

Whixall Parish Council

Chairman: Ian Mercer

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19th April 2017 at
Whixall Social Centre starting at 7:30pm

Present:

Chairman: I Mercer

Councillors: C Platon (Vice Chair), J Fitton, J Spenser, S Marlow, M Howard, B Harris, J Hardiman, D Edgerton

Shropshire Councillors: C Mellings,

Clerk: K Hatton

Members of the community: 1

41/17 Introduction

Cllr Mercer declared the meeting open.

42/17 Apologies for absence

P Dee

43/17 Public Participation

Mr Alan Cornes of Whixall Bowling Club was present to hear item 8b on the agenda. He did not wish to address the council at this point.

44/17 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and requests for dispensation.

None declared.

45/17 Minutes of the meetings held on 8th March 2017

It was proposed by Cllr Harris that the draft minutes were an accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Spenser and agreed by all present.

It was resolved that the minutes of 8th March 2017 be signed by the Chair as an accurate record of the meeting.

46/17 Clerk's report

-Correspondence to note

- Red telephone box, Welsh End: It has been brought to the council's attention that the phone box which was adopted by the Parish Council in 2011 under the 'Adopt a Kiosk' scheme is in need of a re-paint. The Clerk stated that there is a scheme under which paint may be donated by certain companies – she was asked to research this. Cllr Harris volunteered to re-paint the kiosk.
- Senior Citizens' Xmas Party plans- Clerk has corresponded with A Evans, party entertainer.

-Other information to note

- Scanner/ Printer purchased and received- Noted.
- Pay scales information to be forwarded to Councillors.

47/17 Receipt of Community Infrastructure Levy monies as Neighbourhood Fund

Cllr Mercer proposed that the form should be signed once the bank statement showing receipt of monies is received. Seconded by Cllr Spenser and agreed by all present.

RESOLVED: To delay signing of form until bank statement is received.

48/17 Parish Matters

- a) Uncontested Election- Acknowledgement of Notice and process to co-opt: Noted.
- b) Renewal of Whixall Bowling Club lease: Cllr Mercer presented the points made by the bowling club on a copy of the existing lease that had been annotated by the Bowling Club (previously shared with all members and discussed between Cllr Mercer, the Clerk, the chairman of the bowling club and another member of the bowling club). The key aspect of which is the position regarding trustees and financial liability stated within the lease. Mr Cornes clarified a number of points and answered questions regarding the club's committee structure. An agreeable discussion took place which focussed on the wish for a closer relationship between the Parish Council and the Bowling Club. It was proposed by Cllr Harris that the clerk should to contact the solicitor to state that the respective committees are in agreement with the points made on annotated version of the lease and ask if the lease can be written without individuals being made personally financially liable, this was seconded by Cllr Spenser and agreed by all present and therefore RESOLVED.
- c) Flooding- Review of current situation: Cllr Mellings had provided an update as part of his report and shared a report made by Frances Dearden (Claire Wilson's replacement), Shropshire Council. Chris's report is hereby transcribed: *"Following the last meeting of the Parish Council, Katie, Cllr Platon & myself met with Frances, (Shropshire Council Drainage Team) to review the situation and view first hand some of the issues. A further leak in the canal to the north west was identified. I also asked Frances for an updated plan of the different locations and actions to date which has been provided. Frances has reported the leak to Canal and River Trust, spoken to Highways department about the Moss Lane Bridge (south of the Morris Bridge over the canal) and apparently the planned works need to be redesigned due to ditches being cleared. She reported that the Canal and River Trust told her that the channel upstream and downstream of the Malt Kiln Lane culvert has been cleared although she's not had a chance to go and have a look at this herself. She has passed this message on to the Highways department who have said they were waiting for vegetation to be cleared at the inlet before they go and jet the culvert. Frances also provided an update on letters sent to landowners reminding them of their responsibilities. Following the election on 4th May, my intention is to arrange a further meeting between local residents, the Parish Council and Frances to review matters and see what further action may be required. If I am not successful, I will ensure my successor is aware of the issues and can follow up on the work we have done to date"*.
- d) Annual Parish Meeting- finalise planning: A short discussion took place to ensure arrangements were clear.
- e) Proposal by Canal and River Trust for visitor moorings adjacent to The Marlot: Planned works are imminent- The Clerk was asked to send an email asking if they have notified residents affected by the works.
- f) Spring/ summer newsletter- Consider content: Draft will be sent as soon as possible.
- g) Battle's over tribute...- Guide to taking part has been received: Noted.

