

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHAWBURY PARISH
COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY
MARCH 8TH. 2011 at 7.00pm.**

Public Session:

No members of the public were in attendance and no issues were raised.

Present:

Mrs. J. Manley (Chairman)

Mrs. S. Dove

Mr. D. Baldwin

Mrs. F. Medley

Mr. R. Bailey

Mr. R. Pinches

Mr. S. Dodd

Mr. A. Brown

Mr. J. Kennedy

Mrs. T. Howells

In Attendance:

Mr. S. Jones (Shropshire Councillor)

The Parish Clerk

Mrs. G. Moore (RAF Shawbury)

Ms. R. Mansfield (Community Action Officer).

Before the meeting started the Chairman introduced Ruth Mansfield, Shropshire Council's Community Action Officer, who gave a brief description of her role and responsibilities.

10/208 Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr. D. Roberts and MACR G. Longmuir (RAF Shawbury).

10/209 Declaration of Personal or Prejudicial Interests:

The following interests in items on the agenda were declared - Mr. A. Brown Item 5c; Mr. S. Dodd – Items 4(k) and 11 Mr. Bailey Items 10 and 15.

10/210 Minutes of Meeting held on January 11th. 2011:

The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record after, the following amendments had been agreed, Item 10/198 should read four lights and Item 10/201 should read June 19th.

10/211 Matters Arising:

(a)Highways (10/200(b))

It was noted that the conifer tree at Merlwood Farm had been cut back but the railings by the traffic lights had not been repaired.

Mrs. Howells reported that she had spoken to the manager of the Co-Op shop, who had agreed to arrange for plastic cones to be placed outside the shop when deliveries were expected.

(b) Land between Recreation Ground and the River (10/191(c))

Clerk reported that despite three requests he had still not received any more information from Mr. Watney. He was asked to write to the Bishop to see if he could help.

(c) Simon's Garage (10/191(f))

The Highways Department had stated that permission would not be given to erect a mirror on a post on the pavement by the entrance to the Elephant and Castle Public House. It was decided that there was no further action the Council could take and it was agreed to put an article in the Parish Newsletter explaining the situation.

(d) Sparrow Cottage. (10/191(g))

Shropshire Council's Planning Department are still waiting for the Planning Inspector to set a date for the hearing.

(e) Post box at junction of A53 and Wytheford Road (10/191(j))

Clerk reported that he had eventually contacted the Royal Mail Customer Service Department and had been advised that the box had been removed because the post had gone rotten.

Because the box had not been used very much they were not intending to replace it.

Having received letters of complaint from residents, he had written to Royal Mail asking for the decision to be reversed.

Mr. Bailey presented the Clerk with a petition signed by 50 residents and a letter, asking for the box to be replaced and he agreed to send this on to Royal Mail.

(f) Recreation Ground – Rotary Club Charity Car Boot Sale – cancelled.(g) Church Street Lighting (10/198)

The Chairman reported that the lights had been counted after the last meeting and it had been noted that there were actually five lights that needed upgrading. She had emailed the Clerk asking for five to be ordered and for Members to be notified.

Mr. Brown stated that he had been very upset by this action. He had been asked to survey the pavement lighting and the fifth light actually lit the Village Hall Car Park. The Chairman offered a full apology and agreed that the change should have been discussed with him first. After consideration it was agreed by a majority decision that the order for five lights should stand.

(h) Car Park (10/197)

Clerk informed the meeting that he had sent out details to four contractors asking for quotations but to date none of them had responded.

(i) Shawbury Wood (10/191(k))

It was noted that because of public concern the Government had decided not to sell Forestry Commission woodland, which meant that Shawbury Wood should be safe.

(j) Drop in Centre (10/191(g))

Mrs. Medley reported that attendance was good and at it looked as though the activity would be self sufficient with the income covering the rent of the room and the refreshments.

(k) Localism Bill (10/192 (b))

A letter had been received by the Clerk from Mt. Patterson MP, in response to concerns Members appreciated his reply but felt that it did little to address the issues raised by the Council regarding the funding of new planning regulations.

(l) Stable development (10/200(iii))

It was noted that the issues raised were covered by the planning application to be discussed later on the agenda.

