

# ASTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Kate Lloyd  
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## MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held at 7.30pm on 15 November 2023 at Astley Village Hall

**Present:** Parish Councillors K Lloyd (Chair), E Bedell, H Mardell (Vice-Chair), S Robinson, K Sumner, D Williams and Shropshire County Councillor L Picton

**Also present:** 2 members of the public

**Clerk:** Lisa Harris

### 58.23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Flight Lieutenant S Mason

### 59.23 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- a) Councillor Robinson declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 65.23. However, as the planning applications are listed for information only, having been considered at previous meetings, they will not be discussed further. Councillor Robinson was therefore not required to leave the meeting at any point.
- b) There were no applications for a dispensation regarding disclosable pecuniary interests

### 60.23 Public Participation Session

- An incident of sheep worrying within the parish was highlighted. As a reminder to all parishioners, information on The Countryside Code concerning the [responsibilities of dog owners](#) has been published on the Parish Council's website ([www.astleyparish.org](http://www.astleyparish.org))
- A recent occurrence of fly-tipping (domestic waste) was reported at the bottom of Hatch Lane.

### 61.23 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 September 2023 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 18 October 2023

The minutes of the previous meetings had been circulated.

**It was proposed** by Councillor Lloyd and seconded by Councillor Mardell and

**resolved (without opposition)**

that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 September 2023 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 18 December 2023 be accepted as a true record.

The minutes were signed accordingly.

### **62.23 Clerk's report on matters arising since the Parish Council Meeting on 20 September 2023 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 18 October 2023**

The Clerk had not been in post in September so was only able to provide an update on matters arising since October.

- Letter of objection had been prepared citing the relevant material considerations in relation to planning objection 23/04120/FUL. After gaining approval from the Chair and Vice-Chair the objection had been lodge with Shropshire Council. It can be viewed [here](#). Councillor Mardell asked for the Parish Council's appreciation be recorded regarding this piece of work.
- Responsibility for [www.ashleyparish.org](http://www.ashleyparish.org) had been granted and now the process of updating the site to have a definite focus on parish council matters had started.
- All archivable records have been scanned for safe storage.

### **63.23 To receive reports from**

#### **a) Shropshire Councillor**

Councillor Picton presented a report which covered:

- No news on planning application 23/04120/FUL. It is likely that due to the Parish Council's objection, if the Planning Officer recommends full planning permission be granted, then the final decision will go to the relevant Planning Committee.
- Public consultation on Smithfield Riverside plans to regenerate Shrewsbury town centre is still open until 17 November 2023. This is not the final design, but you can have your say at <https://www.smithfieldriverside.com/> regarding the concept.
- £38M of savings have already been identified out of the required £51M. It is anticipated that by the end of March Shropshire Council will only be £4M (7%) short of their target.
- The Marches Forward Partnership became a reality at an official event held at Hay Castle on the Welsh and English border. The new partnership sees Shropshire Council join forces with Herefordshire Council and Monmouthshire and Powys county councils, to take on some of the big challenges they all share. The four local authorities will now work even more closely together with both UK and Welsh governments to progress this exciting cross border collaboration. This will include working jointly to secure funding support from both governments as well as with a wide range of other partners to unlock more investment and explore new approaches to make major projects that benefit the Marches region become reality. Covering 80% of the English/Welsh borderland, the local authorities have similar characteristics and geography as well as an overriding mutual ambition for the region as a whole. The Partnership provides a unique commitment to work cross border, cross country and cross party on major projects that are in the overall best interests of the region. Transport, skills and housing, alongside energy, climate change, tourism and digital connectivity are high on the agenda, all common issues for the area's population of almost 750,000. By working together, the four local authorities hope to deliver cross border successes and unlock millions of pounds for identified initiatives that support the Marches rural economy and green growth.

Councillor Picton left the meeting after giving her update.

**b) RAF Shawbury**

Flight Lieutenant Mason was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a report in advance:

**Night Flying**

Current period due to continue until night of Thursday 30 November. Posts on the RAF Shawbury Facebook/X (Twitter) accounts explain the activity and we are grateful for tolerance of this essential training. There is also detail on the RAF Shawbury webpage with contact details for complaints. This should be the last period of night flying this year.

**Hi-Viz for Horse Riders**

We have issued orange hi-viz to those on our Reserve List. We do have a few Quarter-Sheets in Small and X-Large and some Hatbands (one size), please email [SHY-BeSeenBeSafer@mod.gov.uk](mailto:SHY-BeSeenBeSafer@mod.gov.uk) for an order form or update. We have just received re-stock of yellow hi-viz and will advertise availability once back-orders have been met.

**Drones**

If anyone flies a drone/model aircraft locally it is a good idea to view and understand the Drone Code, available on the CAA website and posts on our Facebook and X (Twitter) accounts. There are restrictions near all airfields civil and military.

