

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHAWBURY PARISH
COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY
JULY 12th. 2011 at 7.00pm.**

Public Session:

Five members of the public were present.

A representative from the Football Club reminded Members of the large number of young people who were playing football for the Shawbury Junior teams and of the problems in securing suitable facilities for the games to take place. He asked for Council support in their efforts to secure additional facilities.

Mrs. Matthews had applied for co-option onto the Council to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. S. Jones.

Present:

Mrs. J. Manley (Chairman)

Mrs. S. Dove

Mr. D. Baldwin

Mrs. F. Medley

Mr. R. Bailey

Mr. R. Pinches

Mr. J. Kennedy

Mrs. T. Howells

Mr. D. Roberts

Mr. A. Brown

In Attendance:

Mr. S. Jones (Shropshire Councillor).

The Parish Clerk.

Five members of the public.

11/63 Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from MACR Longmuir (RAF Shawbury) and Ms. R. Mansfield (Shropshire Council).

11/64 Declaration of Personal or Prejudicial Interests:

Mr. Bailey declared an interest in Agenda Item 10 and Mr. Pinches in Items 6 & 10

11/65 Co-option of new Member:

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Matthews to the meeting and introduced her to the Members, stating that she was well known in the community, especially for her work with the Cubs, Scouts and Junior Football.

After due consideration, Mrs. Matthews was then co-opted as a Council Member on a unanimous vote and having signed the Declaration of Acceptance, was invited to stay and participate in the remainder of the meeting.

11/66 Minutes of Meeting held on June 14th.

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

11/67 Matters Arising:

(a) Highways (11/53(B1))

It was noted that the signs had been collected from the A53 and that the street sign for Pinewood Road had been replaced. The Highways Department had confirmed that they were having discussions with representatives of Griffiths about the state of the road surface at the entrance to the hangers on Wem Road.

(b) Security Camera (11/56)

A protocol for accessing recorded information had been agreed with the Police and Shropshire Council and a copy was issued to Members.

(c) Tanker discharging on the A53. (Public session)

This had been investigated by the Highways Department. The tanker belonged to Severn Trent and the driver was flushing out the blocked sewer with clean water.

(d) Erdington Close Play Area (11/43(d))

Mr. Bailey stated that he had distributed the letters but there had been limited response. Currently he was trying collecting the cat litter prior to mowing.

Sewerage Leak (11/54(A))

The Clerk had contacted Severn Trent, The Environment Agency and the Highways Department who had all responded. The blocked pipe was cleared the next day and some effort was made to clean up the area. The Clerk had asked Severn Trent to keep him informed of any future work in the area, so that those working in the Moat could be given advance information.

(f) Loose dog on the Recreation Ground (11/53(iiic))

The dog warden had called on the owner of the dog and advised him of the need to keep dogs under control in public places.

The Council had been advised that they had the right to put up notices asking for dogs to be kept on leads but a decision on this was deferred until after the Council had taken on the new area of the Glebe.

(g) Graffiti on Play Equipment and the Pod (11/53(iiib))

The Chairman and Shropshire Council Street Cleaners had been able to clean off the graffiti in the Play Area. However the street cleaners had not had sufficient time to clean the pod and surrounding area.

The Clerk had been advised that graffiti wipes could be obtained from a firm in Shrewsbury and Members asked him to purchase some.

(h) Fly Tipping (11/53(iiia))

It was noted that the offending material had been removed.

(i) Speed control on Church Street/Poynton Road.

There had been a positive response from the Safer Roads Partnership and they had promised to consider the request at the Operations Forum being held later this month.

(j) RoSPA Inspection (11/46(a))

RoSPA had agreed to include the Moat Area with the programme of Play Area inspections. The Inspector would contact the Clerk prior to the visit so that the Chairman could accompany him on the Moat inspection new play area and Mr. Bailey on the remainder of the sites.

(k) Hedge Fires in Moat area (11/53(iii))

Police had interviewed and charged some young people with involvement with the fires.

(l) Burning waste at the Farm Shop site.

