

THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHBURY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 20 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, RUSHBURY VILLAGE HALL, RUSHBURY

2940. WELCOME

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

2941 PRESENT

Councillor Dr C Stevenson - Chairman, Councillors A Dixon, Ms A Henderson
Clerk C Maclean
Members of Public: 1

2942. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Councillors P Bodimeade, T Flashman, M Pye, A Richards and Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley.

2943. PUBLIC SESSION

No points raised.

2944. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

2945. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 16 JANUARY 2023

Councillors noted that there were insufficient Councillors present who had attended the meeting on 16 January to approve the Minutes and these were deferred to the next meeting.

2946. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

2946a. Consider and agree co-option of new member: Councillors welcomed Mr Mark Lowndes to the meeting who had expressed an interest in joining the Council. Councillors noted the communications previously provided by Mr Lowndes detailing his interests in joining. **Councillor A Dixon proposed, Councillor Ms A Henderson seconded and it was resolved that Mr Mark Lowndes be invited to join the Council.**

2946b. Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Councillor: Mr Lowndes expressed his thanks, accepted the invitation, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took his seat at Council.

Councillor Dr C Stevenson welcomed Councillor M Lowndes to the Council.

2946c. Remaining Vacancy: The Clerk advised Councillors that the relevant notices were on display in attempt to fill the remaining position.

2947. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Councillor Dr C Stevenson advised Councillors that he had attended the online Chair's Network meeting on 18 January where a number of topics had been covered:

2947a) HGV Operating Licences: A Council representative raised concerns over HGV operating licences being granted by Shropshire Council without reference to local Councils. This was of

particular concern in light of major infrastructure projects impacting parts of the county and local environment.

- 2947b. **Speed Limit Marking:** The Chair at Oswestry Town Council shared concerns relating to charges being levied by Shropshire Council for the marking of speed limits.
- 2947c. **Celebration of King's Coronation:** Advice was received that Shropshire Council is charging a fee of £1,500 for the granting of street closure orders for the celebration. The fee was considered excessive.
- 2947d. **Green Waste Collection Charge:** Discussions and concerns were shared over the proposal by Shropshire Council to charge householders for the removal of green waste. Councillors subsequently noted the advice in the media that the proposal had been dropped.
- 2947e. **County Social Care Costs:** There was a shared view that these costs should be split out from the other budgetary items to ensure transparency on the financial burden this was placing on Shropshire Council.
- 2947f. **Local Government Boundary Review:** all awaited the findings of the review.
- 2947g. **Person Placed in Parish With Criminal Record:** A representative of a Council in the west of the county shared experience of a person being placed within the parish having a criminal record relating to sex offences and subsequently being identified by residents. Discussion with Police revealed that action could only be taken by them if it was proved that an offence had been committed whilst the person was in the parish. Discussions on the relevant signposting and contacts to discuss such a matter had been discussed.
- 2947h. **Marches Energy Grant:** Discussion had been held on opportunities for grants and Councillor Dr C Stevenson considered whether the Village Hall may qualify for funding in relation to small businesses or the DEFRA fund.
- 2947i. **Climate Change:** Discussion had been held on what authorities are doing to address climate change.

2948. **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk noted with Councillors a number of items of information relevant to the parish.

- 2948a. **Police Community Charter:** Councillors noted the recent communication from the Police and requirement to update on the Police priorities for the parish. These would be considered at the next meeting in advance of the response deadline.
- 2948b. **May AGM and Council Meeting:** The Clerk advised that due to a conflict on 15 May, he would discuss with the Chairman whether an alternative date could be found for these meetings.
- 2948c. **Strategic Plan:** Councillor Dr C Stevenson noted the previous recommendation to create a strategic plan for the Parish Council. The Clerk confirmed that he would progress this.

2949. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None outside of the bulletins received from SALC, NALC and the Rural Services Network which were forwarded to Councillors.

2950. **SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Councillors noted the late apology for absence from Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley and that no report was available.

2951. **PLANNING**

Planning Application received for:

2951a. 23/00326/FUL (validated 31/01/2023): Stone Acton Farm, Wall Under Heywood, Church Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 7HL.

Proposal: Extension to existing farmhouse including single storey side extension and reinstatement of first floor and conversion of rear loft space.

Decision: No comment. Councillors noted the previous exchanges between Councillors and that no objections had been raised. The Clerk noted that earlier in the day comments had been provided by Consultees in Shropshire Council expressing concerns with the proposals. Councillors discussed challenges in understanding the respective regulations impacting properties within the rural aspects of the parish.

