

***‘protecting and improving the quality of life***

***for all Bayston Hill residents’***

**Clerk to the Council/RFO: Caroline Higgins**

**Chairman: Cllr Fred Jones**

**16 January 2017**

**Minutes of a Full Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Monday 12 December 2016 in the Memorial Hall.**

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| **Present**: | Cllrs Jones (Chairman), Keel, Parkhurst, Clarke, Mrs Whittall, Gouge, Mrs Lewis; Ms Candy, Breeze and Miles |
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| **In attendance:** | Caroline Higgins, Clerk; one member of the public |
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FC144.16 **APOLOGIES –** None, all present

FC145.16 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST** – There were no new declarations beyond those recorded in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Cllr Clarke reiterated that his wife was the key-holder for the Long Meadow play park and that he was the Parish Council representative for Bayston Hill Crown Green Bowling Club. Cllr Mrs Whittall reiterated that her son-in-law hires the football pitches for coaching sessions.

FC146.16 **PUBLIC SPEAKING/QUESTIONS** **AT COUNCIL MEETINGS –** Mr Paul Glossop referred to a question he had raised at a recent LJC meeting, and requested assurances that the Parish Council will publish a full statement of the financial implications of entering into a joint venture to relocate to a community hub. He requested that initial costs and ongoing costs be published and any earmarked reserves identified. He was asked to put his request in writing to the Council for a formal response. Cllr Clarke remarked that the Parish Council recognised the frustration over the delays of this complex project but stressed that no commitments had yet been made and that no formal planning application had yet been submitted. Cllr Parkhurst remarked that any statement would be subject to appropriate commercial confidentiality of the Council and any third parties.

FC147.16 **MINUTES – I**t was proposedby Cllr Candy, seconded by Cllr Miles and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 31 October 2016 be accepted as a true record.

The removal of Matters Arising as a regular agenda item was discussed. The Clerk expressed concern that the item was a danger area which could lead to decisions being made not clearly listed on the agenda. It was **resolved** toretain Matters Arising but only those items agreed at a previous meeting and not included on the subsequent agenda may be discussed under Matters Arising.

It was furtherrequestedthat a separate list be prepared showing actions agreed and outstanding**. (Action; Clerk)**

FC148.16 **ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES –** Cllr Mrs Whittall proposed, Cllr Parkhurst seconded and it was **resolved** that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 3 and 31 October 2016 be adopted by the Full Council. There was one abstention.

FC149.16 **CLERK’S REPORT -** The Clerk reported that Shropshire Council is in the process of redesigning its term contract for the maintenance of amenity open spaces, due to expire at the end of March 2018. Invitations from parish councils wishing to express an interest in taking responsibility for amenity open spaces within their boundaries are requested to submit their proposals by 31 March 2017. **The Council** **resolved to request a map showing the amenity land presently maintained by Shropshire Council. (Action; Clerk)**

FC150.16 **CHAIR’S REPORT –** The Chairman thanked all those attending despite the deferral of the meeting by one week. He expressed his appreciation for the input and joint working of Cllrs Keel and Candy and the support of all by the Clerk.

FC151.16 **SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR’S REPORT** – Cllr Clarke gave a short update on the continuing financial pressures facing Shropshire Council. No clear plan has yet been published to address the £20M funding shortfall in the next financial year but £13.5M of reserves had been released in the short term and the Council is selling any assets that may be released. The former requirement that capital receipts be retained for capital projects has been suspended and receipts will now be used for revenue projects. A £40M shortfall is forecast over the next 3 years.

He reported that the Planning Task and Finish Group were reviewing the entire mechanism for planning applications but that the proposal to reduce the three existing Area Planning Committees to two and then one has been deferred until after the Council elections in May 2017. He also reported that there would be a partial review of the entire local pan commencing in January 2017.

**Local Joint Committee Meeting –** He reported the LJC had met with approximately 45 members of the public attending. He had been re-elected as Chair and Cllr Parkhurst as vice-chair. There were no issues to refer back to the Parish Council.

FC152.16 **PLANNING MATTERS** –

1. **PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON LAND OFF LYTH HILL ROAD –** The Council **noted** that no formal planning application had yet been submitted and declined to comment prematurely.
2. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS –** 26 Gorse Lane, Bayston Hill – Cllr Mrs Lewis declared her non-pecuniary, interest as a personal friend of the applicant and withdrew from the debate. The Council reviewed the plans and it was proposed by Cllr Breeze, seconded by Cllr Candy and **unanimously resolved** to make no objection to the proposed development.

