

THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHBURY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 30 MAY 2022 AT 8:00PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, RUSHBURY VILLAGE HALL, RUSHBURY

No parishioners being present, the meeting commenced at 7:48pm.

2811. WELCOME

Councillor Dr C Stevenson welcomed everyone to the meeting of Council.

2812. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillors P Bodimeade, G Gough and Ms A Henderson.

2813. PRESENT

Councillor Dr C Stevenson - Chairman, Councillors A Dixon, T Flashman, M McFarland, M Pye, A Richards and Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley.
Clerk C Maclean.

2814. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

2815. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 24 JANUARY 2022

Councillor M Pye proposed and Councillor M McFarland seconded that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24 January 2022 be adopted and it was resolved that the Chairman sign these as a true record.

2816. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 21 MARCH 2022

As there was insufficient representation of the Councillors present at the meeting on 21 March 2022 to adopt these Minutes it was agreed that approval of the Minutes be deferred to the next meeting.

2817. CHAIRMAN'S/CLERK'S NOTES

2817a. Chairman's Notes

Councillor Dr C Stevenson appraised Councillors of a recent presentation by Shropshire Council on CIL monies and how they can be spent. Examples of what the monies could be spent on were noted and Councillors considered what schemes within the parish may be appropriate. Councillors noted one candidate for funding could be the proposal by residents for a pavement on the verge opposite the Village Hall.

Councillors noted that CIL and Neighbourhood Fund related projects would expect to be listed on the Place Plan and it was understood that this was due to be updated by Shropshire Council in consultation with town and parish councils.

2817b. Clerk's Notes

The Clerk advised that the respective items would be covered by the Agenda items within the meeting.

2818. CORRESPONDENCE

2818a. Introductory Letter from Director of Operations at Connexus: Councillors noted the letter received from the new Director of Operations at Connexus and the proposal to publish

listings of vacant properties within their portfolio with plans and timelines to have these occupied.

2818b. **Oswestry – Gobowen SOBC – Stakeholder Engagement:** Councillors noted the communication received from Stantec over the preparation of a strategic outline business case to determine the feasibility and benefits of reopening the railway line between Oswestry and Gobowen. It appeared that this communication had gone to all town and parish councils in the county. No comments were offered.

2819. **SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley appraised Councillors of recent developments of interest to the parish.

2819a. **Council Tax Rebate:** Following the recent government initiative to financially assist householders, Shropshire Council was distributing a rebate to householders within bands A to D. This impacted 65,000 households at a cost of £10m.

2819b. **Homes for Ukraine Refugees:** Councillors noted the efforts being undertaken by Shropshire Council to assist in the provision of homes and providing support to families within the county who wished to offer accommodation and support to families from Ukraine. Councillors noted that the proposed funding and support from central government had still to be received and currently the initiative was with unitary councils to provide that support. Resources were being put in place by Shropshire Council to assist in the care/support and schools' sectors.

2819c. **Central Funding for Shropshire Council:** Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley advised Councillors that no further progress had been achieved with the Government to provide more than one year rollover funding. Current funding is seen to be insufficient creating lack of certainty over budgets.

2819d. **County Bus Strategy:** the proposals submitted by Shropshire Council to the Government had been unsuccessful but following discussions a further submission is to be made.

2819e. **Shropshire County Mayor Proposal:** the proposal by Government Minister M Gove that Shropshire adopt a Mayor to ensure joint working relationships had not been well received in either Shropshire Council or Telford & Wrekin Council. Both these Councils already undertake joint initiatives in areas of mutual concern.

2819f. **Community Governance Reviews:** Councillors noted that the local government boundary commission review would cut across town and parish council reviews and that from October 2022 until October 2023, focus would be on the local government reviews.

2819g. **Traffic Calming Measures:** Councillors noted that a meeting had been held with the new Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner and developments from this in relation to traffic calming measures were awaited.

2819h. **Crime and Police Response:** Councillors noted and shared concerns over Police response to reports of crime. Whilst it was recognised that some progress had been achieved in some quarters such as county lines, more needed to be done.

2819i. **Ambulance Service and Response:** Councillors shared concerns over the increasingly poor response times to callouts and the pressures experienced by ambulance crews.

2819j. **Fix My Street Reporting Tool:** Councillors noted that this new reporting tool was now in place and available for reporting issues. Councillor A Richards advised that his recent experience in using this portal was not positive.

2819k. **Recycling Bins:** Councillors noted that distribution of the new bins would take place shortly across the parish.

2820. **PARISH COUNCILS WORKING RELATIONSHIPS**

Councillor Dr C Stevenson advised Councillors that following the meeting with Councillors G Watts and P Jenkins of Eaton Under Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council the desire is to set up a joint meeting. It was planned to hold this after the respective Parish Assemblies.

Councillors agreed that a framework of discussion points would be most effective to consider the merits.

Councillors noted the suggestion by the County Secretary of SALC that support from Shropshire Council would be best placed to assist in discussions where there would be an impact on Clerks.

Councillors agreed with the proposal by Councillor Dr C Stevenson that a sub-group of Councillors with the Clerk may be best placed to proceed.

2821. **PARISH PLAN**

Councillors recalled discussion at the previous meeting on the proposal that a parish plan update be instigated in conjunction with Eaton Under Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council. Councillor A Dixon advised Councillors that he was currently typing up notes on a recent meeting with Councillors P Bodimeade and Ms A Henderson in terms of a parish survey and these would be shared with Councillors.

