

Oswestry Rural Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 26 February 2019
At Morda Village Hall

Present:

Chairman Cllr. Paul Milner, Cllr. Janet Barlow, Cllr. Pam Broomby, Cllr. Arthur Brown, Cllr. John Davies, Cllr. Peter Davies, Cllr. Martin Jones, Cllr. Les Maguire, Cllr. Tony Milner, Cllr. Peter Richardson and Cllr. Elliot Roberts-Jones.

Parish Clerk:

Sharon Clayton

In attendance:

12 members of the public

266/19 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

267/19 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Phil May who was poorly, Robert Milton and Cllr. Shirley Jones who both had work commitments.

These apologies were ACCEPTED.

Apologies were also received from the Oswestry Safer Neighbourhood Team and Shropshire Councillor Joyce Barrow who was attending planning training at the Shirehall.

268/19 Public Participation

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak.

One member of the public who lives in Aston Lane spoke about the planning application for the production and storage of biomass fuel and the storage of animal bedding at the Elms in Middleton Lane. She said that heavy industry had been in operation for about a year and was operating without planning permission. Massive lorries were driving along the lane and she was concerned about their frequency and whether there would be more. Middleton Lane is signed for walkers, riders and agricultural only and warns that the road narrows. It is a single-track lane that narrows into a narrow track with intermittent passing places. The lorries do not leave any room for pedestrians as they take up all of the road. There are also 2 quiet lane markers and a sign showing an adult walking with a child. The planning application gives very little information and the planning officer was awaiting further clarification and, therefore, a decision on this application was pending further information.

One member of the public suggested that Parish Councillors should have a site meeting with the planning officer. He said that lorries were creating dust and noise and that logging lorries also visiting the site were finding it difficult to turn off the main road junction into Middleton Lane and this was causing hazardous conditions. Several members of the public wanted to know how many lorries would be travelling to the site. They felt that the biggest issue is noise informing that the bucket loader could be heard from a quarter of a mile away. However, their complaints have been ignored. It was suggested that a barrier was needed to block noise to nearby neighbours. The business had been operating for a long time and therefore this planning application was considered to be retrospective by nearby residents who also complained they had received little notification of it.

The Chairman thanked members of the public for their comments and said they would be taken into consideration by Members when they considered the planning application later in the meeting.

269/19 Minutes

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 29 January 2019 were considered for approval. Following agreed amendments that Maesbury School should be added to minute number 245/19, the word "death" should be replaced with the word "late" at minute number 259/19 and the words "the responsibility of the Parish Council" deleted from minute number 260/19 it was;

PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the minutes be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.

270/19 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the Register of Members' Interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

The following interests were declared:

Councillor	Interest
Paul Milner	Member of Shropshire Council's Northern Area Planning Committee

271/19 Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

272/19 Declaration of Acceptance of Gifts and Hospitality

There were no declarations of gifts or hospitality.

273/19 Police Report

A representative from the Oswestry Safer Neighbourhood Team was unable to attend the meeting and instead provided a written report of crimes and incidents for January 2019.

NOTED.

274/19 Planning matters

a) Planning Decisions

The following planning decisions were **NOTED**.

17/01399/OUT The Elms, Middleton, Oswestry	Outline application for the erection of one agricultural workers dwelling (all matters reserved) Permission GRANTED 4.2.19 <i>This application was supported by the Parish Council on the condition that independent confirmation is sought by Shropshire Council that there is a need for an agricultural worker's dwelling on the site. If this is provided occupancy should be restricted to an agricultural worker under the standard agricultural condition. The Council also requested the location of the dwelling to be closer to the main farm so as 'to be within sight and sound of the farm buildings' as per 5.3 of the supporting statement submitted by the applicant.</i>
18/00381/FUL Proposed Agricultural Workers Dwelling, north of New Barns Farm, Trefonen, Oswestry	Erection of agricultural workers dwelling with detached garage and associated infrastructure, formation of vehicular access and installation of package treatment plant. Permission GRANTED 31.1.19. <i>The Parish Council supported this application subject to independent confirmation that there is a need for an agricultural worker's dwelling on the site.</i>
18/04414/FUL 1 Brick Kiln Cottages, Racecourse Road, Oswestry	Erection of part two storey part single storey extension(s). Permission REFUSED 30.1.19. <i>The Parish Council supported this application.</i>
18/05505/FUL Trefarclawdd Lodge, Coed Y Go, Oswestry	Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of family annexe replacing previous double garage with roof store over. Permission REFUSED 1.2.19.
18/05228/FUL Moorehouse Farm, Craig-Llwyn, Trefonen	Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of replacement stable buildings for existing commercial livery following demolition of buildings and the siting of a separate toilet and shower block building (retrospective) together with new building covering existing outdoor manège. Permission GRANTED 21.2.19. This application was supported by the Parish Council.

