

Minutes  
of a Parish Council meeting  
held at 7 pm on Thursday 24 February 2022 at Trefonen Village Hall

---

**Present:**

Chairman: Cllr. Martin Jones, Cllr. Martin Bennett, Cllr. Peter Davies, Cllr. Bob Kimber, Cllr. Les Maguire, Cllr. Peter Richardson, Cllr. Jas Singh, Cllr. Steve Watts, Cllr. Mike Weston, Cllr. Chris Woods.

**Clerk to the Council:**

Sharon Clayton

**In attendance:**

5 members of the public.

**1246 Chairman's Welcome**

In the absence of Cllr. Paul Milner Cllr. Martin Jones chaired the meeting and welcomed all those present.

**1247 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. John Davies and Cllr. Roger Jones who were both on holiday, Cllr. Iain Campbell who had a family commitment, and Cllr. Paul Milner who had a work commitment.

**These apologies were ACCEPTED.**

Cllr. Robert Milton was absent.

Apologies were also received from Cllr. Joyce Barrow who was at a Shropshire Council meeting.

**1248 Police Report**

The police could not attend the meeting and sent a written report as follows:

01/02/2022 – Vehicle ASB. Two vehicles seen speeding in the area of the Premier Inn. Police attended the location to locate vehicles and area search.

01/02/2022 – ASB Morda. Kids doing door knock and run. Police had been attending the area, as and when, for re-assurance.

04/02/2022 – Dropped 9's. Police called back, and person apologised for accident call.

04/02/2022 – 2x Vehicle Road Traffic Collision. All persons were safe and well.

06/02/2022 – ASB Morda. Kids doing door knock and run. Police were aware and had been making patrols to the area.

07/02/2022 – Person seen riding a Motocross around Maesbury Marsh with no helmet.

09/02/2022 – Fire Service made police aware of a fire at a large building, but police attendance was not required. No person(s) in building.

11/02/2022 – Vehicle broken into, Morda. House to house had been carried out to see if there was any CCTV near to the location.

13/02/2022 – A number of vehicles in Morda had been damaged. Police had carried out house to house in the area to see if there was any CCTV.

15/02/2022 - ASB, Candy.

15/02/2022 – Suspicious circumstances by persons in the area of Mile End Golf Club.

16/02/2022 – Concern for safety/welfare check on person. Police had attended and all was well.

18/02/2022 – Abandoned vehicle in Morda. Occupant had been spoken to and vehicle moved to a safer location.

19/02/2022 – ASB on the Middleton Road bridge over the A5. Kids throwing things from bridge at vehicles.

Police attended the location and found no one in the area. Walkers had been spoken to and stated that kids were seen riding away from the location, but the kids were unknown.

21/02/2022 – Burglary in Candy. A number of machines had been taken, no CCTV at location. Police had attended the location.

23/02/2022 – Highway Incident. A5

23/02/2022 – Road Traffic Collision A5 Mile End.

23/03/2022 – Alarm sounding from business premises at Maesbury Industrial Estate. Police attended and all was in order.

**NOTED.**

**1249 Shropshire Council Report**

There was no report as Cllr. Joyce Barrow was not present.

**1250 Public Participation**

One member of the public referred to the review of the ‘Planning Pre-application’ and suggested how it should be re-worded. She also suggested that the Strategic Plan should have links to other information on the website.

**1251 Minutes**

The minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on 27 January 2022 were considered for approval. It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the minutes be APPROVED and ADOPTED as a true record.**

**1252 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests**

In accordance with Section 29 of the Localism Act 2011 Members were informed they are personally responsible for deciding whether or not they should disclose an interest at this meeting. Members were also reminded they should not make decisions with a closed mind and must declare a bias and not vote on matters where their decision could be considered to be pre-determined.

None.

**1253 Dispensations**

None requested.

**1254 Declaration of Acceptance of Gifts and Hospitality**

None declared.

