

WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Whittington Parish Council held on Tuesday 26th July 2022 at 7.30pm in the Senior Citizen's Hall, Station Road, Whittington.

Councillors Present: Lucy Beaumont (Chair), Jill Whitby, Frank Davis, Ian Johnson, Keith Stanton, Steve Pugh and Sue Manford.

Also in attendance: Mrs Amy Jones (Clerk). PCSO Roberts.

Parish Council MINUTES

282.22 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllrs Rupert Harvey, Vanessa Bromley, Steve Charmley and Greg Hickman.

283.22 Declarations of interest regarding the agenda

Members are reminded that the Council's Code of Conduct requires that any Member, having a financial or other interest (bias or predetermination) in any of the business to be transacted, must declare all such interests either at the start of the meeting or immediately before the item is discussed. Members are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable interest.

a) Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting and which is not included in the register of interests.

Cllrs Davis and Stanton declared a bias on planning application 22/02923/FUL (agenda item 287b).

b) To consider any applications for dispensation. None declared.

284.22 Confirmation of the Minutes

To approve and authorise the signing of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 28.06.22.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 28.06.22.

285.22 Public Participation

To allow public participation in accordance with the Council's Standing Order procedure.

No members of the public present.

286.22 Reports

a) **Clerk's Progress Report** – Consider matters arising since the last meeting (attached report).

Road Safety / Highways (matters not included for discussion elsewhere on the agenda) Signage along Castle Street 1. The Oswestry directional sign sending people up Castle Street rather than Station Road – SC have confirmed that they will look to renew this sign/posts as part of their works programme. They will also relocate sign to resolve issue with vehicles turning into the dead-end bit of Castle Street. 2. 30mph signage – additional repeater signs requested. Update from Shropshire Council's Traffic Engineer (12.03.21) – work delayed due to Covid. Followed up 20.07.21 – We will work to progress these signing works as soon as we are able as part of our works programme for this financial year. Update requested 15.03.22.	On-going
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<p>UPDATE 15.03.22 – The Traffic Engineer is liaising with WSP as to the redesign / relocation of the ADS sign in Castle Street. It will be ordered as part of 2022/23 small works budget.</p> <p>Footpath through the development off Park Crescent – The path will be installed when the development is completed (minute 108.e.21 refers – Monitor.)</p> <p>Implementation of Traffic Calming (a planning condition attached to the development off Park Crescent) – Monitor as although installed, it looks incomplete. This has been raised as a query.</p> <p>Extension of the 30mph B5009 Gobowen to Whittington Awaiting details on the next stage from Shropshire Council.</p> <p>Parking issues on Top Street Referred to Cllr Charmley to follow up with Shropshire Council. Request for white lines. Update requested from Cllr Charmley 26.07.22</p>	
<p>Streetlights Column 191 (Pen-y-Bryn) now removed – To be reinstated at a later date by the developers.</p> <p>Inventory – Updated version now submitted to Shropshire Council.</p> <p>Maintenance Contract – To be brought to council for consideration at the August meeting now the inventory and all outstanding orders are complete.</p> <p>Lights 142 and 146 are the last 2 column connections to be completed – SP booked for 20th July.</p>	On going
<p>Defibrillators Phonebox in Hindford still needs Painting (Spring) and signs installing (Cllr Davis)</p> <p>Battery in Senior Citizen’s Hall Defib has now been replaced.</p> <p>Senior Citizen’s Hall Defib has been recalled for a software update so has been taken out of service until it is returned.</p>	On going. To note.
<p>Community Governance Reviews Proposal for no change submitted and submission acknowledged. No updates or further communication received.</p>	To note.
<p>Jubilee Tree – This has been registered on Shropshire Council’s Tree Mapping Site. The Queen’s Green Canopy Registrations have closed until October so will be registered asap. The map will be presented to the Queen next March.</p> <p>Whittington Under 5’s – will get in touch in the Autumn about planting a tree on the green next to the Play Area.</p>	To note.
<p>Play Areas Fitzgwarine Drive – Fence to be taken down 18th July. Post Installation Inspection has been completed. Tango Swing is still on order so a flat seat has been installed as a temporary measure. The new Glider Handle is also still on order so will be fitted when it arrives.</p>	To note.

