

LLANFAIR WATERDINE



PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the Meeting held on 23rd September 2024 at 7:30pm at the Everest Hall

Present: Cllrs M Hughes (Chair), J Lane, R Lloyd, H Plumb, J Thomas
Absent: Cllrs A Beavan, D Knipe

34/24-25 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received, discussed and accepted by Council for Cllrs A Beavan and D Knipe.

*The Chair proposed and **IT WAS AGREED** to suspend the meeting in order that a minutes silence might be held to show respect for Jim Williams, a former councillor, who has died.*

The meeting was suspended at 7.33pm and recommenced at 7.34pm

35/24-25 INTERESTS & DISPENSATIONS

- (a) No Declarations of Pecuniary Interest were made by those present.
- (b) No requests for Dispensation had previously been received and none were presented.

36/24-25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

- (a) No members of the public were present.
- (b) Shropshire Councillor Nigel Hartin gave a report. He outlined the forthcoming move of Shropshire Council from the Shirehall to the Guildhall. He noted that the voluntary redundancy scheme was now complete; that the council was now looking to make compulsory redundancies; and that it was looking more likely that the council would avoid going into special measures.

37/24-25 MINUTES

- (a) Council noted the minutes of the Council Meeting of 15th July 2024 and **IT WAS RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to approve them as a true record of the meeting.
- (b) No matters arising from the minutes were raised.

38/24-25 HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS

- (a) The Clerk outlined correspondence to date with Shropshire Council and the local MP. Cllr Lloyd noted that some work had been carried out on parts of the route but more was required. The Clerk will continue to monitor the situation and send a chasing note to the Portfolio Holder, copied to the local MP, if the work were not completed by the second week of October.
- (b) **IT WAS AGREED** that councillors would identify the redundant/abandoned cones/signs that needed to be removed and report them to the Clerk together with either a What3Words or Grid Reference for their location. The Clerk would then write to the Highway Authority asking for them to be removed.
- (c) **IT WAS AGREED** that the Environment Working Group would look into how this might be done locally and present back to Council with outline costs. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Clerk would write to Shropshire Highways to enquire whether there would be any problem with citing signs on the verges.
- (d) The Clerk reported that Cllr Beavan, who had raised the item, was content for it to remain undiscussed until the Clerk had made further enquiries regarding the special nature of stiles located on the Offa's Dyke Trail.
- (e) **IT WAS RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to approve the Terms of Reference for the role of Footpaths Warden. Cllr Thomas commented that she was aware of someone

who might be willing to take on the role and would discuss it with them. The Clerk stated that appointment to the role could be made at a future meeting of Council.

39/24-25 BROADBAND

- (a) Council noted the briefing paper from Shropshire Council on Project Gigabit.

40/25-25 LLANFAIR WATERDINE COMMUNITY TRUST

- a) Councillors reported they had received very positive feedback on the Fun Day and that it had been a great success. **IT WAS AGREED** to invite the Trust to talk to Council about any future plans for similar events that they might have.

41/24-25 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS - To receive reports from Councillors

- a) Cllrs Plumb and Thomas reported that progress in establishing the Environmental Working Group was slow and that they were still awaiting information from a parishoner. They had, however, met to discuss completing an online survey by Shropshire Hills National Landscape on behalf of the Council. **IT WAS AGREED** that they would complete a draft response and that this would be circulated for discussion and approval at the Council's meeting in November.
- b) There were no other reports.

42/24-25 PLANNING

- a) Council noted that permission has been granted in respect of planning application 24/02627_FUL.
- b) Council noted the approval by Shropshire Council of Partial Discharge of conditions for fenestration and roofing for Llantroft SY7 8PD (21/03685 & 21/03684).
- c) Council noted the Shropshire Place Plan 2022-2025 for the Bishops Castle area. The Clerk enquired as to whether any councillors recollected the Council being consulted on the plan; no one could recall this having happened.