The Neighbourhood Pollution Officer had visited the site and advised the owners of the law with regard to burning waste and of alternative methods of waste disposal. There had been a positive response from the owners.

(m) Vehicle Operated Speed Controls (Unresolved issues)

Councillor Jones advised members that there had as yet been no change in the funding policy and that all the available VAS units had now been allocated. All future allocations would be on a first come first served basis.

(n) Photocopier

Clerk advised members that the photocopier has developed major faults and after discussion with the suppliers and the Chairman he had been given approval to purchase a new copier. Funds for a replacement had been included in the current year's budget.

(o) Planning – response from Mr. Cooper (11/52)

Mr. Cooper's response was noted and was considered later in the meeting when the Chairman reported on a training session she had attended. (See 11/80)

11/68 Church Street/Poynton Road – removal of hedge.

Having declared an interest, Mr. Pinches left the meeting whilst this item was considered. The Clerk informed Members that he had received three quotations for the removal of the hedge and two for the erection of the new fence. After due consideration the following quotes were accepted:

(a) Removal of the hedge – quote of £320.00 (+VAT) from Mr. R. Pinches.

(b) Replacement fencing - quote of £3,275.00 (+VAT) from R, A. Allmark & Sons

11/69 Glebe Area

The Clerk had prepared a policy document covering the lease and development of the new area of the Glebe. This was accepted with some modifications and the agreed document is attached to the minutes.

It was agreed that an article should be placed in the Village Newsletter seeking

- (a) Two parishioners willing to join a Committee to oversee the development and
- (b) Suggestions of a name for the area.

11/70 Councillor Representatives:

The following amendments were made to the register:

Inspection of Children's Play Area (Recreation Ground) - Jill Manley

Children and Young People - Tracie Howells

The Burial Ground – Frances Medley

The Elderly – Dave Roberts

11/71 Correspondence:

The following correspondence was considered.

1. Citizens Advice Bureau - 'How we can help you'?
2. Jenny Marriott – re Moat Fencing
3. Mrs. Jane Roberts suggesting possible developments in the extended Glebe Area.
4. Shropshire Council – free trees/hedging available. Members were asked to consider whether there was a need for any in the Parish and to bring suggestions to the next meeting.
5. Safe Shropshire Partnership – information on plans to combat anti-social behaviour.
6. ALC – details of training courses planned for the next two months. Members were urged to consider these and to notify the Clerk if they wished to attend any or all of the sessions.
7. Shropshire Council (Social Care Services) – details of public meetings to discuss planned changes to the delivery of social care.

11/72 Accounts for Payment:

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Mr .J. Wilson	Salary (July)		£428.97
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses ¹ (June)		£131.07
Inland Revenue	Income Tax (July)	^^	£107.53
Mr. T. Creber	Village work (July)		£417.00
Mr. R. Bailey	Mowing cycle track	£80.00	
	Erdington Play area - mowing (May)	£100.00	
	Mowing Moat central area and paths	£70.00	£250.00
	Timber care & brushes (Erdington play Area)		£57.97
Nobridge Ltd.	Grass cutting (June 30 th .)		£182.40
Scottish Power	Electricity supply (May)		£268.60
Graphic Office	Supply Cannon 8330 Photocopier		£540.00

11/73 Financial Statement:

A financial statement was tabled and approved.

11/74 Cark Park Renovation:

- (a) It was decided that the contractor should be asked to delay work on the project until after the school holidays.
- (b) Clerk reported that Shropshire Council had agreed to supply some cycle stands and Mr. Pinches offered to collect them from the Council Depot

11/75 Cycle Track

Mr. Bailey reported that the track was being well used but having talked to the young people using it, felt there was a need to carry out some modifications to the track. It was agreed that £350.00 could be spent on these modifications and Mr. Bailey offered to make the arrangements, which would involve the hire of some equipment, the purchase of additional soil and some labour costs.

