

Clerk to the Council/RFO: Caroline Higgins
Chairman: Cllr Tim Ryan

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at 7.00 pm on **Monday 29 July 2019** in the Memorial Hall.

Present: Cllrs Ryan; Parkhurst; Mrs Lewis; Mrs Robinson; Mrs Howells; Hudson; Gouge and Clarke

In attendance:

Caroline Higgins, Clerk; Mrs D Wright & Mr M Underwood, (prospective Councillors); Mr J Beharrell; Mrs Hitchcock

34.19/20 **ELECTION OF CHAIR** – In light of the recent resignation of the elected Chair, P Breeze, the Vice Chair, Cllr Ryan took the chair and opened the meeting.

He called for nominations for election as Chair. Cllr Parkhurst proposed, and Cllr Robinson seconded that Cllr Ryan be elected as Chair. **Cllr Ryan was elected by unanimous resolution.** Cllr Ryan signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR – Cllr Ryan proposed and Cllr Hudson seconded that Cllr Lewis be elected as Vice Chair. Cllr Lewis accepted the nomination on the understanding it was until the next Annual Council Meeting only. **Cllr Lewis was unanimously elected as Vice Chair for one year.**

35.19/20 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE** – Mrs Whittall, (holiday); Mrs Clode, (funeral); Jones, (family); All accepted

36.19/20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None

37.19/20 **PUBLIC SPEAKING/QUESTIONS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS** – Mrs Hitchcock spoke in support of a grant application by the Bayston Hill Methodist Church Art Group for a mount board cutter for which part funding had been offered by the Village Association.

Cllr Clarke declared his interest as his wife is a member of the art group

38.19/20 **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS** – The Council considered two applications for co-option for three Council vacancies. Both applicants were present.

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It was moved that the applicants be asked to withdraw during the co-option vote. The Chair explained the public interest justification for public co-option and that there is no legal reason to exclude the candidates or public. The motion failed with 2 votes in favour and 4 against.

Donna Wright and Mark Underwood were then co-opted with immediate effect by a unanimous vote, signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office and took their seats within the Council. The Clerk invited them to attend an induction meeting the next week.

39.19/20 **CONFIRMATION OF STRONG LOCAL CONNECTION** – The Council confirmed by unanimous vote a strong local connection for a resident in accordance with Shropshire Council’s ‘Build Your Own ‘ Affordable Housing scheme.

40.19/20 **MINUTES** – The Council confirmed unanimously the accuracy of the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 10 June 2019 and authorised the Chair to sign them. The Chair urged members to read minutes upon receipt and to confirm any errors to the Clerk in advance of the meeting to reduce the time taken checking minutes, which would in future be taken as read.

41.19/20 **CLERK’S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING –**
The Clerk tabled a report which is attached to the minutes.

It was noted that some play area repairs from the June meeting were outstanding due to staff holidays and a staffing issue.

It was resolved that play area inspections will be circulated to members for information upon receipt.

The Clerk invited volunteers to support a SmartWater event at the library on 14 September. Cllrs Howells, Robinson and Wright volunteered to attend between 10 – 12pm.

It was resolved to arrange a door to door SmartWater session in August and to invite the police to assist.

The proposals for **VE Day 75** celebrations on 9th May 2020 were outlined by the Clerk. Cllrs Jones, Howells, Hudson, Robinson, Lewis, Underwood and Wright expressed their willingness to help organise the event. A meeting will be arranged in September. **The Council resolved unanimously to make a budget of up to £500 available for incidental expenses, with the expenditure to come from the Community Events budget, (Power LGA 1972, S137).**

The Council resolved that a PPL/PRS Music License be purchased for the annual cost of £52 for the Youth and Community Building

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(backdated by 12 months). (Power; LGA 1972, S145 Provision of Entertainments)

The Council resolved that upon receipt of a replacement battery for the Telefunken defibrillator that the unit be sited at Lythwood and a suitable heated, lockable cabinet be purchased to house it.

The Council considered a request by a group of young people taking part in the National Citizen Scheme to redecorate the Youth and Community Building on a voluntary basis. **The Council unanimously agreed and asked that their efforts be publicised in the Villager and on social media.**

42.19/20

CORRESPONDENCES –

- Request for donation towards Girl Guiding trip to Peru – The Council noted with regret that they had no powers to spend for such an expedition but applauded her community minded actions and offered suggestions for alternative funding sources.

