

Minutes
of a Parish Council meeting

held at 7 pm on Thursday 30 June 2022 at Rhydycroesau Village Hall

Present:

Cllr. Martin Jones (Chairman), Cllr. Martin Bennett, Cllr. Iain Campbell, Cllr. Peter Davies, Cllr. Bob Kimber, Cllr. Paul Milner Cllr. Peter Richardson, Cllr. Jas Singh, Cllr. Steve Watts, Cllr. Mike Weston, Chris Woods.

Clerk to the Council:

Sharon Clayton

In attendance:

7 members of the public
Shropshire Councillor Joyce Barrow

1368 Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The newly elected Chairman signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1369 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked fellow Councillors for electing him as Chairman. He then presented the Tony Cheetham Community Service Award to Will Baker who received the award for maintaining open spaces in the Maesbury area on a voluntary basis.

1370 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:
Cllr. John Davies and Cllr. Roger Jones

1371 Police Report

The following written report was received from the Oswestry Rural South Safer Neighbourhood Team:

- 03/06/2022 – Road Traffic Collision Mile End. Two vehicles involved. No Injury.
- 03/06/2022 – Harassment. Individual receiving unwanted messages.
- 08/06/2022 – Anti social behaviour Royal Oak Treflach. Drunk male refusing to leave.
- 09/06/2022 – Tree down in the road. Chain Lane Trefonen.
- 11/06/2022 – Missing person. Care home.
- 12/06/2022 – Make off without payment. Esso Garage at Mile End services.
- 12/06/2022 – Harassment. Individual receiving unwanted messages
- 13/06/2022 - Harassment. Individual receiving unwanted messages
- 13/06/2022 – Missing person. Care home.
- 13/06/2022 - Harassment. Individual receiving unwanted messages
- 13/06/2022 - Drink driver caught at New Barns Trefonen. Driver was four times over the legal limit.
- 14/06/2022 – Road rage incident at Mile End.
- 15/06/2022 – Domestic incident in Morda.
- 16/06/2022 – Theft from store. Mile end services Spar.
- 17/06/2022 – Theft of two sheep water troughs. Rhydycroesau.
- 18/06/2022 - Road traffic collision Mile end.
- 19/06/2022 - Stolen motor vehicle Morda. Occupants decamped and ran from the scene.
- 19/06/2022 – Maesbury Marsh. Neighbour dispute over a hedge.
- 19/06/2022 – Morda. Malicious communications message received.
- 20/06/2022 - Neighbour dispute. Penylan. Dispute over a boundary fence.
- 22/06/2022 - Domestic incident Trefonen.
- 22/06/2022 – Domestic Incident Morda.
- 24/06/2022 - Dangerous driving incident at Mile end.
- 25/06/2022 - Domestic Incident Morda
- 26/06/2022 – Domestic incident Morda.
- 28/06/2022 – Suicidal male. Racecourse.

NOTED.

1372 Shropshire Council Report

Cllr. Joyce Barrow informed the meeting that her Scrutiny Committee was looking at enforcement in planning. The Committee felt that 21 days was not sufficient time to respond to planning applications and that the response time should be extended to 31 days. She said she would keep the Parish Council updated on progress.

1373 Public Participation

One member of the public expressed concern about the road safety issue in Morton of which he had spoken to Cllr. Martin Bennett. He hoped that the Parish Council would support recommendations in a report compiled by local residents requesting the Parish Council to ask Shropshire Council that the current 30mph speed limit zone be extended.

One member of the public thanked the Parish Council for the proposal from the Road Safety Working Group support a speed reduction in Coed-y-Go. He was pleased that the council would be discussing communication and thanked the Environment Working Group for meeting with Yareal to discuss activities at Trefarclawdd Farm. He also thanked Cllr. Steve Watts for discussing the changes he wished to see made to public participation in Standing Orders and expressed disappointment that other councillors had not responded to him and that his requested changes had not been approved.

One member of the public referred to information she had sent to Councillors concerning the Parish Council's website. She said that councillors should decide what changes should be made to the website and that clerks being allowed to take action without agreement from the council is not democracy.

1374 Minutes

The minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on 26 May 2022 were considered for approval. It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the minutes be APPROVED and ADOPTED as a true record.**

1375 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.

1376 Dispensations

None requested.

1377 Declaration of Acceptance of Gifts and Hospitality

None declared.

