

Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council on Thursday 16th January 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) and 1 member of the public

1. The Chair opened the meeting opened at 7.30pm. The Chair wished Cllr Beadle, who had resigned in late 2019, a good recovery. The Council had sent a get well card.
2. **Apologies for absence:** none
3. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Beavan, Item 13b; Cllr Swancott, item 13a and 13b
4. **The draft Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 21st November 2019 were approved and signed as a true record.
5. **Public speaking:** Robert Taylor (Church Warden) spoke about the VE Day celebration plans for Llanfair Waterdine (8th to 10th May). There will be a VE Day Coffee Morning on Friday 8th May from 11 to 12.30 and a service in the Church on Sunday 10th May to commemorate the end of the war. This may be followed by special bell-ringing and a gathering with refreshments to follow. He said that other parish/village events might happen around these.
6. **Planning:**
 - 1)
20/00095/AGR: The Green Spoad Hill Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TY: Erection of agricultural building for sheep handling and fodder storage
Due to notification of this application not getting to the Clerk until the day of the meeting, this application was not discussed at the meeting. However, the paperwork will be circulated and Councillors will decide whether or not a site meeting is required. *Cllr Lloyd has declared a conflict of interest and will not take part in these discussions.*
 - 2)
 - a) 20/00186/AGR: Land At Black Hall Llanfair Waterdine Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TU): Erection of lambing/sheep shelter
 - b) 20/00002/AGR: Land At Black Hall Llanfair Waterdine Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TU: Erection of lambing/sheep shelter
 - c) 20/00185/AGR: Land At Black Hall Llanfair Waterdine Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TU: Erection of lambing/sheep shelter
 - d) 20/00184/AGR: Land At Black Hall Llanfair Waterdine Knighton Shropshire LD7 1TU: Erection of lambing/sheep shelterThese applications were validated on the day of the meeting so Councillors had not seen the relevant paperwork. Councillors will study the applications and decide if a site visit is required. *Cllrs Beavan & Croose have declared a conflict of interest and will not take part in these discussions.*
7. **Highways:**

a) Potholes: These are not getting dealt with by Shropshire council. Cllr Lloyd had spoken to Alan Meyrick and arranged a meeting in the Parish on Wednesday 22nd January at 11am. Cllr Croose will attend. Iorwerth Waters had produced a list of drains that need attention and these had been marked on a map which is very useful.

There is a planned temporary road closure as follows: Selley Cross to the Graig from 21st February to 4th March for road re-surfacing.

Clerk to write to Mr and Mrs Davies to thank them for doing some road maintenance and clearing of leaf matter near Cwmbraun.

b) Environmental Maintenance Grant: Iorwerth Waters had completed this year's gully cleaning work and submitted his invoice. He had in addition listed some drainage issues which need attention from Shropshire Council. He had struggled with some major silting and a digger will be needed to deal with this. These matters will be brought to the attention of Alan Meyrick by Cllr Lloyd when he visits. Iorwerth had again done an excellent and thorough job. It was resolved that we will apply for the Grant again next year, 20/21 but increase the amount requested to £400 from £250 (this will be match funded from the Council's funds).

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

d) Traffic calming: It was noted that the Place Plan document has information about speed reduction equipment. Clerk to follow up.

8. Llanfair Times review:

182 copies of the Times are printed, but a number of these are sent/given to people who live outside of the parish or the area in which the Trust operates. Each copy costs £1.25 to print. The Parish Council considered that this represents a potential conflict of funding and proposed that the Times introduces a membership subscription of £5/year for residents and £10/year for non residents who want their Times posted to them. Cllr Beavan thanked Cllr Swancott for bringing this matter to the Council's attention. All were in favour of the new subscription model for the newsletter. Cllr Swancott to liaise with Clerk about the possibility of uploading the Times to the Parish website (there are technical issues to overcome).

9. Finance

- a) Cllr Hughes's financial report was read out. (Report attached). The current bank balance is £5718.35.
- b) The following invoices were approved and paid: i) Clerk's invoice for Nov/Dec: £324.06; (ii) Zurich Public Liability insurance: £257.60; (iii) Iorwerth Waters: £500.
- c) Budget and precept for 2020/21: The council underspent by £1500 in 2019/20. It was agreed to reduce the S125 available grant from £1000 to £500 and increase the Environmental Maintenance Grant match funding to £400 from £250. It was noted that a new Parish Clerk (see item 17), if suitably qualified, may be on a higher paygrade than the current Clerk.