10/212 Correspondence:

The following correspondence was considered:

(a) Minutes of the Moat Committee.(b)ALC – requesting examples of good practice and interesting projects

. It was agreed that the Clerk should notify ALC of The Moat Development; The Drop in Centre; Community Award and the Cycle Track, Firework/Bonfire event and Parish Paths project, etc.

(c)Shropshire Council – copy of letter sent to Mr. Watney re. A53 drainage system.(d)Shropshire Council – details of how to apply for a road closure for a street party.(e)Shropshire Council – guide to organising a street party or fete.(f)Shropshire Council – ‘Become a Shropshire Council Volunteer Flood Monitor.’(g)Malcolm Wilde – letter of thanks for grant made to Bowling Club and invitation to see the irrigation system working once it has been installed.(h)NALC – ‘What is Localism’ Explanatory booklets were distributed.(i)Mr. & Mrs. Affleck-Driver - re Paddocks planning approval.

In their e-mail Mr. & Mrs. Affleck-Driver had complained that the Parish Council had supported an application for the erection of a new property on land adjacent to the Paddocks, when there were problems with the sewerage and drainage in the area

The Clerk was asked to respond to the complaint, pointing out that members of the public are allowed to attend Council meetings and there is an opportunity at the start of the meeting to raise issues of concern. The agendas for all Council meetings are published at various locations at least five days before the planned meeting. The planning application referred to had been included on the December agenda and no one had raised any concerns with Members, who were unaware of the problems referred to

(j)ALC – Transparency Consultation.

The document related to the need for Councils to publish details of their financial transactions. Members felt that as all financial transactions for the Council were included in the minutes of meetings which were published locally and on the web site, they were meeting the criteria.

(k)Michael McLean – Neighbourhood Planning Conference.(l)Shropshire Council – events in March.

Clerk to check if events planned for the Moat area could be included in future editions.

(m)Michael Watney/Helen Sudlow – emails re. new A53 drainage system.(n) Shropshire Council – Become a Volunteer Flood Monitor(o) Shropshire Council – Local bus service tenders 2011-2012(p) Mr. Keith Barrow (Leader of Shropshire Council) – details of a public meeting to discuss ‘Keeping your health service in Shropshire’.(q) Health Watch – dates of Local Road shows

(r) Shropshire Council – Offer of help with arranging Community Litter picks

Clerk to seek further information regarding the provision of equipment and bag hoops.

(s) Shropshire Council – details of the revised mobile library service.**10/213 Accounts for Payment:**

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Mr, J, Wilson	Salary (March)	£455.38
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (Feb.)	£108.73
Mr. J. Wilson	Office rent (Oct – March inc.)	£150.00
Inland Revenue	Income Tax (March) `	£113.42
Mr. T. Creber	Village work (March)	£417.00
NWP Electrical	Streetlight maintenance	£232.42
Shawbury Village Hall	Drop in Centre Expenses	£104.64
Interactive Information	ITS web hosting for 12 months and re-registering web site for two years	£271.20
Shawbury Bowls Club	Grant	£500.00
Severn Hospice	Grant	£75.00
MacMillan Nursing	Grant	£75.00
Marie Curie Cancer Care	Grant	£75.00
W. Shrop. Talking N’paper	Grant	£75.00
Hope House	Grant	£75.00
N. Shrop. Safety Scene	Grant	£75.00
Citizens Advice Bureau	Grant	£75.00
Shawbury Junior Football	Grant	£75.00
Shawbury Junior School PTA	Grant	£75.00
Shawbury Scouts & Guides	Grant	£75.00

10/214 Financial Statement:

A financial statement was tabled and approved.

10/215 Councillors’ Allowances.

Members considered a paper produced by the Clerk but unanimously agreed not to seek allowances for carrying out normal Council duties. However, it was felt that reasonable expenses could be paid to any Councillor who was asked to carry out a project for The Council which relied on specific expertise.

10/216 Youth Pod and Paths.