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<p>New Play Area – Shropshire Council to come back to the PC with possible options (if any) in Park Hall. Follow up in 3 months (July)</p> <p>Damaged stock fence to the side of the play area – Order placed to repair. Complete.</p>	
<p>Bin – Now installed and added to asset Register.</p>	To note.
<p>Bus Shelters</p> <p>Cleaning completed in June. Resident contracted about hedge and agreed for contractors to cut it back to enable cleaning.</p>	To note.
<p>New laptop</p> <p>Clerk looking into options for the possible purchase of a new, additional laptop for the council.</p>	On-going.
<p>Shropshire Council issues reported to the Clerk (logged on Fix my Street)</p> <p>Overgrown Hedge – Yew Tree House. Still an issue as the cutting back is not severe enough</p> <p>Long grass encroaching on footpath along North Drive.</p> <p>Road sign next to HERD cracked off and thrown in hedge leaving a stump, creating a trip hazard.</p> <p>Flooding on Boot Street – Emergency Jetter sent out to unblock the drains.</p>	<p>Reported to SC (Highways)</p> <p>Reported on Fix my street</p>

- b) **Whittington play area at Fitzgwarine** – Consider the latest visual inspection report provided to the council by Cllr Frank Davis.

The Play Area is now open. The Post Installation Inspection Report was **NOTED**.

No issues reported by Cllr Davis. Single point swing – the fixings will be replaced after the summer holidays. The Tango Swing and new Glider Handle are still on order.

Comments made:

- Small slide – a dip in the ground at the bottom of the slide means there is a drop at the end of the slide and risk of head being hit on slide – monitor and refer to ROSPA Report.
- The glider may now have reduced height due to the new surfacing.

- c) **Police Report** – Consider.

11/06/2022 – Public order

22/06/2022 – Theft

Incidents that have been omitted for data protection or non-crime dealt with by police;

ASB – 2

Concern for Safety – 4

Domestic Incident – 3

Highway disruption (including Road Traffic Collisions) – 6

Missing Person - 0

Suspicious Incident – 3

PCSO Roberts confirmed that there has not been a spike in crime rates, the recent reports sent to the Parish Council have been compiled by a different officer and included more minor detail than usually included.

RESOLVED to note.

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- d) **Shropshire Councillors Report** – To receive a report from Cllr Steve Charmley.
No report provided as Cllr Charmley was absent. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Charmley to request an update on the Pen-y-Bryn salt bin at the next meeting.
- e) **Councillor Reports** – To consider reports from Councillors (training courses attended, meetings attended as council representatives).
No reports.

287.22

Planning

- a) To note recent planning decisions published by Shropshire Council
- I. **None received.**
- b) Consider the following Planning Applications:
- I. **Reference:** 22/02923/FUL (validated: 24/06/2022)
Address: Bryn-Y-Plentyn Farm, Bryn-Y-Plentyn, Middleton, Oswestry, SY11 4LP
Proposal: Erection of one 40m to hub (67m to tip) wind turbine with control box and all associated works

19.58 - Cllrs Davis and Stanton declared a bias and did not take part in the decision making process on item 287.22.b.i. Left the room.

It was RESOLVED to MAKE A REPRESENTATION with the following comments:

The Parish Council have concerns regarding the height of the turbine (whether it is of an appropriate size) and the noise it would create. Cllrs request that Planning Officers consider what a suitable decibel noise level is for the area at present (ambient noise) compared to what it would be when the turbine is potentially active. The Parish Council are disappointed that there was no pre-application engagement. This would have provided councillors with the opportunity to ask questions and seek further information as the impact of the turbine is complex and significant for residents.

20.08 – Cllrs Davis and Stanton re-joined the meeting.