It was resolved to request a Precept of £2800 for 2020. Cllr Hughes to circulate a revised budget. Cllr Beavan thanked Cllr Hughes for his excellent work on the accounts and budget. Cllr Hughes and Clerk to progress the Precept paperwork.

10. Parish Councillor vacancy: Due to the resignation of Cllr Beadle there was a casual Councillor Vacancy notice now displayed in the parish. The deadline for applications is 30th January. If there are no applications by that date, the Council will need to co-opt. Agreed we can include an item on co-option in the next Llanfair Times, if we are in this position, at the end of January. Deadline for the Times is 15th February.

11. Climate Emergency – Tree planting: No-one had so far asked for any of the free trees on offer from the Parish. They are currently heeled in at Black Hall.

12. Shropshire Council report: No report

13. Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust:

- a) A report was read out by Cllr Swancott (see appended)
- b) Councillors had voted by email in December to appoint Cllr Swancott as Trustee to the Community Trust for a 4 year term, there being no further applications to the post (so there was no need for interviews). It was resolved to ratify this decision. All agreed.
- c) The Trust can now seek to co-opt a further member to the committee.

14. AONB report: No report

15. Defibrillator update: VOIP training had been received by the defibrillator volunteers since the last meeting. However only one of the VOIP machines is currently working. Two further machines are required to make the full set. Cllr Croose to follow up with Clun AED. Public liability insurance cover for councillors who are VOIP volunteers was discussed. However, it was resolved that they do this voluntary work as parishioners and not as Parish Councillors, so the question of insurance is not relevant for the Council.

Cllr Croose will organise further training in Clun. Cllr Price will be the monthly checker of the defibrillator (liaising with Jack Limond, Clun AED).

16. VE Day – Friday 8th May 2020: (see item 5). It was felt that combining VE Day with the Pavilion opening was not a good fit (the Pavilion will open in June). Councillors discussed the possibility of a wartime film show in the hall, to include cheese and wine/tea and cake on Friday 8th May. A notice will be put in the Times. Clerk to book Everest Hall for Friday evening (7.30 to 9).

17. Future Parish Clerk: the current Clerk has been in post for 3 years and would like to stand down in 2020, but is happy to stay until a suitable successor is found. Councillors will seek a new candidate over the course of the next few months.

18. Correspondence: No correspondence

19. Confidential business: None

20. Next meeting: Thursday 19th March 2020

21. Meeting ended at 9.30pm

SignedDate

2020 meeting dates:

19th March 2020 / 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:

I am optimistic that this new year will bring about some action from Helen Beresford and her team at SSCC in relation to the reports submitted last year. My surveying rambles in the parish continue, and with a chance of some favourable weather I will hopefully be able to give a more encouraging report next time.

13a: Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust: Report to Llanfair Waterdine PC:

The exceptionally busy workload for Trustees continues unabated. We have continued to receive a steady stream of application for awards which, in the main, we have found ourselves able to support.

Our flagship project, the Community Pavilion is progressing nicely. For several reasons we fell behind schedule in the Autumn but a concerted effort since Christmas has seen us get back on track. It has always been recognised that a community build, rather than have a building contractor undertake the build, will present exceptional challenges. We remain thankful for the admirable efforts of the volunteers who have answered the call to help. Without exception, our 'volunteer days' have been truly community days, folk working together and genuinely enjoying making a valuable contribution to the most significant development in the community in over half a century. With a continued concerted effort, we are back on track to meet our May completion target.

Differences of opinion relating to a funding application in early Autumn have caused difficulties for the Trust and ultimately led to the resignation as a Trustee of Graham Trew, a few weeks before the expiry of his four year term. The confidential nature of the Trust's work in this area means that we can give no further details. We wish to record our thanks to Graham for his contribution as a Trustee.

Finally, we remain grateful to the support offered by the Parish Council.

Bob Bailey, Andrew Beavan, Robert Gwilt and Barry Swancott