

# Donington with Boscobel Parish Council

## Minutes of the meeting of Donington with Boscobel Parish Council held at the Methodist Church Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.20pm

In attendance: Cllrs Christine Jones, Robert Parry, Virginia Sankey, Phil Ogle, David Beechey, David Williams, Adrian Robinson, Dawn Harper, the Parish Clerk (Vanessa Voysey) and one member of the public

### **22.157 Welcome by the Chair**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

### **22.158 Apologies for absence and reasons:**

The Council received and accepted apologies for absence from:

Lee Chatburn – work commitment

### **22.159 Declarations of Interest: a) Pecuniary b) Personal**

There were no declarations of interest at this time

### **22.160 Safer Neighbourhood Team**

The Safer Neighbourhood Team were not present at the meeting.

### **22.161 Public Session:**

A member of the public spoke about re-submitted plans to renovate the old nursery and offered to address any concerns the Parish Council may have about the plans. There had been a site meeting with new Shropshire Council personnel replacing the previous officers who had admitted that the advice given had not been accurate. There are subtle changes to the roof size and depth, and screening on the balcony area to make the back extension less dominant. It is a contemporary extension, and the flat roof is for a specific reason. Clear advice has been given on the increase of the footprint. Highways have not yet said what it wants in place for the entrance, this will be negotiated, it was noted that the only objection was from a neighbour who has mentioned the entrance and the road being busy.

### **22.162 Minutes:**

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 as a true record

### **22.163 Matters Arising**

#### **a) Councillors Surgery and Community Engagement –**

A report was given on the recently held Councillors surgeries – the previous Saturday was the first surgery held and there are opportunities to promote it further. It was a positive event with the chance to discuss community issues with Rev. Jess Harper. Suggestions for promotion included banners and posters but without dates and details that are subject to change.

Cllr David Williams said that he had drafted a Community Engagement Policy and had written contact sheets. ID badges had been drafted for the consideration of the Parish Council using Zazzle (<https://zazzle.co.uk>), the cost would be approximately £4 each and there is no minimum order. It would require passport photos and written permission from the Parish Council for the use of its logo.

It was agreed to go ahead with the proposal to create ID badges for Councillors,

#### **b) Councillors meal out**

It was agreed to reschedule the meal, Cllr David Williams will come back with other options.

#### **c) Signs on Neachley Lane and Long Lane**

The Tong Parish Clerk has advised the improvement to signage being sought is the sign at the bottom of Long Lane, it needs a facelift. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should report this using 'Fix My Street'.

Cllr Robert Parry raised his concern at the continuing problem of flooding on Long Lane and requested that an update be sought from Shropshire Council.

### **22.164 New Business**

#### **a) Albrighton and Donington Fayre**

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to cover the cost of insurance for the Fayre, for a figure of up to £500 without requiring coming back to the Parish Council for further discussion.

#### **b) St Cuthbert's Meadow bridge**

Consideration was given to the need for a replacement of the bridge at St Cuthbert's Meadow, and consideration of covering the cost of the works.

Three quotes had been sought, and had been included in a report by the Country Parks and Heritage Sites Manager (South):

Company A, £8575 (excluding VAT)  
Company B, £7232 (excluding VAT)  
Company C, £5325 (excluding VAT)

Details of the quotes were included in the report and this was circulated prior to the meeting. This included noting that Company C did not include the removal of the bridge as part of its quote. A report by Cllr Robert Parry had also been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Robert Parry noted that the public had suggested making the width of bridge wide enough for buggies.

Consideration was given to the advice given in the reports, and the conclusion of the Country Parks and Heritage Sites Manager based on the recommendation of the Environment Agency.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to accept the quote of J.Cooper and Sons of £7232 (excluding VAT) and to ask for the width to be widened to 1.4 meters, it was agreed to spend up to £8k (excluding VAT) without coming back to the Council for further discussion, and to pay 25% deposit as required.

#### **c) St Cuthbert's Car Park**

Consideration was given to the possibility of putting in CCTV in St Cuthbert's Car Park. Cllr David Williams said that this was a good idea but would not be easily achieved; it would require a power supply and the relay of information. Broadband and internet in the church would give a lot of options. A live webcam in the Nature Reserve would be one possibility to consider

It was agreed that Cllr David Williams would bring a report back to a future meeting.

#### **22.165 Correspondence: For Action**

- a) A grant form was received after the publication of the Agenda from the Albrighton St Mary Beer and Food Festival, requesting £402 for the equipment that will be used every year. It would not be used for the purchase of alcohol. All profit will go towards the War Memorial.

As the festival will be held before the next meeting, it was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to agree in principle to support the grant and to formally support it at the next meeting.

- b) The Internal Audit has been completed, following the publication of the Agenda. This will be formally considered at the next meeting.

It was noted that consideration should be given to establishing a reserves policy and that the risk assessment will need updating.

