

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHAWBURY PARISH
COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY
DECEMBER 8TH. 2009 at 7.00pm.**

Public Session:

Four members of the public were present and wished to discuss issues relating to the junior and senior football clubs, under Item 10 of the Agenda.

Present:

Mr. S. Jones (Chairman)
Mrs. J. Manley (Vice Chairman)
Mr. D. Baldwin
Mrs. F. Medley
Mr. J. Kennedy
Mr. R. Bailey
Mr. R. Pinches
Mrs. S. Dove
Mr. S. Dodd
Mr. D. Roberts.

In Attendance:

The Parish Clerk
Four members of the public.

09/130 Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr. A. Brown. Sqdn Ldr. D. Lewis and Mrs. G. Moore.

09/131 Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests:

Mr. Bailey declared an interest in Item 6 of the agenda.

09/132 Minutes of the Meeting held on November 10th. 2009

The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true copy.

09/133 Matters Arising:

1. Village Security:

Clerk advised Members that he had contacted the police and been told that P.C. Mitchell was returning to work and was the best person to give advice on the legal aspects of using CCTV cameras. She had responded to his request to attend the meeting by giving an overview (on file) but stating that she was not qualified. She had recommended asking Mr. D. Roberts (Shropshire Council). Despite efforts it had not been possible to contact him in time for this meeting but he had been invited to attend the one on January 12th. Further discussion was deferred to the next meeting.

2. Cycle Track

Clerk reported that RoSPA had carried out a site inspection and he thanked Mr. Bailey for meeting the representative on site. The report, which had indicated a few

minor changes to the site lay out, had been forwarded to Allianz Insurance Company and they had agreed to give public liability insurance, subject the following provisos:

- (a) The recommended changes made by RoSPA were carried out
- (b) Litter was collected from the site on a daily basis.
- (c) The site was inspected weekly.

Mr. Bailey agreed to:

- (a) Carry out the modifications.
- (b) Speak to Mr. Creber about collecting the litter and
- (c) To take responsibility for weekly inspections, providing someone else took responsibility for the Erdington Close Play Area.

Mrs. S. Dove agreed to take on this task.

Mr. Bailey reported that the off set barriers on the path had been erected.

3. Play Area/Youth Pod Paths:

Members considered a detailed paper produced by Mr. Brown, which would incorporate the paths into a fitness trail extending round the Recreation Ground. After discussion, it was decided that there was little likelihood of getting further grant aid and that the Council was not in a position to fund it in the near future. Grants had been obtained for the paths to the Play Area and Pod and there was a need to go ahead with these. Mr. Kennedy proposed that the Council should proceed with the stated paths and this was unanimously agreed. The Clerk was asked to bring a detailed specification to the next meeting for approval, after which quotations would be sought.

4. Traffic Lights, road crossing and new road signs and Poynton Road 30mph signs:

A report from Mr. Gradwell (Shropshire Council) stated that:

- (a) The area by the traffic lights could be remodelled to improve the efficiency of the lights. This would involve a considerable amount of work, including the installation of a new traffic signal controller. The project would be considered as part of next year's work programme.
- (b) The provision of a pedestrian crossing on the A53 by the shops had been assessed but had not scored highly enough to make it a priority for the Capital Works Programme.
- (c) Signing improvements would be carried out at the junction of the A53/B5063 Wem Road but any further improvements would be considered as part of next year's programme.
- (d) The position of the 30mph signs on the Poynton Road would be investigated but there was little likelihood of them being extended as they appear to meet the national regulations.

5. Access Report:

Mr. Limb (Shropshire Council – Highways) had agreed to additional dropped kerbs being installed in the Village and had arranged for a technician to meet with Mrs. Medley to determine the most appropriate locations.

The Clerk has received a response from Velma Finney (Shropshire Council's Access Officer), regarding suitable contacts to give advice and help and this was passed to Mrs. Medley for consideration and report back to the next meeting.

6. CSO's Powers to issue on the spot fines

Mr. Sneddon (Shropshire Council's Head of Environmental Management) had written to say that some powers had been delegated to local police CSO's and that 38 Shropshire Council staff had been trained in the issues related to fixed penalty notices. Dedicated Environmental Wardens were being recruited to enforce the laws on fly tipping, litter and dog fouling..

Clerk was asked to contact Mr. Sneddon to see if some of the staff could spend some time in Shawbury.

