

Atcham Parish Council

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Chairman: Colin Wildblood
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Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 11th January 2023 at The Old Malthouse, Atcham

MINUTES

1. Chairman's welcome: The Chairman, Cllr C Wildblood opened the meeting and welcomed all present.
2. Present: Councillor C Wildblood Chairman, Councillor L Dixon, Vice chair, Councillor S Adney, Councillor R Trow and Councillor M Ruston, also present C Higgins, locum clerk to the council, and Shropshire Councillor C Wild.
Apologies were noted from Cllr S Cook, and Councillor S Sheddon. The Council considered a request for an extended period of absence be granted to Cllr S Sheddon for health reasons and approved a further six-month absence period.
3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest: None were declared.
4. Minutes: It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held 9th November 2022 and the Chairman signed them as a true record.
5. Public session: There were no members of the public present.
6. Clerk's Report: The Locum Clerk updated the written report circulated with the agenda. The report detailed the tax base for 2023-24 (224.24 Band D equivalents); updates on the defibrillator and archiving of records; an update on the Cross Houses junction; an update on maintenance and lighting of the bridges and valuation of the bus shelter.
7. Shropshire Councillors' Report: Claire Wild reported that the installation of new lamp posts for the bridge would take longer than expected and that the end lights would not be changed at present due to budget constraints. She reported that traffic monitoring had been completed on the proposed quiet lane. Measures to reduce vehicle numbers are being considered. She warned residents about a high incidence of burglaries in the area targeting garden machinery. In response to a question, she confirmed Shropshire Council is proposing changes to its divisional boundaries north of Otley Road which may result in the parish being warded after the next election. A Local Government Boundary Commission consultation remains open until 30th January 2023.
8. Village Hall Committee Report: The Council received a verbal report from M Ruston indicating that the current level of regular bookings was insufficient to sustain the hall. Ideas to promote the hall were suggested and members offered to assist with marketing. The proposed hire charge for the use of the meeting room in 2023 was noted as a significant uplift, despite being discounted against the actual cost. It was agreed to ask the village hall committee to reconsider the rate and investigate whether the Council could assist with the provision of WiFi to make the hall more sustainable. The repair work to the car park drainage was noted.
9. Planters for Cross Houses junction: It was noted that these would be collected by Shropshire Council from Weeping Cross and stored at Longden Road depot until

March. Salop Leisure has agreed to sponsor the plants and it was agreed to advertise in the Village Pump magazine for volunteers to keep them tidy and watered.

10. Highways: Works are ongoing each night to repair the traffic lights at Emstrey roundabout. No further update available on traffic restrictions for Atcham village.
11. Coronation Event Planning: The Clerk confirmed that a budget for community grants had been included in the budget for the following year. A leaflet detailing the Coronation festivities in Atcham in 1911 was shared for inspiration and members agreed to take ideas to the village hall committee for discussion.

12. Planning.

a. The Council noted the following updates on previous applications including that work had commenced at the Mytton and Mermaid Hotel following approval of their planning application.

- Reference:22/02487/HHE
Address: Severn View, Emstrey, Atcham, Shrewsbury, SY5 6QS
Proposal: Erection of a single storey, flat roofed, rear extension – Pending consideration
- Reference:22/02389/FUL
Address: Proposed industrial development land south of Thieves Lane, Shrewsbury
Proposal: Erection of 7 no units within Class E(G) 2/3 and or B2/B8 with ancillary offices and associated development - Pending consideration
- Reference: 22/03962/ADV
Address: Starbucks Drive Through; Thieves Lane/Emstrey Island, Shrewsbury,
Proposal: Installation of 1no. non-illuminated 8m totem sign – **Appeal Ref 22/03096/REF**
- 22/04356/FUL and 22/04357/LBC
Address: Longnor Hall, Uffington
Proposal: Part conversion of existing outbuilding to groom’s accommodation and associated works affecting a Grade II listed building – **Permission granted**
- Reference 22/04616/FUL
Address: Emstrey Farmhouse, Emstrey, Atcham, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 6QP
Proposal: Erection of a two-storey self-contained annexe ancillary to main dwelling (revised scheme) – **Refused**
- Reference 22/05065/FUL
Address: 2 Emstrey, Atcham
Proposal: Single storey extension and outdoor office – **Permission granted**

b. No new planning applications had been registered for consideration

13. Finance

a) The Council approved the January payments list presented by the Clerk. The Council approved the following payments totalling £3,230.63 and RESOLVED to approve the payment of February salaries as they become due. The Chairman signed the list of approved payments.

Payment ref	Payee	Reason	Amount
BACS / SO	Staff payments (amalgamated)	Nov, Dec & Jan Salaries	2,152.63
BACS	HMRC	Deductions	538.00
BACS	Atcham VHC	Meeting room hire	90.00
BACS	D C Burn	Bridge maintenance	100.00
BACS	Berrington Parish Council	Village Pump Contribution	350.00

- b) Council to approve the Bank Reconciliation. The Council approved the bank reconciliation to 31 December 2022 showing a cash book balance of £18,539.65 including £2,851.44 CIL Neighbourhood funds. The Chairman signed the statements and reconciliation.
 - c) It was noted that the two-month deadline for completing the bank mandate changes had expired so a new form would need to be submitted to add new Councillors as full power signatories.
 - d) 2023 – 2024 Budget: An updated budget was tabled for consideration showing expenditure of **£13,860** in the year. The budget was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY.
 - e) The Council noted the provisional Tax Base of 224.34 Band D equivalents in 2023 -24 and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to set the Precept at **£13,886** which would show as a 0% increase on the Band D Council Tax charge compared to 2022-23.
 - f) It was RESOLVED to approve the re-appointment of the payroll provider at the increased annual charge of £120.00 from April 2023.
14. Parish Matters: Councillors to report any matters not covered on agenda for discussion only.
Councillor R Trow reported that a bus shelter has been erected at Salop Leisure
- 15 Consultations and Correspondence: The Council noted the Local Government Boundary Commission consultation on Shropshire Divisional boundaries, closing 30th January 23.
- 16 Exclusion of the Press and Public: It was RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the meeting to consider the following confidential matters
- 17 Defibrillator Quotations: Three quotes were considered and it was RESOLVED to appoint Supplier B to install the defibrillator at a cost of £205.00
- 18 Revaluation of Bus Shelter: It was noted only two quotations had been received so it was RESOLVED to seek a third quotation for consideration at the next meeting.
- 19 Noticeboard: It was agreed to look for a wooden noticeboard similar to that in St Etas' Churchyard and to approach the new owners of the Mytton and Mermaid for permission to install it on the grassed approach to the old bridge.
- 20 The Council RESOLVED to approve the reimbursement of the Locum Clerk's home working expenses in parity with the allowance paid to the regular Clerk. The Locum Clerk to submit a breakdown of expenses to the March meeting for approval.
- 21 Date and time of next meeting: it was agreed that this would be held on Wednesday 8th March 2023 starting at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9:05pm