#### **22.166 Correspondence: For Information.**

The following was noted:

- a) NALC has circulated its response to the Department for Levelling Up, Communities, and Housing, regarding CiL money and Neighbourhood Fund.
- b) Albrighton Parish Council has written to notify the Parish Council that the Albrighton Flyer will cease to operate from 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

#### **22.167 Planning.**

##### **a) Applications:**

23/01288/FUL

Old Donington School, Rectory Road, Albrighton.

Change of use, extension and remodelling of nursery to create a new dwelling and erection of double garage (resubmission)

Agreed: Support the application, delay will contribute to further deterioration of the property.

23/01148/ADV (validated: 23/03/2023)

Midlands Air Ambulance Charity, Airbase Avenue, Neachley, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UR

Erect and display 1No externally illuminated building mounted external sign, 1No non illuminated building mounted external sign and 1No externally illuminated brick wall mounted totem sign at site entrance of new air ambulance headquarters and airbase (ref. number 20/04521/FUL

Agreed: no objection

23/01184/FUL (validated: 24/03/2023)

Installation of 1 No. phosphate dosing kiosk

Neachley Booster Pumping Station, Neachley Lane, Neachley, Shifnal, Shropshire.

No comment

**b) Permission Granted:**

The following was noted:

23/00875/VAR (validated: 28/02/2023)

Midlands Air Ambulance Charity, Airbase Avenue, Neachley,, TF11 8UR

Variation of Condition No.10 (landscaping) attached to planning permission 20/04521/FUL dated 19/01/2021

**c) Permission Refusals:** None at this time

**d) Any other planning matters:** None this time

**22.168 Finance.**

**22.168.1 payments –**

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

Clerk	Clerk's salary (April)	£650.90	LGA 1972 s 112 (2) LGA 1972 s 112
HMRC	Tax	£0	LGA 1972 s.112
Clerk	Travel Expenses (April)	£27	LGA 1972 s.111
SALC	Training Session (Procurement)	£30	LGA 1972 s.111
AFLAG	Half cost of meeting at the Red House on 17 <sup>th</sup> April (retrospective)	£28.87	General Power of Competence

**22.168.2 To note payments made following the meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> March:**

It was noted that a payment request was made via email to cover half of the cost of a meeting at the Red House on behalf of the Albrighton Flood Action Group (AFLAG)

Cllr David Williams stated his objection: the complaint with the Red House remains open and that legal action against the Council has been suggested, he has been notified that legal action is being considered against him, and management had failed to assure the Council that they would be treated in a civil manner when attending the venue. He expressed the view that 'Councillors should be on their guard and take precautions for their personal safety when attending the venue for the meeting'. However, he did not disagree with the principle of supporting AFLAG and covering their costs in this instance.

Cllr Christine Jones said in the case of any invoices being raised by the Red House that the Parish Council would be requesting remittance advice and that this had been provided on this occasion.

### **22.168.3 To note income received**

Interest – from the Public Sector Deposit Fund (March) – £270.18

### **22.168.4**

- a) **Bank Reconciliation** – it was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to receive and approve the bank reconciliation until the end of March 2023
- b) **Spend to Date** – it was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to receive and approve the spend to date to the end of March 2023

### **22.169 Reports:**

(a) **SALC** Cllr D. Beechey): none at this time

(b) **RAF Cosford** : Sq. Ldr. C. Wilson filed a report in advance of the meeting noting that RAF Cosford is very busy and will be so until the end of July. Preparations are underway for the Air Show and the King's Coronation.

(c) **Nature Reserve Report** : the Chairman filed a report in advance of the meeting

(d) **Clerk's Report**: the Parish Clerk noted that work has been undertaken on the annual audit and that the Internal Auditor had completed his work

(f) **Royal British Legion** Cllr D. Williams: the new poppy will be recyclable

(g) **Footpaths** Cllr V Sankey: none at this time

(h) **RAF Cosford Cadets** Cllr R.Parry: a meeting was held last month, there have been some problems with flying time cancellations but the cadets continue to make good use of the flight simulator

(i) **War Memorial Working Party** Cllr D.Williams: now that the trees have been removed it will be possible to move the project onto stage two, removing the war memorial for repair

(j) **Fayre Committee Reports** Cllr R Parry: a meeting will be held on Thursday, it is requested that the Parish Council held deliver leaflets again this year

(k) **Any other reports.** Cllr R Parry reported that a lot of work is being done on the Boscobel

House site. He noted that there is a large pothole by it that needs to be reported, Cllr V Sankey noted that there is a large pothole by the garden centre on the A41

### **22.170 Training**

Training information is available on: [www.alcshropshire.co.uk/training](http://www.alcshropshire.co.uk/training)

### **22.171 Date of the Next Meeting 16.05.23**

Items for the agenda to be notified to the clerk by **6.05.23**