

Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council

Minutes of the Scheduled meeting Thursday 18 November 2021, 7:30pm at the Pavilion.

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

In attendance: 1 member of public (20:15); County Cllr Nigel Hartin; Mrs Maggie Brown, Clerk

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that Item 17 would be brought forward and discussed after item 3, at the Chairman's discretion in accordance with Standing Order 1 (a).
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Darren Knipe.
3. **Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations.** None received.

A resolution was passed to exclude the press and public (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960) from the following confidential item. A request was received from Cllr Beavan that voting on this resolution be recorded. Cllrs Croose, Hughes, Lane, Lloyd and Price voted in favour of the resolution. Cllr Beavan voted against the resolution.

The Public left the room.

17. Advice had been sought from the National Association and Shropshire Association of Local Councils on correspondence received from a member of public and a Grant Application received.

Following a discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the correspondence should remain confidential. The Clerk was instructed how to respond. A request was received from Cllr Beavan that the voting on this resolution be recorded. Cllrs Croose, Hughes, Lane, Lloyd and Price voted in favour of the resolution. Cllr Beavan voted against the resolution.

It was further **RESOLVED** that the Grant Application should be discussed in public. The item was moved to 12.1 at the Chairman's discretion.

The Public returned to the room.

4. **Open Discussion**
 - 4.1. No views were raised by the public on agenda business items – no residents were present at this time.
 - 4.2. Shropshire Councillor Nigel Hartin reported: schools may have to pay more for school meals provided by Shire Services; Shropshire Council meeting on 16 December has been postponed due to North Shropshire by-election taking place on that date. A briefing received from John Bellis, drainage and flood risk manager, set out funding to be made available for drainage work.
5. **Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting on 16 September 2021 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
6. **Matters arising from the previous meeting.** The Public Meeting, arranged for Tuesday 16 November, had been cancelled at the last minute due to reports of COVID cases in the vicinity. How the decision had been reached was questioned by Cllr Beavan. The clerk was instructed to contact the 10 Groups that had been due to make presentations at the meeting, to ask that a precis of their presentation be provided, to be uploaded to the website, and included in Llanfair Times. It was agreed the meeting should be postponed until the spring and may be the focus of the 2022 Annual Parish Meeting, which can take place between 1 March and 1 June 2022.
7. **Reports from Councillors.** None received.
8. **Trustee of the Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust.** An application received for the post of Trustee was noted. It was agreed to arrange a Zoom meeting to interview the applicant, and an extraordinary meeting at which a decision will be taken. Proposed date for Extraordinary Meeting – Thursday 2 December, to be confirmed.

9. **Planning. Response to application to be determined by Shropshire Council**

[Reference: 21/05112/FUL](#) (validated: 26/10/2021)

Address: Garbett Hall, Llanfair Waterdine, Knighton, Shropshire, LD7 1TR

Proposal: Erection of an Agricultural Workers Dwelling, Garage, formation of a new access and installation of a package treatment plant and other associated works. **RESOLVED** To support the application. 5 in favour, 1 abstention.

10. **Subscriptions to the following were considered:**

10.1. [The Town and Country Planning Association](#). £110 per annum, £90 for the first year. It was agreed the association is not sufficiently relevant to Llanfair Parish to warrant spending from the precept, and **RESOLVED** to not subscribe to the TCPA.

10.2. [Parish Online Digital Mapping software](#). £36 per annum. Agreed to defer this item to January meeting to allow Cllr Knipe to explain the benefits of the system.

11. **Finance.**

11.1. **Item moved from 17. Grant Application received from the Parochial Church Council (PCC).** Having taken advice from the National Association of Local Councils that, in its view it is unlawful for a council to fund churchyard maintenance (see briefing L01-18, copy available from the Clerk) it was **RESOLVED** to not offer a grant to the PCC (5 in favour, 1 abstention). The Parish Council reiterated its offer to arrange mowing by volunteers, and hopes the PCC will approach the Council if this would be helpful.