- Request for traffic calming on Lyth Hill Road and attention to ongoing flooding issues – the Council noted that whilst the Council can raise awareness of road safety issues these matters are dealt with by Shropshire Council Highways department.

- Community Infrastructure Levy – Noted

- Casual Vacancy (K Keel) – Noted

- REAction – Funding opportunity. Cllr Hudson reported on the scheme which aimed to improve water quality in the Rea Brook by offering grants to landowners. He urged the Council to give consideration to the possible impact of agricultural developments when considering future planning applications but did not consider it necessary for the Council to invest in any infrastructure projects under the scheme as its direct influence on water quality was low.

- On The Beat – SmartWater feature noted

- Review of Polling Stations – Noted

- Review of ‘A’ Boards policy – Noted

- Airband – Noted and encouraged to advertise in the Villager to raise awareness

- Rural Bus Services Campaign – Respond urging provision of Sunday and evening services and retention of Lyth Hill route.

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43.19/20 **PPL / PRS MUSIC LICENSE** – The Council noted that whilst the majority of activities at the Youth and Community Building do not require a music license, it had been informed that provision of exercise classes required the venue to hold a suitable license. A quotation of £52 per annum, based on a Community Building tariff had been provided and it was **resolved unanimously that the Council purchases a license at an annual cost of £52 backdated by 12 months at an initial cost of £104 & VAT.**

44.19/20 **AMENITIES MATTERS**

- **It was unanimously resolved to replace the nets on the astro turf.**
- **Electric cable to bowling green sprinkler system** – Cllr Clarke declared his interest as Council representative to the bowling club. It was noted that the overhead cable is a temporary arrangement whilst the bowling club seeks a permanent solution. It was further noted that it carries a low voltage of 24V so represents a low risk. The Council noted that its plans for the pavilion area may require changes to the supply in the future.
- **Trees in pavilion area** - Cllr Clarke requested the trees between the pavilion and the football field be reduced in height to restore the view from the bowling green.
- **Street lighting improvements** – The Council examined a sample lantern and noted the forecast financial savings from replacement of all remaining SOX / SON lanterns using an interest free loan at the quoted price. The Council noted that it would be permitted to borrow more than the cost of the lantern replacements on the strength of the carbon savings predicted and could use this borrowing to improve lighting columns or undertake other infrastructure improvements. Cllr Clarke suggested undertaking structural testing of lighting columns, prior to any major replacement project to identify any requiring replacements required and for the results to be shared with the Council.

Cllr Clarke reported he had attended a presentation by Jason Hughes of Shropshire Council on their LED replacement which may be open to Parish Councils. It was agreed to invite Jason Hughes to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council.

- **Overgrown Hedges** – The Clerk was asked to send letters to properties where hedges are obstructing the footpaths.

45.19/20 **TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES** – It was resolved unanimously that Cllrs Wright and Underwood attend Fundamentals for Councillors training in October.

It was resolved to arrange ongoing Councillor Training for all members at Bayston Hill in an evening to ensure all members are able to attend.

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It was resolved to authorise the Clerk and members to attend Budget Setting training in September if available.

46.19/20 **LYTHWOOD PAVILION WORKING GROUP** – Cllr Lewis reported the group had been working to identify key priorities.

A concept plan showing a suggested layout was tabled for comments by the Council. It was noted that any licensed facilities would require careful consultation with local residents. The scheme would need to be consistent with the priorities drawn out from the recent Community Led Plan

Cllr Underwood volunteered to join the working party.

47.19/20 **AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS** – The Clerk tabled a list of payments becoming due. The Council unanimously approved the payments listed including staff salaries for July.

48.19/20 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** – It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public under LGA 1972 ss 100 (2), so as to discuss Confidential matters.

49.19/20 **GRANT APPLICATION** – Cllr Hudson declared his friendship with Mrs Hitchcock and abstained from the discussion and vote.

Following a discussion it was resolved by a majority to authorise a grant of £375 to the Bayston Hill Methodist Church Art Society to purchase a mount board cutter, (Power; Local Government Act 1972, S137). Cllrs Hudson and Clarke abstained.

50.19/20 **CONFIDENTIAL QUOTATIONS** - No discussion

51.19/20 **STAFFING MATTERS**

The Clerk made reference to recent confidential correspondence and apologised for a poorly chosen phrase. A note will be added to the file for clarification.

The Chair reported that a staff grievance had been received and would be investigated in accordance with the adopted procedure. Cllrs Hudson and Howells were authorised to assist in the investigation. A report will be provided to Full Council upon completion.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm

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