

NASH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk ; Sue Jones

Email ; Nashpcclerk@gmail.com Tel ; 07779033381 – 01584 890375

Website ; <https://www.hugofox.com/community/nash-parish-council-15024/about-us>

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on **Thursday 27th June 2019** at Nash Village Hall.

Present: Bob Young (Chairman) Louise Roberts, Clare Morris, Peter Stubbs, Charlie Pinckney, Richard Huffer and Sue Jones (Clerk) plus two Parish Plan volunteers: Liz Corfield and Stuart Lapper.

1 Apologies: None

2 Declarations of Interest: - None

3 Minutes of previous meetings held 16th May

The Minutes of the meetings held on 16th May and 18th June were approved.
Proposed by Bob Young, seconded by Peter Stubbs.

4 Matters arising: None

5 Chairman's Items:

The Chairman attended Clee Hill Forum meetings on the 8th May (attended by Peter Nutting Leader of Shropshire Council) and 12th June where the principal issue was:

- Speeding vehicles on the A4117 across Clee Hill and of course the state of the road surface and neglect of maintenance by Shropshire Council and John Campion, Police and Crime Commissioner, will be attending the next Clee Hill Forum meeting on 11th September.

The Chairman also attended the South Shropshire Area Committee meeting on 30th May; the minutes of the meeting had previously been emailed to councillors and the main points were:

- Steve Davenport (Portfolio Holder for Highways) was critical of Kier, the Council's Highways contractors and WSP their highways consultants.
- A new structure has been agreed for the Shropshire client side (though many of the new posts have yet to be filled) and Steve's ambition is to bring the service wholly in house in due course.
- The next meeting is 5th September at 7.00pm. The guest speaker will be Graham Biggs, the former Chief Executive of South Shropshire District Council and currently CEO of the Rural Services Network to discuss "Rural Proofing" of Central Government and Shropshire Council policies.

6. Co-Option of Councillors

- Jane Harris addressed the meeting: Jane has been resident of Nash for 30 years

and wanted to give something back to Nash as she believed it to be a very special community. Councillors had already received a written CV from Jane.

- Jane's cooption was proposed by Bob Young and seconded by Charlie Pinckney.

7. Clerk's Report

- The bank account has now been updated with the new signatures and the Clerks address.
- Burford Parish Council have invited Nash Councillors to their meeting on the 22nd July to discuss local road safety concerns.
- Burford PC has also called a special meeting on the 8th July to discuss the planning application for 33 houses adjacent to the Aspire Centre to which Nash Councillors have been invited.
- There is a Road Safety Campaign meeting at the Mascall Centre, Ludlow 5pm/7 pm also on the 8th July.
- The Clerk has obtained some maps of the Parish from Shropshire Council although they are not the scale requested nor do they display the required detail for Parish Planning purposes. The Clerk will work with Shropshire planners to prevail on them to meet our requirements.

8. Financial Items

a. To approve payment of accounts

Cheque 00272	S Jones (Expenses)	£7.51 – Approved
Cheque 00274	S Jones – Salary	£341.95 – Approved
Cheque 00275	S Jones – HMRC	£68.39 - Approved
Cheque. 00276	Community First (Insurance)	£160.65 – Approved

b. To consider arrangements for signing cheques out of a normal meeting

Charlie Pinckney proposed, and it was seconded by Louise Roberts that where payments need to be made between Parish Council meetings a £1,000 limit be imposed on cheques signed by two authorised signatories and a copy of the relevant invoice be circulated to all Parish Councillors by email prior to the raising of a cheque.

9. Parish Website and Notice Boards:

- After a discussion it was agreed that there was no need for a new notice board. It was agreed that the Clerk will approach Knowle Sports to request that we are able to place minutes and Parish Council notices on their notice board and offer a contribution towards maintenance.
- Stuart Lapper's offer to review the website was welcomed and it was agreed that Stuart, Clare Morris, Jane Harris and the Clerk liaise to review the website, decide what changes need to be made to enhance its attractiveness, accessibility and utility and upgrade the site accordingly .
- It was proposed by Louise Roberts and seconded by Clare Morris that Stuart Lapper be provided with the login details to the website in order to give effect to proposed enhancements.
- It was agreed that the Clerk should check what restrictions, if any, there may be for a Parish Council setting up a Face Book page.

10. Planning Items

To consider any planning applications received:

- 19/02565/FUL - Proposed Residential Conversion of, Annexe, Cadbury Farm, Nash, and change of use of existing Annexe to one dwelling, car parking and associated works.
- The application was discussed, and it was proposed by Bob Young and seconded by Charlie Pinckney and agreed unanimously to **support** the application on the grounds that it is providing much needed beneficial local investment and housing accommodation in the Parish.

