

**Buildwas Parish Council  
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021  
in Buildwas Village Hall**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Cllr. L Pratt (Chair), Cllr. S Heath, Cllr. E Jackson, Cllr. R Jones, Cllr. R Ling, Cllr. R Wilcox

**In attendance:** Mrs S. Morris (Clerk), Cllr C Wild (Shropshire Council), one member of the public

**1) Public Session**

The member of the public highlighted the review of Parliamentary constituencies which proposed to move the Severn Valley from within the Shrewsbury and Atcham boundary. He also advised that the current version of the Local Plan had been signed off by Shropshire Council. One Councillor had put forward a motion to make 20% affordable housing mandatory, but this was voted against. The member of the public advised that a Neighbourhood Plan could propose 20% affordable housing as mandatory for the area that the plan covered. He questioned the information that had been provided to the Parish Council in previous discussions on Neighbourhood Plans and highlighted that the cost of the Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan had been around £3,000 for an area three times the size of Buildwas. He advised that there was still an opportunity to put a Neighbourhood Plan in place before the power station site application was approved, and that if the percentage of affordable housing was increased, this would also help to reduce the traffic on the B4380.

**2) To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. S Cox.

**3) To receive declarations of disclosable interests & dispensation requests**

None declared.

**4) Minutes of the previous meeting**

**a) To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

**b) Matters arising from the minutes**

Waste bin A call had been logged with Shropshire Council and the Clerk awaited a response.

Bank mandate changes. The required changes had been made and the forms signed ready for return to the bank.

Councillor email addresses. Cllr. Ling reported that there were various options which would be low cost or free, and proposed a new domain name to give consistency. Cllr. Ling would continue to work on this and report back to the next meeting.

Recruitment of clerk. The Clerk reported that a number of candidates had been shortlisted for interview on 24<sup>th</sup> July.

## 5) Shropshire Councillor Report

Councillor Wild highlighted the following points:-

- The power station planning application had been deferred, largely due to the reduction in affordable housing. The new Planning Committee date had not yet been set.
- The planning application for the Leisure Site was very close to the junction and Buildwas Bank, and may be a concern in terms of cumulative impact of traffic.
- Parish Councillors had reported that the area where the garages had been demolished had not be fully cleared. The officers had suggested that there had been some fly-tipping on the area, but councillors clarified that there were pieces of asbestos etc from when the garages were demolished. Councillor Wild agreed to follow this up.
- The Local Plan had been sent to the Planning Inspector and would not be signed off by Shropshire Council until the Inspector had confirmed that it was sound, which would be in around 18 months.

## 6) Power station site proposed development

As noted above, the Planning Committee had deferred the decision on the outline application, date yet to be confirmed. Some additional smaller applications for the site had come forward and would be discussed under item 9.

## 7) Annual review of policies, key documents and committee appointments

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following:

- i) Standing Orders
  - ii) Financial Regulations
  - iii) Risk Assessment
  - iv) Assets Register
- v) Appointment of members to outside committees  
It was **RESOLVED** that rather than having a standing member of committees, the Clerk would email meeting invitations to all Councillors.

## 8) Neighbourhood Plan

It was **RESOLVED** to defer this item to the next meeting, as Cllr. S Cox, who had proposed the discussion, was unable to attend.

## 9) Planning applications for comment

- i) 21/02607/FUL – Ironbridge Power Station Erection of electricity substation  
It was **RESOLVED** to object to the planning application on the grounds that the substation was a requirement of the outline application for the substantial development on the site which had not yet been approved. If approved, the application would significantly change the needs of the parish, but until the application was approved and there was clarity on the number and type of properties to be built, the Parish Council could not be assured that the proposal would be appropriate to the needs of the site. The Parish Council felt that the application was insufficiently detailed to provide assurance that the substation would have sufficient capacity to provide fully for current and future needs, particularly in relation to charging points for electric vehicles.
- ii) 21/02012/FUL – Ironbridge Power Station Change of use of existing railway track to a demonstrator track for very light rail

The Parish Council had a number of queries on the application and it was **RESOLVED** to hold an extraordinary Parish Council meeting on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July to discuss this planning application and two additional applications which had been notified on 13<sup>th</sup> July. Cllr. S Heath would contact the Planning Officer to discuss the initial queries on the application, to inform the discussion on 26<sup>th</sup> July.

#### 10) Place Plan Priorities

The Parish Council had reviewed the Place Plan Priorities in November 2020 and drafted some proposals for issues identified. The Clerk had met with the Place Plan Officer and a Highways Officer to discuss the feasibility and cost of the various proposals. Shropshire Council would be carrying out a review of Place Plans in the Autumn. The Highways Officer had proposed a full review by an external contractor to look at the highways and safety concerns as a whole and propose feasible solutions, with costings. The Parish Council would be asked to pay a percentage of the cost of such a review. The Highways Officer would provide a brief and costings for such a review, prior to the September Parish Council meeting, to enable a decision on how to move forwards.

Councillors queried whether the Place Plan could also include environmental projects e.g. bee gardens, solar powered street lights. Councillors discussed the proposals for the playground improvements and the potential age range that this could cater for. Councillors discussed the importance of community engagement in setting the priorities for the parish, and noted that a survey had been drafted in early 2021 but had not yet been circulated.

It was **RESOLVED** to add Place Plan to the agenda for the September meeting to agree a way forward, including community engagement events.

#### 11) PCC Town and Parish Council Survey

The Parish Council agreed the responses to the survey, which the Clerk would submit online.

#### 12) Insurance Policy Renewal

The Clerk presented two quotations for insurance cover. The current provider had quoted £346.30. An alternative broker had quoted £329.88 for one year or £312.02 as part of a 3-year agreement for the same level of cover, or £395.58 with the inclusion of personal accident and interruption to business cover. A third broker had been unable to provide a competitive quote.

It was **RESOLVED** to enter a 3-year agreement with BHIB Insurance at a cost of £312.02, at the same level of cover as the current policy.

#### 13) Finance

##### a) To approve payments made between meetings

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payment made between meetings:-

Ref	Payee	Item	Amount
P9-21/22	E-on	Street lighting maintenance contract	£48.00
P10-21/22	Shropshire Council	Street lighting energy costs	£72.88
P11-21/22	S Morris	Salary – June	£275.00

**b) To approve payment of accounts**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve that the following payments be made:-

Ref	Payee	Item	Amount
P12-21/22	S Morris	Clerk expenses July - August	£27.20
P13-21/22	S Morris	Salary - July	£264.00
P14-21/22	BHIB	Insurance	£312.02

**c) To note income received**

None. It was noted that the VAT reclaim had been submitted but not yet paid.

**14) Parish Matters**

Airband. It was noted that Airband internet was now available in the parish and one resident was in the process of getting this installed.

The meeting closed at 9:00pm.