

Whixall Parish Council



Chairman: Ian Mercer

Minutes of the Parish Council's Monthly Meeting held on 13 July 2022 at Whixall Social Centre starting at 7:30pm

Present:

Councillors: I Mercer (Chairman); B Harris; A Rawlinson; C Weedall; M Evans; M Howard

Shropshire Councillors : P Broomhall; E Towers

Clerk: A Roberts

Other Organisations 0

Members of the Public 2

44/22 Public Session

Mr G Hems raised concerns regarding the drainage plans which will affect Chapel Lane.

45/22 Boglife Project

Pete Bowyer (Natural England) provided a written report which was circulated prior to the meeting.

46/22 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Spenser; Cllr Rodenhurst; Cllr Edgerton.

47/22 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

48/22 Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Harris that the draft minutes, of the Annual Parish Council Meeting and the Ordinary meeting of the Council, both held on 11 May 2022 were an accurate record. This was seconded by Cllr Evans and agreed by all present.

Resolved: The minutes of the Council meetings held on 11 May are an accurate record.

The Chair signed both sets of minutes.

49/22 Reports

- a. Councillors Broomhall and Towers had circulated their report in advance of the meeting and gave a verbal summary. This was followed by a discussion about the impact of poor local broadband coverage and the importance of connectivity.
- b. Cllr Mercer reported that he would be representing the Council at the launch of the new bird hide on 14 July.
- c. The Clerk gave a verbal report covering correspondence received, the Police & Crime Commissioner's survey and concerns that the final, signed version of the Bowling Green lease had still not been received from Hatchers despite a number of requests.

50/22 Parish Matters

- a. Marlot Activity Report: Circulated prior to the meeting (to be posted on the website).
- b. Future Management Arrangements for the Marlot
The clerk presented the advantages and disadvantages of a number of options for the future management structure of the Marlot. A discussion followed.
Proposed by Cllr Mercer; Seconded by Cllr Rawlinson; agreed all.

Resolved: The current arrangement, with an informal liaison group, will run for 12 months, after which time it will be reviewed.

- c. Request from MCG for Editing Rights to the PC Website
The Clerk presented a report outlining the implications and potential risks of sharing website editing rights.
Proposed Cllr Rawlinson; seconded Cllr Evans; agreed all.

Resolved: The Clerk will be the only editor for the Parish Council Website and will work with MCG to explore ways of keeping the Marlot information regularly updated.

d. Senior Citizen's party

Following a discussion on the way the party should be run this year and the need to have a Covid contingency plan, it was agreed that the Clerk will explore a number of options and report back to the September meeting.

e. Clerk's Contract (Updated)

The updated Clerk's employment contract was presented to members. The only changes made are as follows:

- Weekly working hours are changed from 7 to 7.25 (minute ref 57/19c)
- Maximum salary is now set at point 23 (minute ref 43/22b)

The Chairman signed the contract.

f. Request for Cars to be Allowed onto the Old Burial Ground for a Car Boot Sale.

Members were advised to look at the wording of the Faculty, before making a decision on this matter. A lengthy discussion followed.

Proposed Cllr Harris; seconded Cllr Evans; agreed all

Resolved: Having considered the wording of the Faculty dated 10 May 2000, the Council does not have complete confidence that car boot sales should be allowed on the Old Burial Ground, but will grant permission for one occasion only (August 2022). In any case, the Social Centre Committee should consider the use of stalls instead.

51/22 Planning

a. To Consider Applications

The following applications for local development certificates were received for information only:

22/03072/CPL	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed erection of a domestic garage/amenity building. 3 Maltkiln Lane, SY13 2QH
22/03138/CPE	Change of Use of agricultural land to mixed agricultural and equestrian use; riding arena; horsewalker and stable block. 2 Lower Houses, Stanley Green

b. To Receive Planning Application Decisions

None received

c. To consider a response to a resident request for information in relation to the Council's stance on a recent planning matter.

Proposed by Cllr Mercer; Seconded by Cllr Rawlinson; Agreed all.

Resolved: The Clerk will simplify the language used in the response and the Vice Chair will approve the contents before it is sent.

52/22 Suspension of Standing Orders

Proposed Cllr Mercer; Seconded Cllr Evans

Resolved: As the meeting was going to exceed two hours, standing orders were suspended to allow the completion of business.

53/22 Financial Matters

a. To receive monthly bank balance record.

The Clerk advised the council of the council's bank balances.

DATE	ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT
30 June 2022	Current Account (Working Budget)	£9,290.20
	Savings Account (Reserves)	£10,566.73
TOTAL		£19,856.93

b. To resolve to approve outstanding accounts

Orders for the payment of outstanding invoices and all payments approved remotely (under "Power to Spend" LGA1972 s.112(2) and 124(1)). Proposed by Cllr Harris, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed by all.

Resolved: The outstanding accounts should be paid and the payment transactions authorised by two authorised councillors.

Recipient	Reason for Payment	Amount	Power of Expenditure
Employee*	Salary (for May)	£434.34	16.22
NEST*	Pension Contributions (June)	£36.49	17.22
Unity Trust Bank*	Quarterly Charge	£18.00	18.22
Employee	Salary (for June)	£281.94	19.22
NEST	Pension Contributions (July)	£36.49	21.22DD
Whixall Social Centre	Annual Parish Meeting Refreshments	£20.00	22.22
AJ Gallagher	Insurance Renewal	£358.94	23.22
Shropshire Council	Election Fee (May 2021)	£100.00	24.22
Employee	Reimbursement	£42.91	25.22
	Total	£879.20	

Scheduled date of next meeting:

14 September 2022 (7.30pm)

The meeting closed at 9.46pm