

Donington with Boscobel Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Donington with Boscobel Parish Council held on Tuesday 20th June 2023 at the Methodist Church Hall, Albrighton at 7pm

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

2023.17 Welcome by the Chair

The Chairman, Cllr Christine Jones, welcomed everyone to the meeting

2023.18 Apologies for absence and reasons:

The Council received and noted as the following apologies for absence: .

Cllr Virginia Sankey – unwell
Cllr Adrian Robinson – alternative commitment
Cllr Dawn Harper – family commitment

2023.19 Declarations of Interest: a) Pecuniary b) Personal

There were none at this time

2023.20 Public Session:

There were no members of the public present

2023.21 Minutes:

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 16th May 2023 were confirmed as a true record

2023.22 Matters Arising

- a) St Cuthbert's Car Park CCTV** – the Chairman suggested that this item be removed from future agendas until there is news to report.

Cllr Phil Ogle said that a resident had spoken to him about the drug-dealing on the car park. It was requested that the Parish Clerk pass this concern onto the local police.

It was requested that the Parish Clerk contact Balfours about what is happening on the field by the car park. Clarification on whether or not an old agricultural building on it is being used for car repairs is sought. It was noted that this is Green Belt land. Has there been a change of use planning application? Cllr David Williams noted that the lease does not say unrestricted access.

- b) Local Government Boundary Commission review**

There was a discussion on the proposal to redraw of the boundaries of Albrighton Parish Electoral Ward and Donington with Boscobel Electoral Ward.

Cllr David Beechey said that a boundary in the middle of a housing estate was problematic, so this change makes sense. He also mentioned the confusion that can arise with voters who consider that they live in Albrighton but are actually electors of Donington Parish.

Cllr David Williams said that his concern was that residents affected by the Nature Reserve boundary and the water course would be taken out of the Parish that had some control over it. He had filed a personal comment online. He noted that having two Shropshire Councillors would be an advantage as there would be two people to take up issues.

It was questioned if this was a precursor to a full boundary change. If this was the case then there might be problems recruiting Councillors, and quite likely a significant drop in precept.

- c) **Cadets** – it was proposed, seconded, and resolved, to consider formally accepting the proposal made by Cllr Adrian Robinson in May's reports (2023.14) to offer the remaining £220 from the budgeted £500 towards insurance for the Albrighton Fayre to the Cadets.

2023.23 New Business

a) Special Motion concerning St Cuthbert's Bridge

We the above signed wish to bring a Special Motion to Council to overturn a resolution made on 18th April 2023 in respect to the replacement of the St. Cuthberts Meadow Bridge. Item 22.164 c) in the minutes of the meeting

Our reasons for doing so, are in light of new Health & Safety considerations and the associated scope of works this would entail.

Our proposal will also include additional safety works in St. Cuthberts Meadow as part of the same project, in an effort to save multiple workforce and plant mobilisation costs given the work streams and management could be one in the same.

Motion signed by Cllrs Lee Chatburn, Christine Jones, David Williams, Robert Parry, Adrian Robinson, Phil Ogle

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to accept the above motion.

Cllr Lee Chatburn said that he had spoken to various people regarding options, and this included checking up requirements regarding permits from the Environment Agency. The cost of a permit is approximately £50 and the EA would be supportive of it. On 23rd June he will be meeting with the Countryparks Manager from Shropshire Council and will be asking for details about Shropshire Council's proposal for the bridge. He wants to be sure that it is a design-led insurance-backed bridge. He will be asking for details.

Cllr Lee Chatburn also noted that he and Cllr Robert Parry had discussed the positioning of the bridge and that by moving it slightly to the right it would not require a 40 meter bridge.

Cllr Robert Parry said that if the project to replace the bridge had not got moving by September, then a repair would be necessary.

It was agreed that a St Cuthbert's Meadow Working Party report would be brought back to the Council in the July meeting and would go on New Business.

b) Swimming Club grant application

The Parish Clerk advised that an emailed request for funding from the swimming club had been made, but further details including a grant form application were not available yet

It was noted that £800 was in the budget to cover the cost of the swimming pool insurance. Cllr Robert Parry noted that the swimming pool is a valuable facility and well-used.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to grant the Swimming Pool £800.

c) Donington Pool

There was discussion on the appropriateness of issuing permits for the use of boats on the pool. The general consensus was that use of boats on the pool was not to be encouraged and that maintenance was the only reason to do so.

Cllr David Williams noted that the Nature Reserve Management Committee had an operating procedure with safety rules and regulations. He suggested that Cllr Robert Parry emails the NRMC his suggestions for safety guidelines for their consideration, and that he copies in the Parish Clerk.

