

Clerk to the Council/RFO: Emma Kay
Chairman: Cllr Mrs Teresa Lewis

A Quality Council

27 March 2015

Minutes of a Full Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Monday 9 March 2015 in the Memorial Hall.

Present: Cllr Jones (Vice Chairman in the Chair), Clarke, Gordon, Keel, Parkhurst, Mrs Trickett and Mrs Whittall.

In attendance: Four members of the public, two of whom who had expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council.
Anne Cousins – Locum Clerk.

FC18.15 **APOLOGIES** – Cllr Ball (previous engagement), Cllr Mrs Lewis (holiday) and Moraghen (sick)

FC19.15 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST** – No declaration beyond those recorded in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Cllr Mrs Whittall stated her son-in-law hired the football pitches and Cllr Clarke stated his wife was a key-holder at Long Meadow Playground and that he was the Parish Council representative for Bayston Hill Bowling Club.

FC20.15 **PUBLIC SPEAKING/QUESTIONS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS** – Mr Glossop, local resident, spoke about the outcomes of the public consultation on the proposed Oakland/Glebelands development. He noted that 13 postcodes were recorded. Although it was not possible to link the postcodes to the comments, he was aware that a number of postcodes were outside Bayston Hill. He further noted some inaccuracies in the Question and Answer section of the document. He was particularly concerned with the answer provided to the question about the Diocesan land being designated as playing fields. Mr Glossop said it was indeed designated as playing fields and the answer given, referring to private land and closure of that land on one day per year, was inaccurate. He said the church closed its car park entrance to the Glebelands on one day per year, to prevent this path becoming a right of way, not to close the Glebelands to the public. He also noted there were three other entrances to the Glebelands which remained open at all times.

In response, Cllr Clarke suggested that Mr Glossop contacted David Fairclough at Shropshire Council, as he had produced the document on behalf of the steering group. He asked Mr Glossop to copy in the Parish Council to enable everyone to be aware of his questions and the response.

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FC21.15 **MINUTES** – It was **proposed** by Cllr Parkhurst and **seconded** by Cllr Gordon; that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 19 January 2015 be accepted as a true record. **All AGREED.**

FC22.15 **MATTERS ARISING** – There were no matters arising.

FC23.15 **CHAIR'S REPORT** – The Vice-Chairman explained the Chairman was currently on holiday and it was his first time chairing Full Council.

FC24.15 **CLERK'S REPORT** – The Clerk's Report included the following:

Planning – Cllr Malcolm Price, Portfolio Holder for Planning at Shropshire Council, and Ian Kilby, Planning Services Manager at Shropshire Council had accepted the invitation to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 1 June 2015.

There was a brief discussion as to the benefits, or otherwise, of the Parish Council hiring a planning specialist, as had been suggested by a member of the public at a Planning Committee meeting on 19 January. The Locum Clerk informed members that she had contact details of a specialist recommended by the Campaign to Protect Rural England, but had been unable to find out costs before this meeting.

Cllr Clarke was not convinced of the benefit of consulting a specialist. Cllr Mrs Trickett, Vice Chairman of Planning, informed the meeting that she and Cllr Ball, Chairman of Planning, drafted the objection letters following public consultation at Planning meetings and a representative of the Parish Council always spoke against planning applications at the Central Planning Committee at Shirehall. She stated it was a big responsibility and suggested having advice from a specialist would be helpful. Cllr Parkhurst commented that two individual councillors should not have such a responsibility and that the reasons for any objections should be made by the Planning Committee in public, in conjunction with the Clerk.

Jubilation Jingelation Event – The Christmas event at Parrs Pool in 2014 had been a huge success and the Jubilation Committee had written to request the use of Parrs Pool for the event in 2015. It was **proposed** by Cllr Parkhurst and **seconded** by Cllr Keel that permission be given. **All AGREED.**

Waste Ground by Oakmeadow School – Cllr Clarke suggested a letter from the Parish Council setting out the problems at this site would help him in his discussions with the Head Teacher. **ACTION: Cllr Clarke/Locum Clerk**

Bluebird Care – The Locum Clerk tabled a letter which had just been received from the manager of Bluebird Care, expressing disappointment at the objection by the Parish Council to its planning application to change the use of the former Post Office on The Parade into additional office accommodation for its expanding business.

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FC25.15 **REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE – Cllr Clarke** reported on the following:

Council Tax Support Grant – Shropshire Council had confirmed its decision to keep the Town and Parish Council element of the Council Tax Support Grant, because of its own financial difficulties. This was money provided by central government and passed to the unitary authority to then distribute to town and parish councils in its area. Cllr Clarke had asked a question about council tax surpluses at the last Council meeting. He explained that any surplus in council tax income was shared between the unitary authority, the police and the fire service, but not with town and parish councils, which he thought was unfair. The reason given by Shropshire Council was that it was not appropriate to share this money with town and parish councils in case there was ever a shortfall, rather than a surplus.