Councillors considered the merits of a sub-group meeting up with fellow Councillors from Eaton Under Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council to progress across both parishes.

Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley thanked Councillors and left the meeting at 8:54pm.

2822. **TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES WITHIN THE PARISH**

The Clerk advised Councillors that he continued to make attempts to have a meeting with Shropshire Council Highways to discuss the siting of Speed Indicator Devices in the parish. Councillors noted the feedback received from Eaton Under Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council that following the installation of their speed indicator device motorists were starting to pass through the parish at increased speeds.

2823. **POLICE COMMUNITY CHARTER AND SURVEY**

Councillors reviewed the questions raised in the survey and noted that positive responses could not be provided. The Clerk would insert the responses and share with Councillors prior to submission to the Police.

2824. **PLANNING**

Planning Application received for:

2824a. 22/02292/VAR (validated 30/05/2022): Longville Farm, Longville in the Dale, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, TF13 6DS

Proposal: Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) attached to 20/00209/FUL conversion of traditional farm buildings to create 4 residential dwellings with garaging and improved vehicular access.

Decision: Councillors agreed that in view of the application having been made aware to the Parish Council that day and the number of documents that required to be sourced and reviewed, discussion would be held to the next meeting.

2824b. **Planning Decisions**

i. Ref:22/01147/FUL (validated 23/03/2022): The Manor, East Wall, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, TF13 6DU

Proposal: Erection of a detached 3-bay part open fronted garage

Decision: Grant Permission

ii. Ref: 22/01138/FUL (validated 08/03/2022): Brook House, 1 The Woodlands, Longville in the Dale, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, TF13 6EB

Proposal: Erection of extension to existing garage by 10m

Decision: Grant Permission

2825. **S137 GRANT APPLICATIONS**

a. Defibrillator Near Rushbury School

Councillors reviewed the application from the school council at Rushbury School seeking assistance towards the acquisition of a defibrillator to be located near the school.

Councillor M Pye advised Councillors that the Trustees of the Wainwright Trust had received a similar approach for assistance. Councillor M Pye offered to discuss the application with the school council on behalf of both the Wainwright Trust and the Parish Council.

Councillors agreed that Councillor M Pye represent the Parish Council to identify a clearer picture on the requirements and what support may be available to the school.

b. Crucial Crew For Rushbury School Pupils

Councillors considered the application from Crucial Crew for financial support covering the cost of eight pupils from Rushbury CE School. Councillor M Pye advised Councillors that this type of application fell within scope of the Wainwright Trust and he would discuss with fellow trustees whether the support could come from the Trust rather than the Parish Council.

2826. **INURANCE**

Councillors noted that the request from the Clerk to consider a further three-year Long-Term Agreement with BHIB Insurance Brokers to discount the new premium had already been shared with and agreed by Councillors by email. This had been required to ensure the premium could be paid when due.

Councillors ratified the decision to reinsure with BHIB for a further period at a cost of £491.20.

2827. **SALC AFFILIATION FEE**

Councillors reviewed the paper submitted by the Clerk to Council to consider the merits of paying the Administration Fee of £15.00 for membership of the South Shropshire Area Committee.

Councillors resolved that the fee be paid and that Rushbury Parish Council retain membership of the South Shropshire Area Committee for a further year.

It was further resolved that the Clerk write to the County Secretary of SALC advising that the fee is being paid under protest and that a proposal would be made to the next

meeting of the Area Committee seeking clarification on what is defined as an appropriate level of financial reserves for the Committee.

2828. FINANCIAL REPORT

2828a. Current Finances: Councillors noted the balances on the Council's accounts.

Community Account at 02.04.2022	£3,166.43
Deposit Account at 01.04.2022	£3,501.06
Community Account at 02.05.2022	£8,912.66
Deposit Account at 01.05.2022	£3,501.06

2828b. Invoices to Pay May

Tivoli Group Limited (SLINV/00039376)	£149.77
Jason Gough Computing Services Ltd (119532)	£64.80
Jason Gough Computing Services Ltd (119686)	£3.60
SALC (1481)	£327.34

Councillor A Richards proposed, Councillor M Pye seconded and it was resolved that the payments be made.

2828c. Zoom Account Subscription

Councillor Dr C Stevenson recalled previous discussion on the merits of the Parish Council taking out a subscription with Zoom. The Clerk advised that this had still to be researched. Councillor A Dixon advised Councillors that he had a subscription with Zoom and was happy to let this be used for Council related business pending a decision.

2829. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

2829a. Village Hall

Councillors considered the potential impact of increased utility bills on the Village Hall. Councillor T Flashman that the Village Hall had lost the booking for the Home Ed group as membership had appeared to fall away.

Councillors noted the continued success of the pop-up pub.

Councillors noted the proposed meeting with representatives of the Village Hall Committee and Millennium Green Trust to discuss maintenance and costs relating to the Village Hall Car Park. Research would be undertaken on the title deeds to establish who owned what.

2829b. Millennium Green

Councillors noted the upcoming Jubilee event.

2830. PARISH MATTERS

2830a. Councillor Attendance at Meetings

Councillors discussed the importance of attending meetings of Council and recognising the importance of providing valid apologies for absence where this was required. Councillors recognised the challenges for those who ran businesses or were in full employment.

2831. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

- a) Annual Governance and Accountability Return
- b) Parish Survey
- c) Clerk to be advised of items in advance of meeting.

2832. FURTHER MEETING DATES

20 July 2022

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:48pm.

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Chairman

Date: 20 June 2022