There was a discussion on the suggestion of issuing fishing permits. This included how this could be monitored, and the appropriateness of including a charge. It was noted that signs are in place including rules. Cllr David Williams suggested that this be included in the discussion with Shropshire Council's Countryside Manager at the upcoming meeting with him on 23rd June

There was some thought amongst Councillors that double yellow lines on the curve of Rectory Road in front of the pool could be a solution to parking problems, the Parish Clerk was asked to contact Shropshire Council and suggest this as a possibility. Parking in this location is impeding disabled use of the pavements and access to the pool.

d) St Cuthbert's Meadow

Consideration was given to improving disability access to St Cuthbert's Meadow and the impact of funding upon it. Cllr Robert Parry noted that the article in the June edition of the parish newsletter had included an article about the Nature Reserve that said lack of funds had prevented completion the installation of a disability gate on the Newport Road. Cllr Parry said that both the Committee and the Parish Council had funds enough to cover the costs, and should get on with it.

Cllr David Beechey said that there is a county-wide disability group that could be written to for support. Cllr David Williams said he would look into this suggestion.

It was agreed that the disabled access gate is something that the Parish Council could fund and that the Parish Clerk should contact the NRMC Chairman and Shropshire Council's Countryside Manager to suggest this as a solution.

2023.24 Correspondence: For Action

Received after the publication of the agenda:

- a) **Shropshire Council Statement of Licensing Policy 2024-2029** – it was requested that the Parish Clerk forward details of the consultation to the Chairman, Cllr David Williams
- b) **Maintenance of National Cycle route 81** – Cllr Greg Wilmot from Albrighton Parish Council had contacted the Chairman, copying in the Parish Clerk, regarding the unkempt condition of the cycle route and the impact on commuters, children and parents using the path. Cllr Williams said that he had filed a request on Fix My Street for Shropshire Council to look into this issue, he had also advise Cllr Wilmot to do the same to emphasize the concern.

2023.25 Correspondence: For Information

The following were noted:

- a) **Balfours** - Balfours has supplied the Parish Clerk with an electronic copy of the lease to St Cuthbert's Car Park to clarify the position regarding access through it.
- b) **Chairman's Report** – a member of the public has written to thank the outgoing Chairman (Cllr Jones) for publishing the Chair's Annual Report in the Parish Magazine
- c) **Allotments Association** – a thank you has been received from the Allotment's Association for the grant awarded by the Parish Council

2023.26 Planning

- a) **Applications:** there were none at this time
- b) **Permission Granted:** there were none at this time
- c) **Application Withdrawn**

The following was noted: 23/00007/FUL Bothy Cottage, Neach Hill, Neachley Lane

- d) **Permission Refusals:** none at this time
- e) **Any other planning matters:** there were no planning notifications sent after the publication of the agenda and prior to the meeting of 16th May

2023.27 Finance

2023.27.1

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

Clerk	Clerk's salary & expenses (June)	£650.90	LGA 1972 s 112 (2) LGA 1972 s 111
HMRC	Tax	£0	LGA 1972 s.111
Clerk	Travel Expenses (June)	£13.50	LGA 1972 s.112

2023.27.2

It was noted that the following payments were made following a decision made at the meeting of 16th May:

Albrighton Allotment's Association
Albrighton Food Bank (Chairman's Allowance)

It had not been possible to pay the Albrighton Fayre Insurance directly so the Parish Clerk requested that the Treasurer be paid instead, however, it was agreed by the Parish Council that the Chairman of the Fayre Committee, Cllr Robert Parry, should be responsible for direct payment and that he should be reimbursed for the costs.

2023.27.3

The following income received was noted:

Dividend – £295.33 to the Public Sector Deposit Fund

2023.27.4

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

2023.28 Reports:

- (a) **SALC** (Cllr D. Beechey): there was none at this time
- (b) **RAF Cosford** (Sq. Ldr. C. Wilson): a report was filed in advance of the meeting, this included reportage of a successful reception and Air Show.
- (c) **Nature Reserve Report** (E.Byrne): a report was filed in advance of the meeting including providing financial reporting.
- (d) **Clerk's Report:** there was nothing additional to agenda items covered in the meeting
- (e) **Royal British Legion** (Cllr D. Williams): permission has been sought from the dioceses to place the old standard in St Cuthbert's Church. A new standard is in the process of being received by the RBL.
- (f) **Footpaths** (Cllr V Sankey): none at this time
- (g) **RAF Cosford Cadets** (Cllr R.Parry): The AGM resulted in there being just enough Committee members. The band has been practising for the Fayre. Cllr Williams noted that he had attended an excellent talk about gambling and the impact of games of chance on children.

- (h) **Albrighton Fayre** (Cllr R.Parry): there will be five floats and other participants in the parade. There are some outstanding leaflets to be delivered and volunteers were sought from the Parish Council (this was arranged at the end of the meeting).
- (i) **War Memorial Working Party** (Cllr L Chatburn): both a listed building and a full planning application have been filed.
- (j) **Any other reports:** there were none at this time

2023.29 Training

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

2023.30 Date of the Next Meeting 18.7.22

Items for the agenda to be notified to the clerk by **11.07.22**

2023.31 Confidential Session

Exclusion of Public and Press: in accordance with Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters. It was therefore resolved, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and press be excluded.

2023.32 Planning Enforcement

Members noted the Planning Enforcement notice sent by Shropshire Council