

Oswestry Rural Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting
held at 7 pm on Tuesday 28 January 2020
at Morda Village Hall

Present:

Chairman: Cllr. Peter Richardson, Cllr. Janet Barlow, Cllr. Pam Broomby, Cllr. John Davies, Cllr. Martin Jones, Cllr. Bob Kimber, Cllr. Les Maguire, Cllr. Claire Mahoney, Cllr Tony Milner.

In attendance:

12 members of the public
PC SO Charlie Iremonger

583/20 Chairman's Welcome

The chairman welcomed everyone present. He explained that, prior to this meeting, Members had met with senior Shropshire Council planning officers to discuss planning applications within the parish and the criteria required for approval or rejection. He said that the Parish Council takes the responsibility of responding to planning applications very seriously and, where issues arise, the Council tries its best to resolve them.

584/20 Apologies for absence

The following apologies were received:

COUNCILLOR	REASON
Peter Davies	Family commitment
Shirley Jones	Poorly
Paul Milner	Family commitment
Robert Milton	Poorly
Elliot Robert Jones	Family commitment

These apologies were AGREED and ACCEPTED as APPROVED absence.

Cllr. Phil May was absent.

585/20 Local Policing Team Report

PCSO Charlie Iremonger gave the following verbal report:

- 2 large wooden gates stolen, and the van that stole them could not be identified.
- A smashed window caused by someone throwing a stone.
- Damaged vehicle which had been keyed.
- Reports of sheep loose on the road in Morda and other places.

NOTED.

In response to being told there had been reports of a quad bike rider causing anti-social behaviour PCSO Iremonger advised that these incidents should be reported directly to the police so that they can be logged for action.

PCSO Iremonger was thanked for his report after which he left the meeting.

586/20 Shropshire Councillor Report

Cllr. Joyce Barrow was on holiday and therefore there was no report.

NOTED.

587/20 Public Participation

The chairman invited members of the public to speak.

One member of the public referred to Condition 9 relating to the planning application for Black Country Metalworks. She felt this Condition was being contravened because it relates to the selling of ironmongery although other goods were being sold. The Metalworks also offered support programmes for all ages although it is not clear whether these activities need planning permission or licences. She had previously asked that Shropshire Council included details about lighting to be posted online and did not think that Shropshire Council's reasons for not doing so were inadequate. She also expressed concern about access to the residential development at Waen Lane in Maesbury Marsh. Access for plot 3 had already been built and she felt this alone could serve the other plots without further access points being built. The planning application allows for up to 9 vehicles which she feels should be rejected as granting permission would be averse to Shropshire Council's Climate Change policy to reduce carbon emissions.

One member of the public said there were no notices being posted on the notice board at Aston Square. The Chairman said the Parish Council would look into the problem.

One member of the public expressed concern about the damage caused to the road following quarrying at Rhydycroesau. He said that some of the road had been repaired but not all of it and that it needed to be reinstated to the condition it was in before heavy vehicles from the quarry caused damage to it.

One member of the public spoke about the planning application for a development on land north of the Miners Arms at Morda Bank (19/05469/REM). He said that the application had been amended to reduce the number of dwellings from 10 to 9 which would bring much needed homes to the area. More green space had been added and would improve the appearance of the landscape. Trade would increase to keep the local pub in business, and he hoped the application would be supported.

One member of the public expressed concern about whether the applicant of the self-build development at Waen Lane would be the same person to live in the property in accordance with the rules for self-build.

On behalf of someone not able to attend the meeting Cllr. Martin Jones read their concerns about a development that had taken place at Waen Lane which was contrary to the approved plans and had resulted in increased footprint and a TPO being ignored.

588/20 Minutes

The minutes of a parish council meeting held on 17 December 2019 were considered for approval.

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

589/20 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.

None declared.

590/20 Dispensations

None.

591/20 Declaration of Acceptance of Gifts and Hospitality

None.

592/20 Planning Matters

a) Planning Decisions

The following planning decisions were **NOTED**.

