

Donington with Boscobel Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16th January 2024 at the Methodist Church Hall, Albrighton at 7pm

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

2023.103 Welcome by the Chair

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

2023.104 Apologies for absence and reasons:

The Council noted the following apologies for absence:

Adrian Robinson – alternative commitment
Dawn Harper – unwell
Suzy Francis – unwell

Shropshire Council Ed Bird also sent his apologies

2023.105 Declarations of Interest: a) Pecuniary b) Personal

There were none at this time

2023.106 Public Session:

There were none at this time

2023.107 Minutes:

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 19th December 2023 as a true record

2023.108 Matters Arising

a) Asset Register

The bus shelter condition should be changed to good from fair as work has been done on it. It was requested that the Parish Clerk check the bill of sale for St Cuthbert's Meadow for inclusion. The Parish Clerk was requested to contact the Bus company and ask them to update the timetables and other information

It was agreed that the Asset Register should be considered as a fluid document, and checked twice a year. Subject to the above considerations above the current version was approved.

b) Councillor Surgeries

The Working Party has discussed how to get people to attend councillor surgeries, including combining events with other events. There is an intention to speak with the Royal British

Legion, Historical Society, and the church's men's breakfast. Venues such as the Air Ambulance and Garden Centre have been considered but there were doubts that residents would travel there for a councillors' surgery. Overall St Cuthbert's Church remains the best venue as it is in the centre of the Parish and has parking.

Banners and advertisement could be produced for under £100, an advert in Village Life and the Parish Magazine is also an option.

Cllr David Beechey suggested that consideration could be given to a combined surgery with Albrighton Parish Council. The Chairman will discuss this with the Chairman of APC

2023.109 New Business

a) Citizen's Advice Service

Consideration was given to the request from Mrs Sylvia Pledger to contribute £1000 towards the cost of running the Citizen's Advice Service in Albrighton. There is £600 against this in the budget.

Cllr Robert Parry proposed that the Parish Council offers £800, this was seconded by Cllr Virginia Sankey.

Cllr Christine Jones proposed £1000, this was seconded by Cllr Phil Ogle.

Taking the amendment first, it was resolved to offer £1000, with 4 councillors in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention.

The budget allocation will be amended to reflect the higher amount going forward.

b) Community Governance Review

Shropshire Council's Community Governance Review of Albrighton and Donington Parishes:

Cllr Lee Chatburn had attended a discussion with the APC Chair and said that there was some ambiguity in how the review is written and that it has been interpreted differently by different councillors.

Cllr David Williams said that the two Shropshire Councillors will file a response from the Parish Councils. The Boundary Commission had redrawn the boundaries and it would affect the Nature Reserve.

2023.110 Correspondence: For Action

a) Albrighton Village Halls Trust

A response to a letter questioning the Parish Council's alleged use of CCTV footage was considered, Cllr David Williams gave an outline of events, and said that a spokesperson had been invited to the Parish Council meeting but was not available. Cllr Lee Chatburn said that he didn't think the Parish Council should change its response.

2023.111 Correspondence: For Information

The Chairman noted that he received correspondence from a resident regarding flooding and erosion that had been sent to both AFLAG and the Nature Reserve Management committee.

2023.112 Planning

a) **Applications:** there were none at this time

b) **Permission Granted:**

The following was noted:

23/04646/ADV: Midlands Air Ambulance Charity, Airbase Avenue, Neachley
Proposal: Erection of 3m high brick wall with externally illuminated signage (modification to previously approved)

c) **Application Withdrawn:** none at this time

d) **Permission Refusals:** none at this time

e) **Any other planning matters:** none at this time

2023.113 Finance

Payments – it was proposed, seconded, and resolved to approve the following:

Clerk	Clerk's salary (January)	(gross £694.20,)	LGA 1972 s 112 (2) LGA 1972 s 111
HMRC	Tax	£24.40	LGA 1972 s.111
Clerk	Travel Expenses (January)	£13.50	LGA 1972 s.112
Hugo Fox	Website (January)	£11.99	LGA 1972 s.111

- **Payments made following a decision made at the meeting of November 21st 2023:** £660 Just Keys Ltd (minute 2023.81)
- **Income received:**
The following was noted - Dividend – £425.69 to the Public Sector Deposit Fund (November)
- **Bank Reconciliation** – it was proposed, seconded, and resolved to receive and approve the bank reconciliation until the end of December 2023
- **Spend to Date** – it was proposed, seconded, and resolved to receive and approve the spend to date to the end of December 2023
- **Precept and Budget** – there was a discussion the precept and budget for the financial year 2024-2025

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved to set a precept rise of £2.75%, £37,599

2023.114 Reports:

a) Received:

- Royal British Legion (Cllr D. Williams) Next meeting 31st Jan 2023

b) Nothing to report:

- Shropshire Council (Ed Bird)
- SALC (Cllr D. Beechey).
- RAF Cosford Cadets (Cllr R.Parry)

c) Any late reports:

- Clerk's Report (V Voysey): there has been an update on the church funding amendment 1894, allowing for monies to be given towards the upkeep of church and other religious buildings
- Nature Reserves Report (D Dale): there will be a volunteers' lunch on 8th February. It was agreed that the Parish Council should offer £10 a head to cover the costs
- St Cuthbert's Working Party (L Chatburn): the bridge purchase order been placed, the estimated time for it to be on site is by May.

Cllr Robert Parry left the meeting

- Footpaths (Cllr V Sankey): the committee met last Thursday. It is intent on an opening below Boscobel House. Cllr Sankey has spoken to the farm manager requesting his advice on this matter. The next meeting will be on 9th May.
- War Memorial Working Party (L Chatburn): there has been a meeting with the architects who have replaced the previous company

2023.115 Training

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

2023.116 Date of the Next Meeting 20.2.24

Items for the agenda to be notified to the clerk by **10.2.24**