

Donington with Boscobel Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Donington with Boscobel Parish Council held on
Tuesday 17th January 2023 at the Methodist Church Hall, Albrighton**

In attendance: Cllrs Christine Jones, David Williams, David Beechey, Lee Chatburn, Dawn Harper, Phil Ogle, Robert Parry, Virginia Sankey, one Member of the Public, and the Parish Clerk (Vanessa Voysey)

22.112 Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

22.113 Apologies for absence and reasons:

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

Cllr Adrian Robinson – alternative commitment
Cllr Hugh Kirton – unwell

22.114 Declarations of Interest: a) Pecuniary b) Personal

There were no declarations of interest at this time

22.115 Public Session:

A member of the public asked to speak to the Council about the refused Planning Application at the former Donington Nursery (22/04461/FUL). He said that he and his family had relocated back to Shropshire and had spent 13 to 14 months working on a project to renovate the property and turn it into a long-term family home. The reasons for the property being refused are on Shropshire Council portal. Advice was sought from Shropshire Council prior to submitting the original plans, including liaising with the Conservation Officer, unfortunately, the plans were turned down as the Case Officer was told that the advice that had been given was incorrect. The plans will be re-submitted and it is hoped that this will include meeting up with Shropshire Council to discuss the next steps.

The member of the public said that he is mindful of the building having a heritage classification. He is looking for the support of the Parish Council and would be happy to discuss any concerns. The building currently is not in great condition, there is some structural damage and it has been broken into.

Concern was expressed by Councillors present that Shropshire Council had given incorrect advice. It was also noted by the member of the public that the Parish Council had filed a neutral comment and had not objected to the plans. Cllr Robert Parry said that his concern was with the visual impact from Rectory Road, and he expressed the view that the extension needs to be sympathetic with the existing building. The member of the public said that he took this comment on board, noting that the flat roof was the only way to accommodate bedrooms, and that the materials had been suggested by the Conservation Officer. Cllr David Williams noted that the property next-door was also in a different style and that he personally did not see this as a problem, and that he would want to look at the plans when they were re-submitted.

22.116 Minutes:

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 20th December 2022 as a true record.

22.117 Matters Arising

a) Church Car Park Maintenance

The Parish Clerk reported on advice received from SALC (Shropshire Association of Local Councils) on advice made in connection with the offer made by Cllr Robert Parry to undertake the maintenance of St Cuthbert's Churchyard Car Park for one year. The advice was that it would be better to let out the work as a contract rather than pay compensation.

Cllr Robert Parry emphasised that he had not asked for any compensation for doing the work. It had been suggested by other members. It was agreed by Councillors present that the simplest way to proceed would be to purchase diesel commensurate with the undertaking of the work.

After some discussion it was **agreed** to purchase 25 litres of diesel for the undertaking of the work.

b) Bus Shelters

The work to refurbish the bus shelters on the A41 had been completed. The Parish Clerk said that she had liaised with Cllr Lee Chatburn and that as the contractor had said that it would be straightforward to replace the glass prior to doing the maintenance work, he had been asked to go ahead. The cost would be additional to the original quote. There is no invoice at this time.

Cllr Virginia Sankey noted that the glass in the bus shelters had been cleaned and was now so clean it looked like there was no glass in it. Councillors present agreed that the work carried out was done to a high standard.

c) Meetings in 2023

It was noted that it has been confirmed that meetings in 2023 can be held in the Methodist Church Hall, on the third Tuesday of every month except August.

January 17 th	May 16 th	October 17 th
February 21 st	June 20 th	November 21 st
March 21 st	July 18 th	December 19 th
April 18 th	September 19 th	

d) Councillors Surgery

It was agreed that proposals should be brought to the table in February in regards to the best way to progress the suggestion of holding Councillor Surgeries

There was some discussion on initial ideas, this included advertising in advance on social media and in the Parish Magazine, and possibly putting out a flyer. It was suggested that sessions might be in April and September.

22.118 New Business

a) Nature Reserve Management Contribution

Consideration was given to the request from the Country Parks and Heritage Sites Manager (South) for the Parish Council to contribute towards management of the site over the financial year 2023-2024.

The Chairman, Cllr Christine Jones, said that she thought the contribution represented value for money. Cllr Robert Parry said that he would prefer to fund the cost of grass-cutting directly with a local contractor carrying out the work.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to contribute to the costs of management of the Nature Reserve in the financial year 2023-2024. It was noted that it might be cheaper to get a local contractor to cut the grass.

b) Draft Budget

There was discussion on the draft budget for the financial year 2023-2024 and on the appropriate level of precept. It was suggested that the Community Engagement line be increased to £500 given the discussion on holding surgeries.

It was agreed that the precept be raised by 1% and that the contingency line hold increase on the budget additional to the extra £200 set against the Community Engagement line. This sum was rounded down to £160.

c) Precept

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved to request a precept for the financial year 2023-2024 of £36,390.