19/04083/FUL Blue Court Cottage, Brookside, Morda	Erection of single storey annex incidental to the use of existing dwelling Permission REFUSED 22 January 2020. <i>The Parish Council supported this application.</i>
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19/04637/TPO Aspen House, Morda Bank, Morda	To undertake a crown lift and/or cut back to allow for the installation of a 10m high lamp column, reduce and balance the remainder of the tree no more than 3m and to lift accordingly one Sycamore protected by The Council of the Borough of Oswestry (Glentworth, Morda) TPO 1990. Permission GRANTED 17 December 2019. <i>The Parish Council objected to this application due to the loss of trees.</i>
19/04643/FUL Ty Issa, Trefonen, Oswestry	Change of Use of land for equestrian use, construction of a manège and all associated works. Permission GRANTED 10 January 2019 <i>The Parish Council was unable to respond within the 28-day timeframe and a time extension was not granted by the planning officer</i>
19/05072/FUL Clements Cottage, Gwern y Brenin, Oswestry	Erection of cattery building and cat sanctuary to include Change of Use of land. Permission GRANTED 27 January 2020. <i>The Parish Council supported this application provided that the environment, traffic and noise were taken into consideration.</i>

b) Planning applications

The following planning applications were considered:

19/05490/FUL 2 Brookside, Ball Lane, Maesbury	Erection of two storey to side/rear elevation; associated alterations. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to support.
19/05463/FUL Highfawr Cottage, Racecourse Road, Oswestry	Removal of derelict timber garage/store and replacing with slightly smaller timber-framed garage/store. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to support the application provided the materials used in the replacement building matched those of the existing building.
19/05469/REM Residential development on land north of the Miners Arms, Morda Bank, Morda	Approval of reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to outline permission 17/05237/OUT for residential development to include access for the erection of 10 terraced dwellings. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to support the development but for between 7 and 8 dwellings only.
19/05552/FUL Proposed residential development on land at Maesbury Marsh	Erection of two-storey dwelling and detached garage (change of house type to that approved under 16/01094/REM). It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to object on the basis that the original application had been refused. It was further AGREED that the hedgerow should be reinstated following the loss of a Saxon hedgerow which had previously been in situ.
19/05535/OUT Proposed dwelling to the north of Nantmawr Bank, Nantmawr	Outline application for the erection of one dwelling and garage to include appearance, layout and scale. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to enquire whether this would be a replacement, or a new dwelling, and that further information was required before a response could be made.
20/00232/HHE 9 Kingfisher Way, Morda	Erection of a single storey rear extension to semi-detached dwelling, dimensions 4.90 metres beyond the rear wall, 3.00 metres maximum height, 3.00 metres high to eaves. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to support.
20/00283/FUL Proposed development land off Mile End Roundabout, Oswestry	Proposed highway improvements to include creation of a second 4-arm roundabout with link road; road re-alignment; ecological and landscaping works; drainage scheme. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to ask for more time to respond due to the extent of the application.
19/04841/DIS Black Country Metalworks	Conditions attached to this planning application. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to object to the Discharge until all Conditions have been satisfactorily addressed.

593/20 Clerk's Report

Members received a written report from the clerk on action taken following decisions made at the last parish council meeting.

The clerk also gave the following verbal update:

- She had applied to the War Memorial Trust for grant aid towards the inscription on the War Memorial at Maesbury and had received acknowledgement that the application was being considered, although it may take up to 2 months before receiving a response as to whether the application was successful.

NOTED.

594/20 Financial Matters

a) Income and expenditure and bank reconciliations

Members considered for approval income and expenditure and bank reconciliations for December 2019.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the income and expenditure and bank reconciliations to 30 December 2019 be APPROVED.

b) Payments for January 2020

Members considered for approval payments for January 2020.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the following payments for the month of January 2020 be APPROVED.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT £
HMRC	PAYE/NI	175.82
Mark Evans	Bus shelter cleaning	54.00
Royce Landscapes	Grounds maintenance	365.00
Viking	Stationery	114.89
Scottish Power	Street lighting power	251.12
Morda & Sweeney Village Hall	Room hire	180.00
Sharon Clayton	Salary/expenses/reimbursements	935.45
	TOTAL	2076.28

595/20 Community Engagement Policy

Members considered for approval a draft Community Engagement Policy.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the policy be APPROVED and ADOPTED.

596/20 Strategic/Action Plans

Members considered for approval a review of the following documents:

- Action Plan
- Strategic Plan 2018-2022

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the reviewed plans be APPROVED.

597/20 Budget and Precept 2020/2021

Members considered for approval the draft budget and precept for the fiscal year 2020/2019 which had been drafted and informed by the Council's Action Plan and Strategic Plan 2018/2022.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the following be APPROVED:

- **The Budget for 2020/2021 should be set at £46,833.00**
- **The Precept for 2020/2021 should be set at £45,583.00**
- **Reserves of £112,709.**

598/20 Local Council Award Scheme

Members received information outlining the criteria necessary to be met if the Parish Council wished to progress to the next stage in the Local Council Award Scheme and attain The Quality Award. The Clerk explained that, apart from councillor profiles being included on the Council's website, the Council met all of the criteria except that it did not have at least 2/3 of councillors elected and therefore the Council could not achieve the Quality Award at this time.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and unanimously **AGREED** that the Parish Council should try to attain the Quality Award following the next local elections when it was hoped that the Council would meet the electoral criteria.

