

Whixall Parish Council



Chairman: Ian Mercer

Minutes of the Parish Council's Monthly Meeting held on 8 February 2023 at Whixall Social Centre starting at 7:30pm

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Mercer (Chair); Cllr Weedall; Cllr Evans; Cllr Harris; Cllr Spenser; Cllr Rodenhurst;
Cllr Howard; Cllr Rawlinson

Shropshire Councillors: Cllr Broomhall; Cllr Towers

Clerk: A Roberts

Other Organisations 0

Members of the Public 2

10/23 Public Session

Two members of the public attended and spoke in relation to Planning Application 22/05736/FUL.

11/23 Apologies for Absence

None received.

12/23 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

13/23 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Proposed Cllr Weedall, seconded Cllr Spenser and agreed by all present.

Resolved: The minutes of the Council meeting held on 11 January 2023 are an accurate record.

The Chair signed the minutes.

14/23 Reports

- a. Cllrs Broomhall and Towers (Shropshire Council) circulated reports prior to the meeting. The content was noted.
- b. Cllr Harris reported on a Safeguarding presentation at the recent NSAC meeting. He advised that SALC will shortly circulate a draft policy which the Parish Council should consider using as the basis for a local policy.
- c. The Clerk's update included the following:
 - Two grant applications have been received and will go onto the March agenda.
 - Shropshire Council is providing a cost of living Q&A for Staff and Councillors. Details to be circulated.

15/23 Parish Matters

- a. The Marlot
The content of the Marlot Activity Report was noted. The Council discussed the concerns raised about access safety due to damaged concrete above the culvert. Cllr Rawlinson agreed to go on site and carry out an assessment.
Cllr Rawlinson has received an additional £120 in donations for Marlot Action Plan items. This will be transferred to the Parish Council account and earmarked.
- b. Grass Cutting Contract
Deferred to the March meeting as no information was available regarding any increase in contract rates.
- c. Parish Connectivity Survey (Circulated with meeting papers)
Cllr Harris presented a report on the survey carried out in Autumn 2022 and gave a

verbal report of a meeting with Shropshire Council attended by himself and Cllr Mercer along with representatives of Wem Rural Parish Council.

d. Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme

Cllr Harris outlined the details of this scheme. Whixall is in the second phase and more information will be made available in future. Members noted that Shropshire Council has an interest in Broadband connectivity, mobile connectivity is a purely commercial matter.

e. Hollinwood Green Parking and Maintenance Issues

Cllrs Mercer and Spencer met on site with the Clerk and Martin Spenser prior to the meeting to view the modifications carried out by a local resident.

The Clerk outlined the following:

- The terms Hollinwood Green and Hollinwood Common appear to be interchangeable. A plan from `2004 appeared to show the area of the common covering a wider area than formerly believed and Shropshire Council has been contacted for a copy of the Commons Map to ensure that the area of modified land is part of the Common.
- The Council holds a document showing that the land is an unowned common.
- Through a volunteer, the Council has maintained the Green for many years but has no actual management responsibility for the land and does not own the land. However, the land is included on the Council's asset register and this should be addressed.
- Even though the land is unowned, the Council may have some powers to prevent restricted works.

Following discussion, including the option to write to the resident concerned, it was agreed that the Clerk will carry out more research and this will be included in the March agenda.

16/23 Planning

a. To Consider Applications

22/05736/FUL	Proposed Dog Exercise Area. Glebe Farm, Church Lane.	The Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds of its impact on residents in the locality.
23/00037/FUL	Erection of extension to form enlarged kitchen/diner with en-suite over. Hornspike Lane Farm, SY13 2QD.	The Council supports this application which it believes to be a reasonable extension, in keeping with local character.

b. Planning decisions received.

22/05573/FUL	New oak-framed 2 storey side extension, oak porch & attic conversion. Dragonfly House, 12a Platt Lane, SY13 2NY	Granted
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17/23 Financial Matters

a. To receive monthly bank balance record.

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

DATE	ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT
31 January 2023	Current Account (Working Budget)	£2,101.93
	Savings Account (Reserves)	£11,920.43
TOTAL		£14,022.36

The bank reconciliation and statements were checked and approved by Cllr Evans.

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 Rawlinson and agreed by all.

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

Recipient	Reason for Payment	Amount £	Ref.
HMRC	PAYE	474.40	56.22
Employee	Salary for December hours	219.18	57.22
Employee	Reimbursement	22.94	58.22
NEST	Pension Contributions	57.20	59.22DD

Scheduled date of next meeting:

8 March 2023 (7.30pm)

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.