

Clerk to the Council/RFO: Emma Kay
Chairman: Cllr Fred Jones

24 September 2015

Minutes of a Full Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Monday 7 September 2015 in the Memorial Hall.

Present: Cllrs Mrs Trickett, Clarke, Mrs Lewis, Gordon, Keel, Mrs Whittall, Ball and Gouge.

In attendance: Mrs Kay – Clerk; and two members of the public.

In the absence of the Chair Cllr Mrs Trickett, the Vice-Chair, chaired the meeting.

FC73.15 **APOLOGIES** – Cllr Breeze (holiday), Cllr Jones (unavoidable delayed) and Cllr Parkhurst (holiday).

FC74.15 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST** – There were no declarations beyond those recorded in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

FC75.15 **PUBLIC SPEAKING/QUESTIONS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS** – Mr Glossop, a local resident, initially requested an amendment to the record of his comments within the public speaking section of the minutes of the last meeting. These were amended accordingly.

He commented that since having access to the Oaklands/Glebe field Steering Group minutes he was more convinced than ever that the planners have been involved much longer than has been stated. He now has a Freedom of Information request in to Shropshire County Council to satisfy himself that all practices are in accordance with current regulations.

He was also disappointed that it appeared from Agenda item FC83.15 as if the Parish would now be required to contribute funds to the proposed Parish Hub and be required to maintain new amenities.

FC76.15 **MINUTES** – It was **proposed** by Cllr Mrs Lewis, **seconded** by Cllr Ball and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 22 June 2015 be accepted as a true record.

FC77.15 **MATTERS ARISING** – The Clerk reported the following matters arising from the Full Council meeting held on Monday 22 June 2015:

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FC66.15 **Application for Funding** – The funding agreed had been passed to the Memorial Hall for production of their charity calendar. A discussion was held about how much the Parish Council had given the Memorial Hall.

FC67.15 **Community Awards** – The Clerk stated that Cllr Breeze had apologised for not making any progress on this subject to date. **Ongoing.**

FC78.15 **CHAIR'S REPORT** – There was no report from the Chair in his absence.

FC79.15 **CLERK'S REPORT** – The Clerk's Report included the following:

Planning – Planning application 14/05324/OUT – development of land off Gorse Lane is due to be considered at an appeal on 29 September 2015 at 1000 am. The Clerk submitted a further letter of objection on 24 August 2015 reiterating the Parish Council's original concerns and addressing some of the comments made by Berrys in their Appeal Statement. The big concern if this appeal is successful is the precedent it will set for other developers looking to build outside of the development boundary.

We are still awaiting a decision on the A49 planning application.

Longmeadow Play Park – The Clerk has received two of the three quotes already and all is on track to be able to consider the options at the next Amenities meeting due to take place on 21 September 2015.

Meeting with Highways England – Cllrs Keel, Clarke and the Clerk had a meeting with two representatives of Highways England on Wednesday 2 September about the A49 junction into Bayston Hill. They left with a promise to re-consider the Parish Council's concerns and to revisit in 6 to 9 months time with an update.

Councillor Resignations – The Clerk has received two resignations this week from Cllr Mrs Whitmarsh and Cllr Moraghen. I have drafted two letters of thanks on behalf of the Parish Council.

Local Council Award Scheme – This scheme replaces the Quality Council Status and for the first year the Parish Council has been given automatic transition to the Foundation Award. This 'free foundation year' expires in January 2016 and NALC will shortly be sending out the necessary information about re-registering for the scheme. The Clerk will look into this on receipt.

New Councillor Application – The Clerk has received a new councillor application which is attached to this report for councillors to consider or discuss as appropriate.

It was agreed to discuss the application during the period of exclusion.

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FC80.15 **REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE** – Cllr Clarke reported on the following:

Shropshire County Council – The summer recess is now over and there is a Council meeting later in the month. During the recess Cllr Clarke has dealt with a few issues locally. The lack of funding is still causing the Council pain.