599/20 Buckingham Palace Garden Party 27 May 2020

- a) The Clerk explained that, each year, parish councils are invited to put forward the council's chairman and guest to be chosen at random to attend the annual Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. This initiative was facilitated by NALC¹ via the county association, SALC². Due to the cut-off date the Clerk had put forward the Chairman, Cllr. Peter Richardson and his wife and was now seeking retrospective approval.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that retrospective approval be GRANTED to enable the Chairman and his wife to be included in the draw to attend this year's Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

- b) Members considered for approval granting the Clerk delegated authority to nominate the incumbent chairman and guest to attend future Buckingham Palace Garden Parties.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the Clerk be granted delegated authority to nominate the incumbent Chairman and guest to be included in the draw to attend future Buckingham Palace Garden Parties.

600/20 Notice Boards

- a) Members considered for approval a suitable location for a new notice board to be installed at Sweeney.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that:

- **Pending the necessary permissions, the notice board should be located off Morda Road in the entrance to the claypit.**
- **Cllr. Les Maguire would seek permission from the landowner.**

- b) Members considered for approval the revised notice board priority/repair/renewal schedule.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the schedule be APPROVED.

601/20 Black Country Metalworks

This matter was considered earlier during the consideration of planning applications.

602/20 Rhydycroesau Quarry

Concerns from local residents about activity at Rhydycroesau quarry was covered earlier during the public session.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to discuss this matter further at the next meeting.

603/20 Traffic Calming

Members considered the development of a traffic calming plan for the parish.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that:

- a) **A local survey should be carried out to provide evidence to prove the need for traffic calming.**
- b) **A working group to carry out a local traffic calming survey should be established whose Members would comprise Cllrs. Pam Broomby, Claire Mahoney, Les Maguire and John Davies.**
- c) **The working group would present a report at the next Parish Council meeting.**

604/20 Public Footpath in Maesbury

As Cllr. Phil May was not present;

it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to discuss this matter at the next Parish Council meeting.

605/20 Ambulance Response Times

As Cllr. Paul Milner was not present;

it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to discuss this matter at the next Parish Council meeting.

¹ National Association of Local Councils

² Shropshire Association of Local Councils

606/20 Coed y Rae Lane and the Heritage Railway

Cllr. Martin Jones informed Members that he would like to invite Roger Date from the Heritage Railway to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss proposed extensions to the Heritage Railway line.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that Roger Date be invited to the next Parish Council meeting.

607/20 Shands Lane

a) Members had asked for details from Shropshire Council to demonstrate the procedure of how Shands Lane had been prioritised for re-surfacing. Since the information had not been forthcoming;

it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that this matter be deferred for consideration at the next Parish Council meeting.

b) Members considered whether the Parish Council should respond to an inaccurate article published in the January 2020 edition of Private Eye (No: 1513) which stated that Shands Lane had been re-surfaced even though it had not been included on the Parish Council's priority list when, in fact, the Parish Council does not have a priority list.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to not to respond as it may lead to further unnecessary attention.

607/20 Councillor Reports

Cllr. Pam Broomby informed Members that she had attended a recent meeting of the Trefonen Village Hall Committee.

NOTED.

608/20 Correspondence

Members received the following:

- a) SALC information bulletin and NALC information.
- b) Information from Oswestry Area Committee.
- c) Invitation to attend a briefing from the PCC.
- d) Information about Shropshire rural buses.
- e) Community alerts from the police.
- f) Invitation to attend a "Climate Change Workshop" facilitated by Shropshire Council.

NOTED.

609/20 Consultation

Members considered a response to proposed changes to the speed limit on Weston Road and Weston Lane in Morda.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to support a speed limit of 30mph.

610/21 Agenda Items for Next Meeting

It was **AGREED** that the following matters should be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting:

- The shortage of NHS dentists (Cllr. Claire Mahoney)
- Traffic calming (the Traffic Calming Working Group)
- The West Midlands Design Charter (Cllr. Pam Broomby)
- The Parish Council Website and Parish Council emails (Cllr. Peter Richardson and the Clerk)

611/20 Date for Next Meeting

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 25 February 2020 at Morda Village Hall and that there was a change of venue for the Annual Parish Meeting which would be held at Trefonen Village Hall on Tuesday 19 May 2020.

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.

612/20 Affordable Housing

Since only two registered providers of affordable homes had provided information;

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to discuss this matter further at the next Parish Council meeting.

613/20 Planning Enforcement

There were no planning enforcement notices received.

The meeting closed at 20:59.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date: _____