22.119 Correspondence: For Action

The following was noted:

SALC - word and pdf versions of Shropshire Council's 2023-2024 budget consultation has been made available, responses are due by Monday 30th January .
<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/budget-consultation-202324/>

22.120 Correspondence: For Information.

The following was noted:

Shropshire Council - a revised policy for assessing unsafe walking routes to school is being proposed and is under public consultation until the 10th February 2023

22.121 Planning

a) Applications:

22/05741/FUL: New vehicular access off the A41 to the garden centre and formalisation of existing overflow car park (resubmission) Wyevale Garden Centres Plc, Nursery Garden Centre, Newport Road, Albrighton.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to object on the following grounds:

Further clarification is needed on the method access and keeping public cars from using the turn-off. The Parish Council has safety concerns regarding access on and off a nation speed limit highway where there has recently been a fatality.

a) Permission Granted

There were none at this time

b) Permission Refusals:

The following was noted:

22/04461/FUL: Old Donington School, Rectory Road, Albrighton: Change of use, extension and remodelling of nursery to create a new dwelling

c) Any other planning matters:

22/05656/FUL: 2A Sandy Lane, Albrighton, Wolverhampton, Shropshire, WV7 3ES. Demolition of existing detached domestic garage, secondly, erection of replacement single storey dwelling and installation of package treatment plant, thirdly, removal of existing dwelling/mobile home (revised scheme)

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to object to the plans on the grounds of conflict with Green Belt policy.

22.122 Finance.

22.122.1 Payments

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

Clerk	Clerk's salary (January)	£650.90	LGA 1972 s 112 (2) LGA 1972 s 112
HMRC	Tax	£0	LGA 1972 s.112
Clerk	Admin Expenses Room Hire (Dec) Stationery	£38 (£20) (£18)	LGA 1972 s.111
Clerk	Travel Expenses (January)	£27	LGA 1972 s.111
Methodist Church	Meeting Hire 2023	£220	LGA 1972 s.111
Royal British Legion	Donation for Wreath	£20	General Power of Competence

Shropshire Council	Contribution to Management of Nature Reserve 2022-2023	£2000	General Power of Competence
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22.122.2 To note payments made following a decision made at the meeting of 20th December:

The following was noted: payment for Albrighton Surgery to run CAB (Citizen's Advice Bureau) for one month in 2023 - £600

22.122.3 To note any income received

The following was noted: Interest from the Public Sector Deposit Fund (December) – £200.36

22.122.4

a) Bank Reconciliation

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

b) Spend to Date

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

22.123 Reports:

(a) SALC: Cllr D. Beechey said there was nothing to report at this time.

Cllr David Williams requested that the Parish Council considers signing the Civility and Respect Pledge as part of a campaign being run by NALC (National Association of Local Councils). This makes a statement of commitment to treating councillors, clerks, employees, volunteers, members of the public and representatives of partner organisations, with respect and is aimed at creating a cultural change within the local council sector.

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved**, to sign the Civility and Respect Pledge.

(b) RAF Cosford Sq. Ldr. C. Wilson: plans are underway for the Air Show this year. Ceremonial activity is likely this year.

(c) Nature Reserve Report E.Byrne: a written report was filed in advance of the meeting. It was requested that the Parish Clerk print a copy of the 5 Year Plan for Cllrs Beechey, Parry and Sankey.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to request delay of concreting the path in the Nature Reserve until late Spring.

(d) Clerk's Report: The Police are not able to come to the February Meeting but should be able to make the March meeting.

- (e) **Royal British Legion** Cllr D. Williams: there have been personnel changes in the local branch, with Lee Chatburn now Secretary and David Williams now the Treasurer.
- (f) **Footpaths** Cllr V Sankey: there will be a Footpaths meeting on 19th January
- (g) **RAF Cosford Cadets** Cllr R.Parry: Air Cadet Sunday will be held on 5th February. Heating in the building is still an issue.
- (h) **War Memorial Working Party** Cllr L.Chatburn: Albrighton Parish Council has signed off a budget for tree-felling and a crash deck, also for information noticeboards for the public. It was noted that the Parish Council has not made a commitment to award a £5K annual grant towards the project. The Chairman, Cllr Christine Jones, said that a grant application form would need to be submitted for any requests.
- (i) **Access from the Woodland Car Park to the Woodland** Cllr R. Parry: Cllr Robert Parry said that he would like this to be brought back as an Agenda item at the next meeting.
- (j) **Anti-social behaviour:** Cllr David Williams reported on an ongoing issue at Barclay Close, this has been reported by a resident.
- (k) **Red House complaint:** Cllr David Williams gave a verbal update on the complaint made to the Red House and about correspondence received on it. The council noted that there has been no formal acknowledgement or formal response at this time. The council further noted that it would have liked a formal written response to its correspondence but that it had not authority to require one. It was agreed that the Chairman, Cllr Christine Jones, should reply to the meeting request and decline it. No further action is required at this time.

22.124 Training

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

22.125 Date of the Next Meeting 21.2.23

Items for the agenda to be notified to the Clerk by **10.2.23**