

Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council

Minutes of the scheduled meeting Thursday 18 March 2021, held remotely, via Zoom.

Present: Cllrs Andrew Beavan; Zoe Croose; Mark Hughes (Chair); Darren Knipe; John Lane; Roy Lloyd and Abbie Price (Vice Chair).

In attendance: Mrs Maggie Brown, Clerk. 2 members of public.

1. **Welcome. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.**
2. **Apologies for absence**
Received from Shropshire Councillor Nigel Hartin as a matter of courtesy having been invited to the meeting.
3. **Declarations of Interest received Cllr Beavan in item 8 as Trustee to the Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust (LWCT). Cllr Croose, ref. correspondence from LWCT (see item 15), confirmed predetermination does not apply.**
No requests for dispensations received.
4. **Open Discussion**
 - 4.1. Members of public present at the meeting did not raise views on agenda business items.
 - 4.2. A written report from Shropshire Councillor Nigel Hartin can be seen at Appendix 3.
5. **Minutes.** Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21 January 2021 were agreed as a true record. To be signed at a later date.
6. **Finance**
 - 6.1. **RESOLVED** To adopt the Asset Register 2021, with the addition of the Parish Council's Ceremonial Scroll.
 - 6.2. **RESOLVED** Cllrs Croose, Hughes & Price will be signatories for online banking with Barclays. A signatory, who will authorise approved payments, will be decided at each Parish Council meeting.
 - 6.3. Noted: Barclays Bank Account balance @ 11 March 2021 **£4,184.10**
RESOLVED to approve payments:
I G Waters Inv. dated 28 February 2021. Ditching works completed. £500.00
G M Lloyd Inv. 675. Ditching works completed. £100.00
Craven Arms Design & Print March 2021 Edition Llanfair Times £191.00
Mrs Maggie Brown, Clerk, Payroll Months 11 & 12 £313.33
Mrs Maggie Brown, Clerk, Expenses. Domain renewal 123 Reg llanfairparish.co.uk £14.39
HMRC PAYE, Months 11 & 12 £78.40
Total payments **£1,197.12**

It was further **RESOLVED** that £12.62 Llanfair Times postage expenses incurred by Cllr Lane be reimbursed.
7. **Elections**
Noted: Parish Council Elections are due to take place on Thursday 6 May 2021. The Notice of Election has been displayed on boards and on the Parish Council website. Residents are encouraged to stand for Election to the Parish Council.
8. **Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust (LWCT)**
Reported: Minutes of the 23 February meeting of the LWCT are available on the Parish Council website. It is proposed that when possible, these replace the need for a report to council. LWCT is happy to answer questions from the Parish Council arising from the Minutes.

Note: Questions under item 8. were considered under Correspondence at item 15. Please see below.

- 8.1. New LWCT Trustees.
- 8.2. LWCT Minutes.
- 8.3. LWCT Accounts.
- 8.4. Pavilion Events.
- 8.5. General.

9. Llanfair Times

March 2021 edition has been published. Thanks were recorded to the team for the very colourful edition. A pdf. copy will be available on the Parish Council website shortly.

10. Highways

- 10.1. A report was received from Cllr Beavan - Local Joint Committee meeting on highway maintenance. See Appendix 1.
- 10.2. The appalling condition of Red Lane and its passing places, from Melin y Grogue to The Runnis, were discussed. **RESOLVED** the Clerk to write to Shropshire Council again stressing the Parish Council's dismay that despite assurances in November 2020, no action has been taken, and highlighting the fact that although the road is listed as being closed, it is still being used; requesting that this road, and that listed at 10.3, be upgraded; and asking when the work will be done.
- 10.3. The serious road surface damage from Blan Y Drie turn to The Green was discussed. **RESOLVED** to include these details in the letter to Shropshire Council. See 10.2.
- 10.4. Coed yr Hendre Mill Llanfair Waterdine. Reported: Drainage problems at Coed yr Hendre Mill were missed when Shropshire Council undertook drainage works in the Parish. Had they contacted the Parish Council this location would have been highlighted and possibly included in the works undertaken. Whether the Parish Council could arrange this work was considered. It was agreed that as the application for match funding of the Environmental Maintenance Scheme had already been submitted (deadline 12 March), additional work could not be done under the Scheme this year.
- 10.5. No matters were reported for the Footpath Warden. Noted: New public right of way signage has been seen.

