

SHRAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the Shrawley Parish Council held in Shrawley Village Hall on **Wednesday 8th November 2017 commencing at 7.45pm.**

Present: Councillors Mr M Partridge
Mr R Tesh
Mrs N Thomas
Ms R Mosedale
Mr P Benkwitz

In attendance: Mr S Clee Clerk, District Cllr Pam Cumming, County Cllr Grove & 1 member of the public.

231 Apologies for absence

Councillor Mrs Anna Dorrell.

232 Confirmation of the Minutes

The minutes of the last meetings held on 11th September 2017 as previously circulated were approved and signed by the Chairman.

233 Co-option to Council Vacancy

The Chairman stated three individuals had expressed an interest in being considered for the vacancy. The Clerk to liaise with Councillor Mosedale and arrange a meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee for interviewing the individual candidates for their recommendations to be considered by the next Full Council.

234 Declaration of Interest for a) The Meeting and b) Any Changes to be notified to the Registers of Interests and Gifts & Hospitality;

a) There were none. b) Cllr Mosedale had completed her members declaration form.

235 Planning Matters:

Council noted the Planning Paper circulated by Cllr Tesh with the agenda dated 8th November 2017. It was noted there were no outstanding planning applications pending within the parish.

236 County & District Councillor's Report

County Councillor Grove informed members that following the Velo Cycling Event he had met with County Councillor Peter Tomlinson from Ombersley Division who was equally concerned at the disruption caused by the road closures on 24th September 2017. He stated in late November County Officers and Councillors would meet to decide if the scheme should go ahead again in 2018, if so, with modified routes and less disruption for local businesses.

Cllr Grove mentioned the improvements to Kidderminster Railway Station recently approved by the Cabinet. He confirmed the DfT had approved funding of £55 million for the twinning of Carrington Bridge to Powick. Cllr Grove stated the current league tables issued by the DoE show Worcestershire Schools performing above the National Average and it was worth noting Worcestershire remains one of the lowest funded County Councils for Education funding.

Councillor Grove said a large survey carried out in June/July had attracted a response and the results showed 8 out of 10 members of the public surveyed stated Worcestershire was a good place to live.

Finally Cllr Grove stated the Police & Crime Commissioner had submitted his business case to the Home Office who will make the final decision on the proposed merger between West Mercia Police and the Fire and Rescue Authorities.

District Cllr Pam Cumming mentioned the success of the trial runs of Recycling & Waste Collections on alternate weeks. She said following trial success MHDC would be commencing the full collection changes for everybody from April 2018. She confirmed residents on Black Sacks would have a roll of 52 sacks delivered and these would be collected fortnightly with up to 4 sacks per dwelling.

237 Correspondence & Update Sheet

There was none.

238 Bus Shelter

It was confirmed the owner of the land adjoining the village telephone kiosk did not want a bus shelter installed at that location and the Clerk confirmed Worcestershire County Council Highways were also not supportive of the proposal. Cllr Grove agreed his contribution towards the project last year could be used for alternative road safety measures.

239 Defibrillator in Telephone Kiosk

It was noted Mr Peter Nott had agreed to install the 2nd Defibrillator within the refurbished telephone kiosk. It was agreed to replace two of the engraved glass panels with "*DEFIBRILLATOR*" rather than the wording Shrawley.

240 Christmas Tree

Council RESOLVED to follow previous agreements and split the costs of the Christmas Tree with the Village Hall Committee. It was noted the switching on of the lights will take place on 2nd December 2017 and is being organised by the Little Squirrels Children's Nursery.

241 Village Gates at both ends of the Parish

The Chairman spoke about the options available for Village Entrance Gates to be installed at the edges of our Parish as previously agreed by the County Council Highways Manager. He stated an alternative to the Gates would be a 2nd Portable Speed Indicator Device (SID) with *SLOW DOWN* Legend beneath. The Chairman requested the Clerk get a quotation for a 2nd speed device as an alternative to the £3,000 quoted for 2 sets of White Entrance Gates.

The Clerk mentioned several other parishes in Wyre Forest District were planted spring bulbs at the gateway to their villages and hamlets. Council RESOLVED to pursue a spring planting scheme with an agreed budget of £200.00 earmarked from existing budgets. It was suggested The Shrawley Horticultural Society may be willing to assist with the planting and Cllr Mosedale offered to contact Chris Dring and ask if she would kindly organise the planting project.

242 Community Grants for 2017-18

The Council considered community grants for various local groups. It was RESOLVED to award a grant of £250.00 to Friends of St Marys, £100 towards the Parish Magazine, £100.00 to Great Witley Primary School, £100.00 to the Bromyard Rugby Club & £50.00 to the Nora Parson Day Centre.

The Council considered the application from the Little Squirrels Day Nursery and it was felt as they were a private organisation it did not meet the criteria. The Clerk suggested the Council adopt a Policy for considering future grants applications. The Chairman asked the Clerk to produce a draft policy for consideration.

243 Parish Newsletter

It was RESOLVED the following rota would be used for the Parish Newsletter Reports;

- Cllr Benkwitz December – January
- Cllr Thomas February
- Cllr Tesh March
- Cllr Mosedale April
- Cllr Partridge May

244 Finances

- a) Council noted the current bank balance stands at £18,805.30
- b) Four cheques were authorised retrospectively:
 - # 53 – Bright Owls Posters £120.00
 - # 54 – CALC Worcestershire £30.00
 - # 55 – M Partridge, Electrical Supplies £144.00
 - # 56 – Westotec, VAS £51.90

The following payments were authorised during the meeting:

- # 57 - £90.00, Colin Link VAS Installations
 - # 58 - £479.36, Clerks, salary & expenses for October & November
 - # 59 - £93.00, HMRC, October & November
 - # 60 - £300.00, Mick Miles, Millennium Green
 - # 61 - £250.00, Friends of St Mary's, Church grant
 - # 62 - £100.00, Friends of St Mary's, magazine grant
 - # 63 - £100.00 Great Witley C of E Primary School, grant
 - # 64 - £100.00, Bromyard Rugby Club, grant for junior activity
 - # 65 - £50.00, Nora Parsons Day Centre, grant
- c) Income & Expenditure sheets to 7th November 2017 were noted.
 - d) The Clerk announced he had applied for a Transparency Grant and had been successful securing £3,451.86.
 - e) It was noted District Cllr Cumming had given the Parish a grant of £150.00 for 2017-18.
 - f) The Parish Council agreed to the re-appointment of Mrs Chris Freeman and Mrs Mary Bendall as Nominative Trustees for a further 4 years up till October 2021 on the Vernon & Bourne Charity.

245 Date of the next Meeting

There being no other business the meeting ended at 22.00pm. The next meeting will take place on Monday 8th January 2018 commencing at 7.45pm.

Chairman.....
8th January 2018

Notes taken from the public comment's made at the start of the meeting;

Mrs Vanessa James Spoke about the delays caused to residents following the recent road closure. She also expressed frustrations following the Velo Event. The Annual Bonfire at the Letchford had caused highway problems due to the smoke drifting across the B4196 approaching Shrawley. She suggested Road Marshalls should be deployed by the organisers in future. The Clerk agreed to write to MHDC and request a copy of the licensing terms & conditions.