11/76 Parish Paths Partnership:

Mr. Bailey gave an update on the Partnership which was not part of the Parish Council provision but carried out work for Shropshire Council's Countryside Access Committee. This committee provided a small grant to cover some of the expenses, including the purchase of some small tools and fuel but all the work was done by volunteers.

The project had been in operation for three years and in that time eight walking leaders had been trained and there were three walking groups meeting regularly and involving up to twenty five people.

In the Parish there are 21km of footpaths, rights of way and restricted byways and many hours are spent in keeping down the vegetation to allow access. Sixteen marker posts have been put in place, fifty three marker discs, seven gates and five stiles and a new map has been placed on the outside wall of the butcher's shop. Mr. Bailey commented on the splendid co-operation that had been received from most land owners

11/77 Hole in Recreation Ground Hedge:

Mr. Bailey reported that there was still a hole in the hedge by the Youth Pod and it was agreed to deal with this when the contractor was removing the other part of the hedge, reusing the barrier it contained.

11/78 Firework Event:

Members supported Mr. Bailey's proposals to increase the entrance fee to £3.00 for an adult (children free) and to try and obtain some street entertainment for the early part of the evening. This would probably cost about £500.00 and the Chairman proposed that this should be covered by the Bonfire budget.

It was noted that the event was planned for Saturday November 5th. and that Mr. Baldwin was planning to hold a Quiz Evening to raise funds to support the event.

11/79 Exchange of Information:(A) Issues for inclusion on the next agenda:

1. Management of the wet willow area in the Moat.
2. Planning for the Diamond Jubilee
3. Arranging a special meeting to discuss Shropshire Council's Planning Policy and its affect on the Parish`

(B) Issues needing urgent attention:(i) Highways:

- (a) Roadwork sign needs collecting from the verge on Wytheford Road on the same side as Pool Cottage.
- (b) Tree overhanging the footpath close to 1, Millbrook
- (c) Road breaking up around a manhole cover outside Shawbury House.
- (d) Motor vehicle trading was taking place from a vehicle parked on the lay-by opposite the Hairdressers on the A53 Shrewsbury Road.

Clerk to report these issues to the Highways Department and also ask if there are any plans to resurface Church Street.

(ii) Streetlights:

Light 28 in River Gardens not working.

(iii) Other:1. Co-op Shop

Complaints had been received about the waste bins that were being left on the footpath outside the Co-op shop. It was agreed that these were an eyesore and at times created an unpleasant smell in the area. Clerk was asked to write the manager of the shop pointing out the concerns and asking for the bins to be placed at the rear of the premises and if necessary to get them emptied more frequently.

2. Electricity Sub-station.

It was noted that the substation on White Lodge Park was overgrown with weeds and creating a nuisance to nearby residents. Clerk to contact the Electricity Company and ask for the site to be cleaned.

3. Simon's Garage

Members of the Council had received complaints about the spikes which had been put in the surrounding wall and on the blue railings. It was noted that Councillor Simon Jones had already reported this to Shropshire Council's Health & Safety Officer, who felt that as these were 'prikka strips' they posed little danger to the public but suggested that the tips might need to be blunted. It was further reported that grease had been spread on the wall. Members felt that there should be a warning sign in place and Mr Jones promised to raise the issue again at County level.

11/80 Other Information:(a) Planning:

The Chairman gave a report on a training session that she and Mrs Medley had attended at Shirehall. It had been a very enlightening meeting and the information gained, together with the letter from Mr. Cooper, illustrated the need for the Council to be far more proactive in its responses to the developments being suggested by Shropshire Council, in relation to future planning in the Parish.

A heated debate followed, regarding the role of the Parish Council and finally it was decided that there was a need to hold a special meeting solely for the purpose of developing a planning policy. This would be arranged at the August Council meeting.

(b) Community Safety and Information Day;

The Chairman gave a brief report on the event which had been held in the Village Hall and directed at retired people. The information given had been very positive and valuable covering issues such as home safety; fall prevention; gentle exercise, etc. with representatives from a number of service providers in attendance

(c) Biodiversity Project:

The Chairman reported that she had attended a project in the Moat organised by Gareth Parry, the aim of which was to develop a picture of the locality by building maps of hedges, plants, insects and birds. Scouts, Guides and members of the public had attended the session and Gareth had suggested that the new area of the Glebe should be surveyed before any development takes place.