11.2. Noted: quarter end report from the Responsible Financial Officer. No questions arising.

11.3. The Finance Working Group recommended a precept of £4,500, and a first draft of 2022/23 budget was discussed on this basis. **RESOLVED** to finalise the budget and set the precept at the January meeting when further information on the Tax Base and election costs has been received.

11.4. Noted: Barclays Bank Account balance £6,093.88, including payment to Craven Design and Print £267 for September edition of the Llanfair Times.

11.5. **RESOLVED** to approve payments as follows: Everest Hall Management Committee. Hire 20 May 2021. £6.00
The Community Pavilion. Hire 15 July and 16 September. £20.00
Clerk's Payroll Months 7 & 8. £313.53
HMRC PAYE Months 7 & 8. £78.20
Total payments £417.73. It was agreed that Cllr Croose will authorise online payments.

12. **Shropshire Council Community Tree Scheme.** An application for bundles of 20 trees/hedge plants was considered. **RESOLVED** to not apply for trees this season. Reported – trees planted in early 2021 may be held back by bracken growth. Methods of controlling the bracken are being considered by the Llanfair Community Trust. The Queen's Green Canopy/Jubilee in 2022 was discussed, and the possibility of planting trees to commemorate this event. It was agreed to discuss this at the January meeting at the same time as a Jubilee Beacon.

13. **Highways**

13.1. **Road conditions.**

Cllr Lloyd reported that he had met Alan Meyrick, Area Technician, who agreed that a number of culverts would be installed to alleviate flooding.

Cllr Beavan provided a draft letter, highlighting the deterioration of unclassified roads; requesting information on what actions are being taken to address the problem, and asking what overlaying and surface dressing are scheduled for the parish. It was agreed it should be sent to the Leader of Shropshire Council, the Highways Portfolio Holder, the Divisional Surveyor and County Councillor, Nigel Hartin. Cllr Beavan was thanked for drafting the letter.

13.2. To consider review of parish footpaths, with consideration to access, repair and historic landmarks. This item was not discussed.

13.3. No issues were highlighted to report to Footpaths Warden.

14. **Environmental Maintenance Scheme.** Works are being planned – for completion by the end of March 2022.

15. **Correspondence.** Items of correspondence discussed.

15.1. Letter received from the Llanfair Community Trust requesting a vacancy from 1 January 2022 be advertised. Agreed The Clerk to advertise on the vacancy on the Website and produce a poster for the notice board. Applications to be invited with a deadline allowing sufficient time for a Zoom interview process to take place

prior to the public meeting on Thursday 20 January when a vote will be taken on whether the candidate will be selected as a Nominated Trustee.

15.2. A letter from a resident received after the September meeting expressed a concern about an article in the Llanfair Times, from the Llanfair Community Trust. The clerk was instructed to respond to the resident, and the Parish Council reiterated its statement of support of the Trust and the Management Committee. See Minutes dated 20 May 2021.

15.3. A letter received from a resident including queries on why the Public Meeting, originally planned for 11 November, did not take place on that date; why not every resident received a letter of invitation; why a grant application was to be discussed in closed session. The Parish Council agreed it is regrettable that a few households were missed when delivering the invitation. Shortfalls have been noted, and how best to improve its system is being considered. e.g., should letters to residents be delivered by hand, or posted to every household? The clerk was instructed to reply to the resident, and to record an apology from the Parish Council to any household which did not receive an invitation. Note: The Parish Council website is the best place to check details of a meeting. It is updated as soon as a change to a date, time or location is required.

16. **Dates of next meetings:** Extraordinary Meeting Thursday 2 December (to be confirmed) and Thursday 20 January 2022.

17. **To consider grant application received. Item moved.** See Minute between items 3 & 4.

18. Meeting closed at 21:26

ORIGINAL SIGNED AND ON FILE

Signed

Dated 20 January 2022

CLlr Mark Hughes, Chair