Mr. Bailey reported that the paths on the Recreation Ground were becoming overgrown with grass and weed. He offered to treat the paths with an appropriate weed killer for free, if the Council would pay for the weed killer. His offer was accepted. He reported that as yet he had not painted the Youth Pod

10/217 BMX Track

Mr. Dodd stated that the maintenance of the Cycle Track was demanding and he did not feel it was fair to expect Mr. Bailey to continue to do the work on a voluntary basis. Members supported his proposal that a payment should be made. Clerk reported that he had discussed this with Mr. Bailey and he had quoted a fee of £40.00 per cut. This was accepted by Members.

10/218 School Reorganisation

Shropshire Council had provided details of the proposals for the Shawbury Schools and this had been forwarded to Member prior to the meeting. After due consideration the following responses were made:

1. The merger of the two schools is seen as the best way forward and is supported by the Parish Council.
2. The development of a single school on the current site in Poynton Road is appropriate but careful consideration must be given to parking facilities.
3. A new name should be given to the combined school.
4. The suggestion that only one school should be closed is opposed by the Council and Members feel that in the interests of children, parents and staff, both schools should be closed at the same time and then re-opened as a single entity.
5. Those involved in the proceedings must ensure transparency at all times. This will obviate rumour and concern across the Parish.

10/219 Glebe Area Development

Members supported Mr. Bailey's proposal that a start should be made on planning developments for the area whilst awaiting the confirmation of the lease. The following sub-committee was formed - Richard Bailey, Tracie Howells, Stewart Dodd and John Kennedy.

Ruth Mansfield offered to give help.

10/220 Exchange of Information:

(a) Issues for inclusion on the next agenda:

No issues raised.

(b) Issues needing urgent attention:

(i) Highways:

No issues raised.

ii. Streetlights:

It was noted that the following lights needed attention:

Beech Grove (1st light on left) and the light outside 21 Whitelodge Park.

Clerk to report to contractors.

iii Other:

(a) Mrs. Howells raised concerns about the football pitch on the Recreation Ground, where the goalmouth areas had been worn down and some concrete holding one of the posts had become exposed. It was agreed that as an interim measure the problem areas needed to be topped up with some soil and re-seeded.

Clerk to seek advice from the Sports Development Officer at Shrewsbury Town Football Club re. a long term solution.

(b) Complaints had been received about increased dog fouling across the Parish. Ruth Mansfield stated that the Enforcement Officer was treating this as a priority. However it was agreed that the only way to get the message across would be for court action against some offenders.

(c) Mrs. Medley felt that some of the web site was out of date. Clerk asked Members to look at the site and let him know what needed to be amended so he could arrange appropriate action to be taken.

10/221 Other Information:

1. The Council's Fun Day and Craft Fair would be held on July 16th.
2. Burial Ground:
 - (a) Chairman reported that she had started talking to relatives about the need to remove excess material from the graves.
 - (b) When discussions were taking place with Nobridge, it was noted that a number of headstones were beginning to lean and also confirmed that there were a number of areas where the ground had sunk, making maintenance difficult. Clerk was asked to seek advice about the headstones and it was agreed to arrange for a working party to fill the hollows with some top soil and then re-seed the areas.

3. Unresolved Council Issues

It was agreed that these should be monitored every three months and not every month as at present.

10/222 Site Meeting:

A meeting had taken place between representatives on Nobridge Ltd, and the following Council representatives - Chairman, Richard Bailey and the Clerk. Issues relating to the grass cutting programme had been discussed in detail and some concern raised regarding the previous year's service. The Nobridge representatives stated that they charged by the cut and not by a contract price which meant there was not always parity with the grass cutting programme. They were asked to re-submit quotations for the next year bases on specified areas

Members accepted the following quotations all based on a per cut basis.

Recreation Ground - £58.00; Burial Ground £35.00; Hazeldine Close £22.00; Bridgeway £22.00; Children's Play Area £15.00

They also quoted £50.00 for the Cycle Track but indicated that they would prefer not to be responsible for this area.

10/223 Reports from:

(a)Police:

A written report had been received which indicated that in the period between February 7th. and March 7th.the following crimes had been reported:

Burglary of non-dwelling -1; Assault -1; Theft -1; Theft from motor vehicle -2; Theft of motor vehicle -1

(b)Youth

No report tabled.