18/05654/FUL Fairhaven, Sweeney, Oswestry	Erection of a front extension and infill side extension with internal alterations and the erection of a detached single garage. Permission GRANTED 14.2.19. Supported by the Parish Council.
18/05863/FUL Tegfryn, Tref-Ar-Clawdd	Conversion of existing dwelling to form two apartments for estate workers accommodation; erection of detached open fronted garage(s) following demolition of existing. Permission GRANTED 25.2.19. Supported by the Parish Council.
19/00072/TPO Development site on land east of Kingfisher Way, Morda	Cut back and crown raise overhanging vegetation to provide clearance to garden of adjacent dwelling of one Oak protected by The Council of the Borough of Oswestry (Morda House, Morda, Oswestry) TPO 1977 (Ref: OS00007/71). Permission GRANTED 21.2.19. (See * below)

b) Planning Applications

18/05727/FUL The Elms, Middleton, Oswestry	<p>Due to local concern, re-consideration of application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for use of land and buildings for production and storage of biomass fuel and continued use of building for storage of animal bedding.</p> <p>Cllr. Peter Richardson informed the meeting that he had spoken to the Planning Officer and had been told that this was a retrospective planning application and the site had been operating for at least one year. The Planning Officer was concerned that he did not have sufficient information with which to make a decision and therefore the application was still under consideration by Shropshire Council.</p> <p>Having listened to local concern it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to object to the application for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The lane to the premises is unsuitable for the large HGVs visiting the site because the lane is not wide enough. Middleton Lane is sign posted as a quiet lane warning that the road narrows, it is used by pedestrians, horse riders and tractors, and is also marked "Access for residents only". 2. The activities on-site create excessive noise and disturb nearby residents. 3. The protection and safety of pedestrians along the site route needs to be maintained. 4. An Environmental Impact Assessment should be carried out. 5. The application should be called-in so that it can be considered by Shropshire Council's Northern Area Planning Committee.
19/00072/TPO Development site on land east of Kingfisher Way, Morda	<p>Cut back and crown raise overhanging vegetation to provide clearance to garden of adjacent dwelling of one Oak protected by The Council of the Borough of Oswestry (Morda House, Morda, Oswestry) TPO 1977 (Ref: OS/00007/71).</p> <p>*This application had been considered by the Parish Council at its last meeting, but the Council had asked Shropshire Council to identify the location of the tree for clarification, and this information had been provided.</p> <p>However, in spite of the Clerk requesting and being assured by the responsible Planning Officer that a time extension had been granted to the Parish Council to allow the Council to comment, and that the deadline for comments was 6 March 2019, the application had been granted permission on 21 February 2019.</p>

	<p>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write to Shropshire Council expressing disappointment that permission had been granted and therefore the Council had no opportunity to comment. ● Cllr. Joyce Barrow should be copied into correspondence concerning this matter.
19/00542/FUL Pentre Cefn Farm, Craig-Llwyn, Trefonen	<p>Erection of Oak frame building following demolition of existing dilapidated Dutch Barn.</p> <p>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No objection provided there is no provenance attached to this Listed Building and the application meets with the approval of the Conservation Officer. ● The new construction should use materials that are in keeping with the old Dutch barn.
19/00543/LBC Pentre Cefn Farm, Craig-Llwyn, Trefonen	<p>Erection of Oak frame building following demolition of existing dilapidated Dutch Barn affecting a Grade II Listed Building.</p> <p>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No objection provided there is no provenance attached to this Listed Building and the application meets with the approval of the Conservation Officer. ● The new construction should use materials that are in keeping with the old Dutch barn.