7. Gap in Hedge on Poynton Road:

Mr. Bailey reported on a site meeting held with Mr. Watney (Balfours) and four Council Members. The Members had stressed the need for urgent action, as it was anticipated that there was every likelihood of a serious accident occurring. It was felt that the compromise solution of removing a section of the hedge was not acceptable and that the whole hedge needed to be removed and replaced with metal key clamp fencing. This would enable motorists to see anyone attempting to leave the field.

Mr. Watney agreed to consult with Diocese members and had since arranged a further meeting, when he would bring the Archdeacon to meet with Councillors. This meeting was planned for December 16th. at 9.30am.

There was unanimous support for the need to remove the whole hedge.

8. Highways:

Mr. D. Limb (Highways Department) had replied, stating that:

- (a) He would arrange to remove the waste from the footpath between the Farm Shop and the Telephone Exchange.
- (b) There were no plans to resurface the B5063 Shawbury to Wem road but next year surface dressing would take place between Besford Bend the A49.

9. Toilet Facilities:

Mrs. Manley reported that the Elephant and Castle Public House opens at 12.00 noon Sunday to Thursday and 11.30 am on Fridays and Saturdays.

10. A53 Fencing by entrance to the Moat:

Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Highways Department stating that they would replace the fence.

11. Street Cleaning, Street Signs, Litter Bin and Dog Bin:

Victoria Ashmore (Street Scene Manager) had given the following response:

- (a) The dog waste bin by the cycle track had been repaired.
- (b) A litter bin would be put close to the entrance to the RAF base providing a suitable fixing point could be identified. Members recommended that a metal post should be erected on Council owned land and the bin fixed to that. Clerk to respond.
- (c) She was reluctant to re-locate the new street sign. Members were insistent that the sign should be placed at the indentified location with a new Church Close sign erected. Clerk to discuss this with Ms. Ashmore.

- (d) Shawbury is on a 13 week cleansing cycle for streets and pavements, when two groups of workers weed, sweep and litter pick with a road sweeper following the same route. In addition to that a street cleaner will be in Shawbury one day a fortnight.

12. Councillors' Surgery:

Mr. Bailey and Mrs. Manley reported that Mr. & Mrs. Lawley had attended the session and raised a number of concerns related to highways, speeding traffic and street lights in the Edgebolton area. Mr. Bailey said that he had carried out a site visit and some of the problems had already been rectified. He had passed the other complaints to the Clerk, who confirmed that details had been passed to the relevant authorities for action.

09/134 Correspondence:

The following correspondence was brought to the attention of Members:

1. Shropshire Council - proposed election fees for Parish Councillors – accepted.
2. Shropshire Partnership – Final draft of Community Strategy 2010 – 2020.
3. Shropshire Council – Code of Conduct for Members.
4. Shropshire Playing Fields Association – ‘The Playing Field’.
5. Shropshire Council – Maintaining High Quality Education Provision. Mr. Dodd to review.
6. Telford and Wrekin Council – Housing Land Availability Assessment.
7. Shropshire Council Rural Community Engagement. Copy issued to Members for consideration at the next meeting.
8. S.A.L.C. – Proposed ‘Key’ Structure’

09/135 Accounts for Payment:

Mr .J. Wilson	Salary (December)	£336.50
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (November)	£85.17
Inland Revenue	Income Tax (December)	£83.50
Mr. T. Creber	Village work (December)	£417.00
Mr. A. Houlihan	Toilet facilities (December)	£50.00
N.W. P. Electrical	Streetlight Maintenance (Dec.)	£223.73
Mr. R. Bailey	Erdington Play Area Maintenance, hedge cutting and shrub pruning	£80.00
Mr. R. Bailey	Costs incurred in making and installing frames for Bike Track signs	£66.65
Scottish Power	Electricity supply (December)	£166.35
Graphic Office	Photocopier cartridges	£112.67
Playsafety	BMX Track Inspection	£454.25
Interactive Information	Norton Security System for computer	£45.00
Signs of the Times	BMX Track signs	£141.44
Nobridge Ltd.	Grass cutting (Sept. 7 th . Oct. 10 th .)	£351.90

09/136 Financial Statement:

A financial statement was tabled and approved

09/137 Budget and Precept Setting:

Members considered in detail the documents produced by the Clerk. The proposed budgets were accepted but Members noted that the committed annual expenditure now exceeded the income from the precept. There was likely to be a carry forward of £11,600.00 but this would not be sufficient to cover the proposed development projects.