(d) ALC Conference – Are we ready for Localism?

The Chairman reported on a conference held at Shirehall which had highlighted strengths and weaknesses in the Localism Bill, which aims to transfer power from

central government to local communities. It was essential that Parish Councils understood the implications and that Members became conversant with the changes that are going to take place.

(e) Sponsorship:

Clerk reported that he had written to the companies that had been sponsors last year. To date two had indicated that they wished to continue to be sponsors and it was agreed to wait until the next meeting before approaching those who had expressed an interest last year.

(f) Burial Ground

Following advice received from ALC regarding insurance cover for burial grounds the Clerk had contacted the Council's insurers. They had confirmed that the policy fully covered the burial ground, providing regular inspections were carried out to identify any possible problems and these inspections were recorded

Mrs, Medley agreed to take on this role and the Clerk promised to provide her with a pro-forma for keeping the records.

11/81 Streetlights

Clerk reported that there were a number of issues to be considered:

1. Light No.75 in Church Street is damaged and needs replacing at a cost of £1,375.00.
2. In view of this was there a need to have all the older lights in the Parish inspected?
3. Myddle & Broughton Parish had been informed by the insurance company that their lights were under insured. Based on this, there was a need to consider the position for this Council.
4. Modifications to some lights in Church Street had still not been carried out.

Unfortunately the senior engineer at NWP responsible for Shawbury was on long term sick leave and the inspections were being supervised by a junior member of staff.

It was agreed to defer any decisions until the next meeting when hopefully, Mr Nick Hardy would have returned to work

11/82 Review of Parish Plan:

The Clerk had provided an update of the actions that had been completed and these were noted and agreed. However it was decided that there was a need for a full review of the plan to consider new priorities that were identified by the community. In the first instance it was decided to do a review of the plan in the August edition of the Parish Magazine and seek suggestions for further development.

11/83 Planning for the Diamond Jubilee:

Discussion deferred till the next meeting.

11/84 Reports from:

(a) **Police:**

A written report had been received which indicated that in the period between June 10th. and July 8th. the following offences had been recorded:

Burglary of non-dwelling – 1; Taking pedal cycle without consent – 1; Possession of class B drug – 1; Theft from shop – 1.

(b) Youth

No report tabled.

(c) RAF Shawbury

No report tabled.

(d) Shropshire Council:

Mr. Jones reported that Shropshire Council intended to carry out a feasibility study to see if alterations to the lights would enable a crossing to be installed on the A53 in the area between the Co-op shop and the shops.

11/85 Planning Applications:

A. No objections were raised to the following applications.

1. 113, Drayton Road - outline application for the erection of a single storey dwelling to include layout and means of access.
2. Land at Wytheford Forge – construction of an agricultural building for housing stock and storage of produce.

11//86 Committee Reports:**(1) Moat Committee:**

Mr. Brown reported that:

- (a) Volunteer hours now exceeded 1,800.
- (b) Pedestrian direction signs on the A53 to be erected very soon.
- (c) He would be checking that the remedial work on the trees had been completed.
- (d) The lottery bid was almost complete and would total in the region of £50,000.00.
- (e) There was a need to carry out remedial work on the wet willow area – consideration of the distributed proposals was deferred until the next meeting.

(2) United Charities:

Mrs. Medley reminded Members that the income for the Charity came from rented land and that in the last six month period a total of £1014.00 had been received.

/Grants had been given to a student needing a computer before starting a University course; to help a pupil from a single parent family take part in a European school trip and assist with the purchase of a cooker for a pensioner.

The current balance of funds was £4,201.00

11/87 Press Matters:

No matters to report.

11/88 Date and Time of next meeting:

The next meeting will be on August 9th. at 7.00pm in Shawbury Village Hall.

Approved as a true record of the Meeting.

Signed _____ (Chairman) Date _____ :