

Donington with Boscobel Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Donington with Boscobel Parish Council Held on Tuesday 21st September 2021 at 7.00pm at the Red House

In attendance: Cllrs Christine Jones, David Dale, Dawn Harper, Hugh Kirton, Philip Ogle, David Williams, David Beechey, Virginia Sankey, Robert Parry, and Parish Clerk Vanessa Voysey.

21.54 Welcome by the Chair

Cllr Christine Jones, Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There was a minute silence in remembrances of the late Councillors Don Hickman MBE and Malcolm White

21.55 Apologies for absence and reasons:

Cllr Adrian Robinson was absent

21.56 Declarations of Interest: a) Pecuniary b) Personal

There were none at this time

21.57 Public Session:

Becky Eade, a representative of English Heritage, gave an update on Boscobel House. It has been a successful season, actual visiting numbers since May is 17,000 against a forecasted figure of 14,000. With the increase in visitors, the tea room has been a success. There has also been positive feedback on TripAdvisor, the play areas and animals are popular. The site is still running on a booking slot system, and people are spending more time on the site. There are no events planned for this season but next season a Victorian Farmyard is a possibility. A school group spent a whole day at the site. It is hoped that there will be more working with local schools and school visits in future.

There is an intention to apply for planning permission for an extension of the car park. This would formalise parking in front of the barns and extending space to accommodate the increase in visitor numbers for next season. Drainage will also be looked at as part of future plans.

The site is open seven days a week from April to October, weekends in winter, and during February half-term.

In response to a question from Cllr Parry, it was advised that a project to re-plant an oak-tree on the site is on a work list.

Mrs Eade said she would be happy to give the Parish Council updates, and that the Parish Council would be welcome to use Boscobel House for another meeting in the summer.

21.58 Minutes:

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 21st July 2021

21.59 Matters Arising

a) Flooding

A written report from AFLAG had been filed in advance of the meeting. This was noted.

Cllr Robert Parry had put forward a written proposal regarding flooding prior to the meeting and requested that there be a discussion on it at the next meeting. He said that the Willow Carr needs more routine maintenance and that Shropshire Council needed persuading about the necessity of the work. He noted that the tree officer would be visiting in the next few weeks. He suggested a site visit for Parish Councillors, the date and time of 2nd October at 10.30pm was noted as the most suitable for those present.

Cllr David Williams said that the proposals should go to Shropshire Council and the Environment Agency for their input, and noted the need for proper budgeting. Cllr David Dale said that not all Councillors had seen Cllr Parry's proposals and that this would be necessary for a proper discussion. He noted that that Shropshire Council and the Environment Agency did not see the same problem and that it would be a big and expensive project. He questioned who would lead it, and that it should be clear where it would take us in terms of cost and work.

b) Telephone Box on Shackerley Lane

Cllr David Dale reported that the telephone box on Shackerley Lane needed refurbishing, the box is a metal frame with a wooden door and moulded Perspex windows. It was last painted by a local resident. Local residents have indicated that they would be willing to look after planting.

A report outlining a proposed programme of works and listing three possible options for estimated costs had been circulated prior to the meeting for consideration. Cllr Phil Ogle said that he was in favour of low maintenance option that would keep it tidy. He commented that planting displays not regularly cared for could end up looking unsightly. He noted that at the top of the box, the sign saying 'telephone box' could be changed to say 'Shackerley' or to name the Parish Council.

It was agreed that Cllrs David Dale and Phil Ogle would liaise over proposed vinyl artwork and refurbishment of the Perspex windows.

Cllr Robert Parry suggested consulting with residents of Shackerley Lane about maintenance of the box and it was agreed that the Parish Clerk should draft a letter. Cllr David Dale noted that it would not be necessary to send the residents details of his projected costings.

c) Clerk's Report

The Parish Clerk reported that the Parish Council's resolution about amalgamating Donington and Bosocobel Parish Councils has been reported to the County Solicitor and is now in his hands.

Street Scene at Shropshire Council will be placing Dog Fouling signs around the Albrighton area.

The Parish Clerk also reported that she had met with the Locum Clerk for Albrighton Parish Council, and had discussed future partnership working and in-house training options. The suggested dates for training had been circulated prior to the meeting, she agreed to confirm that this was definitely going ahead and to contact interested Councillors.

It was noted that it had been confirmed that English Heritage's policy about not taking memorials on site includes memorial benches.

d) Memorial for a former Councillor

An alternative site to Boscobel House to planting an oak in memory of the former Cllr Malcolm White was discussed, including the suggestion of contacting the landowner of Codsall Wood regarding a suitable road-side location.

21.60 New Business

a) External Audit

The completion of the External Audit was noted

b) Care and Share (Albrighton)

A request for assistance to Care and Share (Albrighton) was considered. Cllr David Beechey said that it had produced a good service for people with dementia.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to offer £350 to Care and Share (Albrighton), all in favour.

c) St Cuthbert's Church

A request for assistance towards the churchyard maintenance at St Cuthbert's Church was considered.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to offer £1250 to St Cuthbert's Church towards churchyard maintenance, all in favour.

d) DANLR (Donington and Albrighton Local Nature Reserve) Funding and Grant Application

Cllr David Dale, Vice-Chairman, had provided a written report for this item. He said that as Treasurer of the Management Committee he would be able to provide a link with the Parish Council and that as a way forward he would file quarterly reports. A quarterly report and breakdown of the annual operating budget was provided for Councillors.

There was some discussion about the figures including questions about the car park maintenance element and how car park maintenance had been given back to the Parish Council for insurance reasons. Cllr Christine Jones, Chairman, said that it would be necessary to contact John Parry about this in the near future.