49/17 Planning

-All planning applications and decisions can be tracked on line at www.shropshire.gov.uk

Applications received- to consider response

Ref: 17/01543/OHL - Installation of second supply underground, which will be taken from an existing overhead service line. At Land East Of Bridge Farm, Platt Lane, Whixall, Shropshire

Applicant: SP Manweb Plc

STANCE: Noted.

COMMENT: No comment.

Matters referred

-Reported breach of conditions to application Ref: 14/00834/FUL: No further update.

Decisions- to note

Ref: 16/05704/FUL- Erection of single storey building for A1 (retail) and A3 (restaurant/cafe)use; formation of vehicular access with visibility splay; formation of car parking area; creation of balancing pond; installation of boundary fencing at Platt Lane Bridge, Platt Lane, Whixall, Shropshire- Application withdrawn.

50/17 Financial Matters

a) Monthly Balance Record- Noted

The February balance record was presented and confirmed as accurate with the current bank statements, signed by Cllr Mercer in the presence of the council.

DATE	ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT
29 th March 2017	Community Account	£1,387.65
	Business Saver Account	£923.94
TOTAL		£2,311.59

b) Financial Regulations Review: The document was reviewed and Cllr Mercer proposed that the document provided satisfactory evidence to answer 'yes' to the statements in section 1, the Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Return once it has come back from Internal Auditor. Seconded by Cllr Harris and agreed by all.

c) End of Year Accounts/ Annual Governance Statement: As the accounts are still with the internal auditor the statements of sections 1 and 2 could not be signed.

d) Outstanding accounts- To approve:

Orders for the payment of money (listed below) as per the financial report of the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)/ Clerk were proposed by Cllr Hardiman, seconded by Cllr Edgerton and agreed by all present.

DATE	CHEQUE NO.	DETAILS	AMOUNT	LEGAL POWER TO SPEND
19 th April 2017	101136	K Hatton- Clerk's pay for March 2017	£314.34	LGA 1972 s. 112(2)
	101137	K Hatton- Clerk's extra hours for web site	£20.72	LGA 1972 s. 112(2) LGA 1972 s.142
	101138	Whixall Social Centre- Hall hire (April 2017- March 2018)	£250.00	LGA 1972 s. 134(4)
	101139	S Marlow- reimburse for purchase of printer scanner from Viking (Grant funded, Transparency Code)	£101.96	LGA 1972 s.111
	101140	J Spenser- reimburse for fuel for grass cutting at Hollinwood Green (April 2016- March 2017)	£51.22	HA 1980s.96
	101141	Viking Signs Ltd.- Warning signs for Marlot Grazing Project (Grant funded)	£239.84	CA 1899 s.5
TOTAL			£978.08	

LGA= Local Government Act

HA= Highways Act

TA=Transport Act

CA=Commons Act

Resolved: The outstanding accounts should be paid and the cheques signed by two authorised councillors.

51/17 Highways

a) Referrals to Shropshire Council: Pot hole outside The Lilacs, Waterloo. Standing water at Green Lane/ Bostock Hall.

b) Scheduled works by Shropshire Council
Platt Lane works delayed due to storm Doris- completed. Forthcoming road closures to be put on web site

52/17 Councillors' Reports

a) Parish Councillors

Cllr Harris reported on the meeting attended by himself and the Clerk on 21st March; Parish Conference led by Meres and Mosses. The meeting was to provide advice and guidance about 'appropriate' development within the Nature Improvement Area (NIA). There were several guest speakers which included two developers, a County Ecologist and representatives of Shropshire Wildlife Trust. The meeting also included a presentation about neighbourhood plans; There was a short discussion about the status of 'open countryside' that Whixall currently holds and the relevance of that in this context.

b) Shropshire Councillors

Cllr Mellings provided a written report prior to the meeting which listed emails he has circulated and referred to the following:

- Flooding Issues
- Stark's Bridge update
- Road damage to Alders Lane
- School funding
- Scrutiny committees
- Enterprise and growth
- Health and adult social care
- Joint health overview and scrutiny

53/17 Shropshire Council's budget cuts and transfer of services –Future role of Parish Council

Nothing further to add.

54/17 Consider future agenda items

Scheduled date of next meeting: **Wednesday 10th May 2017 at 7.00 pm**

The meeting closed at 9:40pm

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