

HIGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL

An Ordinary meeting of Highley Parish Council was held on Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 7pm at the Severn Centre, Highley.

Present: Cllr. Martin Brooks – Chair, Cllrs. D.Tremellen, R.Honeybourne, A.Honeybourne. J.Marshall, N.Barker, D.Bache, T.Holford D.Thakrar, Cllr.Law,

Shropshire Councillor: D.Tremellen.

Clerk: Mrs.E.Preston

00 Parishioners Time –.No comments

Declaration of Pecuniary interests: Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting. Members are reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of member's interest maintained by the monitoring officer.

01. Apologies – Cllr. R.Broome – holiday –Cllr.Askey Illness, Cllr.Maiden, Cllr.Bayley, and Cllr.Phipson – work commitments. . **RESOLVED** to accept apologies.

02. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2016 and extraordinary meeting on the 22nd November 2016 - RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true and correct record. Following amendments requested by Cllr.Law, Honeybourne. Chair signed the minutes.

03. Matters arising from minutes:

3.1. Road Safety Schemes – Ashleigh Gardens Crossing and 20MPH Speed Limit on Redstone Drive – Awaiting start details from Shropshire Council.

2 Castle Inn –Shropshire Council has issued a Dangerous Structure Section 77 notice .The boarding up of all the accessible windows and doors had now been carried out

3.3. Highley Pool Refurbishment –.Chair M.Brooks reported that a public meeting had been held to inform them of the LEADER Funding. Work to commence in February 2017 and to be completed for the pool to open in May. Cllr. Honeybourne complained that the meeting had not been publicised well enough and that she did not feel that 6pm was an appropriate time for the meeting to be held. Cllr.Brooks said that he would take her comments back to the board and that the Board had offered to put the meeting on again if enough people requested it.

3.4. Flowers Displays – Mr. Bill White agreed to provide plants for next year. Severn Centre agreed to carry on with the watering and maintenance. Clerk reported that one of the wooden poles in the village centre had rotted and fallen over. The pole had been removed to the Severn Centre. Following discussions it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr.Tremellen carry out a risk assessment on the remaining poles.

3.5. Bus Shelters – All Bus Shelters now installed and more glazing in Bus Shelter in Clee View.

3.6. Churchyard – A Meeting has been held with St. Marys PCC. On Agenda for further discussion later in the meeting.

04. Correspondence

- 4.1. Rural Services Network – Newsletter
- 4.2. Shropshire Housing Group – Annual Report
- 4.3. Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership
- 4.4. SALC – Bulletin
- 4.5. Connecting Shropshire – November update
- 4.6. NHS Future Fit proposals
- 4.7. Shropshire Council – Report on Managing Planning Enforcement Cases

05 Planning

16/05103/UL – Conversion of farm building into single residential dwelling – Springfield, Highley Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 6NB – **NO OBJECTIONS** subject to no interference with public footpath.

16/05272/FUL – Installation of new access gates – Whispering Trees, New England Lane – Highley – **NO OBJECTIONS**.

16/05519/TEL – Installation of a monopole radio base station and associated equipment – Telephone Exchange, Bridgnorth Road Highley. **NO OBJECTIONS**

06. CCTV Maintenance Agreement.

Technical Services provided a quotation for the CCTV Maintenance. This was for the platinum agreement. **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation of £3313.94.

07. Churchyard Meeting

Discussions had taken place regarding burial space available at the Churchyard. Revd. Harris had said that they estimated that there was approximately 5 years left before the Churchyard would have no space available. Various options were discussed for overcoming this problem but it would all depend on who would be the Burial Authority after this time. Councillor Broome asked Revd Harris if St. Marys PCC were intending to continue to be the Burial Authority after the Churchyard was full. Revd. Harris stated that he would have to discuss this with the PCC before he could answer that and asked if the Parish Council could formally write to the Church Council to ask this question. **RESOLVED** to do this. A meeting to be held in February 2017 to look at this issue further. Cllr. R.Honeybourne and Cllr. A.Honeybourne left the room due to an interest and took no part in the discussion.

08. Replacement of Setts in Village Centre

Graham Downes wrote to the Parish Council regarding the Setts in the Village Centre. He stated they were planning to resurface the section of the High Street from Barke Street towards Arley View Close in the spring of 2017. He had received a report from Mouchel who had recommended that the setts are removed for Safety and Maintenance reasons. If the sets were to remain it would mean laying/renewing them all, which would take some considerable time and require a road to be closed in addition to the time required for resurfacing. The Parish Council **RESOLVED** that they had no objections to the setts being removed but would like them replaced with red carpets and raised crossing points at either end of the village.

09. Shropshire Councillors Report – D.Tremellen.

Cllr.Tremellen apologized to the Council for comments made at the last meeting. The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to accept his apology. Abstained Cllr.Thakrar.