**1255 Planning Matters**

**a) Planning Decisions**

The following planning decisions were **NOTED.**

<b>Planning Application Details</b>	<b>Planning Proposals</b>
21/05816/FUL Bromwich Park, Maesbury Marsh	Change of Use from agricultural building and land for wedding ceremonies Permission GRANTED 27 January 2022 <i>The parish council did not object to this application but missed the deadline for comments.</i>

**b) Planning Applications**

The following planning applications were considered for comment:

<b>Planning Application Details</b>	<b>Planning Proposals</b>
21/05880/HRM Yew Tree Farm, Crickheath	Remove 8m of hedgerow to create safe access. <b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED no objection, but Shropshire Council’s planning department should be urged to consider attenuation for the water run-off and the hedges that would have absorbed some of it.</b>
22/00262/FUL Holiday Camp at Weston Cotton Farm, Weston	Siting of five holiday cabins. <b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to object on the grounds that more cabins would result in over-development of the site and lead to excess traffic on a busy road with a hazardous road junction.</b>

22/00350/FUL Proposed solar farm to the north of Rhydygroesau	Formation of solar park consisting of 3240 solar panels and associated electrical equipment namely inverters, site and DNO substations, battery energy storage units, 2m high deer fence with gates, formation of a permanent access road, CCTV cameras and infrared lighting and a weather station mounted on galvanised steel masts inside the solar park. <b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support but:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Work should not begin on site until a transport plan had been approved that includes traffic movement times.</b></li> <li>○ <b>The equipment should be removed once permission had expired.</b></li> </ul>
22/00374/FUL Draengwynion, Nantmawr	Erection of a domestic storage building. <b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED no objection.</b>
22/00376/FUL Ochr, Llawnt	Proposed single storey side extension and erection of rear single storey link following demolition of conservatory together with associated external decking and handrails. <b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support.</b>
22/00574/VAR Stonehouse Brewery, adjacent to Stone House, Weston	Variation of Condition no: 7 (hours of operation) attached to planning permission 20/00333/FUL to allow longer opening hours. <b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support.</b>
22/00590/OUT Land adjoining The Laurels, Sweeney	Outline application for the erection of one dwelling to include access. <b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED no objection.</b>

#### 1256 Clerk's Report

Members **NOTED** a written report from the Clerk on action taken following decisions made at previous council meetings.

#### 1257 Financial Matters

##### a) Income and Expenditure

Members considered for approval income and expenditure from 1 April to 31 January 2022.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that income received to date of £86,460.21 and gross expenditure of £34,065.68 be APPROVED.**

##### b) Bank Reconciliations

Members considered for approval bank reconciliations for January 2022.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that bank reconciliations to the end of January 2022 totalling £256,167.73 be APPROVED.**

##### c) Payments for February 2022

Members considered for approval payments for February 2022.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following payments for February 2022 be APPROVED.**

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT £
EE	Wi-Fi mini monthly plan	15.00
G D Steel Belfast	Cemetery bench	471.99
HSBC	Bank charges	7.50
Sharon Clayton	Clerk's expenses	1004.55
HMRC	PAYE/NI	190.15
Gill Lungley	Councillor training	100.00
Mark Evans	Bus shelter cleaning	60.00
Colin Turner	Bus shelter cleaning	25.00
Lanyon Bowdler	Registration of properties	1074.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2948.19</b>

**It was further AGREED that, as the next parish council meeting would not be until 31 March 2022, all regular payments for March be pre-approved so that they could be made on 31 March 2022, which was the fiscal year-end.**

### **1258 Cemetery Fees**

- a) Members considered for approval a fee for interments that take place outside of normal approved hours at Trefarclawdd cemetery.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to defer a decision until the next meeting.**

- b) Members considered for approval a charge for interments taking place at Trefarclawdd cemetery of which the council had not been informed in sufficient time.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to defer a decision until the next meeting.**

### **1259 Treflach Green**

Members considered for approval the installation of a 'no parking' sign to be installed on Treflach Green to deter vehicles from parking on the grass.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that two posts should be installed on Treflach Green to which a chain with a 'no parking' sign should be attached.**

