

Melverley Parish Council

Chairman: Mr. B.C. Edwards Tel: 01691 682340

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 30th January 2019

1. Permission for members of the Public to speak (10 mins)
 - 1.1. None of the members of the public present wished to speak
2. Present
 - 2.1. Councillor BC Edwards (BCE, Chairman), Councillor S Herbert-Jones (SJH, Vice Chairman), Councillor C Jones (CJ), Dr. AJ Bater (AJB, Clerk)
3. Apologies
 - 3.1. Councillor S Clarke tendered his resignation with immediate effect.
4. Declaration of Interest
 - 4.1. The councillors initialled the declaration of interest form
5. Minutes of the meeting on 5th December 2018
 - 5.1. The minutes were confirmed as a correct record of the meeting and were signed off by the chairman.
 - 5.2. Prior to continuing with item 6, Councillor Bryan Edwards announced that he will be standing down as a councillor after the May meeting and will therefore not stand again for Chairman.
6. Village Hall
 - 6.1. SJH and CJ both declared an interest in this item as they are Trustees of the Village Hall. Clerk advised that they should not vote on the issue but should remain to give advice.
 - 6.2. As Chairman of Trustees, SJH tabled a letter from the Board of Trustees advising that they had received suggestions that there were enough volunteers to form a new Board and that she had a duty to investigate that possibility prior to any other considerations. She therefore requested that the council defer any discussion of the issue.
 - 6.3. AJB reported that he had received a letter from a representative of those volunteers and he also advised that any further discussion of the matter be deferred.
 - 6.4. The council resolved to defer any further debate of the future of the village hall
7. Constitutional basis of Melverley Parish Council
 - 7.1. Contract and job description for clerk. The council resolved to formally appoint the clerk. AJB to prepare a contract of employment for signature.
 - 7.2. Standing orders. The council resolved to adopt the model standing orders as circulated.
8. Encampment on Common Lane,
 - 8.1. AJB reported that he had again raised the issue with the Planning Enforcement Team at Shropshire Council. He had been advised that they were drawing up an enforcement notice which would be served in the next week or so on the grounds of unapproved residential use of agricultural land. No residential use permit would be issued as the regular flooding of the land makes it unsuitable for residential use.
 - 8.2. AJB had also contacted Severn Trent Water in connection with possible illegal use of water and was awaiting a response.
9. Stiles on footpath from Bontain to Melverley
 - 9.1. With the resignation of SC, no reports were available. SJH and MD will take this forward.
10. Finance
 - 10.1. Payments. None
 - 10.2. Receipts. None

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- 10.3. Precept for 2019. The meeting resolved to submit a precept request for £4000. This will cover the cost of the clerk's salary, a training budget and on-going incidental expenditure. Clerk to submit the precept request to Shropshire Council.
- 10.4. Bank account changes. Change request form was rejected by Barclays Bank as there were handwritten amendments which required initialling. Members initialled changes and CJ will resubmit the form.

11. Correspondence.

- 11.1. None received apart from any referenced elsewhere or emails already circulated

12. Reports

- 12.1. Police - none received.
- 12.2. Shropshire Council – none received
- 12.3. Local Area Committee - has not met recently

13. Any Other

- 13.1. Vacancy arising from resignation of Councillor Stuart Clarke. Clerk to start the process for co-opting a new member.
- 13.2. Funds from Police Commissioner for road safety projects. AJB reported that this is no longer available
- 13.3. Bridge Survey. The meeting noted the forthcoming survey of the river bridge between Melverley and Crew Green. Clerk instructed to contact Shropshire Council and ask for a copy of the survey report.
- 13.4. Danger to road users caused by badger sett damage. This matter was discussed and the meeting noted that there was now substantial damage to the verge of the road approaching the river bridge such that there was a serious risk of significant damage to any vehicle leaving the road at that point and that should this happen to a bicycle or motorcycle then there was a definite risk of personal injury to the rider. Clerk asked to again raise the matter with the Highways Department
- 13.5. Safety signs. Meeting noted that requests had been made in the past for safety signs to be erected in the village and for road safety mirrors to be the Roundabout and Crosslanes. Clerk asked to again raise the matter with the Highways Department

14. Date of Next Meeting

- 14.1. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 6th March 2019

Dr. A. J. Bater
Clerk to Melverley P.C.

Dated: 2nd February 2019