Sunday Bus Service – The Sunday bus service would cease at the end of March 2015. The service had been running for the past two years, subsidised by Shropshire Council, and had been due to be reviewed in May 2015, but the grant funding the subsidy was ceasing at the end of March. Cllr Clarke pointed out there was no other public transport available on a Sunday and was disappointed with this decision, which would affect a significant number of people.

University – Cllr Clarke reported considerable progress in creating a university for Shrewsbury, a joint project between Shropshire Council and the University of Chester.

FC26.15 **TO APPROVE AND SIGN ALL PAYMENTS** – Cllr Mrs Whittall asked for further clarification on the tractor repairs and Cllr Clarke explained there had been a problem with the mower. Cllr Mrs Whittall also asked about the self-watering up pole baskets and was informed that these were planters to go on bollards on The Parade, using residual Local Joint Committee money.

Cllr Parkhurst **proposed** and Cllr Keel **seconded** that all the listed payments be approved for payment. **All AGREED.**

FC27.15 **DEFIBRILLATOR** – There was discussion about the request from the football club for the Parish Council to make a financial contribution towards the cost of a defibrillator at the sports centre. It was clarified that the Parish Council would not be taking on the responsibility for it, as that would be a matter for the football club. It was recognised there were issues to be resolved, such as where to site it because it needed to be both accessible and secure.

Cllr Mrs Whittall **proposed** and Cllr Parkhurst **seconded** that this matter be deferred until the annual round of grant applications were considered in June. **All AGREED.**

FC28.15 **PARISH PLAN** – The Locum Clerk reported on the Village Summit held on Wednesday 11 February which discussed refreshing the Parish Plan. The Vice-Chairman invited everyone to the next meeting, due to take place on Wednesday 18 March. Cllr Keel noted that the current Chairman of the

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Parish Council was coming to the end of her term and suggested moving forward with this project after the new Chairman had taken up his position. He commented that, although it was important to involve residents in the production of the Parish Plan, the Parish Council funded it and therefore had ultimate responsibility.

FC29.15 **OAKLAND/GLEBELANDS UPDATE** – The Vice-Chairman referred to the documents produced by the steering group, summarising the outcomes of the public consultation held in the autumn of 2014. He was pleased there had been some progress, but felt the project was not moving as quickly as he would like.

The Locum Clerk reported that she had not attended any meetings of the steering group due to her limited hours, but suggested the Parish Council may wish to consider increasing its representation there, as the project was now likely to be making important decisions as it worked towards outline planning permission. Cllr Clarke explained he attended the steering group, as both Shropshire Councillor and parish councillor, and that the permanent Clerk had always attended. As she was due to return in the near future, he felt this would be sufficient. The Vice-Chairman said it was important for the Parish Council to have its say, along with all the other stake-holders. It was important for everyone to pull together to achieve the best for the community.

There were two members of the public at the meeting. One asked if the Parish Council supported the principle of having housing on the Glebelands. Cllr Clarke said the Parish Council would have an opportunity to make comments once an outline planning application had been submitted. When asked if the Parish Council supported the status quo on the Glebelands, the Vice-Chairman said the Parish Council would endeavour to do its best for the village.

FC30.15 **ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES** – Cllr Mrs Whittall **proposed** and Cllr Parkhurst **seconded** that the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 17 November 2014, the Finance Committee meeting held on 13 October 2014 and the Planning Committee meetings held on 22 September 2014, 27 October 2014, 17 November 2014, 1 December 2014, 5 January 2015 and 19 January 2015 be adopted. **All AGREED.**

FC31.15 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** - It was **proposed** by Cllr Mrs Whittall and **seconded** by Cllr Parkhurst to exclude the press and public under LGA 1972 ss 100 (2), so as to discuss Confidential matters. **All AGREED.**

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

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Minutes of a Full Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Monday 21 July 2014 in the Memorial Hall following exclusion of the Press and Public

- FC32.15 **MINUTES** - It was **proposed** by Cllr Mrs Whittall and **seconded** by Cllr Gordon that the confidential minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 19 January 2015 be accepted as a true record. **All AGREED.**
- FC33.15 **MATTERS ARISING** – There were no matters arising.
- FC34.15 **ADOPTION OF CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES** – It was **proposed** by Cllr Parkhurst and **seconded** by Cllr Keel that the confidential minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 1 September 2014 and the Amenities Committee meeting held on 17 November 2014 be adopted. **All AGREED.**
- FC35.15 **STORAGE ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEW EQUIPMENT** – Cllr Clarke provided a verbal update on progress with the storage arrangements.

Meeting closed at 9.29 pm

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