SAMDev – The inspector has not suggested any modifications to the SAMDev plan for Bayston Hill which should provide the Parish Council more weight in prospective planning applications.

University Development – The University development in the town centre continues, specifically the accommodation above the Market Hall. Future plans include to demolish the empty sixth form building, the Tannery and build a new four storey accommodation block.

Local Joint Committee Meeting – The next LJC meeting has been delayed due to the delays with the planning application for the Oaklands/Glebe field site.

FC81.15 **TO APPROVE AND SIGN ALL PAYMENTS** – It was **proposed** by Cllr Ball, **seconded** by Cllr Mrs Whittall and **RESOLVED** to authorise the Parish Council to pay the invoices presented to the meeting.

Cllr Mrs Whittall queried why there was an employee 6 on the pay list, the Clerk explained that this was the Locum Clerk. She also asked for an explanation of which grassed areas of the village are cut by Shrewsbury Town Council.

Cllr Keel suggested that the Street Light repair programme should read 'replacement' instead of '. **Action: Clerk.**

FC82.15 **COMMUNITY LED PLAN** – Cllr Mrs Lewis gave an update on the progress of the work on the Community Led Plan. There has been one meeting since the last Full Council meeting where the specific work schemes were discussed and lead were allocated. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 9 September 2015.

FC83.15 **OAKLANDS/GLEBEFIELD DEVELOPMENT BRIEF** – The Clerk advised councillors that the outline planning application had yet to be finalised and this was holding up being able to present it to residents. She believed that the Chair of the Steering Group was in further discussion with York House which was causing the delay.

The Parish Council has been asked by the Steering Group to consider the following points in relation to the development, surrender of the current lease of the Glebe field and future maintenance requirements of the new site if it goes ahead:

- Should the plans be approved and the land sold on to a developer, what would the Parish be prepared to accept in return for the surrender of the remaining time on the lease of the Glebe field.

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- Is the Parish Council prepared to take on the responsibility for the green space, suggested play park and maintenance of the new Community Hub?
- What would the Parish Council be prepared to contribute towards the provision of the Community Hub building (if required)?

The Clerk advised the meeting that decisions on these matters were not required in the short term but they needed to be highlighted and thought about as the project progresses.

A discussion ensued about whether the alternative site behind Yew Tree Drive was still intended to be provided and that a decision had been made in the past to retain the current Parish Office should a new office be found.

It was agreed that it was difficult to comment on any of the issues without access to the plans. Cllr Clarke reiterated that with six stakeholders involved that the progression of the plans was complicated. He stated that he hoped the meeting planned for early October would provide some clarity. He also stated that the Parish Council were already spending more than £600 a year maintaining the Glebe field and felt that whatever maintenance requirements were agreed in the future that a smaller plot should not increase those costs.

Parish Councillors noted the issues raised.

One member of the public left the meeting at 8.15 pm

FC84.15 **GRANT APPLICATION** – The Clerk talked councillors through an application from Shrewsbury Fibromites for grant funding.

The application was discussed and compared to previous ones that were not solely for the benefit of Bayston Hill residents.

Cllr Mrs Lewis **proposed**, Cllr Gordon **seconded** and it was **RESOLVED** that as the application was not specific enough to the village that it be refused funding.

FC85.15 **BANKING** – In the light of recent news about the falling profits of the Co-operative bank the Clerk gave councillors some information about an investment opportunity specifically for Local Councils. It comes from the CCLA (Churches, Charities and Local Authorities) and is called the Local Authorities' Property Fund enabling investment in properties via a well established organisation with extensive experience. She stressed that whilst it was not risk free it had been providing a return to current investors.

Following a discussion covering potential running costs and liability of the organisation running the fund it was **proposed** by Cllr Mrs Whittall, **seconded** by Cllr Keel and **RESOLVED that the Clerk** research alternative bank and/or savings accounts and present the results to the next Finance Committee Meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

Cllr Clarke suggested asking the treasury department at Shirehall and also contacting the SLCC for their opinions.