FC153.16 **OAKLANDS / GLEBELANDS DEVELOPMENT -** The Clerk reported that the most recent meeting had been cancelled so no progress report was available

FC154.16 **DEVOLUTION OF SERVICES –**

1. **Villager Consultation -** The Clerk reported that a total of 97 questionnaires had been returned of which 79 (82%) had been supportive of funding the library and 74 (76%) supportive of funding Lyth Hill Country Park.
2. **Draft Service Level Agreement for Lyth Hill Country Park –** The Council reviewed the draft agreement and **resolved** that any plan to charge for parking on Lyth Hill should require the consent of the Parish Council. It further resolved to insert the words “currently provided” after the phrase “additional services” in line 2, paragraph 2 of the section entitled Overview. It was **resolved** to authorise the current Council representatives of the Lyth Hill Advisory Group in conjunction with the Clerk to arrange to meet with Shropshire Council and agree the final wording of the Service Level Agreement**. (Action; Clerk and Cllrs Clarke and Whittall)**
3. **Bayston Hill Library Friends Group –** The Clerk gave a brief report on the inaugural meeting of the Library Friends, which had been held on 6 December 2016. The group had adopted a constitution and elected a treasurer and membership secretary from the volunteers. Cllr Clarke had agreed to act as provisional Chair and the Clerk had agreed to act as minute secretary for the time being until the group had become established. The next meeting would be held on 14 February and would focus on fundraising activities. The meeting will be advertised in the February Villager to encourage more volunteers.

FC155.16 **GRANT APPLICATION – LYTHWOOD PAVILION** – Cllr Keel gave brief details of the grant funding available from the Football Association to improve changing facilities. The partnership of the Shropshire FA would be a pre-requisite for success and an email had been sent to ask for their support.

Cllr Candy set out a proposal that the overall strategy for the use of both the pavilion and the Youth and Community Building be reviewed. The review could be dovetailed with the review of the Community Led Plan. Cllr Clarke contended that the pavilion was well used and is reserved for sporting use but statistics were unavailable. The Clerk was asked to provide a list of regular users for the January meeting. **(Action; Clerk)**

It was **unanimously resolved** that Cllrs Keel and Candy continue to develop a proposal and that Cllr Candy will present it at the next Full Council meeting, then take the proposal to the next meeting of the Community Led Plan Steering Group. **(Action Cllrs Candy & Keel)**

It was further **resolved** that the Clerk and Cllrs Keel and Candy attend the Energize convention to be held on 1 February 2017 at a cost of £60 per delegate. **(Action; Cllrs Candy & Keel and Clerk)**

FC156.16 **CONSULTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

* **Open Spaces Letter –** Shropshire Council– Noted
* **Planning Review –** Shropshire Council - Noted.
* **Senior Social Entrepreneurship**– Noted

FC157.16 **COMMUNITY LED PLAN REVIEW –** No report available. It was requested by Cllr Parkhurst that should the steering group produce minutes that they be copied to the Clerk for circulation to the Council. It was requested by Cllr Clarke that the Steering Group gets involved with the Lythwood Pavilion proposal. **(Action; Cllr Lewis)**

FC158.16 **PARRS POOL REGENERATION** – The Council noted the substantial completion of the project which had received a very positive response from residents**.** Cllr Clarke suggested that £1,000 be retained for snagging but that the balance of the invoice arising be released to the contractor. This was proposed by Cllr Parkhurst, seconded by Cllr Jones and **unanimously resolved.**

FC159.16 **CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS –** The Chairman requested volunteers to be emergency contacts over the Christmas period and Cllrs Parkhurst; Keel; Miles; Clarke; Lewis; Breeze and Gouge agreed to provide their contact details. The Clerk was asked to distribute a list of key emergency contacts for utilities etc. **(Action; Clerk)**

FC160.16 **BUDGET 2017/18** –The Clerk tabled a provisional draft budget for consideration. Cllr Parkhurst proposed, Cllr Candy seconded and it was **unanimously resolved** to defer discussions on the budget until the January meeting.

FC161.16 **AMENITIES MATTERS –**

1. **REPLACEMENT OF CYLINDER GANG MOWER –** It was proposed by Cllr Candy, seconded by Cllr Keel and **resolved unanimously** to purchase a rigid deck rotary mower, as trialled on 5 December 2016 at a cost of £3,620.00 & VAT. It was further resolved to sell the redundant gang mowers at auction or to a suitable dealer. **(Action; Clerk)**
2. **REPLACEMENT OF SAFE** – It was resolved to authorise the replacement of the office safe at an approximate cost of £50 & fitting charge. (**Action; Clerk)**
3. **LONGMEADOW MAZE –** It was resolved to seek three quotations and to set aside a budget of £1,000. It was further resolved to authorise the Clerk and Chair of Amenities Committee to arrange the work using contractors offering best value.

FC162.16 **APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS –** It was proposed by Cllr Parkhurst, seconded by Cllr Candy and **resolved unanimously to approve the list of payments tabled by the Clerk.**

FC163.16 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC -**  It was **proposed** by Cllr Whittall, **seconded** by Cllr Breeze and **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public under LGA 1972 ss 100 (2), so as to discuss Confidential matters, recorded elsewhere.

**Meeting closed at 9.17pm**