

Donington with Boscobel Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Donington with Boscobel Parish Council held on Tuesday 20th December at the Methodist Church Hall, Albrighton

In attendance: Cllrs Christine Jones, David Williams, Lee Chatburn, Virginia Sankey, David Beechey, the Parish Clerk and three members of the public.

22.98 Welcome by the Chair

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced the Councillors present to the members of the public.

22.99 Apologies for absence and reasons:

The Council received, considered and noted as appropriate, the following apologies for absence:

Cllr Robert Parry – unwell
Cllr Hugh Kirton – unwell
Cllr Phil Ogle – unwell
Cllr Adrian Robinson – family commitment
Cllr Dawn Harper – family commitment

An apology had also been received from Shropshire Cllr Ed Bird who had an alternative commitment.

22.100 Declarations of Interest: a) Pecuniary b) Personal

The Parish Clerk had received a personal interest from Cllr Parry regarding discussion of planning item 22/05167/VAR, but he was not now able to attend the meeting due to ill health. There were no other declarations of interest.

22.101 Public Session:

Two members of the public raised their objections to planning application 22/00887/FUL, a resubmission of a previous application on the Cosford Business Park, bringing down the building proposal to one floor rather than two floors. Outlining their objection to the plan, issues were raised regarding disruption to family life, the potential noise levels, and the siting of the building in close proximity to a residence without screening. Details were given of the existing noise problems with 24 hour use of the car parking area by a gym.

The Chairman, Cllr Christine Jones, suggested that if there is a noise issue that it would be advisable to contact Environmental Health at Shropshire Council. She also suggested including all information on planning objections.

A third member of the public also raised his objection to the plans. He said that there was already a traffic problem on Long Lane, 'it's a lane, not an extension of the M54'. If the packing plant goes ahead it is likely to increase the volume of traffic, there are no pulling in places, street-lighting, or footpaths. The potential for an increase in noise, traffic and pollution is a problem. It was noted that both the member of the public and his neighbour had objected to previous plans and were against this amendment.

It was noted that this is Green Belt land, and that all three households neighbouring the site are against the plans.

The Chairman, Cllr Christine Jones, thanked the members of the public for attending the meeting and sharing their views.

22.102 Minutes:

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 15th November 2022

22.103 Matters Arising

a) Bus Stop Renovation

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved to proceed with the quote of £575 for the refurbishment of the bus stops, and that it should be requested that the quote adds repair of the broken windows. If this is not possible, Cllr Lee Chatburn is to liaise with the contractor about sourcing a repair of the windows prior to the work being completed.

b) Chairman's Chain

There were no updates regarding the replacement link for the Chairman's Chain, and it was agreed to defer this Agenda item until there is an update.

c) CAB

The request to contribute towards the running costs of the Citizen's Advice Bureau as raised as a late item of correspondence in the meeting of November 15th (minute 22.89 d)). Mrs Sylvia Pledger had provided data as requested at that time and this was considered by Councillors present. It was noted that the postcodes were wide-ranging including Shifnal and Alveley/Quatt Malvern. It was questioned if other Parish Councils had been requested to contribute to the service.

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved, to offer £600 to the C.A.B.

d) Church Car Park Maintenance

Consideration was given to the offer made by Cllr Robert Parry regarding the maintenance of St Cuthbert's Churchyard Car Park following the retirement of the existing contractor and as raised as late item of correspondence in the meeting of November 15th (minute 22.89 e))

The Parish Clerk noted the details of the Local Government Act 1972 s112 about Councillors being employed by the Council, and also the guidance of HMRC on expenses (EIM65955).

It was requested that the Parish Clerk pursues the suggestion of checking with the Internal Auditor and SALC for guidance on paying fuel expenses where a Councillor is undertaking work on behalf of the Council.

It was also suggested that a tendering exercise might be suitable.

a) Meeting Venue

Consideration was given to the future arrangements for a meeting venue for the Parish Council

Cllr David Williams gave a report on an incident that had occurred at the Red House following the last meeting with details of a complaint made and outlining the processes that the Council had followed in this matter. He emphasised that there is a need to protect staff and councillors, and apologised to the Parish Clerk for the incident on the Council's behalf.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to accept the recommendations of the report.

The Parish Clerk said that she had met with the bookings secretary of the Methodist Church Hall and had been provided with safety information, terms and conditions. If the Parish Council is to use the venue for more than three months, it will need to be insured for at least £5M. It has this provision so there is no impediment to requesting to use the facilities in future on a more regular basis.

It was agreed to stay in the existing venue for the foreseeable future, and it was requested that the Parish Clerk book until the end of the year. The bookings secretary is to be advised that if the Parish Council does meet in an alternative venue in the summer, that any pre-paid fee is to be retained by the Methodist Church.

b) Councillors Surgery

There was discussion of the suggestion raised by Cllr Phil Ogle of holding drop-in sessions for residents to raise issues of concern and to raise awareness of the Parish Council. It was considered that this was a good idea and that it would raise awareness of the Parish Council and the areas that it covers.

