

Oswestry Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting  
held at 7 pm on Tuesday 7 May 2019  
at Morda Village Hall

**Present:**

Chairman Cllr. Peter Richardson, Cllr. Pam Broomby, Cllr. Arthur Brown, Cllr. John Davies, Cllr. Peter Davies, Cllr. Martin Jones, Cllr. Bob Kimber, Cllr. Les Maguire, Cllr. Phil May, Cllr. Paul Milner and Cllr. Tony Milner.

**Clerk:**

Sharon Clayton

**In attendance:**

Shropshire Councillor Joyce Barrow  
PCSO Charlie Iremonger, Oswestry Rural South Policing Team  
Edward Nicholas – Knockin & Kinnerley Cricket Club  
Artie Edmonds – Offa’s Dyke Association  
Mark Leather – Trefonen & Treflach Parish Paths Partnership (P3) Group  
Irene Constable – Shropshire B.O.T.s (Bums on Tums)  
7 members of the public

**326/19 Election of Chairman**

Nominations were sought for the election of Chairman for the ensuing year.  
It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Paul Milner and **SECONDED** by Cllr. Phil May that Cllr. Peter Richardson be elected as Chairman.

**With there being no other nominations, it was unanimously RESOLVED that Cllr. Peter Richardson be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.**

**327/19 Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

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

The newly elected Chairman asked that the outgoing Chairman, Cllr. Paul Milner be thanked for all the excellent work he had done over the past year to, which all Members were **AGREED**.

**328/19 Election of Deputy Chairman**

Nominations were sought for the election of Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.  
It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Tony Milner and **SECONDED** by Cllr. John Davies that Cllr. Phil May be elected as Deputy Chairman.

**With there being no other nominations, it was unanimously RESOLVED that Cllr. Phil May be elected as Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.**

**329/19 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from the following:

Councillor	Reason
Janet Barlow	Holiday
Shirley Jones	Work commitment
Elliot Roberts-Jones	Work commitment

**These apologies were ACCEPTED.**

Cllr. Robert Milton was ABSENT.

**330/19 Public Participation**

- a) The Chairman invited members of the public to speak.

One member of the public referred to the 'Reduction in Local Bus Service' consultation and asked for buses to Maesbury to link up with the Marches School. She said that the Ironworks junction is mentioned on p10 of the Oswestry Place Plan and urged that improvements to this junction be improved and completed within the next 12 months. She informed that the output from the Mile Oak Wastewater Treatment Works goes into the river Morda which could lead to flooding further down the river as there is a flood zone where the river runs parallel with Ball Lane. She also informed that three fishing platforms had been installed at the nature reserve and asked the council to write to the fishing club and ask that they return the nature reserve to how it was. However, Cllr. Martin Jones said that the fishing club had already been told that their actions were illegal and a criminal act, especially since there was a swan's nest within the location of the platforms.

A representative from the Trefonen Rural Protection Group referred to public participation concerning the future development of Trefonen. She said that all sites, large and small, around Trefonen had been discounted by Shropshire Council for open market development aside from two exception sites, which are intended for small scale developments with the majority being affordable homes. This is to ensure that affordable housing for identified local needs is delivered by capping land values to make these schemes viable. No one site should be supported in preference to others since it would encourage higher land values. She informed that the Parish Council's response to Shropshire Council's 'Call for Sites' consultation supported small numbers of affordable homes on small scale developments spread over the whole ward and not concentrated in larger developments, and this was supported by the Group.

- b) A representative from Kier Highways had been invited to attend this meeting and provide an update on Stage 3 of the Maesbury Junction but had failed to turn up. Cllr. Peter Richardson informed the meeting that he would chase it up.
- c) Grant applicants were invited to give a presentation in support of their applications.

Edward Nicholas, the Vice Chairman of Knockin and Kinnerley Cricket Club explained that the clubhouse was no longer big enough and needed to be extended. The Club was attended by several people from the parish of Oswestry Rural and the Club was seeking funding from a number of sources to help pay for an extension.

Irene Constable from Shropshire Bums on Tums was seeking funding to cover the organisation's administration costs which provided help and advice for people with stomas, a disease of the bowel, some of whom were residents of the parish of Oswestry Rural.

Mark Leather spoke on behalf of Trefonen & Treflach Parish Paths Partnership Group, a group of volunteers promoting footpaths throughout the parish. They were seeking funding for a cordless hedge cutter to help keep the hedgerows trimmed sufficiently for people to walk unhindered on the footpaths within the parish.