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One member of the public left the meeting at 8.33 pm

F86.15 **HONOURS BOARD** – The Clerk advised councillors that currently the past Chairs of the Parish Council were recorded on an A3 piece of paper which is displayed on the office notice board. She suggested that it would be nice to have a permanent record displayed and talked the meeting through several options. Following discussion Cllr Clarke **proposed**, Cllr Gordon **seconded** and it was **RESOLVED** that an A1 sized gabled solid oak honours board be purchased from Greenbarnes at £234.99.

FC87.15 **PLANNING SPECIALIST** – The Clerk reminded members about the Appeal Hearing due to take place on Tuesday 29 September into the decision by Shropshire Council to refuse an application to develop land off Gorse Lane and referred back to an earlier Agenda item whereby the use of a planning specialist was discussed.

The Clerk presented all the relevant minutes attached to this subject and stated that she had spoken to the appeals department at Shirehall and that their opinion was that as it was only a hearing that engaging a specialist would not be of any benefit to the Parish Council.

Cllr Ball added that in this instance he did not feel it would add any benefit, which Cllr Clarke reiterated after he had also taken some advice from the Shropshire Planners. He added that it was important that should any further appeals be received that the Planning Committee should meet to discuss a way ahead.

Cllr Mrs Lewis **proposed**, Cllr Gouge **seconded** and it was **RESOLVED** that for this appeal hearing a planning specialist would not be engaged, but that the Parish Council would consider the option on a case by case basis in the future.

FC88.15 **ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES** – Cllr Mrs Lewis **proposed**, Cllr Mrs Whittall **seconded** and it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 13 April 2015 and the Amenities Committee meeting held on 8 June 2015 be adopted.

FC89.15 **EAGLE CARVING ON PULLEY LANE** – Cllr Mrs Whittall led on this subject as she was concerned that the eagle that the Parish Council had arranged for (and paid from Local Joint Committee money) had been re-fenced giving the impression that it belonged to the house on Pulley Lane. Cllr Clarke assured councillors that the owners were only re-fencing their land and a discussion ensued about a commemorative plaque for the eagle and the effects of potential sale of the property.

FC90.15 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** - It was **proposed** by Cllr Ball, **seconded** by Cllr Mrs Whittall and **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public under LGA 1972 ss 100 (2), so as to discuss Confidential matters.

Meeting closed at 9.09 pm

Signed: Date:

Minutes of a Full Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Monday 7 September 2015 in the Memorial Hall following exclusion of the Press and Public

FC91.15 **MINUTES** - It was **proposed** by Cllr Mrs Whittall, **seconded** by Cllr Keel and **RESOLVED** that the confidential minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on Monday 22 June 2015 be accepted as a true record.

FC92.15 **MATTERS ARISING** – There were no matters arising.

FC93.15 **REPLACEMENT LAMP POST AT LYTHWOOD SPORTS PAVILION** – The Clerk advised councillors that the lamp post on the grass in front of the pavilion had been knocked over by a car during the summer holidays. She reported that an electrician had been to make the site safe but was asking the Council for a decision on whether to replace it with something similar or to completely remove it. She provided examples of similar lights to help the discussion.

Following a discussion on the merits of replacing the lamp or perhaps putting a new lamp on the side of the pavilion the Clerk was asked to do some research and cost some different options and bring to a future Amenities Committee meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

FC94.15 **PERSONNEL UPDATE** – The Clerk informed councillors that she had passed the CiLCA qualification with effect from 7 August 2015.

Councillors also discussed the application for co-option on to the Parish Council, Cllr Ball **proposed**, Cllr Mrs Whittall **seconded** and it was **RESOLVED** that Ms Candy be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

Meeting closed at 9.09 pm

Signed: Date: