him correspondence received to date
- c) **Casual Vacancy** – Cllr Chris Wilson advised the Council that he had passed on the email sent by the Parish Clerk advertising the Council Vacancy to RAF Cosford personnel.
- d) **Contribution towards services**– Cllr David Dale reported to Councillors about the request from Albrighton Parish Council to contribute towards the Albrighton Flyer, Albrighton Library and the village planters. He said that he had looked at the numbers in the invoices and in his opinion there were some inconsistencies in the figures. As regards the charges, he expressed the view that there should be absolute transparency and this should be supported with paper documentation. The services were not an issue as they are valued by parishioners in both parishes. He suggested a meeting with Albrighton Parish Council so the numbers could be properly understood, there must be transparency or we shouldn't pay it. It needs to be a two-way process, and a proper dialogue on shared issues.

Cllr Christine Jones, Chairman, said that there had not been a meeting between the Chairs since lockdown, this is communication but no meetings have been requested between either side.

It was proposed, seconded, and **agreed**, that a meeting should take place between the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen to clarify the issue.

- e) **Benches repair** – Cllr Robert Parry updated the Parish Council on the condition of two benches. The Mick Owen memorial bench needs repositioning. Both benches need serious repair or replacement. Cllr Parry estimated that replacements with basework would cost around £1500. He estimated that he could repair the benches for £400; it eight and possibly nine pieces of oak and would include groundwork costing about £250.

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved**, that a £500 be set-aside for the project and that Cllr Robert Parry source, repair and provide a pro-forma invoice to complete the work.

20.60 New Business

- a) **Complaints Policy** – it was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to approve the complaints policy
- b) **Code of Conduct for Members** - it was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to approve Code of Conduct for members policy
- c) **Appointment of Internal Auditor** – it was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to appoint John Henry of JDH Business Services was appointed as Internal Auditor for the financial year 2020-21

20.62 Correspondence: For Action

- a) **Shropshire Council Maintenance** - a request was considered from Edward Andrews of Shropshire Council for consideration of a contribution from the Parish Council towards the cost of maintenance of the Nature Reserve this year. It was agreed that a breakdown of costs should be requested before giving the matter full consideration.
- b) **Flagpole** – a request has been made to contribute towards the cost of a flagpole to be placed outside the Red House. The Parish Council voted against involvement in the project in February but had been asked to reconsider by Albrighton Parish Council. The project has not been as expensive as was predicted and the contribution of £91.77 was requested. There was no proposal in favour of supporting the flagpole so the decision of February stands.
- c) **London Hearts Charity** – the Operations Manager of London Hearts (Charity Number 1180901) has contacted the Parish Council with an offer on heavily discounted special packages as part of a programme to get more defibrillators installed across the country. This was noted for future reference.

20.63 Correspondence: For Information.

- a) **Road Closure** – Worcester Lane will be closed on 6th December for structural examination of the railway bridge between 7am and 3pm. Works promoter is Network Rail.
- b) **Road Closure** – County Lane will be closed from 20th January 2021 to 10th February 2021 between 9.30am and 4pm for surfacing work. The work promoter is Kier on behalf of Shropshire Council.

The above were noted

20.64 Planning.

- a) **Applications:** 20/03918/FUL

Wyevale Garden Centres Plc, Nursery Garden Centre, Newport Road, Albrighton

Development Proposed: Erection of a single storey extension to accommodate a café and kitchen and an associated external seating area.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to approve the above application.

- b) **Permission Granted:** None at this time
- c) **Permission Refusals:** None at this time

- d) **Any other planning matters:** A local resident had contacted the Parish Clerk and had raised the condition of Humprheston Hall. The Chairman, Cllr Christine Jones, had inspected the site and said that she could not see any obvious deterioration in condition since she had last spoken to Shropshire Council about it. She noted that the Parish Council has no authority in this matter. If local residents are not happy with the condition of the building then Shropshire Council could be contacted directly about it.

Cllr Robert Parry raised the issue of the verge at White Ladies and sought the opinion of other Parish Councillors for next month's meeting.

20.65 Finance.

20.65.1

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

Clerk	Clerk's salary & expenses (September)	£449.37		LGA 1972 s 112 (2) LGA 1972 s 111
HMRC	Tax	<i>Not due</i>		LGA 1972 s.111
Shropshire Rural Community Council	Membership Renewal	£26		LGA 1972 s 112 (2)
St Cuthbert's Church	Grant towards cost of grass-cutting	£3000		LGA 1972 s 137

20.65.2

- a) **Bank Reconciliation** it was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to approve the bank reconciliation until the end of September 2020
- b) **Spend to Date** it was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to receive and approve the spend to date to the end of September 2020
- c) **External Audit** -it was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to approve the completion of the External Audit for the year 2019-2020

20.66 Reports:

- (a) **SALC** Cllr D. Beechey – Viscount Newport is still pushing ahead with the M45 housing plan but Shropshire Council is not in favour. Shropshire Council could not give a reason for the extra 16 acres of Green Belt release over what is required by MAAC (Midland Air Ambulance Charity).
- (b) **RAF Cosford** Cllr. C. Wilson – there is nothing to report at this time
- (c) **Nature Reserve Report** - the committee had filed this in advance and it had been circulated to all Councillors

- (d) **Albrighton Village Halls Trust** Cllr H. Kirton – nothing to report at this time
- (e) **AFLAG** – Albrighton Flood Action Group Cllr D. Hickman – nothing to report at this time
- (f) **Clerk's Report** – this had been covered elsewhere in the meeting

Any other reports.

20.67 Training

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

20.68 Date of the Next Meeting 17.11.20

Items for the agenda to be notified to the clerk by **07.11.20**