

**THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF RUSHBURY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 20 MARCH 2023 AT 7:30PM  
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, RUSHBURY VILLAGE HALL, RUSHBURY**

**2962. WELCOME**

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

**2963. PRESENT**

Councillor Dr C Stevenson - Chairman, Councillors P Bodimeade, A Dixon, T Flashman, Ms A Henderson, M Lowndes and Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley

Clerk C Maclean

Members of Public: 0

**2964. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Councillors M Pye and A Richards.

**2965. PUBLIC SESSION**

No points raised.

**2966. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None.

**2967. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**2967a. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 16 JANUARY 2023**

**Councillor A Dixon proposed, Councillor T Flashman seconded that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16 January 2023 be adopted and it was resolved that the Chairman sign these as a true record.**

**2967b. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 20 FEBRUARY 2023**

**Councillor A Dixon proposed, Councillor Ms A Henderson seconded that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20 February 2023 be adopted and it was resolved that the Chairman sign these as a true record.**

**2968. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Councillor Dr C Stevenson advised Councillors of topics recently noted as subject of interest following a meeting of the Chair's Network:

**2968a. Energy Support Scheme:** Councillors noted the recent payments provided by the Government to support households. The electricity payment amounted to £400 whilst the payment relating to gas amounted to £200 if not on the grid. It was noted that the cut-off date for securing payment is 31 May 2023.

**2968b. Forum For Managers of Play Areas:** It was noted that a forum for managers of play areas was being advised and Councillors considered whether this may be of interest to Rushbury.

**2968c. Sale of Public Land for Housing:** Councillors noted the recent incident of an authority selling public land for housing with insufficient checks on ownership. Checks had failed to identify that the land was subject to a statutory trust. This is a lesson for authorities to ensure that adequate checks are made on ownership before entering into land transactions.

2968d. **FixMyStreet Portal:** It was noted that concerns remain over the effectiveness of the FixMyStreet tool maintained by Shropshire Council. Discussions being held on way forward.

2968e. **NALC Training on Climate Change:** Councillors noted the encouragement on this training but there were no real opportunities identified as benefitting the parish.

2969. **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk noted with Councillors a number of items of information relevant to the parish.

2969a. **Coronation Champions Award:** Councillors noted the promotion of the award in relation to coronation champions.

2969b. **Strategic Plan:** The Clerk advised that he would draft a document for consideration at a future meeting.

2969c. **Police Update:** Councillors noted the recent incident reported within the parish.

2970. **COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

Councillors noted the remaining vacant seat on Council and local interest. The Clerk would follow up on the expressions of interest.

2971. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None outside of the bulletins received from SALC, NALC and the Rural Services Network which were forwarded to Councillors.

2972. **POLICE COMMUNITY CHARTER**

Councillors reviewed the priorities and agreed they remain unchanged at thefts, anti-social behaviour and speeding.

Councillor P Bodimeade joined the meeting at 7:45pm.

2973. **PLANNING**

**Planning Application received for:**

2973a. 23/00766/FUL (validated 23/02/2023): Proposed Agricultural Workers Dwelling, Longville In The Dale, Shropshire.

Proposal: Erection of an agricultural workers dwelling, together with change of use of traditional brick building and installation of a septic tank.

**Decision: Discussion was deferred until later in the meeting in the presence of Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley.**

2973b. **The Plough Inn, Wall Under Heywood:** Councillors noted that the continued increasing desire of residents for the property to remain a public house. Discussions continue within the community on what could be done to protect the property's status.

2973c. **Planning Decisions**

Reference: 23/00416/TPO (validated 02/02/2023): Stanway Manor, Church Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 7EF

Proposal: Fell 1no Ash protected by The Council of the South Shropshire District Council, (Stanway Manor & Estate Rushbury) TPO 1978 (Ref SS/00011/78)

**Decision: Grant Permission**

2974. **PARISH PLAN AND SURVEY**

Councillors agreed that this topic be deferred to a future meeting of the Council.

2975. **CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III**

Councillors noted the planting of the Chestnut tree near to the Ball/Tennis Court. Councillor T Flashman offered to install wire mesh around the tree to protect it.

Councillors discussed the plaque and stone to be placed adjacent to the tree to mark the occasion. Councillor T Flashman advised that he would discuss the sourcing of the stone for the plaque to be inserted.

Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley joined the meeting at 8:18pm.