Artie Edmunds, a member of the Trefonen & Treflach Parish Paths Partnership Group was seeking funding to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Offa's Dyke Association. The intention was to help promote Offa's Dyke walkways with the installation of two signs designed by local crafts people. Shropshire Council had granted permission for the location of the signs and would assist with the installation. The Trefonen Heritage Group had funded one of the signs, but funds were needed for the other sign. Both signs would be maintained by the P3 Group.

Vivien Burn spoke on behalf of the Playing Fields Association who wanted to provide a new defibrillator in Morton near to the playing field as the nearest local defibrillator was in Morda and too far away to reach in an emergency.

### **331/19 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2019 were considered for approval.

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

### **332/19 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.

Cllr. Paul Milner declared an interest as a member of Shropshire Council's Northern Area Planning Committee.

### **333/19 Dispensations**

There were no requests for dispensations.

### **334/19 Declaration of Acceptance of Gifts and Hospitality**

There were no declarations of gifts or hospitality.

### **335/19 Police Report**

PCSO Charlie Iremonger informed there had been a number of reported incidents.

- A male had been knocking on doors asking for a £50 note to be changed into smaller notes. The first £50 note was real, but the second one was fake.
- Someone had found a chalk marking under the wheel arch of a motor vehicle which was thought to be suspicious because chalk marking is used to demonstrate something of value which could later be stolen. People were being asked to be vigilant.
- Youths had been going to new build sites and copper wires had been cut inside some of the buildings.
- Quad bikes had been seen in Maesbury Marsh and, whilst the police were aware of the culprits, they had not been able to catch them.
- Young people had been getting into the grounds of Morda Primary School.
- Some sleepers had come through the old railway bridge in Morda and the structure of the bridge needed attention to make sure it was safe.
- There had been four road traffic collisions outside the entrance to British Ironworks this year and the police were aware of the traffic issues facing access and egress to the site.
- A drug raid had been carried out in Morda and high value A, B, C and D drugs had been found and a person had been prosecuted in connection with possession.

### **336/19 Committees/Working Groups**

The establishment of the following was considered for approval:

- a) Personnel Committee

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following councillors be appointed to the Personnel Committee: Cllr. Peter Richardson, Cllr. Pam Broomby and Cllr. Arthur Brown.**

- b) Planning Working Group

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that such a working group was not required since all planning applications should be considered by full Council.**

- c) Road Safety Working Group

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following councillors be appointed to the Road Safety Working Group: Cllr. Pam Broomby, Cllr. John Davies, Cllr. Bob Kimber, Cllr. Paul Milner, Cllr. Phil May, Cllr. Martin Jones and Cllr. Arthur Brown**

### **337/19 Review of the Following:**

- a) Standing Orders

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that, following reference to the employment committee being amended to the Personnel Committee, the revised Standing Orders be APPROVED.**

- b) Financial Regulations

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the revised Financial Regulations be APPROVED.**

### **338/19 Schedule of Future Meetings**

The following meeting dates and venues were approved:

DATE	VENUE
25 June 2019	Rhydycroesau Village Hall
30 July 2019	Trefonen Village Hall
27 August 2019	Trefonen Village Hall
24 September 2019	Rhydycroesau Village Hall
29 October 2019	Trefonen Village Hall
26 November 2019	Morda Village Hall
17 December 2019	Morda Village Hall
28 January 2020	Morda Village Hall
25 February 2020	Morda Village Hall
31 March 2020	Trefonen Village Hall
28 April 2020	Trefonen Village Hall
<b>ANNUAL PARISH MEETING</b> 19 May 2020	Morda Village Hall
<b>ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</b> 26 May 2020	Morda Village Hall

### 339/19 Planning Matters

#### a) Planning Decisions

The following planning decisions were **NOTED**.

18/02091/FUL Lloyds Animal Feeds Ltd., mill and premises, Morton, Oswestry	Erection of two silos and bins. <b>WITHDRAWN</b> 12 April 2019.  <i>The Parish Council supported this application subject to consent being conditional that there is no increase of noise at night.</i>
18/02657/FUL Black Country Metal Works Ltd., Whitehall Farm, Queens Head, Oswestry	Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) for regularisation of extensions to existing buildings together with lawful uses relating to a mixed use rural enterprise (A1, A3, B1, B2 and B8); improvements to existing vehicular access including creation of visibility splay; change of use of land to sculpture park and car parking areas. Permission <b>GRANTED</b> 3 May 2019.  <i>The Parish Council objected to this application due to Condition 13 not being adhered to.</i>
18/05455/FUL Trefarclawdd Farm, Tref-Ar-Clawdd, Oswestry	Erection of a livestock building and all associated works. Permission <b>GRANTED</b> 25 April 2019.  <i>The Parish Council supported this application.</i>
18/05727/FUL The Elms, Middleton, Oswestry	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. Permission <b>REFUSED</b> 23 April 2019.  <i>The Parish Council objected to this application on the grounds that the site is not suitable for its activities.</i>

