

Minutes of a meeting of Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council on Thursday 19th March 2020, Everest Hall

Present

Cllr Andrew Beavan (Chair), Cllr Zoe Croose (nee Court – Vice Chair), Cllr Mark Hughes, Cllr Abbie Price, Cllr Roy Lloyd, Sarah Jameson (Clerk)

1. The Chair opened the meeting opened at 7.30pm.

The Chair was sad to announce the recent resignation of Cllr Swancott from the Parish Council. The Clerk will write to thank him for his huge efforts on behalf of the Council over the years.

The Chair thanked Councillors for attending the meeting as the situation regarding the Covid19 pandemic situation was becoming more serious and having a major impact on many items on the agenda. Councillors observed appropriate social distancing measures during the meeting.

2. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Nigel Hartin
3. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Beavan, item 6b, c, d & e and Item 13; Cllr Croose, item item 6b, d & e ; Cllr Lloyd item 6a
4. **The draft Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 16th January 2020 were approved and signed as a true record.
5. **Public speaking:** Alexandra Ford, parishioner, was unable to be present, but her letter regarding Cllr Swancott's resignation from Llanfair Times and how the community might act regarding the novel coronavirus was read out by the Chair. Clerk to write and thank Ms Ford.
6. **Planning:**
 - a) 20/00095/AGR: The Green Spoad Hill Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TY: Erection of agricultural building for sheep handling and fodder storage – **Permitted development – no comments required.**
 - b) 20/00186/AGR: Land At Black Hall Llanfair Waterdine Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TU): Erection of lambing/sheep shelter – **requires planning permission – application awaited**
 - c) 20/00002/AGR: Land At Black Hall Llanfair Waterdine Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TU: Erection of lambing/sheep shelter – **Permitted development – no comments required.**
 - d) 20/00185/AGR: Land At Black Hall Llanfair Waterdine Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TU: Erection of lambing/sheep shelter – **Permitted development – no comments required.**
 - e) 20/00184/AGR: Land At Black Hall Llanfair Waterdine Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TU: Erection of lambing/sheep shelter – **Permitted development – no comments required.**
 - f) 20/00451/FUL – Hazeldene Kinsley Road Knighton LD7 1TN – Erection of extension to dwelling (pending consideration). Llanfair PC had supported this application by email (requires ratification at the next PC meeting)

7. Highways:

a) Potholes: Cllrs Croose and Green had accompanied Alan Meyrick (Shropshire Highways) around the parish lanes to look at potholes, but there had so far been no follow up from him. He was due to revisit the parish on Friday 20th March to look at areas that may need a digger. Cllr Beavan had spoken to him and was told that the recent bad flooding meant there was now an even bigger backlog of pothole repairs. All the potholes he had been shown in the Parish's road system were now 'in the system' but A and B roads are currently being prioritised. Lanes near Selley Hall, the Green, Cwm Brain, Melin y Grogue to Tregodfa and Skyborry to Monaughty are still problematic.

Cllr Croose urged Councillors and parishioners to upload photos of potholes to the Shropshire Council portal and keep reporting them repeatedly if necessary.

b) Environmental Maintenance Grant: The Clerk is waiting to hear back from Shropshire Council about the increased grant the Parish Council would like to apply for this winter.

c) Footpath Officer: A short report from Graham Beadle was read out. See below.

d) Traffic calming: Mathew Mead had replied regarding traffic calming equipment mentioned in Place Plans and it is likely these measures would be too costly for our small parish. Cllr Price will do some research into road signs and costs that say "Please drive slowly (or carefully)" and be clipped on to existing poles.

8. Finance

- a) Cllr Hughes's financial report was read out. (Report attached). The current bank balance is £5050.78. The precept funding had not yet been received.
- b) The following invoices were approved and paid: Clerk's invoice for Jan/Feb: £323.56

10. Parish Councillor vacancy: The casual vacancy following the resignation of Cllr Beadle had been on local noticeboards in recent weeks, but so far with no interest. Following the recent resignation of Cllr Swancott, the Clerk will start the advertising process again for this new vacancy. It was suggested that at a suitable point in future, we could organise an informal get together of parishioners rather than rely on formal advertising in the parish for new councillors. Cllr Hughes to send an email to his new email list of parishioners who are happy to receive emails from the PC.

11. Climate Emergency – Tree planting: Trees bought from the Woodland Trust had now been allocated. Cllr Hughes felt the parish might consider planting a 'mini forest' such as one recently planted in Oxfordshire. It was thought that the area of ground at the Triangle currently planted with trees could be suitable for more tree planting and has good public access. Clerk to write to Community Trust to see if they are amenable to this suggestion.