2976. **SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley advised Councillors of the following:

2976a. **Speed Indicator Devices:** There has been debate between Shropshire Council and SALC over the desire of parish councils to install speed indicator devices. The National Association of Local Councils had advised that it was not legal for parish councils to install these and that this was only the jurisdiction of the unitary authority.

Councillors noted that it was the decision of Shropshire Council where the devices and supporting poles could be located. It was also noted that the current setup required access to electric power which appeared to go against the overall desire to tackle climate change and use of solar powered energy.

2976b. **Parish Plan:** Councillors noted that the topic of a combined parish plan with Councillors at Eaton Under Heywood and Hope Bowdler Parish Council had been raised and further consideration on next steps was required on their part.

2976c. **Local Plan:** Progress continues to be made and outcome of discussions are awaited.

2976d. **Place Plans:** Shropshire Council were expecting to reach out to town and parish councils with new process in the next week.

Councillor A Dixon gave his apologies and left the meeting at 8:32pm.

2976e. **Boundary Commission Review:** Councillors noted the ongoing review and potential for change within divisions. Outcome of the review could impact Place Plans. Outcome of the review was expected within the next month.

2976f. **Electric Vehicle Setups in Rural Areas:** Councillors noted that this initiative was being considered by Shropshire Council. Questions remain over the suitability of sites, installation of charging points and the meeting of costs.

2976g. **Planning Application for Agricultural Workers Dwelling at Fegg Farm:** Councillors noted with Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley the history of application relating to this property and feedback from Planning Officers. Councillors noted that the latest submission would be considered by a different Planning Officer. Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley advised Councillors that the Parish Council needed to state reasons for their response to an application whether they were supporting or objecting to it.

Following considerable discussion, Councillors agreed to comment on the latest application.

**Councillor T Flashman proposed, Councillor Ms A Henderson seconded and following a vote it was agreed by a majority that the Parish Council register its support of the application with Shropshire Council.**

Councillors thanked Shropshire Councillor Mrs C Motley for her report and guidance and following her apologies she left the meeting at 9:20pm.

**2977. FINANCIAL REPORT**

2977a. **Current Finances:** Councillors noted the balances on the Council's accounts.

Community Account at 02.03.2023	£131.60
Deposit Account at 01.03.2023	£7512.61

2977b. **Invoices to Pay March**

Tivoli Group Ltd (TBC)	£149.77
Rushbury Village Hall (3484)	£15.00
Jason Gough Computing Services Ltd (121147)	£3.60
Councillor A Dixon (Tree Refund)	£102.00
Clerk Salary (4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter)	£750.00

2977c. **Invoices to Pay April**

Tivoli Group Ltd (TBC)	£TBC
Rushbury Village Hall (TBC)	£15.00
Jason Gough Computing Services Ltd (TBC)	£3.60

**Councillors agreed that the payments be made.**

2977d. **Maintenance of Millennium Green:** Councillors noted the quote received from Tivoli Group Ltd to maintain the Millennium Green for a further twelve months at a cost of £1,681.92 plus VAT. Following discussion, it was agreed that the contract be renewed.

**2978. ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

Councillors considered the date for the Annual Assembly and agreed this be held on Monday 17 April 2023.

**2979. SMARTWATER**

Councillors noted the previous calculations on offering the facility to residents within the parish may cost the Parish Council approximately £2,788. Councillors noted that whilst there was an element of discount on the products and that the relevant signage was at no cost, the Parish Council was required to pay up front. It was noted that where these were not taken up, the surplus would remain with the Parish Council.

It was agreed that the facility be promoted on the website and Honeypot magazine to gauge levels of interest.

**2980. ROAD SAFETY WITHIN PARISH**

2980a. **Speed Indicator Devices:** Councillors noted the discussions held earlier in the meeting.

Progress yet to be established with Shropshire Council.

2980b. **Village Gateways:** The Clerk advised he was attempting to secure alternative quotes and options for the parish.

**2981. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

2981a. **Village Hall:** No update received.

2981b. **Millennium Green and Playground:** No update received.

**2982. PARISH MATTERS**

Councillor T Flashman noted the condition of a the B4371 at Longville where a drain had blocked and the road surface was being damaged. Matter to be raised with Shropshire Council.

**2983. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA**

To advise Clerk of items to be considered for inclusion on the agenda.

**2984. NEXT MEETING DATE**

Annual Parish Assembly: Monday 17 April 2023

Annual General Meeting and Council Meeting: Monday 22 May 2023

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:55pm.

.....  
Chairman

Date: 22 May 2023