It was pointed out that the committed expenditure had increased because of the developments undertaken over the past two years and these had only been possible because of the grants obtained from various sources.

After detailed discussion, it was proposed and seconded that a request should be made to Shropshire Council to increase the precept by £4,000.00 to £42,000.00. The motion was carried by 8 votes to nil with two abstentions.

09/138 Exchange of Information:

(a) It was requested that the following items be added to the next agenda.

1. Footpaths to Pod and Play Area
2. Youth Pod
3. Car Park Issues.
4. Loose Dogs on Recreation Ground and Play Area.

(b) The following items were raised as needing urgent attention:

1. Highways:

(a) Blue Sign at Simons Garage restricting visibility. Clerk asked to check if planning consent had been granted for the sign, before any action was taken.

(b) State of the land around the traffic light area. Clerk to report to Highways.

2. Street Lights:

(a) New street lights on the Wem Road need to be numbered. Clerk to ask NWP to action.

09/139 Junior Football Club:

Members of the junior and senior football clubs were in attendance and told Members that they would like

(a) The junior footballers to start playing matches on the Recreation Ground again. To do this, there was a need to re-align the football pitch so that it did not interfere with the Youth Pod. Members agreed to this and Mr. Pinches arranged to meet with club representatives to work out the most appropriate way to do it.

(b) The senior football club would like to be able to play their matches in Shawbury rather than Wem and Members agreed that this was an excellent proposition. The Committee Members outlined three possible sites and after due consideration Members agreed, in principle, to support the Club's efforts to secure land at the rear of the Farm Shop and adjacent to the RAF base.

09/140 Land beyond the Recreation Ground:

Mr. Bailey reported that after the site meeting about the hedge, Mr. Watney had made some verbal suggestions about the Council developing the land. He had promised to put his proposals in writing and it was decided to delay any discussion until this had been received.

09/141 Reports from:**(a) Police:**

A written report had been received, indicating that in the period since the last meeting the following offences had been recorded:

Theft -3; Burglary non dwelling – 1; Possession of a firearm without a certificate -1.

(b) Youth:

No report tabled.

(c) RAF Shawbury:

.Sqdn Ldr. Lewis had sent a written report indicating that all flying and training activity would cease on Friday 18th. December but the base would remain open until December 23rd.

(d) Shropshire Council::

Mr. Jones reported that:

- (a) The Shropshire Council rate increase for North Shropshire had been set at 1.7%
- (b) The Comprehensive Area Assessment due to be published would report favourably on the progress being made.
- (c) There was every likelihood of substantial budget cuts next year.
- (d) Detailed work was being carried out to identify and eradicate the abuse of vulnerable adults.

09/142 Planning applications:

No objections were raised to the following applications:

1. London House, Shawbury Heath – change of use of first floor storage to office use, insertion of roof lights and erection of an external metal staircase.
2. Roden Cottages, 114 Drayton Road, Shawbury – erection of single storey extension to the rear of the property.

09/143 Committee Reports:**(a) Moat:**

Mr. Brown had forwarded a written report indicating:

- Remedial work on trees is due to start on January 4th.
- Coffee evening went well with thanks to Heather and Manda for arranging and hosting it. Members agreed that any funds raised should be retained by the Council in a ‘ring fenced account.’
- Moat grant application is progressing.
- Volunteer Hours – Heather 150+, Adrian 100+ and Jill 50 hours.

A report, prepared by Heather Currie, on the meeting with the Environment Agency and English Heritage was tabled and accepted.

(b) Parish Plan:

.Mr. Bailey apologised for the fact that the Plan had not been printed. There were a number of amendments to be made and this was taking longer than anticipated.

(c) United Charities:

Mr. Bailey advised the meeting that he was unable to carry on as a trustee on the committee. Meetings were held during the day when he was normally at work.

Mrs Medley offered to take his place and this was supported by Members. Clerk to inform the Rev. Humphries of the decision.

09/144 Press Matters:

No matters were suggested.

099/145 Date and Time of next meeting:

The next meeting will be on January 12th .at 7.00pm in Shawbury Village Hall.

Approved as a true record of the Meeting.

Signed S. Jones **Date: 12th. January2010**
Chairman