11. COVID-19

Effects of pandemic on the Parish. No further actions. Noted: Important updates received by the Parish Council are available on its website. <https://www.llanfairparish.co.uk>.

12. Climate Emergency Declaration

- 12.1. Community Tree Scheme. Application for 100 trees was made in November. These are due to be collected on 3 April by Cllr Lloyd. It was agreed that a Parish Council working party will meet at The Triangle, at 10am on Monday 5 April to plant the trees.

13. Environmental Maintenance Scheme

- 13.1. An update on works was received. See Appendix 2.
- 13.2. Noted: application for 50% grant re expenditure in 2020/21 submitted on 11 March. Noted: £600 gross rather than £800 has been spent therefore the 50% match funded grant is likely to be less than £400.00.

14. Meetings

- 14.1. **Writing to Philip Dunne MP about the ability to hold meetings online after 7 May 2021.** Agreed: The Parish Council would prefer to hold face-to-face meetings. Cllr Price will contact the Everest Hall to confirm whether it will be open in time for the May meeting, and ascertain procedure under COVID-19 conditions. **RESOLVED** Not to write to Philip Dunne MP.
- 14.2. **Date for Annual Parish Meeting (of the electorate).** Noted: Despite current COVID-19 restrictions on meeting in public, an Annual Parish Meeting must be held between 1 March and 1 June 2021. **RESOLVED** To hold the Llanfair Waterdine Annual Parish Meeting (of the electorate) on Thursday 29 April 2021 via Zoom, and consider holding a face-to-face meeting when restrictions are lifted. Councillors' participation in the meeting will be restricted due to purdah.

15. Correspondence

Three items of correspondence, all relating to the Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust were raised.

In accordance with his declaration of interest, **Cllr Beavan** left the meeting, being placed in the Zoom waiting room. He took no part in discussions or resolutions.

All three items were read out by the Clerk for the benefit of residents' present, and discussed at length by the Parish Council. Responses are noted in brief below. The Clerk was instructed to send a fuller response to each correspondent.

Noted: The Parish Council is here to represent all residents of the Parish. It recognises the importance of a good relationship between the Council and the Trust. Cllr Darren Knipe has been appointed to represent the Parish Council on the Management Committee of the Pavilion, to ensure good dialogue between the Trust and the Parish Council. Any concerns can be raised with Cllr Knipe. Email darren@darkolive.co.uk.

The Parish Council has every confidence in the Trust and Management Committee of the Pavilion, and it was **RESOLVED** that a statement of support be agreed before the next meeting.

a). **Brought forward from item 8. Questions received by the Parish Council from a resident**

1. **Why are details of New LWCT Trustees not in Parish Council Minutes?** Trustees were not named, nor their particular skills outlined as under General Data Protection Regulations members of public are not identified in Parish Council Minutes.
Who makes up the full current board of Trustees? The current board of Trustees and contact details for the Trust can be seen [at this link to the Charities Commission website](#).
Could contact details be published on the LWPC website? A link to the Charities Commission could be included if requested by the Trust.
2. **Why does LWCT not publish Minutes from its meetings?** At the Trust's request, [LWCT Minutes for 23 February 2021](#) were uploaded to the Parish Council website on 5 March 2021.
Could all previous Minutes be published on the Parish Council website retrospectively? This question cannot be answered by the Parish Council, and will be forwarded to the Trust for its consideration.
3. **Why does the Trust not publish full accounts each year? Could accounts for 2019 and 2020 be published? Could all previous and current accounts be published on the Parish Council website retrospectively?** These questions cannot be answered by the Parish Council, and will be forwarded to the Trust for its consideration.
4. **Further to the recent granting of a licence for the Pavilion, can Trustees pledge to give details of all events one month in advance, advising which Trustee will be the responsible person on the night and include their contact number? Ideally, in the Llanfair Times, on the PC website, on the Everest Hall notice board and a newsletter posted through each door.** These questions cannot be answered by the Parish Council, and will be forwarded to the Trust for its consideration.
5. **General comments advocating the potential benefits of publishing information on the Trust's activities.** These comments were noted by the Parish Council, and will be forwarded to the Trust for its consideration.
6. **Please could the Trust ensure all those working on the Pavilion keep the volume of their radios to a minimum?** This question cannot be answered by the Parish Council, and will be forwarded to the Trust for its consideration.