**Aries Magazine**

The Autumn edition (2023 Ed 3) is now available online at <http://www.rafmags.co.uk/>

**Course Community Projects**

Thank you for the suggested projects. We cannot guarantee support as it depends on course dates, but we are always looking to refresh the community projects list for our trainees, so grateful for any future ideas. Courses would normally be available for a weekday and tools/equipment and supervision would need to be provided. As the weather changes ideas for indoor projects would be much appreciated.

**Significant Events**

We are arranging a Christmas Concert at St Chad's Church Shrewsbury on 5 December – free to attend but need to book through EventBrite. Information is on the Parish Council website and also on RAF Shawbury social media channels.

**64.23 Current financial matters**

**a) Payments**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
15/11/23	Miss L Harris	Clerk's expenses October/November	£ 52.00
15/11/23	Miss L Harris	Clerk's salary October	£ 396.30
15/11/23	HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary October	£ 99.00
15/11/23	Miss L Harris	Clerk's salary November	£ 396.30
15/11/23	HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary November	£ 99.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£ 1042.60</b>

**It was proposed** by Councillor Lloyd and seconded by Councillor Mardell and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the above accounts be approved for payment.

**b) Bank reconciliation to 8 November 2023**

The bank was reconciled at £13,115.35, being the online banking balances on the date the meeting agenda was prepared. The bank reconciliation was agreed and signed accordingly.

**c) Half year accounts and review**

The Clerk presented the receipts and payments account up to the end of September 2023 and a projection to the end of the year. Costs for the full year are projected to be aligned with the 2023/24 budget. The precept to be claimed from Shropshire Council and the 2024/25 budget will be discussed in full at January's meeting.

**65.23 Planning**

**1. Decisions to note**

None

**2. Planning applications for consideration**

**a. Ref: 23/04120/FUL**

Address: Proposed Development Land North of Greenfields, Bings Heath, Astley, Shropshire

Description: Extension of existing care facility, to include the erection of adult day-centre with activity rooms and supporting welfare and administration facilities, associated parking and amenity space

Validated: 20 Sep 2023

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

**b. Ref: 23/03768/FUL**

Address: Sundorne House Bings Heath Astley Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 4ED

Description: Erection of side extension, new porch, internal reconfiguration, new detached garage and demolition of redundant outhouses

Validated: 08 Sep 2023

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

No objections nor comments were recorded on either of the above planning applications as they had been already considered at previous meetings.

**66.23 To receive Councillors' Reports**

Councillor Mardell provided a brief update on the SALC Shrewsbury Area Committee Meeting she

had attended remotely on 19 October.

### **67.23 To adopt the Defibrillator Policy**

It was agreed to defer the adoption of the Defibrillator Policy until January's meeting. The Chairman thanked Councillor Bedell for his hard work to date on the policy.

#### **ACTIONS:**

- Councillor Bedell to arrange, as a matter of urgency, for the heating element to be replaced in the Village Hall cabinet.
- Until this has been done, Councillor Bedell will take the defibrillator offline on The Circuit as its effectiveness cannot currently be guaranteed.
- Clerk to investigate MedUK providing a monthly health check service on the parish defibrillators.

### **68.23 To consider the flooding issue at Bings Heath**

A parishioner had contacted the Clerk requesting assistance from the Parish Council in improving the flooding issue at Bings Heath. A full discussion took place on what the Parish Council could do given its limited powers. Councillor Bedell had previously arranged for Shropshire Council's Flood Management Team to attend the area to inspect the issue. As a result, Shropshire Council did carry out some remedial works which included digging out some of the ditches and they spoke to local landowners about their responsibility regarding maintaining their own ditches. It was agreed that Shropshire Council should be contacted again to carry out a further review of the situation.

**ACTION:** Clerk to respond to parishioner advising that Shropshire Council's Flood Management Team will be approached with a request to carry out a further review of the situation.

### **69.23 Highway matters**

Upcoming temporary road closure on Astley Lane, Hadnall on 15 December 2023 between 9.30am and 2.30pm to allow Openreach a safe work zone for pole replacement. Diversionary route can be viewed at <https://one.network/?tm=135731585>

### **70.23 Correspondence**

Nothing beyond what discussed elsewhere on the agenda.

### **71.23 Future agenda items**

- To consider the condition of the stone bus shelter  
**ACTION:** Councillor Bedell to investigate and report back at January's meeting
- To consider the feasibility of applying for Shropshire Council's Environmental Maintenance Grant  
**ACTION:** Clerk to investigate and report back at January's meeting
- To consider commemorating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day on 6 June 2024  
**ACTION:** Councillors to have a look at the website <https://www.d-day80beacons.co.uk/> in advance of January's meeting when suggestions can be made as to how the Parish could mark the occasion.
- To consider arranging a first aid course for members of the community

**ACTION:** Clerk to research training providers and associated costs.

**72.23 Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 17 January 2024, 7.00pm at Astley Village Hall

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 9.22pm.

Signed by Chairman: .....

Date: 17 January 2024