2951b. 23/00416/TPO (validated 02/02/2023): Stanway Manor, Rushbury, Church Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 7EF

Proposal: Fell 1no Ash protected by The Council of The South Shropshire District Council, (Stanway Manor & Estate Rushbury) TPO 1978 (Ref: SS/00011/78)

Decision: No objection

2951c. 23/00148/LBC (validated 20/01/2023): Y H A, Wilderhope Manor, Longville In The Dale, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, TF13 6EG

Proposal: Replacement of 2no internal fire doors on the ground floor, new internal wall lights to replace existing and new ironmongery to existing internal doors affecting a Grade I Listed Building.

Decision: No objection

2951d. **The Plough Inn, Wall Under Heywood:** Councillors noted that no developments had been seen in relation to the application of change of use. Enquiries would be made with Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley.

2951e. **Agricultural Workers Dwelling at Fegg Farm:** Councillors noted the concerns that have been raised relating to the refusal by Shropshire Council to the application for the agricultural workers dwelling a second time. Enquiries would be made with Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley.

2951f. **Planning Decisions**

None received.

2952. **LEVELLING-UP AND REGENERATION BILL: REFORMS TO NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY**

Councillors noted that the consultation was quite detailed with 58 questions to respond to. Councillors agreed that any responses be left to individual Councillors.

2953. **PARISH PLAN AND SURVEY**

The Clerk advised that he had sent an email to the Chairman at Eaton Under Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council enquiring of his interest in progressing a joint approach with Rushbury Parish Council. A response was awaited.

2954. **CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III**

Councillors noted the recent discussions on the proposal to plant a tree next to the Village Hall and place a plaque in recognition of the King's Coronation. Councillors noted that the planting of the tree is a priority.

Councillors discussed tree options with preference being shown for silver birch.

Councillor A Dixon proposed, Councillor Ms A Henderson seconded and it was resolved that a silver birch tree be purchased in advance of being planted near to the Village Hall.

Councillor A Dixon advised of the previous discussions held with the Chair of the Village Hall Committee on the most appropriate place to site the tree which would be finalised.

Councillors agreed that discussions continue to finalise the wording to be contained on the plaque and that these be agreed at the next meeting of Council.

It was agreed that enquiries be made with the Chair of the Village Hall Committee to clarify the events planned for the weekend.

2955. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

2955a. **Current Finances:** Councillors noted the balances on the Council's accounts.

Community Account at 02.02.2023	£154.60
Deposit Account at 01.02.2023	£7512.61

2955b. **Invoices to Pay February**

Tivoli Group Ltd (SLINV/00047520)	£149.77
Rushbury Village Hall (3470)	£15.00
Jason Gough Computing Services Ltd (121002)	£3.60

Councillor A Dixon proposed, Councillor Ms A Henderson seconded and it was resolved the payments be made.

2955c. **Rushbury Village Hall:** The Clerk advised Councillors that he had identified that invoice 3416 for £15.00 had not been paid as scheduled. It had been agreed at a previous Council meeting that this be paid and the Clerk confirmed that the invoice had since been settled

2956. **SMARTWATER**

Councillors agreed that discussion on this topic be deferred to the next meeting.

2957. **ROAD SAFETY WITHIN PARISH**

2957a. **Speed Indicator Devices:** Councillors noted that there were no developments in introducing these to the Parish.

2957b. **Village Gateways:** Following receipt of a mailshot from J.A.C.S. Ltd promoting village gateways the Clerk advised Councillors that he, along with Councillor T Flashman, met with a Sales Manager from the company on 15 February to identify potential locations and gateways at Wall Under Heywood and Longville. A quote had subsequently been received which would be shared with Councillors.

Identification of alternative providers would be sourced and quotes obtained.

2958. **COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

2958a. **Village Hall:** No updates received.

2958b. **Millennium Green and Playground:** No updates received.

2959. PARISH MATTERS

Councillor A Dixon raised concerns over the speed of vehicles travelling along the lane at Stone Acton through to Cardington. This was especially difficult for walkers who must share the lane with vehicles. Councillors agreed that this was an issue across the parish and the issue would be shared with Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley.

2960. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

To advise Clerk of items to be considered for inclusion on the agenda.
Councillors also noted to consider what topics could be covered at the Annual Assembly scheduled for April.

2961. NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday 20 March 2023

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:55pm.

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Chairman

Date: 20 March 2023