#### b) Planning applications

The following planning applications were considered:

19/01379/ADV Proposed Warehouse and Factory at Maesbury Road, Oswestry	Internally illuminated individual letters constructed of stainless-steel surround with acrylic faces mounted to external walls of building and site entrance walls.
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	<b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support the application provided that light pollution does not have an adverse effect on the highway and does not interfere with neighbouring properties.</b>
19/01619/FUL South View, Wern Y Wiel, Treflach, Oswestry	Extension of two storey extension and conversion of outbuilding to provide ancillary accommodation; creation of new vehicular access; change of use of land to domestic curtilage. <b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support the application provided that highways issues were addressed.</b>
19/01806/FUL The Ley Farm, Morton, Oswestry.	Erection of detached carport and garden store. <b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to defer comment to the next meeting.</b>
19/01913/REM The Elms, Middleton, Oswestry	Approval of reserved matters (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant of 17/01399/OUT for the erection of one agricultural workers dwelling. <b>It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to defer comment to the next meeting.</b>

### 340/19 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 was asked whether there had been any response from Amey concerning their invitation to meet with the Parish Council concerning works at Maesbury Marsh. The Clerk informed there had been no response. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that this should be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting.**

The Clerk also gave the following verbal update:

- The Clerk and Cllr. Paul Milner had attended a meeting with Tim Shrosbree at Shropshire Council to discuss the delivery of affordable homes. A written report would be included with the agenda for the Parish Council meeting to be held on 28 May 2019.
- Shropshire Council hoped to publish the revised Place Plans during the summer of 2019. However, the Clerk had received information from a member of the public who asked that Shropshire Council be notified about the project to upgrade Mile Oak Wastewater Treatment Works included in the draft Place Plan. The output from these works goes into the River Morda (Morda Brook) and, as the river runs parallel with Ball Lane, which is already in a flood zone, it could lead to flooding in this area and further down the river. The Clerk was unable to comment when she attended the Place Plan meeting held on 4 April 2019 and, as the deadline for comments was 7 May 2019, the Clerk had forwarded these concerns to Shropshire Council and had been assured that they would be added to the Place Plan to be looked at by internal services. Shropshire Council had asked to be advised of any further amendments ASAP.
- The Clerk had invited the PCC, John Champion to attend the Annual Parish Meeting but he was unavailable on that date. He would, however, attend the Parish Council meeting on 28 May 2019 where he would discuss traffic issues within the parish and explain the criteria that needs to be met for speed limits to be introduced.
- The Clerk had applied to Shropshire Council for an environmental maintenance grant which had been approved and the sum of £1,500 would be paid into the Council's bank account.

**NOTED.**

### 341/19 Financial Matters

#### a) Income and expenditure to 31 March and 28 April 2019

Members received income and expenditure to 31 March and 28 April 2019.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the income and expenditure to 31 March 2019 and 28 April 2019 be APPROVED.**

**b) Payments for April 2019**

Members considered for approval payments for April 2019.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **unanimously AGREED** that the following payments be **APPROVED**.

<b>PAYEE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT £</b>
Sharon Clayton	Salary and expenses	1,017.41
HMRC	PAYE/NI	197.62
Royce Landscapes	Maintenance of green spaces	522.00
Mark Evans	Bus shelter cleaning	108.00
Trefonen Village Hall	Room hire	66.00
SALC	Annual membership fee	1,482.80
Highline Electrical Ltd.	Service transfer for new LEDs at Erw Wen & Belle View	1,801.22
Scottish Power	Street lighting power	245.70
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,440.75</b>

**342/19 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/2019**

The Clerk explained that, due to unexpected work commitments and holidays, she had been unable to arrange for the internal audit to take place in sufficient time for consideration at this meeting. The internal auditor had also been on holiday and the Clerk hoped that the completed internal audit and the necessary information required for external audit would be available for approval at the next Parish Council meeting on 28 May 2019.  
**NOTED.**

**343/19 Tony Cheetham Community Service Award Scheme**

Members considered nominations received for this year's Tony Cheetham Community Service Award.

