

Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council

The Parish Council observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Minutes of scheduled meeting Monday 26 September 2022, 7:30pm at the Everest Hall.

Present: Cllrs Andrew Beavan (Chairman), Zoe Croose, Mark Hughes, Roy Lloyd and Darren Knipe.

In attendance: 1 member of public, Mrs Maggie Brown, Clerk

1. **Welcome.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Abbie Price. Cllr John Lane was not present.
3. **Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations.** None received.
4. **Open Discussion**
 - 4.1. The member of public spoke ref item 8, as the applicant's agent, and offered to respond to any queries.
 - 4.2. Shropshire Councillor Nigel Hartin was unable to attend, and no report was received.
5. **Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 July 2022 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
6. **Matters arising from the previous meeting.** No matters were raised.
7. **Reports from Councillors.** No reports were received.
8. **Planning.** Response to applications to be determined by Shropshire Council.
22/02933/FUL Stoney Pound Bungalow, Stoney Pound, Shropshire, SY7 8PD. Erection of replacement dwelling and associated garage. Plans were provided by the Agent. Following a discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council supports this application.
9. **Finance.**
 - 9.1. Barclays Bank Account balance 13 September 2022 £5,837.77 was noted, and **RESOLVED** to approve payments: Clerk's Payroll Months 5&6 £325.24, HMRC PAYE Months 5&6 £81.40. Total payments £406.64.
 - 9.2. Arrangements for Internal Audit for 2022/23. **Agreed** Clerk to seek quotes from four auditors listed by Shropshire Association of Local Councils prior to the meeting in November.
 - 9.3. Mileage **RESOLVED** Clerk may claim allowance for proposed journey to Shropshire Archives at 45p per mile.
 - 9.4. **Agreed** Clerk to arrange Finance Working Group meeting to discuss first draft of 2023/24 budget before presenting to full council in November.
10. **Consultation. Response to Shropshire Council's draft Empty Homes Strategy. RESOLVED** The Parish Council supports the strategy and will submit comments as follows:

Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council supports Shropshire Councils Empty Homes Strategy, as drafted.

In our Parish we have several homes that are currently empty. We believe that six of these Homes are currently under the same ownership, and our Council has already written to the owner outlining concerns. Unfortunately, we have not received a reply or acknowledgement. It is believed 5 of these properties are in a habitable condition.

It seems likely that, as suggested in your draft strategy under 2.13 The owner, who does not live in the community, is either unaware or has no concern for the effect of the empty dwellings on the local community or surrounding dwellings.

Our Parish Council will follow the progress of this strategy and hope it comes to fruition and brings positive results.
11. **Llanfair Community Trust.** Selection of a Nominated Trustee following candidates' interview prior to this meeting. Noted: no applications were received and no interviews took place. Councillors are urged to consider potential candidates. **Agreed:** to advertise the vacancy in the Mid Wales Journal, up to a cost of £50.

12. **Llanfair Times.**

- 12.1. **RESOLVED** to adopt the draft Policy for Llanfair Times with Lloyney News Policy as amended. Clerk to upload to the website.
- 12.2. **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Mark Hughes as chair the editorial team of the Llanfair Times and Cllr Darren Knipe as the second Councillor on the team. Both councillors were thanked for volunteering to fulfil these roles.
- 12.3. Whether to continue printing and delivering copies now the Llanfair Times is available online was discussed. A decision was deferred until the results of the survey (12.4) are known.
- 12.4. The detailed content of a survey of parishioners was amended. It was **agreed** the survey will be included in the December edition of the Llanfair Times. Residents may respond online, or complete a paper copy.

13. **Airband Fibre to the Premises in the Parish.** Update: Following a meeting between Shropshire Council and executives at Airband, a decision was taken to pause some on the build activity in the Parish. The Parish Council agreed this is unacceptable, and will write in the strongest terms to Connecting Shropshire, demanding an explanation and confirmation of the situation, stressing its disappointment at the news, particularly following an update from Airband in July stating the build would likely be completed by the end of August 2022.

14. **Highways / Public Rights of Way**

Cllr Roy Lloyd took no part in discussions and decision relating to 14.1

- 14.1. The selection of a contractor to undertake Environmental Maintenance works this year was considered, including the most effective financial option. **Agreed:** the most satisfactory option is a two-man team with a digger. Cllr Beavan to approach contractor to confirm availability.
- 14.2. Works under the Environmental Maintenance Grant. **Agreed:** to ask the contractor to complete drainage works in December once hedges have been cut and the leaves have fallen.
- 14.3. No issues were raised to report to the Footpaths Warden. Noted: works above Nantiago and near The Triangle have been completed.

15. **Correspondence.** No items raised by Councillors. **Agreed:** The Clerk to stop forwarding emails relating to vacancies in other parishes.

16. **Noted:** Date of next scheduled meeting – Monday 21 November 2022, to be held at the Pavilion.

17. The meeting closed at 21:13

ORIGINAL SIGNED AND ON FILE

Signed
Cllr Andrew Beavan, Chairman

Dated 21 November 2022