43/24-25 FINANCE

- a) The Clerk presented a financial report. Cllr Hughes stated that he had inspected the bank account and that the balance stated in the Bank Reconciliation presented by the Clerk was correct: £6,758.44 as at 20/9/24. Council noted the Bank Reconciliation.
- b) Council noted that there had been no income received since 15th July 2024.
- c) Council noted that there had been no payments since the last meeting other than those that had been authorised at the last meeting.
- d) The Clerk presented the following payments for approval:

Payee	Description	Amount
Craven design & print	Printing of summer edition of <i>Llanfair Times</i>	£255.50
James McVicar	Payroll for months 5 & 6	£484.36
James McVicar	PAYE for months 5 & 6	£121.00
James McVicar	Mileage Allowance	£18.23
James McVicar	Home Working Allowance	£25.00
James McVicar	Re-imburement for purchase of memory stick	£6.70
SALC	Training event for Cllr Thomas	£35.00

IT WAS RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to approve the above payments.

- e) The Clerk presented a reconciliation of the Annual Budget for 2024/25 against expenditure to date. Overall, 40% of the budget had been spent. Shropshire Council had decided only to award 50% of the Environmental Maintenance Grant requested by parish/town councils this year. As a result, the Council now only has £600 to spend under the EMG heading.

44/24-25 GRANTS

- a) Council considered the application for a grant of £480 towards the costs of grass cutting in the churchyard. The Clerk pointed out that such work might be taken under the heading of the Environmental Maintenance Grant. Councillors were concerned that bad weather this winter might require significant unforeseen EMG work and expenditure. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that a grant of £200 be awarded immediately and that the Clerk write to the applicants to the effect that a further award might be made in the spring depending on how much was left in the EMG.

45/24-25 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Council discussed the email from Sandra Thomas to Cllr Hughes regarding lighting on the road between the Everest Hall and Pavilion car parks. The general consensus was that this was not something that Council wished to pursue at the current time.
- b) Council noted the email from The Woodland Trust offering Tree Packs. **IT WAS AGREED** that this would be published in the forthcoming edition of the *Llanfair Times* and that it would be posted on the Council's website so that individuals or organisations in the parish who might be interested could approach the Trust directly.
- c) Council noted the email from Shropshire Hills Landscape Trust.

46/24-25 PARTNERING WITH SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL TO PROVIDE SERVICES

- a) Council noted that the Clerk had submitted responses.
- b) The Clerk presented some of the background to the email received from the Chair of Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn regarding the recent meeting that the Mayors' Group had had with Shropshire Council on potential cuts to services. **IT WAS AGREED** that Cllr Lane and the Clerk would represent the Council at this meeting.

IT WAS AGREED to suspend the meeting for a few minutes to allow councillors a break.

The meeting was suspended at 9.09pm and recommenced at 9.12pm

47/24-25 HISTORY WORK GROUP

- a) **IT WAS RESOLVED** to approve the Terms of Reference for the History Working Group. [Note: this group will be constituted under LGA 1972 s.111.]

48/24-25 PERSONNEL MATTERS

- a) **IT WAS AGREED** that the Care of Clerk Group would meet with the Clerk to conduct a performance review and that its review would be presented to the Council at its November meeting for discussion.
- b) **IT WAS AGREED** that Council would decide at its November meeting whether the new Clerk had successfully completed the probationary period and how the Council would inform the Clerk of its decision.
- c) The Clerk explained that he was now the Secretary for the SALC South Shropshire Area Committee. As Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council is a member of the Committee, the Clerk proposed that the honorarium for this work be paid to the Council and then processed through payroll. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Clerk would draft a Memorandum of Agreement between Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council and the SALC South Shropshire Area Committee, formally documenting the arrangement, for consideration at the November meeting of Council.

49/24-25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Council noted that the date and venue for the next ordinary meeting is 25th November, 2024 at the Pavilion starting at 7.30pm.

Business being concluded, the Council meeting was declared closed at 9.19pm.

Signed _____

Dated: _____

Chairman of Council Meeting