### **1260 Policy Review**

Members considered for approval revisions to the parish council's Planning Pre-application policy.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the amendments to the policy be APPROVED.**

### **1261 Trefarclawdd Cemetery**

Members considered proposals from the Cemetery Working Group for future actions at Trefarclawdd cemetery which include:

- Spare burial space being used for allotments.
- The installation of a new vehicular access.
- Sensory plants in the memorial garden.
- Installation of stock fencing and field hedge.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the proposals be APPROVED in principle and that the working group would bring individual proposals forward for consideration at future council meetings.**

### **1262 Road Safety**

- a) Members received a written report from a recent traffic survey carried out at Coed-Y-Go.

**NOTED.**

- b) Members received a written report from the Road Safety Working Group.

**NOTED.**

- c) Members considered for approval draft Terms of Reference for the Road Safety Working Group.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Terms of Reference be APPROVED.**

- d) Members considered for approval that a new page be added to the parish council's website specific to the Road Safety Working Group.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that suggestions as to what the page might include should be considered at the next parish council meeting.**

- e) Members considered for approval that, in accordance with Shropshire Council's Road Safety Policy, Oswestry Rural Parish Council request that Shropshire Council place a 30mph speed limit on the Trefonen Road on both approach to and as it passes through the village of Coed-Y-Go.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that Oswestry Rural Parish Council request that Shropshire Council place a 30mph speed limit on the Trefonen Road on both approach to and as it passes through the village of Coed-Y-Go.**

### **1263 Levelling Up**

Members considered for approval that the parish council should make representations in response to the government's proposals outlined in the White Paper on Levelling Up.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following response be APPROVED and conveyed to Shropshire Council, the North Shropshire MP, and the Department of Environment:**

- **The parish council expresses its regret and concern that again, Shropshire's needs as the largest inland county in the country have been ignored, and that issues of rural poverty and deprivation are not considered as requiring 'levelling up'.**

- The parish council is concerned that, regardless of the expressed intent of the Government in respect of devolution, the practical effects would seem to be to promote a small number of supposed ‘strong’ leaders and creating a new class of professional politician, at the expense of genuine community leadership of elected councillors.
- The parish council is further concerned that new models of governance that cannot demonstrate clear and widespread local acceptance will promote a distrust and distancing from the electorate and those forms of governance.

**1264 Social Media**

Members considered for approval booking a free Social Media Health Check through NALC’s partnership with Breakthrough Communications.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that a free Social Media Health Check should be arranged.**

**1265 Morda Notice Board**

Members considered for approval that the name of ‘Oswestry Rural Parish Council’ on the notice board situated at Morda should be either restored or replaced.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the parish council’s name on Morda notice board be replaced.**

**1266 Affordable Homes at Land North of Weston Road, Morda**

Members considered for approval writing to Wrekin Housing Trust for an update on plans for the site entrance for the development of affordable homes on land north of Weston Road in Morda.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that, as the site entrance was a safety issue, the parish council should write to Wrekin Housing Trust and ask what plans were to be put in place to slow the traffic at the junction of the new site entrance.**

**1267 Oswestry Area Committee**

Cllr. Peter Richardson agreed to circulate the minutes from the last meeting of the Oswestry Area Committee.  
**NOTED.**

**1268 Consultation**

Members considered a response to Shropshire Council’s (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2009 (Various Roads, Oswestry) (Amendment No.) Order.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the ‘No Waiting at any time’ restriction from Upper Brook Street should be extended as far as the start of the existing 30mph speed limit on Trefonen Road.**

**1269 Date for Next Meeting**

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 31 March 2022 at Trefonen Village Hall.

**Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960**

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act it was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED** that due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public and press should not be present.

**1270 VAS**

Members considered for approval a revised quote for the installation of VAS in Maesbury and Treflach.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the revised quote of £6,191.03 + VAT (50%) from TWM Traffic Control Systems for 2 VAS for Maesbury and 2 VAS for Treflach be APPROVED.**

**1271 Planning Enforcement**

Members **NOTED** recent planning enforcement cases.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20:58.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_