

**Minutes of a meeting of
Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council
on Thursday 10th August 2017, Everest Hall**

Present

Cllr Barry Swancott (Chair), Cllr Andrew Beavan (Vice Chair), Cllr Mark Hughes, Cllr Richard Lewis, Cllr Roy Lloyd, Sarah Jameson (Clerk). Plus Nigel Hartin (Shropshire Council) and 3 members of the public

1. The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30pm.
2. **Apologies for absence:** There were no apologies.
3. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Beavan (Items 6c, 15a & 15c) and Cllr Swancott (Items 15a & 15c).
4. **Approval of the draft Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 18th May 2017 was deferred until the next meeting since councillors did not appear to have received them.

5. **Public speaking – Broadband in Llanfair Waterdine Parish**

Darren Knipe spoke to the meeting about a potential technical solution to the continuing broadband issues in the parish. Although the Phase 2B contract has now been awarded (to Airband – fixed wireless provider), this technology relies on line of sight to masts and relays. Mr Knipe's proposal is to look into the possibility of taking a BT Infinity contract (£59.99/month) and taking a signal/feed from Mr Knipe's own premises to all properties in the parish (and potentially to Beguildy) that wish to have faster broadband (alternatively to rent a leased line at £150 per 100mb/month). The service would be delivered and administered by a specially-formed Community Interest Company (CIC). The hardware is not expensive and the software easy to use and set up.

Councillors are keen to ensure we have a parish-wide solution for broadband. Nigel Hartin said Shropshire Council are supporting community solutions for broadband (e.g. Clunbury & Twitchen and Chapel Lawn). It was agreed that the Council is likely to favour being a driving force for this proposal but not to contribute funds (broadband was one of the two important things in the Community Led Plan). Darren to find out terms of service with BT, provide a synopsis of his proposal for Councillors and a summary for the Llanfair Times. He was invited to give a public presentation at our next PC meeting on 21st September. The Chair thanked Darren very much for his work on this so far and the Council look forward to being kept informed.

6. **Planning**

6a) There were no planning updates for prior applications

6b) New applications:

i) 17/03393/AGR - The Garn Farm Duffryn Craven Arms Shropshire SY7 8PQ

This case is close to the parish boundary but is in Newcastle Parish. There had been no objections. The Council supported this application.

ii) New applications:

17/03370/FUL - Cwm Sannum Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TP

This is for cover for a cattle yard under the water quality initiative. The Council supported this application.

6c) Affordable Housing

Cllr Beavan left the room. The Parish Council's questionnaire about affordable housing had received a modest response, but it is known that at least one family is actively seeking affordable housing in the Parish. Two landowners had put forward possible sites for affordable housing:

- 1) Cllr Beavan – (a) single plot at Waterdine Lodge and (b) near Rose Villa. Both sites are infill.
- 2) Christine Jones – has land available for workers' dwellings

The council resolved to take both sites 1a & 1b as preferred sites to allow more than one home to be built.

7. Highways

a) A report on the parish roads survey undertaken by Cllrs. Beavan & Lloyd with Ian Martin, Shropshire Highways.

The report is annexed to these minutes. Some pothole work has been done since the report was put together. Cllr Beavan read out a draft letter to Ian Martin at Shropshire Council highways regarding the current situation of the Parish's roads. It was agreed that the Clerk should send this letter and append the report.

b) No other highway matters were raised.

8. Finance

a) Cllr Hughes presented a financial report and audit update. The Council currently has £7322.92 in the bank and everything currently is on budget. The bank mandates are being changed/updated with all previous names removed and Cllr Lloyd's name added. Clerk to find out if she can be a cheque signatory as Clerk. The Audit had been successfully concluded and notice put on the Council website. The Chair thanked Cllr Hughes very much for his work on the Council's finances.

b) Invoices for payment:

Parish Clerk (Sarah Jameson): £26.45 for expenses (July) was agreed and paid. Not invoiced but as per previously agreed, a cheque for £150 was written to Shropshire Council to support the Small Grants Fund at the request of Mathew Mead.

9. Broadband - this was considered under Item 5.

10. Communications

See attached report. Cllr Lewis reported that the Community Directory had been completed and circulated in June via email and print (where no email). All agreed it had been a most useful publication and many thanks to Cllr Lewis for his hard work on this. Llanfair Times: deadline for the September edition was Friday 18th August.

11. Councillor Vacancies

The Council had put up an advert for new Councillors in June on the website and on noticeboards (with an open deadline). No formal applications yet, but the Council is aware of at least 3 parishioners

who are interested, so we hope to receive expressions of interest soon.

12. Parish Council website

The Council currently uses a free template hosted by Hugo Fox and whilst this is functional it has many restrictions. It was agreed that the Clerk, who has some experience of websites, should circulate a short questionnaire to Councillors to find out their priorities/ideas for a new site and write a short proposal (costed) for the next meeting. The council has been awarded transparency code monies in 2016 and 2017 that will be ideal for this and Clerk will be paid for website work as a separate project to the Clerk role.

13. Shropshire Council Report

Nigel Hartin reported on current issues at county level. Clerk to circulate Cllr Hartin’s pre meeting report to Councillors.

14. Local Joint Committee

Cllr Beavan had been unable to attend the last LJC meeting and so Nigel Hartin, who did attend, gave a verbal summary of the main presentations and issues discussed.

15. Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust

a) See attached report.

b) Cllr Thomas had stood down as a Trustee so there is now a vacancy which will be advertised in the next Llanfair Times with a closing date of 10th September. Clerk to produce an advert to go on noticeboards and website.

c) Submission of planning application in respect of the proposed new pavilion on the Joan Adams Community Field. Cllrs Swancott and Beavan left the room due to potential prejudicial interest. Cllr Hughes temporarily took the Chair for this item – ie to determine whether the Council should submit the planning application and pay the fee (£385). It was resolved that the Parish Council should 1) submit the planning application and 2) pay the fee. Although not a budgeted sum, we have unallocated funds that will cover it. The resolution was proposed by Cllr Lewis and seconded by Cllr Lloyd. All agreed.

16. Correspondence – Cane Quality Counselling had emailed the Council about their mental health counselling services in Shrewsbury. Cllr Lewis thought it was a good and useful initiative, but ideally, we would hope to have such a service nearer to the Parish, eg a hub in Clun.

17. Confidential business: There was no confidential business.

18. Next meeting dates, all Thursdays 21st September, 16th November. Subject to the Everest Hall being free – to be checked by Clerk – 2018 dates will be 3rd Thursday in alternate months as follows:

Thurs 18th January 2018 / Thurs 15th March
Thurs 17th May / Thurs 19th July
Thurs 20th September /Thurs 15th November

19. The Meeting ended at 9.30pm

Signed Date