

Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council on Thursday 20th September 2018, Everest Hall

Present

Cllr Andrew Beavan (Chair), Cllr Zoe Court (Vice Chair), Cllr Mark Hughes, Cllr Barry Swancott, Cllr Abbie Price, Sarah Jameson (Clerk), plus Nigel Hartin and 1 member of the public

- 1) The Chair opened the meeting opened at 7.30pm
- 2) **Apologies:** Cllr Roy Lloyd (family bereavement). The Chair extended the Council's sympathy to Cllr Lloyd whose mother had died very recently.
- 3) **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Swancott – item 14; Cllr Beavan – item 14
- 4) **Minutes:** The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 19th July 2018 were approved and signed.
- 5) **Public Speaking:** There were no public speakers
- 6) **Planning:**

a) Existing applications

The Council formally ratified its support for the following planning applications which had arisen since the last meeting in July. These had been circulated for decision as part of the Council's new email decision policy: All now formally agreed the Council's support for the following:

1. Erection of a combined garage and garden machinery shed - 18/03331/FUL (27/8)
2. Erection of a roof structure over a relocated dipping bath - 18/03346/FUL (21/8)

It was agreed that the Council should record no comment on the following:

3. Upgrading of overhead lines - 18/03501/OHL (21/8)

Email decision policy protocol: It was pointed out that Councillors should share their views openly to – and copy in - all Councillors when emailing under this policy.

Mr Henchoz' email thanking the Council for its support of his planning application (6.1 above) was read out.

b) New applications:

There were no new applications to consider

7) Highways update:

- a) The Council formally ratified its decision (made under the new email decision policy) for three Councillors (Cllr Beavan, Cllr Court and Cllr Lloyd) to take part in Shropshire

Council's Highways Safety Inspection Review. All agreed.

- b) The new 'Potholes' poster designed by the Clerk was formally approved (and was already on noticeboards)
- c) The Chair read out Andrew Kelland's response to the latest PC email. It seems clear that we will only get help with the worst highways matters for the time being. It was noted that remedial work on the Springhill Road to below the Green had been undertaken.
- d) Nigel Hartin mentioned that the Highways Environmental Grants for £1500/year could be useful and the Council could look at this.
- e) Cllr Beavan said the next LJC meeting which will concentrate on highways issues will hopefully take place in Llanfair Waterdine in October. Stephen Brown will attend from Shropshire Council.

8) Finance:

- a) It was noted that the Moonwalkers' cheque for £100 had not yet been banked. **The Clerk will write again to Mrs Vogel** since it appears her August email had not been received. A letter of thanks from the Moonwalkers for the PCs S137 grant cheque was read out by the Chair.
- b) Cllr Hughes reported that the internal auditor had now signed off the accounts (end of year financial position as reported at the May meeting). He had also completed the new AGAR forms (Annual Governance and Accountability Return) and these were approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk at the meeting.
- c) The Parish Council is now ICO compliant. Cllr Hughes had completed the relevant form online for a small authority.
- d) It was agreed that Cllr Hughes should continue to work on the accounts, but that the Clerk should be the official/designated RFO (Responsible Finance Officer), but delegating the work to Cllr Hughes. Cllr Swancott proposed the motion; Cllr Hughes seconded and all agreed.
- e) The Council thanked Cllr Hughes for his work to date on the PC finances
- f) The following invoices were approved for payment: 1) £317.68 to the Clerk for salary & expenses for July & August.
- g) The SALC affiliation fee had also been paid (£137.42)

9) **Llanfair Times report:** There was no report. The new edition is now out. The new potholes poster can go in the next edition. **Clerk to send over the relevant file.**

10) Broadband update:

Cllr Beavan felt that the current situation with regard to households being connected to fibre in the village is still *ad hoc* and unsatisfactory. The PC had devised and implemented a broadband survey in the village and reported back the findings to Connecting Shropshire and BT Openreach, whose reply was highly technical and not easy to understand. The Airband (wireless) contract under Phase 3 of the broadband rollout was well underway but not due to reach Llanfair parish for some time. Despite the very unhappy state of affairs with broadband in the parish, the Council will continue to push for good quality broadband to be delivered to the whole of the parish.

11) Parish Council website update:

The Clerk is awaiting Parish information to progress the new Parish website. **It was**

agreed this information would be sent to her by Cllrs Swancott and Beavan by 23rd October.

12) Shropshire Council report (Cllr Hartin):

a) Broadband: There are issues with the Phase 2 rollout with BT not delivering. They are currently one year behind. The Airband contract is proceeding under Phase 3 and has now covered 6000 properties.

b) Highways: It will be very useful to have the next LJC meeting in Llanfair (on Highways). Our parish is in fact better off than many, particularly with regard to our ready communications with the Highways Dept. The problem now is that there is no longer any local budget and problems have to be dealt with centrally. There has been a dramatic slowdown in highways work undertaken in rural areas. However, the Roadmaster machine should be in the Clun area shortly.

c) The county's Community Enablement Team is about to be disbanded. They have done a very good job in keeping communities connected and Mathew Mead was particularly praised for his work.

13) Local Joint Committee: no report. There had been no meeting since the last PC meeting, although (as above) the next meeting should take place in Llanfair parish in October.

14) Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust: no report. Cllr Hughes asked about the current situation regarding a grant for the community pavilion project. An application was in progress for a LEADER grant and quotes were being finalised. The (local) LEADER team was very supportive of the application. The matter will be considered in December, which means that should the Trust be successful, building work will not proceed until the Spring of 2019 which is frustrating since a lot of hard work had been done to date. The outcome of the application will be known in January.

15) Correspondence: no correspondence

16) Confidential business: None

17) Next meetings: Thurs 15th November and (2019): Thurs 17th January / Thurs 21st March / Thurs 16th May

18) The meeting closed at 8.30pm

SignedDate