(c)RAF Shawbury

Mrs. Moore reported that:

1. Night flying would start on March 21st.
2. Training courses had restarted.
3. Arrangements had been made for the sports hall to be used for football coaching on Friday evenings.

4. The planned sports complex would include a Physical Recreation Training Centre.
5. The base had hosted a day out for Shropshire Young Carers.
6. A part time Youth Worker had been appointed and would be working fifteen hours per week.
7. Air Cadets now had a membership of 40 plus.
8. A new 'Flying Start' course was planned for later in the year.

(d)Shropshire Council:

Mr. Jones advised Members that

- (a) The budget had been set.
- (b) Council tax had been frozen for three years
- (c) Police and Fire Service budgets had been frozen.
- (d) The reorganisation of the second tier of management was still taking place.
- (e) There was now a dedicated web site where active road works in the County could be accessed.

10/224 Planning Applications:

A. The following applications were considered and no objections raised:

1. RAF Shawbury – installation of multi use games complex.
2. Jayroe Stables, Shawbury Heath – erection of additional five stables.

B... The following applications had been approved by Shropshire Council:

- 2, Grove Cottages, Wytheford Road – erection of first floor extension to rear.
- Shawbury Park – conversion of farm buildings into four two bedroom dwellings.

10/225 Committee Reports:

(a)Moat Committee:

Mr. Brown reported that:

1. Personnel from the RAF had been working in the area for four days and had completed over 100 hours of voluntary work
2. A group of young people had been giving valuable assistance.
3. The biodiversity project was due to start in a week's time. The necessary notices would be put in place advising people what was happening.

(b)North East Shropshire Flood Forum:

The Chairman reported on a meeting she had attended in Edinburgh House earlier in the day. Shropshire is now a Lead Local Flood Authority, actively managing flood risk and working in partnership with Utilities, Environmental Health, etc.

The objectives are to highlight problem areas, encourage a partnership approach and work with local communities.

There is a need to identify flood areas – not just river flooding but from drains as well.

There was a move to recruit volunteer flood wardens.

Jill informed Members that she had reported some areas in the Parish – any others should be reported to the Clerk who would pass them on to flood@shropshire.gov.uk

10/226 Press Matters:

No issues suggested.

10/227 Date and Time of next meeting:

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

Approved as a true record of the Meeting.

Signed J. Manley (Chairman) **Date: April 12th. 2011**

UNRESOLVED PROJECTS/ISSUES

PROJECT/ISSUE	BRIEF COMMENTS
CCTV Camera – access to broadband.	Awaiting response from Shropshire Council ICT Department.
Car Park Renovation	Plans approved. Quotations requested.
Poynton Road/Recreation Ground Hedge.	Agenda Item for Annual Parish Meeting.
Post Box A53/Wytheford Road.	Awaiting response from Royal Mail.
Fence by entrance to Moat	Highways Dpt. Have been asked to erect posts and rail with no barbed wire.
Vehicle Operated Speed Controls.	Cost of service being reviewed by Shropshire Council.
A53 Crossing Signs.	Installation promised by Shropshire Council in next financial year.
Local Joint Committee – substitute Councillors.	Mr. Kennedy to raise again at the Annual LJC Meeting.
Remedial work on trees in the Moat area.	Mr. Brown reviewing the situation.
Poynton Road warning signs.	Installation promised by Shropshire Council in the next financial year.
Youth Pod - graffiti on rear panel.	To be painted black.
Burial Ground paths and hedge.	Plans approved for work to be carried out in the autumn.
Signs to car park and RAF Shawbury	New signs promised by Shropshire Council in next financial year
Sparrow Cottage – planning issue.	Owner given more time to appeal against an enforcement order.
Car Park tree.	Safety aspects being monitored.
Church Street Lighting	Quotations accepted from NWP Electrical.
Erdington Close Play Area – fence treatment.	Work planned for Spring with help from RAF Volunteers.
Grit Bins in Poynton Road	Two bins promised by Highways Dept.
Burial Ground Maintenance	Work on head stones/levelling site
Recreation Ground paths	Weed control

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