

**Buildwas Parish Council
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
on Monday 18th May 2020**

Due to the COVID-19 lockdown, this meeting was held remotely online.

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. L. Pratt (Chairman), Cllr. J. Heath, Cllr. S. Heath, Cllr. V. Morgan, Cllr. S. Ratcliffe, Cllr. R. Wilcox

In attendance: Mrs S. Morris (Clerk), Cllr C. Wild (Shropshire Council)

1) Election of Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr. L. Pratt as Chairman for 2020/21.

2) Election of Vice Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr. S. Heath as Vice-Chairman for 2020/21.

3) Apologies for Absence

None.

4) Declarations of Disclosable Interests & Dispensation Requests

None declared.

5) Public session

There were no members of the public present.

6) To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16th March 2020

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes as being a correct record. Arrangements would be made for the Chairman to sign the minutes at the next available opportunity.

7) Matters arising from the minutes

We Don't Buy Crime/SmartWater. The remaining Smart Water kits had been registered and posted, and the Parish now qualified for the free signage: 2 x A1, 2 x A2 and 10-15 A3 repeater signs. Cllr. Wild advised that there had been a number of burglaries in the surrounding areas, therefore installing the signs should be a matter of priority. It was **RESOLVED** that Councillors L. Pratt and S. Heath would map out suitable locations for the signs.

8) Shropshire Councillor Report

Councillor Wild highlighted the work that Shropshire Council and local residents in the Parish were doing to support those in need in the current crisis. She urged Councillors to continue to check on vulnerable residents and those who may be suffering from social isolation, and to contact herself or Shropshire Council if they knew of anybody needing support.

Councillor Wild informed the Parish Council of a planning application for Farley Quarry which would have implications for Buildwas due to increased traffic through the parish.

Councillors highlighted the increase in HGV traffic through the village in recent weeks. Councillor Wild had raised this with Harworth and been assured that they would reroute the vehicles to the bypass rather.

Cllr. V. Morgan joined the meeting.

9) Approval of street lighting maintenance contract

The street lighting maintenance contract with E-On was due for renewal and had been amended to a 3-year contract, at the same annual price of £40. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the street lighting maintenance 3-year contract.

10) Annual Review of Policies, Procedures and Committee Appointments

To approve the following:-

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the following:-

- i) Standing Orders
- ii) Financial Regulations
- iii) Risk Assessment & Assets Register

- iv) Appointment of members to outside committees

It was **RESOLVED** that rather than having a standing member of committees, the Clerk would email meeting invitations to all Councillors.

11) Audit 2019/20

a) To receive the Internal Auditor's Report

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report, with no actions required.

b) To approve 2019/20 end of year accounts

- i) To approve the end of year (Q4) bank reconciliation and budget report

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Q4 bank reconciliation and budget report. The document would be signed at the next available opportunity.

- ii) To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20.

- iii) To approve the Accounting Statements 2019/20

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Accounting Statements 2019/20.

- iv) To approve the Certificate of Exemption 2019/20

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Certificate of Exemption 2019/20.

- v) To agree period for the exercise of public rights

It was **RESOLVED** to set the period for the exercise of public rights as 1st September 2020 to 12th October 2020, inclusive.

12) Finance

a) To approve payments made between meetings

| Ref | No | Payee | Item | Amount |
|----------|------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------|
| P40-1920 | SO | S Morris | Salary – March | £171.00 |
| P41-1920 | BACS | Buildwas Village Hall | Room hire | £205.00 |
| P42-1920 | BACS | Shropshire Council | ROSPA inspection | £96.00 |
| P43-1920 | BACS | HMRC | PAYE Q4 | £18.60 |
| P1-20/21 | BACS | N Power | Street lighting | £98.07 |
| P2-20/21 | BACS | N Power | Street lighting | £78.78 |
| P3-20/21 | SO | S Morris | Salary - April | £198.40 |
| P4-20/21 | BACS | Shropshire Council | Playing field lease | £10.00 |

b) To approve payment of accounts

| Ref | No | Payee | Item | Amount |
|----------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| P5-20/21 | BACS | Mrs S Morris | Clerk expenses April/May | £20.00 |
| P6-20/21 | BACS | Wroxeter & Uppington PC | Part payment for Zoom | £6.00 |
| P7-20/21 | BACS/ Chq* | Mrs J Griffiths | Audit fee | £50.00 |

It was agreed that the Clerk would attempt to pay the audit fee by online transfer, but if unable to do so, a cheque payment would be made.

c) To note income received

It was noted that the precept of £8,060 and £1,016.67 Neighbourhood Fund had been received.

Cllr. S. Ratcliffe joined the meeting.

13) Planning matters

a) Applications for comment

Farley Quarry, Ref. 20/01751/EIA

The Parish Council raised concerns over the increase in traffic along the A4169 and B4380, with various issues having been highlighted in the response to the power station site planning applications, and the cumulative impact of the increase in traffic through the parish with this proposal alongside the power station proposal. It was noted that this 11-year project would run concurrently to the construction phase of the potential power station site development. It was **RESOLVED** to make representations on the planning application to include the concerns noted, the Clerk to draft a response for approval by email.

Fisherman's Cabin, Ref. 20/01387/AMP

A Councillor queried whether the proposal had increased in size since the plans had been submitted and queried whether the building would have been checked by Planning Officers. It was noted that in the current lockdown, officers had been carrying out less enforcement visits, but that the Parish Council should continue to report any concerns they may have.

14) Parish Matters

Power station site

Harworth and the Police were liaising to resolve the issue with motorcycles trespassing and causing nuisance on the site at weekends.

Councillors raised concerns about the condition and success of the natural habitats on the site. It had previously been discussed that the newt relocation pond was believed to have failed and dried out. Councillors queried the success of the bat houses. It was also noted that the motorcycles using the site at the weekend were on a section of the site designated as a wildlife area which must be suffering damage. It was noted that the Shropshire Council Ecology Officer had submitted a number of ecological concerns about the proposed development. It was **RESOLVED** to submit the concerns of the Parish Council to the relevant Planning Officer.

Road surface repair.

The section of B4380 from Park View to Buildwas Bridge was still in need of repair. It was noted that repairs were likely to be delayed due to the lockdown.

15) Meeting dates for 2020/21

The meeting dates were set as follows:

Monday 20th July 2020

Monday 21st September 2020

Monday 16th November 2020

Monday 18th January 2021

Monday 15^h March 2021

The meeting closed at 8:24pm.