It was agreed that this item should be put on February's Agenda, and it was requested that Councillors consider the best way to progress the idea.

22.105 Correspondence: For Action**a) Local Government Boundary Review**

Views are being sought on boundary divisions for Shropshire Council, the consultation is open until 30th January 2023 [Local Government Boundary Commission for England Consultation Portal \(lgbce.org.uk\)](https://www.lgbce.org.uk)

Cllr David Williams advised that he had filed an individual reply. It was suggested that individual replies would be an appropriate response.

b) Budget 2023-2024

The Parish Clerk noted that she had received information on the budget after the publication of the Agenda and that this would be circulated prior to the January meeting.

It was suggested that a line should be included for Public Engagement in consideration of the suggestion to hold surgeries.

22.106 Correspondence: For Information.

The following was noted:

Shropshire Council Streetworks – there will be a temporary road closure on Woodhouse Lane, Albrighton, on Wednesday 22nd February 2023 from 9.30 to 15.30. This will be 20m South West from the junction with Kingswood Road on Woodhouse Lane, works to be carried out by OpenReach.

22.107 Planning.

a) Applications:

22/05167/VAR

6 Shackerley Lane, Cosford, Albrighton, Wolverhampton, Shropshire, WV7 3AB
Variation of Condition 3 of Planning Permission 75-67-851 to lift agricultural occupancy

No comment

22/00887/FUL

Erection of three buildings comprising six industrial starter units, installation of package treatment plant, formation of additional parking area and associated works | Cosford Business Park Long Lane Neachley Shifnal Shropshire

Objection: inappropriate developing in the greenbelt, increase in traffic and pollution.

a) Permission Granted:

22/04730/FUL

Erection of a single storey front extension, and two storey side and rear extension following removal of existing attached garage at 20 Windsor Road, Albrighton

b) Permission Refusals:

22/01153/FUL

Nursery Garden Centre , Newport Road, Albrighton, Shropshire, WV7 3EE
New vehicular access off the A41 to the garden centre and formalisation of existing overflow car park.

c) Any other planning matters: there were none at this time

22.108 Finance.

22.108.1

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to approve the following payments –

Clerk	Clerk's salary (December)	£870.33 (£650.90 and £219.43 backpay)	LGA 1972 s 112 (2) LGA 1972 s 112
HMRC	Tax	£0	LGA 1972 s.112
Clerk	Travel Expenses (November)	£27.00 (due £10 – overpayment October)	LGA 1972 s.111
Land Registry (Clerk)	Electronic Documents Parish Magazine Subscription	£29.95 £30	LGA 1972 s.111

22.108.2

The following payments made following a decision made at the meeting of 15^h November were noted:

John Parry – Churchyard Maintenance for 2022 - £276
SALC – fees for 2022 £590.61

22.108.3 To note any income received

The following was noted:

Interest – £156.12 to the Public Sector Deposit Fund (November)

22.108.4

a) Bank Reconciliation

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to receive and approve the bank reconciliation until the end of November 2022

b) Spend to Date

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to receive and approve the spend to date to the end of November 2022

22.109 Reports:

- (a) **SALC:** Cllr D. Beechey reported that the new West Mercia Police Chief Constable was present at the last meeting. She said that she would expect officers to attend Parish Council meetings four times a year. This could be requested – it was agreed

by Councillors present that it would be a good idea to invite the local policing team to the February meeting.

(b) RAF Cosford: none at this time

(c) Nature Reserve Report: a written report had been filed in advance of the meeting by the Nature Reserve Management Committee Chairman. An updated copy of the Management Plan for 2022-2027 had been sent by the Country Parks and Heritage Sites Manager (South) taking into consideration comments from the Parish Council. An Annual Work Plan with budget has also been circulated to Councillors. Cllr David Williams said that the Chairman and Parks Manager should both be thanked for their reports.

(d) Clerk's Report: the Parish Clerk reported that she had scanned and circulated copies of the Land Registry Deeds of land owned by the Parish Council. She noted that she had a draft copy of the Nature Reserve Management Plan dated August 1998, but had not yet located a signed copy.

(e) Royal British Legion: Cllr D. Williams reported that this year's appeal is still in the accounting stage but that it would be up on last year's. A request for a donation for a wreath was provided for consideration at the next Parish Council meeting.

(f) Footpaths: Cllr V Sankey said that there would be a meeting in January and that any concerns raised by Councillors could be passed on at that time.

(g) RAF Cosford Cadets: Cllr R. Parry filed a report in advance of the meeting noting that 90 cadets and staff had enjoyed a Christmas party in the Oak Room behind the station mess. A new band master is going to be developing the band's range and display marching. On a negative note, the cadets met in a building with no heating and this was being pursued with the Station Commander.

(h) War Memorial Working Party: Cllr L. Chatburn provided a verbal update on work on the War Memorial including upcoming tree works and the necessity to put crash deck scaffolding in place prior to works being carried out.

22.110 Training

Training information is available on: www.alcshropshire.co.uk/training

22.111 Date of the Next Meeting 17.1.23

Items for the agenda to be notified to the clerk by **7.1.23**