It was **PROPOSED** that the award should go to Val Smout in view of her closeness to Tony Cheetham. After being **SECONDED** it was **unanimously AGREED** that:

- a) Val Smout should receive the 2019 Tony Cheetham Community Service Award.
- b) Val should be invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on 21 May 2019 at which she would be presented with the Award.

**344/19 Grant Applications**

Members considered grant applications received.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **AGREED** that the following grant awards be made:

<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>AWARD £</b>
Knockin & Kinnerley Cricket Club (for Clubhouse extension)	595.00
Trefonen and Treflach P3 Group (portable hedge cutter)	120.00
Trefonen and Treflach P3 Group (artistic signs to celebrate the 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Offa's Dyke Association)	595.00
Morton Playing Field Association (for Defibrillator)	595.00
Shropshire Bums on Tums (for administration costs)	595.00
<b>TOTAL AWARDED</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>

**345/19 Weston Road, Morda**

Members considered road safety issues at Weston Road, Morda. Cllr. John Davies and Cllr. Peter Richardson had received communication from members of the public asking that a 30 mph speed limit be installed. Cllr. Joyce Barrow informed that she had been told that Shropshire Council Highways had received funding, but she had not been told whether any of this funding would be allocated to Weston Road and she would try to find out.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that Shropshire Council should be asked for an update on the situation.**

### **346/19 The Old Canal Bridge in Maesbury**

Members considered residents' concerns about an increase in heavy vehicles crossing the old canal bridge in Maesbury Marsh. Cllr. Tony Milner said that the bridge had been built in 1795 and was classic of its type and therefore a significant bridge. It had been reinforced but traffic was now using it to pass through and not visiting locally. The increase in traffic may be due to the recent installation of traffic lights at Maesbury Road and Cllr. Milner proposed that Shropshire Council should be asked to monitor the weight of passing traffic. He said that Maesbury canal had been a port many years ago and, as such, the bridge is a real asset with significant historical value and needs looking after. There was currently no weight limit on the bridge.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that Shropshire Council should be asked to monitor traffic passing over the bridge with a view to limiting access of large HGVs.**

### **347/19 Councillor Reports**

- a) Shropshire Councillor Joyce Barrow gave the following verbal report:
- There had been a number of changes to Shropshire Council's Cabinet.
  - Shropshire Council had submitted two bids for funding to support economic development and Shrewsbury and Oswestry had been selected for round one.
  - Shropshire Council had been awarded £9.32m for improvements to the Mile End roundabout area to unlock Oswestry Innovation Park for development and works were due to be completed in autumn 2022.
  - Shropshire Council had begun discussions with ministers and partners regarding the A5 between Shrewsbury and Oswestry and the A483 at Llanymynech, including conversations about the A41 and A49.
  - Shropshire Council's Highways Department had been restructured with new posts created but more needed to be filled.
  - Shropshire Council would not be charging for green waste collection

Cllr. Barrow was informed that Mile End Golf Club was concerned about the increase in its new business rates bill and Cllr. Barrow said that the Club could appeal. She also said that she would check whether the building of a new solar farm was within the Oswestry Rural parish.

- b) Cllr. Bob Kimber informed that the All Saints churchyard in Trefonen had been granted permission by the Parochial Church Council to establish a reflection garden in part of the churchyard. This would lead to a small reduction in the area maintained by the Parish Council's contractors.
- c) Cllr. Pam Broomby had attended a recent TRPG meeting and said that Julian Francis was standing down as Chair. She was impressed with the amount of research the group was doing.
- d) Cllr. Peter Richardson had also attended the TRPG meeting, and had represented the Parish Council at the Northern Planning Committee meeting to support the Parish Council's objections to the British Ironworks planning application.

### **348/19 Consultation**

Members considered a response to Shropshire Council's 'Reduction in Local Bus Services' consultation.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following response should be submitted to Shropshire Council:**

**"One of the bus routes referred to in the consultation, route 54, is noted as running only on school days and that it is only for the transport of entitled pupils. This was a bus service during peak hours that was included in the points count used to justify Trefonen as potential "Hub" status. It is clearly not available to the public who have to wait until after 10am".**

### **349/19 Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received and **NOTED**.

- SALC information bulletin and NALC information.

**350/19 Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

- Presentation by the Canal Trust for the June meeting (Cllr. Phil May)
- SEND bus routes (Cllr. Martin Jones)
- Works to be carried out by Amey
- Councillor training
- Parking issues outside Morda Primary School (Cllr. Arthur Brown)

**351/19 Date for Next Meeting**

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 28 May 2019

The meeting closed at 20.48.

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

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

Chairman