b). **A letter from two residents asking the Parish Council to put their correspondence with Shropshire Council, relating to the licence application at the Pavilion, in the public domain.**

The request was discussed, and the resident's concerns noted. It was agreed that it is not the position of a parish council to publish personal views of individual residents, but, if requested, the Council would be happy to forward the correspondence to the Trust.

c). **A letter received from the Llanfair Community Trust asking for the Parish Council's support for a new premises licence to encompass the whole of the terrace, and the Joan Adams field.**

Noted: Due to a clerical error, only half of the terrace had been included in the recent premises licence. An amendment to the current licence could be applied for, to add the remaining section of the terrace to the current licence. Temporary event notices could also be applied for to cover individual events, e.g. The Wakes.

It was **agreed** that, due to the strength of feeling and concerns raised, the Parish Council would not support an application for a licence to include the Joan Adams field at this stage. It would support an amendment to include the whole terrace. This could be reviewed after a period when a healthy track record of well-run events is established.

16. **Date and time of next meeting.**

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, to be immediately followed by the scheduled meeting of the Parish Council, on Thursday 20 May 2021 starting at an earlier time of 7.00pm.

17. **Meeting closed at 21:33**

Signed *Original copy signed and on file*

Dated

Appendix 1

Report on LJC Highways meeting February 24th, 2021 from Cllr Andrew Beavan
Via Zoom Chaired by Cllr Nigel Hartin

I attended this meeting to represent the views of Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council and to gather information to help our Council to better understand Highway matters.

The main speaker was Andy Wilde who gave an in-depth account of the work that Shropshire Council is doing on the Highways both with in house teams and the main contractor Kier.

Shropshire Council looks after 3228miles of highway and footpath, 70% of which are unclassified. Two thirds of the unclassified roads are in South Shropshire. The Government formula for working out budgets for highways is not working in Shropshire due to the amount of highway per head of population. Shropshire Council is pushing The Government for a fairer system of funding.

There are now more in house teams working on the roads using a find and fix methodology. They are working on Potholes, kerbs, cleaning signs, cutting vegetation, cleaning gullies and cleansing drains. The cost per pothole using the in-house teams is £30 per Pothole, whereas With Kier it is £125 per Pot Hole.

Last year a £12 million-pound one off Government investment allowed Shropshire Council to surface dress 270 Km of roads.

Questions were largely around the marking of Potholes that were then not repaired and the surface dressing and overlay work often being done in the wrong places in the view of Parish Council representatives. The answer to the surface dressing being done in the lower priority place was given as the need to spend the money within a very short time frame.

Andy Wilde stressed that he was committed to making further improvements to the highways but was constrained by budget limitations.

Appendix 2

Environmental Maintenance Grant 2020/21. Report prepared by Cllr Andrew Beavan

This report is prepared for the March 18th Parish Council meeting, following work carried out on the Highways as the Council agreed, by Iorwerth Waters and Graham Lloyd.

Iorwerth carried out an extensive drainage clearing operation on most of the Parish Roads. He spent about 47 hours doing this work at a cost of £500. He spray marked and produced diagrams of a small number of locations where he was unable to clear the drains or was unable to locate the inlets and or outlets. I will pass these problem issues on our Clerk so that they can be forwarded to Shropshire Council for further investigation and work such as jetting.

During February a Digger was also doing some good and extensive work in the Parish for Shropshire Council, so we had less digger work for Graham Lloyd under the EMG funding.

Graham spent 2 evenings clearing an outfall in Whitterlies land below Skyborry, and some extensive investigational work to drains and modifications to the drop pit under Graig Wood. The Total cost of this work was £83.33 + VAT.

The Parish Council thanks two landowners for allowing us onto their land to deal with drainage issues.

At the end of this financial year, we have spent £583.33 of the £800 available.

Appendix 3

Report from Cllr Nigel Hartin received by email. It is not attached to the Minutes as it was received during purdah.