

**Minutes of a meeting of
Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council
on Wednesday 11th January 2017, Everest Hall**

Present

Cllr Barry Swancott (Chair), Cllr Andrew Beavan (Vice Chair), Cllr Richard Lewis, Cllr Mark Hughes, Cllr Janet Lewis, Cllr Roy Lloyd, Sarah Jameson (Clerk)

Plus 1 member of the public

1. Meeting opened at 7.30am with the Chair extending a particular welcome to newly-appointed Cllr Lloyd.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Roger Thomas
3. **Declarations of interest:** Cllrs Swancott (Item 14) and Beavan (Item 8c and 14)
4. **The draft Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 17th November 2016 and the special meeting of Tuesday 20th December 2016, were both approved and signed as a true record.
5. **Public speaking.** There were no public speakers.

(Councillors agreed to swap items 6 and 8 since Cllr Hughes wished to leave the meeting early)

6. Finances

- a) Financial report: Cllr Hughes produced a statement of account for 2016-17:
Income: £4163 (our precept)
Expenditure: £1656.47
Current balance: £5,601.52 (in bank)
- b) Invoices for payment: Clerk (November & December salary): £320 was approved for payment (proposed by Cllr J. Lewis and seconded by Cllr R. Lewis).

It was agreed that the council pay for the Clerk to attend two SALC training courses for clerks in January and February 2017 at a cost of £22 each (proposed by Cllr J Lewis; seconded by Cllr R Lewis).

- c) 2017/18 Budget: There is £300 remaining from the ?**transparency** grant received in 2016 (for website/computer). It was agreed that this sum could be transferred to other categories, eg training.

There was a discussion about how large a financial reserve the Parish Council should keep and consequently how much precept to set for 2017/18. The Council needs a contingency sum but this must be proportionate to turnover.

For the coming financial year, it was agreed to increase the sum reserved for Section 137 by £400 and to reduce our overall precept by £600 to reflect the surplus currently carried (proposed by Cllr Swancott; seconded by Cllr J Lewis).

7. Highways

- Cllr Lloyd reported a hole in the road at Hurgin.
- The drain cover at Hurgin turn is in hand (is this the same issue, Barry?)
- Cllr R Lewis had dealt with a parishioner complaint about traffic speeds and damaged verges as a result of a road closure when the bridge was being repaired (is this right Barry?).
- The parish has 37 miles of roads and lanes. It was proposed that the council recce the 'pinch points' on the road network to see if any remedial work is required prior to the next council meeting and before inviting Ian Martin (Highways department?) to complete a survey. Cllr J Lewis will take photographs where necessary.

8. Planning

- a) **1) (16/01621/FUL)** - Although the Parish Council had objected to this application, the proposed change of use of the Waterdine to residential has now been confirmed.

2) 16/05599/VAR - On 20th November 2016, the Council had considered a variation in condition in this application (Black Hall) and Council agreed to put an official comment on to the planning portal.
- b) There were no other updates to prior applications
- c) **Affordable housing update:** Cllr Thomas had put together a draft questionnaire to address housing need/affordable housing following the last meeting. The council felt the document was a good start and with fine tuning would be excellent. It was, however, concerned that the report addressed local need more than affordable housing currently. It was proposed to approve the document, but subject to further changes being made. Cllrs R Lewis and J Lewis will work on the document with Cllr Thomas. Chair to speak to Cllr Thomas. The document needs to be ready by end of February to go out with the Llanfair Times. We also need to identify potential sites as well as need.

It was agreed (proposed by Cllr Lloyd; seconded by Cllr Beavan) that the Clerk would write to owners/landlords of unoccupied houses in the parish to explore whether these properties could potentially be used for rental purposes to help increase the vitality of the area.

9. **Broadband update:** The parish is awaiting the results of the 2b procurement process, which has a deadline of end of February. Further information will be available at the next meeting. Clerk to contact Chris Taylor, Connecting Shropshire, to request an update.

10. **Shropshire Council report:** There was no report (Nigel Hartin not present).

11. **Local Joint Committee report:** No report. Next LJC meeting is on 9th February.

12. Telephone kiosk: Cllr J Lewis proposed the council consider 'adopting' the BT phone box at Lloyney (soon to be decommissioned by BT). The box can be bought by an organisation for £1.00. Cllrs Beavan & Swancott felt there were several potential difficulties with this, principally: 1) the box is in another parish (Beguildy) and we do not currently know the landowner, 2) the box would become a Parish asset and as such would require public liability insurance, maintenance and possible planning permission should we move it and 3) we need to think hard about how the asset would be used. Cllr J Lewis said boxes can be used to house defibrillators or even to house mini libraries/tourist info material. It was agreed that Cllr J Lewis would do some further research and bring the matter back to the next meeting.

13. Communications:

- a) Cllr Lewis presented a communications report (see attached report). £57.02 had been raised through the 708 Christmas cards sent out. All agreed that monies will be donated to the Friends of Knighton Hospital. Cllr Lewis to progress.
- b) Cllr Lewis presented a Llanfair Times report (see attached report)
- c) Liaison meeting with EHMC. This meeting will take place later in the month and will be reported back to the meeting in March

14. Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust: (see attached report). The Council would like to record their great appreciation to Rick Harrowing and his contribution to the work of the Trust. Clerk to write to Mr Harrowing to thank him.

15. Correspondence: There was no correspondence

16. Confidential business: There was no confidential business

17. Next meeting dates:

- Thursday 16th March
- Thursday 18th May
- Thursday 20th July
- Thursday 21st September
- Thursday 16th November

(Local elections will take place on Thursday 4th May)

Clerk to write to the bookings secretary to confirm our meeting dates in writing.

18. Meeting ended at 10pm.

Signed Date