11. Report of Unitary Councillor Richard Huffer

- The Clee Hill Forum meeting talked a lot about speeding on the A4117 and though a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner has been arranged Shropshire Council have no budget available to deal with the issues viz. speed restrictions and signage. Richard Huffer suggested spraying the side of the road, so the sheep don't venture onto the edge of the carriageway to eat the grass.
- Richard also highlighted that the VAS on the Knowle still isn't working.
- Richard reported that it appears there may be issues with Shropshire Council releasing Community Infrastructure Funds to Parish Councils and it was agreed that the Clerk should investigate.
- Richard observed that there was a mismatch in resources deployed by Shropshire Council with a perception of a North/South divide to the neglect of the south of the county.
- It was acknowledged by Councillors that the bulk of the population was in the north, especially concentrated in Shrewsbury, Market Drayton and Oswestry, the population of the south was more dispersed and reliant on public services especially public transport the lack of which made more people dependent on the private car yet the increases in parking charges in the south and Ludlow in particular did not reflect this.
- It was agreed that "rural proofing" of services was much needed to reflect the special circumstances of dispersed rural populations and that clearly more money needed to be spent in the south of the County. In particular parking charges should reflect the dearth of public transport rather than disproportionately taxing the rural population and in Ludlow for instance councillors felt that there should be areas where you could park for half an hour free of charge.

12. Highway Items

- Louise Roberts reported that whilst some patching had been undertaken significant areas of defective and dangerous road surface remain especially on the B4214 Clee Hill Road at Knowlegate and the Nash Court corner. As Phil James has now retired the Clerk will write to the portfolio holder Steve Davenport to draw Shropshire Highways attention to the outstanding concerns.
- After a further discussion about speeding and road safety concerns the Parish Council agreed to support neighbouring Parish Councils on these matters and in particular representatives would attend the Parish Council meeting at Burford on the 8th and 22nd July.

13. Parish Plan

The Chairman suspended standing orders in order that the Parish Plan volunteers could join in a general discussion about the proposed Parish Plan.

- It was agreed that considerable confusion had been created by the mixed messages emerging from Shropshire Council Officers and Members in connection

Nash Parish Council's proposal to consider establishing one or more Community Clusters within Shropshire Council's Place Planning framework first mooted at the Parish Council meeting on 24th January.

- When the paper by Bob Young was submitted to the Parish Council meeting on 27th March proposing the establishment of one or more Community Clusters in which opportunities for the delivery of a modest amount of affordable homes to meet local needs might be secured, the then Chairman, Unitary Councillor Gwilym Butler proposed and it was agreed to hold a special meeting to consider the proposals on 25th April. At that meeting and following advice from Gwilym Butler (by then Portfolio Holder for Communities, Place Planning and Regulatory Services) and Liam Cowden MRTPI (Principal Policy Officer) it was agreed that the route to establishing such Community Clusters was by way of a Parish Plan supported by a questionnaire survey, a housing needs assessment and public consultation meetings.
- However recent information received at the meeting with Renee Wallace on 18th June suggested that a Community Cluster could be established without the need for a Parish Plan or a Housing Needs Survey by going to a straight vote of the local electors to consider its establishment, following which Shropshire Council would ratify the Community Cluster if satisfied with the results of the Community Poll.
- Notwithstanding this latest information it was agreed that the Parish Plan process was an excellent way for the newly established Parish Council to get to know its electors and their concerns and that therefore we should proceed following Shropshire's "Community Led Planning Guide" by first undertaking a Parish Opinion Survey alongside a Housing Needs Assessment progressed by Shropshire Council's "Right Home Right Place" organisation.
- Stuart Lapper volunteered to produce the first draft of the questionnaire and it was agreed to accept his offer and provide him with support from Clare Morris and Jane Harris.

Discussion

- Charlie Pinckney emphasised the need for the Parish Plan to be progressed by residents not just Parish Councillors as people needed to be inspired to come to the meetings by their peers.
- Jane Harris believed that though Shropshire had confirmed that the Parish Plan would carry little weight in formal planning terms it was clear that the process would greatly enhance the Parish Council's ability to represent the interests of the local community but that the quality of the questionnaire was key.
- Charlie Pinckney added that at the end of the day it may be decided that establishing Community Clusters was not the right approach for Nash and that in any event we must secure the widest residents' involvement and ensure that we produced reliable documents to enable us to properly focus on residents needs.
- Bob Young commented that the feedback from some of the parishes that had established Community Clusters indicated that they were still encountering difficulties in terms of development control from Shropshire Council.
- It was agreed that whilst questionnaires may be sent by post, given that there were only around 150 homes in the Parish, the response rate would be greatly enhanced if Parish Councillors and volunteers undertook to do doorstep collections and pick up any remaining housing needs survey forms at the same time.
- Stuart Lapper referred to the ONS open data library as a valuable adjunct to the expected Nash Parish Profile from Shropshire Council and the Clerk undertook to investigate this.

Meeting Closed 9.15 pm

Chair