- II. **Reference:** 22/03237/OHL
Address: - Electricity Sub Station, Ascot Road, Albany Park, Oswestry, Shropshire.
Proposal: To rebuild the existing 33KV single circuit overhead line, the poles to support this line will be single or 'H' type poles with supporting stays, the existing overhead line will be dismantled and removed during the construction and completion of the new line (partially in Whittington Parish).

It was RESOLVED to SUPPORT/OBJECT/MAKE A REPRESENTATION with the following comments: The Parish Council have no comments to make on this application.

- c) Consider Planning applications not listed above that are received after the issue of this agenda and are included on Shropshire Council's website. None received.

288.22

Finance and Accounts

- a) Consider the following accounts for payment. **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:
Cllr Whitby declared an interest and did not vote on the approval of payment no. 26.

CHEQUE / BACS NUMBER	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET (£)	VAT	GROSS (£)

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23	Clerk	Salary Month 4 (Scale 27) (plus expenses (mileage, 16.00 home office allowance, reimbursements)	1120.25	0.00	1120.25
24	HMRC	PAYE Payments (Month 4) Employer NI	61.84	0.00	61.84
25	MedUK Group Ltd	Defib Replacement Battery (Senior Citizen's Hall)	189.95	37.99	227.94
26	J. Whitby	Mileage – Notices	8.10	0.00	8.10
27	Ray Parry Playgrounds Ltd	Reference quote 3525 approved March 2022 (minute 217.22 refers) – New Climber/Slide and Seesaw and all associated works	24063.00	4812.60	28875.60
28	D. Gruar	Bench, Bus Shelter and Fence Repairs (quote approved minute 276b&c)	800.00	0.00	800.00
29	SALC	Training: Finance for Councillors (Cllr Beaumont) – 30.00 Training: Code of Conduct (Cllrs Pugh and Manford) – 60.00 Training: Planning (Cllrs Stanton and Bromley) – 190.00	280.00	0.00	280.00
Direct Debit	NEST	Pension (Employer & Employee Contribution)	39.04	0.00	39.04

b) Income – To note income received. **RESOLVED** to note.

Date Received	From Whom and Description	Amount
30.06.22	NatWest – Interest	£6.75

c) Reconciliation - To approve the bank reconciliation up to and including 30th June 2022. **RESOLVED** to approve.

d) 1st Quarter Budget Report – To consider.

RESOLVED to approve with no issues raised. It was **NOTED** that the budget for Cllr Training has now been reached and an overspend of up to £500 on the budget was **AGREED**, providing there is an added value to attending the course/training session.

e) **Banking Arrangements** – Clerk to provide an update on the new Unity Trust Savings Account. The Clerk reported that the new savings account is now open and active and £45,000 has been transferred from the current account (minute 270.d.22 refers) on opening. **NOTED**. It was **RESOLVED** to transfer £5000.00 from the Savings Account into the Current Account.

289.22 Internet Access for Meetings

Approve the annual grant to the Senior Citizen's Hall to cover the cost of broadband.

The current payment for BB at the Senior Citizens is £23.51 a month. The current BB speed is acceptable for meetings so no requirement at present to upgrade.

Consider making a grant of £283.00 to cover the annual cost of broadband.

RESOLVED to approve.

290.22 Community Car Park

1. Consider the proposal from Shingler Homes and Shropshire Council to transfer ownership to the Parish Council.

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No proposal received – **AGREED** to remove from the agenda until formal documentation is received for consideration. It was **FURTHER AGREED** to write to the Leader of Shropshire Council requesting that the CIL Officer provide the parish council with paperwork (forming part of an audit trail), documenting the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Fund contribution to the Community Car Park (minute 67.20 refers).

2. Receive an update on road markings and discuss the possible inclusion of disabled spaces. It was **RESOLVED** to make a request for at least one disabled space outside The Big House and chase up the progress of the other road markings.

291.22 Highways, Pavements and Footpaths

- a) Receive an update regarding the installation of a pavement between The Venue and Inglis Road.
- b) Receive an update regarding Burma Road flooding (by the traffic calming, near the Venue).

