

**Minutes of a meeting of
Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council
on Thursday 18 January 2018, Everest Hall**

Present

Cllr Barry Swancott (Chair), Cllr Andrew Beavan (Vice Chair), Cllr Mark Hughes, Cllr Richard Lewis, Cllr Abbie Price, Cllr Zoe Court, Sarah Jameson (Clerk) and Cllr Nigel Hartin, plus 6 members of the public

1. The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30pm.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Roy Lloyd (family)
3. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Beavan (Item 15 a, b & c) and Cllr Swancott (Item 15 a & c); Cllr Court (Item 15b).
4. **Approval of the draft Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 16 November 2017 were approved and signed as a true record.
5. **Public speaking:** There were no public speakers
6. **Affordable Housing**

This item was brought forward in the agenda from no. 7. The Council had been asked to consider an application for affordable housing under the Exception Site scheme from a) Mr Simon & Mrs Jane Watts (both present) and b) Mr & Mrs Andrew Watts (not present). This application is in its preliminary stages and the Parish Council had been requested to vouch for the local connections in both cases as part of the affordable housing application. A letter from Mrs Jane Watts setting out the local connections of both parties had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. A letter of support for a) was proposed by Cllr Beavan and seconded by Cllr Court; all agreed. A letter of support for b) was proposed by Cllr Hughes and seconded by Cllr Court. All agreed. Parish Clerk to write the letters and pass to Mrs Jane Watts to attach to her application. **(SJ)**
7. **Planning**
 - a) **17/04167/FUL - Garn Farm:** Erection of an agricultural shed for storage. It was noted that this application had been refused due to flood risk information not being supplied.
 - b) **New applications:**
 - i) **17/05582/FUL – Stoney Pound second storey extension.** There had been no site meeting, but it was agreed to support this application since there was no change in footprint and the same materials were being used. Cllr Beavan proposed; Cllr Lewis seconded. All agreed. **(SJ)**
 - ii) **17/05705/FUL – Proposed Telecommunications mast, Garn Rock, Stoney Pound.** It was agreed to support this application since a) it is for the emergency services and b) it could benefit the parish in terms of mobile phone/broadband coverage potentially. Cllr Beavan proposed; Cllr Lewis seconded. All agreed. **(SJ)**
8. **Highways**

A large tree bough that had come down at Hurgin Turn had been removed promptly. There had been a recent complaint about potholes on the Hergin Road between Blaenydre and Stoney Pound and Cllr

Swancott had not had a chance to look at this yet. It had been reported to Ian Martin but there had been no response yet. Clerk to follow up. Allan Henchoz (member of public) advised that he was going to arrange the felling of his trees at Fair Field that were always prone to lose branches during high winds. There had also been a complaint of mud on the road between Selley Hall and Little Selley. Clerk to follow up.

(SJ/BS)

Parish Path Officer/Footpath Warden: Cllr Swancott to approach Graham Beadle about this role and report back at the March meeting

(SJ/BS)

9. Finance:

a) See attached finance report from Cllr Hughes.

b) **Budget for 2018/19 and Precept:** The year to date spend stood at £2600. Bank balance is currently £5797, which is very healthy. However the Council had underspent over the course of the year. This was partly due to the fact it had not had a paid Clerk in post for a full year at the time of setting the Precept last year. At that time the Council had agreed to reduce the Precept to £3600. It was agreed the Council needs to keep £1000 in reserve. Cllr Beavan proposed we lower the Precept to £2800 for 2018/19; this was seconded by Cllr Hughes; all agreed. Cllr Hughes to progress.

(MH)

c) One invoice was presented for payment:

- i) Clerk's expenses (Nov & Dec): £4.50
- ii) Payment to Iorwerth for Triangle Noticeboard – see item 16.

10. Communications: See attached communications report from Cllr Lewis. It was noted regarding the Council's grant to the PCC in 2017, that their year end accounts would be available in March 2018.

11. Broadband update

a) **Connecting Shropshire update:** Cllr Beavan had spoken to Chris Taylor and had been assured that the work to install Fibre to Cabinet to Llanfair village would be done as part of Phase 2 by end of March 2018. However, BT now wish to site the cabinet by Lloyney Bridge rather than the Vedw turn, which was the Council's preferred site (to give a better reach to the Parish). Cllr Hartin to speak to Chris Taylor on this matter. Cllr Beavan will also follow up with Chris Taylor to ask why there had been a change of (proposed) site.

(AB)

b) **Community broadband:** Cllr Hughes said there was not much to report. No meeting of interested people had yet taken place. However he and Cllr Court will follow this up and will report back at the March meeting.

(MH)

12. Parish Council Website: It was agreed that Ali Ford (Llanfair Times editorial team) and the Parish Clerk will progress the idea of a joint Parish Council/wider community website. This site will be under the control of the Parish Council. Both Ali Ford and Clerk prefer the Wix web platform for the new site. Hosting fees are less than £100/year. Clerk to check on domain name costs, but these should be small (around £15/year). Cllr Beavan proposed the Council proceed with Wix; seconded by Cllr Price. It was agreed to allocate £500 in next year's budget to the website costs (hosting and set up). Clerk to follow up Transparency Code Funding (Feb deadline). Clerk and Ali Ford to progress and report back in March. (SJ)

13. Shropshire Council report (Cllr Hartin):

Shropshire Council is looking to tackle its deficit (£58M) by making additional savings and increasing

revenue. A new car parking strategy will raise funds by cutting free waiting times in towns. Savings are planned by reducing spend on smaller libraries. This may affect Bishops Castle and Craven Arms libraries in our area. The mobile library service will not be affected in the parish. There will be a Council Tax rise in Shropshire reflecting a general rise from the Government and a 2% rise to tackle the adult social care shortfall which is significant.

14. Local Joint Committee report: there was no report (no meetings)

15. Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust

a) Joan Adams Community Field. Work to widen access to the community field would begin in February 2018. Report attached.

b) Cllr Beavan and Cllr Court left the room for this item. Andrew Beavan's term as a Trustee comes to an end in January this year. The Council had advertised the role and received only one application, from Andrew Beavan himself. Councillors had been previously canvassed for their views and it had been agreed that since Andrew was well known to everyone, there would be no interview necessary. It was proposed that his application be accepted; seconded by Cllr Price. All agreed. Cllrs Beavan and Court returned to the meeting and Cllr Beavan was congratulated on his re-appointment for a further 4 years. Clerk to write to Community Trust with the Council's decision. **(SJ)**

c) A Deed of Easement to allow the widening of the entrance and bring the physical boundary of the land in line with that on the Land Registry had been drawn up. A Resolution that Cllr Swancott and Cllr Beavan sign this Deed on behalf of the Parish Council was proposed by Cllr Lewis; seconded by Cllr Court; all agreed. The Deed was duly signed in presence of the Parish Clerk.

b) Noticeboards: A small payment (of £15) was due to Iorweth for repair of the noticeboard. Cllr Lewis to follow this up. **(RL)**

c) Correspondence: None

d) Confidential business: None

19. Next meeting: Thurs 15th March 2018

20. The Meeting ended at 8.57pm.

Signed Date

Meeting dates for 2018:

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