

COUND PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:	Cllr Simon James Glebe Farm Upper Cound Shrewsbury SY5 6AT	Clerk:	Lisa Harris
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MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held at 7.30pm on 18 January 2024 at Cound Moor Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors S James (Chairman), R Davies, J Hall, T Roberts, R Sartain, S Scott, K Symonds and Shropshire County Councillor C Wild

Also present: 1 member of the public

Clerk: Lisa Harris

75.23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors S Green and M Smith.

76.23 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- a) No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared
- b) There were no applications for a dispensation regarding disclosable pecuniary interests

77.23 Public Participation Session – *a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for the public to speak, with a strict 5-minute limit per speaker. Members of the public may speak on matters appearing on the agenda. However, if a matter does not appear on the agenda, a written request should be submitted to the Clerk no later than 2 working days before the meeting.*

The member of the public did not wish to speak to an agenda item.

78.23 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 November 2023

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Symonds and seconded by Councillor James and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 November 2023 be accepted as a true record. The minutes were signed accordingly by the Chairman.

79.23 Clerk's report on matters arising since the Parish Council Meeting of 16 November 2023

- Still pursuing additional quotes for the war memorial restoration work. Councillor Roberts supplied an email address for a local stonemason who will be contacted immediately.
- The Highways team at Shropshire Council were notified about the issue at Bull Hollow ford and have arranged for it to be remedied.
- Budget and precept proposals have been prepared for consideration at 83.23.

80.23 To receive report from Shropshire Councillor

Councillor Wild briefed the Parish Council that the closure of Cressage Bridge is anticipated to commence on 29 January. The estimate is that the closure will continue for two months but the contractor hopes to complete the work quicker than this. The waterproofing treatment on the bridge has worn away so the water is washing the stone from under the bridge causing voids. The whole of the top will be taken off, a bitumen coat put on to protect the bottom and then the top will be put back on. It will be a full closure and for the first few days there will be a gate at either end until people become familiar with the closure. The diversion will be through Much Wenlock. Access on foot for fishermen will be permitted.

Parishioners are encouraged to report any street issues (such as pot holes, fly tipping, broken signs, or street lighting) via FixMyStreet (www.fixmystreet.com). Reports are sent directly to Shropshire Council and Councillor Wild can see the reports relating to issues within her division.

81.23 To receive the defibrillator audit check for the period

Councillor Roberts had performed the audit checks for the period up to 14 January and confirmed that both defibrillators were ready to use as and when required. He also advised that the pads for both AEDs would require replacing before the end of the financial year. It was subsequently agreed that replacement pads were authorised for purchase when required.

82.23 Guildhall Matters

Councillor Sartain advised that The Guildhall is looking really good and acknowledged the hard work of Tim Roberts, Geraint Rees, Linda Clutterbuck and Stephen Crack in achieving this. Flicks in the Sticks taking place the following day which is fully booked. The “coffee and chat” gatherings have been well received. On Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 February soup, hot drinks and cakes will be available to purchase in The Guildhall for anyone doing the Snowdrop Walk.

83.23 Current Year Financial matters

a) Payments

Authorised payments for December 2023 and January 2024 from Treasurer’s Account

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
18/01/24	Miss L Harris	Clerk's expenses Dec 23/Jan 24	£ 60.10
18/01/24	Miss L Harris	Clerk's Salary Dec 23/Jan 24	£ 571.16
18/01/24	HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary Dec 23/Jan 24	£ 142.80
18/01/24	ICO	Data Protection fee	£ 35.00
18/01/24	D Burn	Environmental Maintenance Nov	£ 175.00
TOTAL			£ 984.06

It was proposed by Councillor Symonds and seconded by Councillor James and

resolved (without opposition)

that the above accounts be approved for payment.

b) Bank reconciliation to 14 January 2024

The bank was reconciled at £7,179.32, being the online banking balances on the date the meeting Agenda was prepared. The bank reconciliation was agreed and signed by Councillor Symonds.

c) Budget and Precept 2024/25

The Clerk had prepared the proposed budget for 2024/25 with a £1,000 increase to the precept to help finance the restoration of the War Memorial. Without this increase the

reserves would fall to a dangerously low level.

It was proposed by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Symonds and **resolved** by a majority vote (5 votes to 2)

that the precept for 2024/25 be set at £7,756. This represents an increase of £4.59 for the year per household in a Band D property.

ACTION: Clerk to apply to Shropshire Council for a precept of £7,756 by the 31 January deadline.

84.23 Planning

1. Decisions to note:

a) Ref: 23/04431/FUL

Address: Spring Bank 4 The Heighways Upper Cound Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6AR

Description: Erection of two storey rear extension, front porch and pitched roof to existing dormer window, installation of solar panels

Validated: 23 Oct 2023

Status: Granted

2. Planning applications for consideration:

None.

No objections nor comments were recorded on the above planning applications.

85.23 To consider purchasing a defibrillator for the former BT kiosk in Upper Cound

The matter was fully considered.

It was proposed by Councillor James and seconded by Councillor Symonds and **resolved**

that the BT kiosk would be purchased by Cound Parish Council and would be available for the community of Upper Cound to house a defibrillator should they wish to buy one.

ACTION: Clerk to purchase the BT kiosk for £1 as soon as it becomes available.

86.23 Correspondence

A number of parish council members had been contacted by a member of the public seeking advice regarding two properties they owned in Cound. Councillor Symonds had spoken at length to them and had advised that this was not a parish council matter and directed them to seek guidance from Shropshire Council.

87.23 Future agenda items

None.

88.23 Dates of next meeting

Thursday 21 March 2024 at 7.30pm at Cound Moor Village Hall

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed by Chairman:

Date: 21 March 2024