

Whixall Parish Council



Chairman: Ian Mercer

Minutes of the Parish Council's Monthly Meeting held on 11 October 2023 at Whixall Social Centre starting at 7:30pm

Present:

Councillors: A Rawlinson (chair); C Weedall; M Howard, P Rodenhurst,

Shropshire Councillors: Cllr P Broomhall

Clerk: A Roberts

Other Organisations 1

Members of the Public 0

70/23 Public Session

No members of the public were in attendance.

71/23 Speaker: Daniel McGowan, Group Managing Director, Grocott Developments

Daniel's presentation focused on the development at the Marina, which is 50 years old next year. Since March 2017 it has been owned by David and Linda Grocott, who have invested in the site since its purchase. The site includes:

- Moorings for 150 boats (for which the business has to pay a charge per m² to the Canal & River Trust, regardless of occupancy level);
- A lease agreement with Anglo Welsh boat hire
- 20 permanently resident boats
- 4 charter boats owned by the company (Pea Green)
- 2 chalets
- 4 shepherds huts
- Caravan storage (unused at present)
- Dry dock
- Café (recently refurbished)
- Car parking
- Pedestrian access to the Moss via the canal path

The Marina is the most complex part of the Grocott business and they aim to build the quality of the site. Additionally, they aim to keep business in the local area and use local suppliers. Daniel stressed that the people who work there are the key to its success.

Following the presentation there was an informal discussion with members about possible initiatives to build/improve the business in the future.

72/23 Apologies for Absence

Cllr J Spenser, Cllr M Evans; Cllr I Mercer; Cllr E Towers (Shropshire Council).

73/23 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Cllr Harris declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 23/04144/FUL which was submitted by his neighbour.

74/23 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 September 2023 are an accurate record and should be signed.

Cllr Rawlinson signed the minutes.

75/23 Reports

Reports from the Shropshire Councillors and the Clerk were circulated in advance. Their contents were noted.

76/23 **Parish Matters**

- a. The Marlot report and activity record was circulated in advance. Its content was noted.
- b. D-Day 80 Celebrations.
The clerk will contact the school to establish what plans they have for D-Day 80 and will report back to the next meeting.
- c. Christmas 2023
The local supplier who delivered Christmas lunches last year is willing to do so again on either 10th or 17th December.

Resolved: The Parish Council will commission the provision and delivery of Christmas lunches to the value of £440 with the strict proviso that they will only be provided to residents of the parish who are 66 years of age, or older. The supplier will be expected to keep a record of who receives the meals, but will not be asked to share any personal information with the Parish Council.

- d. Annual Newsletter
A copy of the final draft was tabled for approval.

Resolved: The newsletter will be printed for distribution by councillors before 12 November 2023 (Remembrance Sunday).

- e. Request from DofE Silver Award Volunteer
There was a short discussion about the kind of tasks that could be carried out and the fact that this work would be carried out under parental supervision.

Resolved: The Council is pleased to accept the offer of voluntary work by Merle Hatton. The Clerk will liaise with him to agree specific tasks to be carried out.

77/23 **Planning**

- a. To consider applications

23/04082/FUL Land adjacent to Pear Tree Farm, Welsh End
Proposed local needs dwelling with garage outbuilding and formation of driveway and on-site parking area.

Resolved: The Council supports this application provided there is a S106 condition added to ensure that the property continues as a Local Needs Dwelling.

23/04144/FUL To the West of Whixall
Erection of stables, tack room, hay store & manege with associated parking spaces.

Resolved: The Council supports this application as it fits with existing development in the immediate area.

- b. The following planning decisions were noted

23/02753/FUL Roden House, Dobsons Bridge, SY13 2QL
Erection of single storey side extension and an amendment to existing render colour on the sides to match the existing render colour on the frontage of Roden House part garage conversion to an office & internal reconfiguration of the annex (The Byre) and installation of free-standing solar panels on associated agricultural land.
Grant Permission

23/03152/FUL Holly House, Ossage Lane, SY13 2QB
Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the change of use of land to equestrian use and construction of a manege.
Grant Permission

78/23 Financial Matters

- a. To receive monthly bank balance record and bank reconciliation.

DATE	ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT
30 September	Current Account (Working Budget)	1,202.08
	Savings Account (Reserves)	21,196.40
TOTAL		22,398.48

The bank reconciliation and statements were checked and verified by Cllr Rodenhurst who signed the reconciliation.

- b. To resolve to approve outstanding accounts

Resolved: All payments are authorised. Outstanding accounts should be paid and the payment transactions authorised by two nominated councillors.

Recipient	Reason for Payment	Amount	Reference	Power of Expenditure
HMRC	PAYE	145.60	36.23	LGA 1972 s112(2)
Employee	Salary	297.21	37.23	LGA 1972 s112(2)
NEST	Pension Contributions Oct	58.27	38.23DD	LGS(DP)R 1961 s1
Employee	Reimbursement	7.65	39.23	LG(FP)A 1963 s5
SJF Design & Print	Marlot Leaflet	122.00	40.23	NP&ACA 1949 s21
SALC	Chairmanship Training	75.00	41.23	LGA 1972 s111

Scheduled date of next meeting
8 November 2023 (7.30pm)

The meeting closed at 20.52.