1378 Planning Matters

a) Planning Decisions

The following planning decisions were **NOTED.**

| Planning Application Details | Planning Proposals |
|--|---|
| 22/00350/FUL Proposed solar farm to the north of Rhydycroesau | Formation of Solar Park consisting of 3,240 solar panels and associated electrical equipment namely inverters, site and DNO substations, battery energy storage units, 2m high deer fence with gates, formation of. Permanent access road, CCTV cameras and infrared lighting and a weather station mounted on galvanised steel masts inside the solar park. Permission REFUSED 24 June 2022. <i>The Parish Council supported this application.</i> |
| 22/01494/FUL 1 Brookside, Morda | Erection of a two-storey rear extension and front porch. Permission GRANTED 23 June 2022. <i>The Parish Council had no objection.</i> |
| 22/00588/FUL The Laurels Barn, Sweeney | Conversion of barn to form one dwelling, formation of vehicular and pedestrian access and installation of package treatment plant. Permission REFUSED 17 June 2022. <i>The Parish Council had no objection.</i> |
| 22/00720/FUL Moorehouse Farm, Craig-Llewyn, Trefonen | Change of Use of equestrian centre, conversion of stable building to workshop, re-surfacing manège to outdoor vehicle store, erection of building, all associated works, to support re-location of existing business. Permission REFUSED 23 June 2022. <i>The Parish Council had no objection.</i> |
| 22/02605/FUL Willow Cottage, Sandrock Lane, Trefonen | Installation of ground mounted solar panel array. WITHDRAWN. |

b) Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered for comment:

| Planning Application Details | Planning Proposals |
|--|---|
| 21/03584/REM Land south of Middleton Road, Oswestry | Approval of reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to application 17/06025/OUT (amendments). Concern was expressed about the relief road proposed as a result of the development and which route the construction traffic would use. There was also concern about sewerage, the capacity of the pumping station, and access to The Mound for less abled people. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that, as the matter is so complex and the huge number of documents associated with the application, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Write to Shropshire Council and ask for more time to respond. ○ Ask Oswestry Town Council if it would like to discuss the matter with the Parish Council and arrive at a joint response to this application. ○ A planning officer should be asked to explain the application in more detail. |
| 22/02462/FUL Bridge Cottage, Ball Lane, Maesbury | Erection of single storey extension (re-submission). It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support. |
| 22/02616/FUL Ty Nant, Sychtyn, Trefonen | Erection of ancillary accommodation to main house, following partial deconstruction of former bothy/workshop outbuilding, erection of workshop/stables with hay loft above (re-submission). It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support. |
| 22/02684/FUL Glannant, Little London Lane, Trefonen | Renovation of existing house to include installation of new openings/windows, erection of the proposed canopy to the front elevation, external render/insulation of the walls, replacing the existing fibreglass flat roof with new warm roof finished with a single ply membrane It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support. |
| 22/02688/FUL 13 Nant y Caws, Morda | Erection of a two-storey It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support. |

1379 Clerk's Report

Members **NOTED** a written report from the Clerk on action taken following decisions made at previous council meetings. The Clerk also informed that there had been no interest to fill the two casual vacancies and that she had put a new page on the Parish Council's website with details about becoming a councillor.

1380 Financial Matters

a) Income and Expenditure

Members considered for approval income and expenditure to 31 May 2022.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that income received to date of £43,042.80 and gross expenditure of £8,081.17 be APPROVED.

b) Bank Reconciliations

Members considered for approval bank reconciliations for May 2022.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that bank reconciliations for May 2022 totalling £288,176.51 be APPROVED.

c) Payments for June 2022

Members considered for approval payments for June 2022.

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

| PAYEE | DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT £ |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Zurich | Insurance | 663.99 |
| EE | Wi-Fi mini monthly plan | 16.39 |
| HSBC | Bank charges | 10.00 |
| Sharon Clayton | Clerk's salary/expenses/reimbursement | 840.57 |
| HMRC | PAYE/NI | 382.72 |
| A G Royce | Grounds maintenance and tree pruning | 1055.00 |
| Viking | Stationery | 84.59 |
| Mark Evans | Bus shelter cleaning | 60.00 |
| Colin Turner | Bus shelter cleaning | 25.00 |
| Tree 21 Limited | Tree survey | 816.00 |
| | TOTAL | 3954.26 |

The following was **NOTED**:

- d) The Parish Council now had a 5-year Fixed Rate Bond with Cambridge and Counties Bank in which £50,000 was invested with an interest rate of 2.5% AER fixed.
- e) The Parish Council now had £75,000 invested with the Public Sector Deposit Fund.
- f) The Parish Council had received an environmental maintenance grant of £1,083 from Shropshire Council.