Cllr.Tremellen then gave his report as follows:-

Whilst not a member of the Joint Health and Adult Social Care (HASC) Scrutiny Committee, on the 2nd I attended as a Member Observer. This is the committee that liaises between the Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin HASC Scrutiny Committees. Dr Simon Freeman, Interim Accountable Officer for NHS Shropshire CCG, addressed the meeting and said the in-debt CCG was in a “somewhat unfortunate place” and stated that he intended to address the forecast deficit of £26 million, although he didn’t explain how he intended doing that. I suggested he might start by countering the unrealistic claims of campaigning groups who insist on the retention of two A&E departments, despite all the evidence supporting a very strong argument against. (For full coverage of the issues, see <http://dtremellen.com/>) I spent the following day at the Healthwatch Shropshire Annual Event, where presentations on the role of Healthwatch in overseeing health and social care provision across the county were interspersed with round-table workshops, the whole point of the exercise being to get feedback on the effect of the county’s rurality on the health and wellbeing of its communities. It was an opportunity for me to make the point that the CCG’s withdrawal of the funding that would have financed moving the surgery and pharmacy to the Severn Centre, went against the much-vaunted Health & Wellbeing agenda of the CCG, an agenda promoted as being at the core of that organisation’s philosophy. Highley wasn’t alone in feeling “left out”, the general feeling being that the primary care sector was being penalised for financial mismanagement in the acute sector. Later that same day (Thursday 3rd) I sat in on the first meeting of the latest Task and Finish (T&F) Group, called to review Shropshire Council’s planning system. As the meeting progressed it became apparent that the same issues were being covered as were reported on at length and in some detail in the earlier 2013 T&F Group’s review. When the chair summed up the meeting and proposed the areas to be covered in preparation for the next meeting, I asked why he was covering the same ground as was covered in the earlier T&F review and offered the committee the report from that earlier review, written by him. He had no recollection of that earlier report. The Standards Sub-Committee met to consider my Code of Conduct complaint against Councillor Joyce Barrow and, having accepted without question the version of events as presented by both Councillor Barrow and her close friend the landowner who was in breach of planning regulations in respect of extensive developments at the Oswestry Ironworks, decided that the Authority should take ‘no further action’. The outcome was expected. On the 16th, nothing of any great moment was discussed at the Bridgnorth Member Liaison Meeting except the general problem of understanding CIL well enough to advise on it. Significantly, given their general knowledge and understanding of a wide spectrum of Government and Local Authority legislation, none of the five CEOs present said they had sufficient confidence to offer an informed opinion, because as soon as they thought they understood what CIL was about the government changed the rules! On the afternoon of the 16th I sat on the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee and the subject of CIL came up again, specifically the need for review and rationalisation. I referred to the earlier Bridgnorth meeting and made the point that if the five CEO’s present at that meeting had concerns about the uncertainty around the subject that alone warranted a serious review. The point was agreed and the subject scheduled for consideration by a Task & Finish Group (yet to be established) who would report back to Scrutiny. Saturday 19th was the SALC AGM at Dawley Town Hall when Ella was one of three parish council Clerks to be presented with long-service awards. (Ella’s was accepted by me and later formally presented to her at the Extraordinary Meeting of the PC on the 22nd.) Thursday 24th the Town and Parish Council Forum met at Shirehall when presentations were made by Steve Brown from SC Highways, concerning the adoption of Highways and Grounds Maintenance responsibilities by Town and Parish Councils, and Adrian Cooper, SC’s Planning Policy and Strategy Manager, who outlined the need for a review of Local Plans, particularly for Town and Parish Councils to take note that whilst the provision of housing land projected in the SAMDev calculations was intended to cover the period up to 2026, recent challenges to the basis

of SC's 5 year housing land supply meant that the expectation now was for that period to extend by a further 10 years to 2036.

Immediately following that meeting I was interviewed by BBC Radio Shropshire's Faith Page who had witnessed my comments at the Joint Health & Adult Social Care meeting on the 2nd November. The interview lasted about 20 minutes. Part of that interview was later used to counter the arguments of Jeremy Corbin in a later broadcast, in which he supported the campaign to retain A&E departments at both the PRH and RSH. I didn't hear that interview. I have subsequently been told that much of what I said will be included in a later broadcast about the general health scene across Shropshire, but I don't know the date of that broadcast. On the 28th, too late to be included in this report, but I can do it verbally on the 6th December, I am meeting with Police Sergeant Jak Wilshaw to review the parking situation in the village, following complaints about on-pavement parking, specifically:

- ⑩ outside Orchard Square
- ⑩ to the frontages of the terrace on the main road above the turn to Blythings Court
- ⑩ Outside the frontages on the stretch between the co-op car park and the chemists.
- ⑩ General state of play on Rhea Hall, particularly parking on the junction with Coronation Street.

I have already made the point that whilst the situation is rapidly becoming untenable, a solution to the problem will probably remain unattainable, given that parking restrictions will only result in displacement of the problem, not its eradication. But I felt that Sgt Wilshaw needed to see for himself in order to inform his opinion on how we might address the problem. Cllr.Tremellen also explained about the meeting he had held with the police regarding the parking issues in Highley, Following discussion it was proposed to invite the Traffic Enforcement Team to the February meeting to let us know what the law was regarding parking. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council invite the Parking Enforcement Team from Shropshire Council to a meeting to explain the laws on Parking.

10. Finance

Shropshire RCC	Subscriptions	26.00
Badger Print	Calendars	518.40
SLCC	Subscriptions	149.00
Post Office Counters	Tax & National Insurance	49.26
M.E.Preston	Salary	841.91
T.Preece	Bus Shelters – Village Centre	3,000.00
C.E.Holford	Christmas Light Installations	1477.25
Turnocks	New Christmas Lights.	889.56
Severn Centre	Room Hire	36.00
Technical Services	CCTV Maintenance	3313.94

Meeting closed 8.55pm.

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