275/19 Clerk's Report

Members received a written report from the Clerk on action taken following decisions made by Councillors at the last meeting.

The Clerk also informed Members that:

- She had received a response from Shropshire Council regarding dog fouling at Trefonen Road, Oswestry and Old Mopsis Way in Morda. The Dog Warden post covering this specific area was currently vacant and was expected to be filled by spring/summer.
- Councillors should delete any unwanted/unnecessary emails from their Parish Council email inbox otherwise they would be unable to receive further emails.

NOTED.

276/19 Financial Matters

- a) Members received income and expenditure to the end of January 2019.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the income and expenditure to the end of January be APPROVED.

- b) Members considered for approval payments for February 2019.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the following payments for February 2019 be APPROVED:

Payee	Description	Amount £
Mark Evans	Bus shelter cleaning	54.00
Rhydycroesau Village Hall	Room hire for Parish Council meetings	120.00
Sharon Clayton	Salary (February 2019)/expenses and reimbursement for stationery	935.57
HMRC	PAYE/Employer NI	225.56
TOTAL		1335.13

277/19 Planning Committee

Members considered for approval whether to establish a Planning Committee whose Members could examine planning applications in more detail and make recommendations to full Council.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED** that:

- a) **A Planning Committee be established whose members would be: Cllr. Arthur Brown, Cllr. John Davies, Cllr. Les Maguire and Cllr. Paul Milner. The Committee would examine all planning applications and make recommendations to full Council. This arrangement would be trialled for a period of 6 months after which it would be reviewed for effectiveness.**
- b) **Planning applications received after the Friday following the issue of each agenda would not be considered until the next Parish Council meeting.**

278/19 Tony Cheetham Community Service Award Scheme 2019

Members considered for approval the launch of this year's "Tony Cheetham Community Service Award Scheme" which was sponsored by Stonehouse Brewery.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED** that:

- a) **The "Tony Cheetham Community Service Award Scheme" be launched.**
- b) **The Clerk be granted delegated authority to arrange for 200 copies of the "Scheme" flyer to be printed and distributed at various locations within the parish.**
- c) **The presentation of the Award would take place at the Annual Parish meeting on 21 May 2019.**

279/19 Notice Boards Repair/Replacement

Members considered for approval a draft Repair Schedule for the repair and replacement of the Council's notice boards within the parish, some of which were in a bad state of repair.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED** that:

- a) **Notice boards at the following locations be kept and repaired where necessary:**
 - **Morton, to be re-varnished;**
 - **Trefonen, to be re-varnished;**
 - **Trefarclawdd cemetery;**
 - **Aston, to be re-varnished;**
 - **Gwern-y-Brenin;**
 - **Rhydycroesau, to be replaced with a single unit;**
 - **Treflach, to be replaced with a single unit;**
 - **Coed Y Go, to be replaced with a single unit;**
 - **The shop at Morda, to be re-varnished;**
- b) **All notice boards should be installed on two posts for stability.**
- c) **Notice boards at the following locations should be removed due to their poor condition:**
 - **Ball Lane at Maesbury;**
 - **Nantmawr**
 - **Gragllwyn**

It was **NOTED** that the notice board that was situated at Back Lane in Maesbury was no longer there due to dilapidation.

280/19 Business Plan

Members considered for approval the draft updated Business Plan. The Clerk informed Members that it had been recorded in the updated Action Plan that work was complete at the Maesbury Junction on the A483 and that the Business Plan should reflect this. However, although the Clerk had asked Keir to provide an updated report on Stage 3 the report had not been forthcoming.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED** that:

- a) **The updated Business Plan with agreed amendments be APPROVED.**
- b) **Cllr. Peter Richardson would contact Keir and request an update on Stage 3 of the Maesbury Junction and report back to the Parish Council.**

281/19 PCC Funding

Members considered for approval whether to apply to the PCC for grant funding to help reduce speeding within the parish. Funding was available from the PCC via the Open Grant Schemes Safer Roads Fund and could be used to provide greater awareness of road safety and safer roads within the parish, leading to a reduction in those being killed or injured and the number of road traffic offences.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED** that funding should be sought from the PCC to help make roads safer through reduced speeding within the parish.