Items a) and b) – The Highways Officer reported that there remains an embargo on CIL applications and the application will be shared with the Parish Council prior to submission. The responses from drainage and the tree team will be part of the application and therefore covered in that. **NOTED.**

- c) Penybryn Pedestrian Crossing – Receive an update following the site meeting on 08.12.21. The Highways Officer confirmed that they own the footpath and a request has been placed with the land registry team to get the property details. Shropshire Council will now send a brief to WSP with a proposed site for an indicative cost. It was **RESOLVED** to note the update and await estimated costs for the project.
- d) Extension of the 30mph speed limit on B5009 Whittington – Gobowen Road – Receive an update.
The Project is in the system. Awaiting an update. **NOTED.**
- e) Damaged Pavement on Station Road (opposite 2 Jasmine Cottage and 1 Avondale) – Discuss
It was **NOTED** that it has been reported on Fix my Street.

292.22 Streetlights

- a) **Receive an update on Column SP Connections Lights 146 and 142 (remaining 2) and the updated inventory.**

The Clerk reported that the SP connections were completed on 20th July and the old concrete columns have now been removed. All outstanding works now complete, just light 129 by the Stanyards is still to be removed. The up-to-date inventory has been sent to Shropshire Council and the completion of Project A has reduced the annual energy charge by a further £500 per year. A Draft Streetlight Maintenance Contract will be considered by the S/Light working group and brought to the August meeting for consideration. Column replacements to be considered once contractor appointed under contract. **NOTED.**

- b) Consider quote to replace the feeder pillar on Oaklands Drive.
RESOLVED to approve.

293.22 Park Issa Woodland

Consider the proposals.

The following response was **APPROVED**: "The Parish Council are unable to comment on this proposal as there is insufficient information and expertise available, however, in principle the Parish Council are not against the planting of trees."

294.22 Pen-y-Bryn Affordable Housing Development

Receive an update from Councillor Johnson on progress.

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The development is current at the groundworks stage – drains and roadways. Good progress is being made. The bus shelter is now being used as a temporary noticeboard to display information and communicate site updates. **NOTED**.

295.22

Correspondence

To note correspondence received:

1. SALC / NALC – Bulletins, News in brief bulletins, NALC Legal Briefings and Newsletters
2. Awel Y Mor Newsletter
3. North Shropshire Reinforcement: Update 8th July 2022
4. Road repairs – A495 Whittington to Ellesmere, 26-29 July. A fully signed diversion will be in place from 9.30am to 4.00pm each day. Access to residential and business properties will be maintained during the works.
5. Draft minutes from the last meeting of the Helicopter Noise Liaison Group held on Tuesday 8th March 2022.
6. The Queen's Baton Relay
7. West Mercia Police - Economic Crime Unit - Fraud & Scam bulleting - July 2022

Consider:

1. Shropshire's Draft Economic Growth Strategy 2022 – 2027. **RESOLVED** that Councillors to respond individually.

296.22

Council Reports / Areas of Concerns / Items for future Agendas

Each Councillor is requested to use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas. **Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.**

- *The Cemetery have had a quote for a new path at the top part of the Cemetery. Funds are short so the Friends of the Cemetery are looking for donations.*
- *Very overgrown hedge covering street sign and restricting pavement width to 6inches – as you turn into Oaklands Drive, on the right. To be reported on Fix my Street.*
- *Credit and thanks given to the volunteers carrying out Community Speedwatch. They have recently been asked by TNS to carry out speed checks on North Drive at match times.*
- *Planning for the Village Fete is in progress and acts and stalls have been booked – Fete date - 29th August.*
- *Bin overflowing – North Drive. Monitor.*
- *Fallen road signs – Inglis Road, Drenewydd – Reported on Fix my Street.*
- *Will the path to the side of Kepler be open for the start of the Autumn School Term? – Clerk to contact Shingler Homes to ask.*
- *Is a property allowed to extend their garden out onto the verge and 'claim' the verge? Clerk to ask Highways.*

297.22

Date and Time of Next Meeting

To note the date and time of the next meeting.

Tuesday 23rd August – 7.30pm

Meeting was closed by the Chair at 21.18