12. Llanfair Times review: Cllr Croose reported that the March edition had been distributed and that the first subscriptions had been received. Cllr Swancott had resigned from the Llanfair Times and had done most of the work for the publication. Cllr Beavan proposed that Cllr Hughes chair the Llanfair Times team as one of the two Parish Council representatives. Seconded by Cllr Lloyd. Mark's son Fred may be available to help too. The Clerk offered help with design/formatting if this is needed.

12. Shropshire Council report: Nigel Hartin's report was read out (see below).

13. Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust:

Cllr Swancott had resigned from the Trust. The pavilion was on the way to completion within the next two months (end of May). Help will be needed from the wider community with tasks such as painting. Clerk to begin the process of recruiting a new Trustee. Interviews could be conducted remotely.

14. AONB report: No report

15. Defibrillator update: Cllr Croose to arrange training for volunteers. Cllr Price is now set up on the circuit by Jack Limond and will receive emails regarding defibrillator checks. Not all VOIP volunteers have phones yet. A refresher course is needed so all volunteers feel confident in using the system. Cllr Croose to progress.

16. VE Day – Friday 8th May 2020: Due to the coronavirus situation, the Parish Council is cancelling the celebrations. Clerk to unbook the hall.

17. APM in May: Due to the coronavirus situation, the APM is on hold and will probably not happen in May. Clerk to follow up with SALC guidelines.

18. Future Parish Clerk: a possible candidate had come forward and her CV had been circulated. Cllr Beavan to progress with an interview, although this may have to be on hold for now.

19. Correspondence:

i) Cllr Hughes to email parishioners on his email list to ask if they need help, or know of anyone needing help or deliveries during the coronavirus pandemic so local assistance can be organised.

ii) Delegated powers: It was resolved that email decisions (with ratification at the next available meeting) will be sufficient for the needs of the Parish Council. Cheques cannot be paid without a meeting (other than the Clerk's pay) and the Council is already using delegated powers re planning decisions that happen between meetings. It was agreed that in the current circumstances, delegated powers would be given to the Chair and Clerk on the matter of the APM and further PC meetings based on updated government advice.

S137 grant: since the May meeting is unlikely to take place, it was resolved that the Council award a grant of £500 for grass cutting to the PCC since they are unlikely to be able to raise funds through coffee mornings currently. This money is already budgeted for. Clerk to write to Rob Taylor and Cllr Hughes will present the cheque to him.

It was noted that the parish noticeboard near the Green needs repair and possibly re-siting in the car park.

20. Confidential business: None

21. Next meeting: Thursday 21st May 2020 (may take place virtually)

22. Meeting ended at 9pm

SignedDate

2020 meeting dates:

21st May 2020 / 16th July 2020 / 17th September 2020 / 19th November 2020

7c: Parish Footpath Officer's report (Graham Beadle) presented to January 2020 meeting:

Nothing much to report.. wet weather and now the health restrictions. Had thought about a Spring bumble but think I'll shelve that atm , plus I failed to get a message in the Llanfair Times (must of missed the reminder) which in hindsight is no problem. Have heard nothing from Helen Beresford at Shropshire Council as regards her plans for the parish. Due to the heavy weather there has been some drastic subsidence to some of the local footpaths I've used lately which I will send a report to Helen Beresford soon, and if any of the PCs know of any other similar issues to let me know.

12: Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust: Report to Llanfair Waterdine PC (Nigel Hartin)

Shropshire Council's coronavirus arrangements are about to ramp up with the Council working more closely with Government to become a hub of information dispersal.

I am about to post out by Royal Mail my latest 'Focus' and will be putting in a non political insert with as much information as I can find as regards any local arrangements on the ground to help people. This I will be posting out early next week to all 1200 or so households in my Division. If there are any local community contacts in the parish which I could include it would be helpful if you could send those over to me before the insert is finalised and printed over the weekend.

Shropshire Council is only holding essential meetings with the minimal Cllrs in attendance, (3), with others contributing by video link. Similar arrangements are in place at Shropshire Fire Authority. Government intends I understand to bring forward urgent legislation to enable all meetings to be conducted remotely rather than any number of Cllrs having to meet face to face.

If any further helpful information comes out of central government or the Council in the coming days and weeks I will disseminate that through parish clerks as soon as I can.

I hope this is helpful. If any constituent is unsure about any arrangements regarding the impact of the coronavirus then they are welcome to ring me direct in 07583962292 and I will attempt to help or find the right answer!