Cllr Dale noted that Shropshire Council do a lot of work to maintain their area but also take responsibility for the whole site, with financial contributions from both Albrighton and Donington with Bosobel Parish Councils. As part of the long term plans to manage the site, the Nature Reserve Management Committee would be seeking £420 in additional funding from Donington with Boscobel Parish Council to fund clearance of the dipping pool.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to offer a grant of £420 to the Donington with Boscobel Nature Reserve Management Committee towards the costs of clearance of the dipping pool.

21.61 Correspondence: For Action

Victim Support's Parish Council Appeal: an email was been received requesting funds. This was noted.

Cllr David Williams expressed the view that this was a well-funded national charity and that support would be best directed where there was evidence of support within the parish.

21.62 Correspondence: For Information.

Offoxey Road, Bishops Wood, Stafford, 1st to 12th November 2021. Road Closure: s50 - New water main installation: this was noted.

21.63 Planning

a) Applications:

21/03830/FUL

Erection of a two storey side extension and single storey rear extension following removal of existing conservatory
15 Windsor Road, Albrighton, WV7 3PY

It was requested that further information would be required prior to a decision being made as only the application form was available for viewing on the website at the time of the meeting.

21/04171/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension
15 Brooklands Road, Albrighton, WV7 3DW

No objection

b) Permission Granted:

21/02540/FUL Raf Cosford, Defence College Of Aeronautical Engineering , Leeming Road, Cosford, Albrighton, WV7 3EX
Erection of single storey Modular Building to accommodate the site Fire Crew

Decision: Grant Permission

The above was noted

a) **Permission Refusals:** there none at this time

b) **Any other planning matters:**

The following planning applications were received after the publication of the agenda:

Reference: 21/03654/FUL High Holborn , Donington Lane, Albrighton, WV7 3AD
Erection of a single storey side extension, first floor rear extension, replacement pitched roofs to existing front and rear dormers and replacement pitched roof to existing first floor bathroom

21/04166/FUL | Erection of part two storey side and single storey rear extensions | 10 Brooklands Road Albrighton WV7 3DW

No objection

21.64 Finance.

a) payments –

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

Clerk	Clerk's salary (September)	£558.23	LGA 1972 s 112 (2)
HMRC	Tax (September)	£27.20	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)
Clerk	Travel expenses (September)	£27	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)
PKF LittleJohn	External Audit Fees	£240	LGA 1972. s.111
Balfours	Car Park Rent`	£125	
English Heritage (Boscobel House)	Donation	£75	GPC
To reimburse Cllr Dale	Gift for D.Hickman (long service)	£50	GPC
Red House	Summer Play Scheme	£600 (retrospective)	GPC Agreed 21.45 (correspondence)
Clerk	Clerk's Salary (August)	£588.23 (retrospective)	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)
HMRC	Tax (August)	£27.20 (retrospective)	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)

b) To note any income received

The following was noted:

Dividend (Public Sector Deposit Fund) - £2.38 for statement end 31st July 2021

Dividend (Public Sector Deposit Fund) - £1.80 for statement end 31st August 2021

c) Spend to Date

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

Bank Reconciliation - bank reconciliation until the end of August 2021

Spend to Date – spend to date to the end of August 2021

21.65 Reports:

- (a) **SALC:** Cllr D. Beechey reported that the Highways Officer had visited SALC, potholes was a big issue. Also discussed was the closure of the depot at Bridgnorth. A representative of the Ambulance Service was present at the meeting said that there should be more defibrillators about. The SALC AGM will be held on 19th November.
- (b) **RAF Cosford:** Sq. Ldr. C. Wilson had filed a report in advance of the meeting. It noted the success of the Air Cadet 80th Anniversary Muster, the first Annual Reception within Cosford Museum since 2019, and the upcoming approbation in May 2022
- (c) **Nature Reserve Report** – a written report by the Committee Chairman had been filed and circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.
- (d) **Albrighton Village Halls Trust** Cllr Hugh Kirton reported that investigation was ongoing into modification of the kitchen at the Red House.
- (e) **AFLAG** – a written report from the Albrighton Flood Action Group had been filed and circulated in advance of the meeting and this was noted.
- (f) **Clerk's Report** – this had been circulated with the Agenda and the content referred to earlier in the meeting.
- (g) **Royal British Legion** – Cllr David Williams said that he would be sending in a report from the Royal British Legion prior to the next meeting.
- (h) **Albrighton Fayre Committee** – Cllr Robert Parry said that there would be a fayre next year around 9th July if a committee could be gotten together. Interested parties would be welcome to attend a meeting on 23rd September at 7.30pm at the Crown.

21.66 Training

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

21.67 Confidential Session

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act and due to the confidential nature of the following business to be transacted it was be **PROPOSED, SECONDED, and RESOLVED** that the public and press should not be present

21.67 Correspondence

The Parish Council had received the contract and deeds for the purchase of land from its solicitor in the afternoon before the meeting.

Cllr Hugh Kirton left the meeting (8.55pm)

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to sign the contract and deeds for the sale of the land.

21.68 Planning Notification

The Parish Council had received a Planning Notifications from Shropshire Council marked as Confidential, relating to an enforcement issue within the Parish.

This was noted

21.69 Donington Church Centre Car Park and Rights of Way

There were no updates from the Church Centre Car Park and Rights of Way Working Party at this time.

21.70 Date of the Next Meeting 19.10.21

Items for the agenda to be notified to the clerk by **09.10.21**