282/19 Chemical Spillage

Members received an update concerning the chemical spillage at Oswestry Waste Paper that occurred on 6 December 2018. Shropshire Council had responded by saying that, because it was not aware of the incident, it had taken no action, and the Health and Safety Executive confirmed that it was holding information about the incident but could not divulge it at this time as it was exempt under Section 12(5)(b) of the Environmental Information Regulations (Regs) 2004. However, the HSE had informed that the Parish Council could make a further request for information in 2 month's time.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to write again to HSE in 2 month's time and to keep this matter on the agenda for the foreseeable future.

283/19 Green Spaces

Members received an update on the transfer of green spaces from Shropshire Council to the Parish Council.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that Shropshire Council should be asked for an update on the transfer of land and the matter discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting.

284/19 Casual Vacancy

The Clerk informed Members that the notice inviting people to be co-opted as a result of the casual vacancy caused by the death of Tony Cheetham had attracted no interest and that the vacancy would have to continue to be advertised until someone put themselves forward.

It was NOTED that the vacancy would continue to be advertised until someone applied for co-option.

285/19 Expressions of Interest for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding

Members considered a letter from Shropshire Council asking for submissions of Expressions of Interest for CIL funding. The Parish Council was eligible to receive a Neighbourhood Fund of £7,547.16 in 2019 and was already holding £48,485.59 which it received in April 2018. The Parish Council had already spent £19,134.10 on upgrading street lighting.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Council should submit an expression of interest to Shropshire Council for CIL funding.

286/19 Community Grant Policy

Members considered for approval a revised Community Grants Policy whereby the Council would consider all grant applications at the same time once per year rather than as they were received and considered independently.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the revised Community Grants Policy be APPROVED.

287/19 Metal Detecting at Racecourse

A member of the public had written to the Clerk expressing an interest in carrying out metal detecting on the old Racecourse which had previously been used for horse racing. The site is one of the highest points in the Oswestry area and it was possible that a lot of interesting artefacts may be buried beneath the site. Two people sought the support of the Parish Council to metal detect this area and stressed that their interest was purely as hobbyists and not for any financial gain.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that those interested in metal detecting should seek permission from the land owner.

288/19 Bus Tour of the Parish of Oswestry Rural

Members considered for approval the hire of a small mini bus so that the Clerk and Councillors could tour the parish to enable the Clerk and newer councillors in particular, to familiarise themselves with the Council's jurisdiction and responsibilities.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that a tour of the parish be arranged to take place on a Saturday morning in the spring.

289/19 Councillor Reports

Members received the following verbal reports:

a) Shropshire Councillor Joyce Barrow

Cllr. Barrow was unable to attend but asked that Members be advised that, due to a change in personal circumstances, she had stepped down from her role in the Cabinet and had taken up a role as scrutiny chair which would be less demanding on her time. She also advised that Shropshire Council's precept would be 3.99% for the 2019/2020 financial year.

NOTED.

b) Parish Councillors

Cllr. Paul Milner and Cllr. Les Maguire advised that both had attended a recent PCC meeting where it was announced that there would be four more policemen recruited to patrol the Oswestry area.

NOTED.

290/19 Correspondence

Members received the following correspondence:

- a) SALC information bulletin and other information emailed to Members.
- b) Information update about Future Fit.
- c) Briefing Note about the Community Enablement Team.
- d) Letter from Heal Hooper Associates offering assistance with the delivery of community schemes using CIL funds.

NOTED.

291/19 Agenda items for Next Meeting

It was **AGREED** that the following items should be included on the next agenda:

- Oswestry Waste Paper

292/19 Date for Next Meeting

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 26 March 2019 at Trefonen Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21:03.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Chairman