1381 Road Safety

a) Members received a written report from the Road Safety Working Group. A meeting had been held with local residents regarding speeding along the B4396 from Llynclys to the Redwith Bridge. There was a 40mph speed limit through Llynclys but the road outside the settlement had a 60mph speed limit with many bends making it dangerous for residents' vehicles pulling out onto a busy main road and also pedestrians as there was no footpath nor lighting and the road was narrow. Local residents had tried to have the speed limit reduced and had carried out an informal traffic count. They asked the Parish Council to support a speed reduction.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that:

- o **Shropshire Council be requested to undertake a formal traffic survey to establish parameters for a suitable speed limit from Llynclys to Redwith Bridge, passing through the settlement of Morton.**
- o **Shropshire Council should be requested to extend the current limit of 40mph on the B4396 through Morton to the Redwith Bridge.**

- **Shropshire Council should be advised that the Parish Council would prefer the limit to be reduced to 30mph in view of residents' concerns.**

b) Members considered for approval that £15,000 should be allocated towards the installation of traffic calming measures for a 40mph speed limit to be introduced at Coed-y-Go.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that £15,000 should be earmarked in reserves for Shropshire Council to install a 40mph speed limit at Coed-y-Go.

1382 Trefarclawdd Cemetery Fees

Members considered for approval the cessation of a £150 administration fee for interments at Trefarclawdd cemetery.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the £150 administration fee should no longer be charged.

1383 Trefarclawdd Cemetery

Members received a report from the Trefarclawdd Cemetery Working Group. The Group intended to draw up a planning application for various works at the cemetery for approval by the Parish Council. The Group had met with Yareal to discuss boundary lines so that a fence could be erected and agreed that the contractor appointed to erect the fence would gain access via the existing parking area and not drive over crops on Yareal land. The Group was trying to acquire quotes for fencing. The Group was also investigating the possibility of allotments on part of the cemetery land.

Concern was expressed about mine waste dumped on the land in the past and how it might affect future burials.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the report be NOTED.

1384 Environment Working Group

a) Members received a report from the Environment Working Group. The Group had met to consider the scope of their Terms of Reference, and how matters of concern would be conveyed to Yareal, and local residents affected by Trefarclawdd Farm. The Group had sent some questions to the farm and had informed the local MP of their remit. They agreed that they were not sufficiently qualified to deal with some environmental matters and asked for a budget to be set aside to pay for independent specialist/legal advice should it be needed.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to consider setting aside a budget for independent specialist/legal advice at the next meeting.

b) In pursuance of Section 40 of the Natural Environmental and Rural Communities Act 2006 Members considered the Parish Council's obligation towards biodiversity.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that no decision could be made at this time as information was still awaited from SALC.

1385 Communications

a) Members considered for approval the appointment of a PR/comms agency to identify and suggest a best practice direct mail strategy to effectively reach out to the population.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that quotes be sought.

b) Members considered for approval the acquisition of a detailed quote for a twice-yearly publication, including information collation, graphic design, print and distribution of an agreed number of mail shots.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that quotes be sought.

c) Members considered for approval improvements to the Parish Council's website.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that this be deferred for consideration at the next meeting.

d) Members considered for approval the provision of insight from Google analytics for hits, click throughs, enquiries and pages visited to assess page readership, relevance and response levels to guide website improvement initiatives.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that this be deferred for consideration at the next meeting.

1386 Oswestry Leisure Centre

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that discussion concerning the increased fees imposed at Oswestry Leisure Centre which were higher than those at Shrewsbury be deferred for consideration at the next meeting.

1387 Consultation

Members considered for approval a response to the following consultation:

- a) Strategic Outline Business Case to determine the feasibility and benefits of re-opening the railway line between Oswestry and Gobowen (commissioned by Cambrian Heritage Railways).

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support the activities to re-open the railway line.

1388 Date for Next Meeting

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 28 July 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.

1389 Signage

Members considered for approval a quote for a 'no parking' sign to be installed at Treflach Green.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that a quote of £81.74 + VAT from Shropshire Design & Print Solutions Ltd. be APPROVED.

1390 Planning Enforcement

A planning enforcement case was **NOTED**.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20:25.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date: _____