

Donington with Boscobel Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Donington with Boscobel Parish Council held on Tuesday 23rd November 2021 at 7.00pm at the Red House

In attendance: Cllrs Christine Jones, Hugh Kirton, David Dale, David Williams, Robert Parry, Virginia Sankey, David Beechey, Dawn Harper, Phil Ogle, Shropshire Councillor Ed Bird and Parish Clerk (Vanessa Voysey)

21.87 Welcome by the Chair

Cllr Christine Jones, in the Chair, welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

She took the opportunity to request that the minutes record her thanks on behalf of the Councillors and the Parish Clerk for the excellent visit to R.A.F Cosford arranged by Squadron Leader Chris Wilson.

21.88 Apologies for absence and reasons:

An apology was received from Cllr Adrian Robinson (family commitment)

It was proposed, seconded and resolved to accept this apology.

21.89 Declarations of Interest: a) Pecuniary b) Personal

There were none at this time.

21.90 Public Session:

There were no questions from the public at this time.

21.91 Minutes:

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved to accept the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 19th October 2021.

21.92 Matters Arising

a) OAP Christmas Dinner

Cllr David Williams said that he had requested this Agenda item as a request that the grant of £300 for the OAP Christmas Dinner go to the Melville Club instead of the Red House on the understanding that the event would be held at the Melville Club and not the Red House following a meeting of the Trustees of the Red House. He now understood that this decision had been reversed.

He therefore requested that the Parish Council agreed that the £300 grant money provided was for the provision of the dinner and not for the Red House. This was agreed by all present.

b) Proposals relating to Humphreston Brook by Cllr Robert Parry –

Cllr Robert Parry outlined his proposals for alleviate flooding along Humphreston Brook. He provided background details with use of a map, explaining that Shropshire Council own approximately 5 acres of the nature reserve site and the Parish Council 8.1 acres. The willow carr and pool covers about 2 acres.

The aim of his outline proposals is a three to four year plan with the objectives of allowing unimpeded flow of flood water through the course of the brook; minimising the deposit of silt in Donington Pool; creating a vehicular access to the east of the pool; and to facilitate St Cuthbert's Meadow as an occasional flood plain.

Discussion on his written proposals included the following comments:

1. Cllr David Williams said that Shropshire Council is part of AFLAG (Albrighton Flood and Action Group) so he did not consider writing a formal letter about flooding as being necessary.
2. Cllr David Williams commented that boundary considerations (such as delaying fencing and replanting) are not within the Parish Council's control.
3. Cllr Robert Parry explained that considerations concerning the sluice gate are to do with silting, not flooding. Members of the Parish Council expressed an interest in finding out more information about the sluice gate.
4. Cllr Robert Parry said that in his view the work involved in keeping the channels clear is too much for volunteers and he had proposed employing contractors to do it.
5. Cllr Robert Parry said that in his view it would be possible to negotiate access to the nature reserve via the glebe land and emphasised that nothing needed to be done in this respect yet.
6. Cllr Christine Jones said that she had spoken to the family of the late Don Hickman regarding placing a memorial bench within the nature reserve. It was also suggested that proposals from the Nature Reserve Management Committee in the creation of a new footbridge across the brook would be welcome.
7. Cllr Robert Parry said that concerting the public footpath connecting the two footbridges was not a priority job but was worthy of long-term consideration.
8. Cllr David Williams questioned what measures landowners were taking for flood water storage prior to the new Environmental Land Management Scheme. Cllr Robert Parry explained that this has not yet come into effect and it will be next year before this can be followed up. Cllr David Williams said that the Parish Council can only talk to landowners about it, having no authority over how they use their land.

Cllr David Dale requested that his alternative plan be put to the Parish Council for its consideration and that this be held in a Confidential Session due to his intention to refer to staffing matters.

It was therefore proposed, seconded and resolved that **Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 and due to the confidential nature of the following business to be transacted it will be PROPOSED, SECONDED, and RESOLVED that the public and press should not be present** but that Shropshire Councillor Ed Bird be permitted to remain for the discussion.

Cllr David Dale raised considerations of management, working relationships, and impact of proposals on Shropshire Council staff. There was discussion on these points. Cllr Ed Bird offered his viewpoint as Shropshire Council representative for the Ward.

Cllrs Dawn Harper and David Beechey raised the possibility of a future joint stakeholders meeting to address flooding issues and potential measures.

Cllr David Williams said that there were delegated responsibilities in the management of the nature reserve but that it was important to remember that the Parish Council had a responsibility of due diligence.

Cllr David Dale suggested that for the present time work can be done within existing arrangements and there was agreement on this point.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to end the confidential session.

Cllr Robert Parry and David Dale were thanked for the work they had both done in preparing their contributions for discussion.

c) Flooding

Cllr David Williams reported that he had attended the most recent AFLAG (Albrighton Flood Action Group) and that this had been very informative; it is doing a good job and work is moving ahead.

d) Telephone Box on Shackerley Lane

The Parish Clerk reported on correspondence received from residents regarding the refurbishment of the telephone box on Shackerley Lane, giving their feedback. There was no wish for art work to be included as part of the project, but the majority of residents were in favour of planters. Everyone was in favour of a general refurbishment. A request that residents be in charge of the work was included in the correspondence.

Cllr Phil Ogle said that the Parish Council had asked for opinions and that it should listen. He therefore suggested that in line with the feedback that it should be refurbished to its original condition and thereafter residents should be allowed to take responsibility for it. This was agreed by the Parish Council, with everyone in favour.

It was requested that the Parish Clerk reply to the correspondence and agree with the proposal that the residents run the project.

e) Memorial for former Councillor

The Parish Clerk said that she had written to a landowner regarding planting a tree in commemoration of the service of former Cllr Malcolm White.

f) Approbation 2022 and visit to R.A.F Cosford

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved that Cllrs Christine Jones and David Dale be the Parish Council's representatives on the Joint Working Party with Albrighton Parish Council for the approbation event scheduled for May 7th 2022.

21.93 New Business

a) Land Usage

The discussion on possible usages for the land purchased by the Parish Council next to the Nature Reserve entrance, and consideration of possible fencing of the area – item deferred

b) Albrighton Fayre

Cllr David Williams suggest that to consideration of contributing towards the cost of the Jubilee Albrighton Fayre should be raised in the budget meeting as part of the planning for next year's expenditure. Cllr Robert Parry said that the likely request would be for £150 towards the cost of the Albrighton Fayre Magazine and £300 insurance costs.

It was agreed that the Albrighton Fayre Committee should come back to the Parish Council with a formal request.

c) Dog Fouling

Cllr Christine Jones reported on public complaints she had received about dog fouling on Sandy Lane. Random disposal of dog waste bags in hedgerows and on private property was cited. Cllr Virginia Sankey concurred that this issue was a problem and cited examples.

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should look into the costs of putting up a bin on Sandy Lane and getting permission for it.

d) Albrighton War Memorial

Cllr David Williams requested consideration of supporting a joint 50/50 sharing project with Albrighton Parish Council to clean, level and secure the paving slabs within the War Memorial site. He explained what parts of the memorial were listed. It was agreed to wait for more information on proposals and costs of work on the slabs and memorial.

The Parish Clerk said that she had requested and received a copy of the invoice for cleaning the slabs and that the total cost was £120. It was proposed, seconded, and resolved, to offer £60 towards the cost of the invoice.

e) Salt Bins

Cllr Christine Jones reported that a resident had contacted her to raise problem of the lack of salt bin in the Telford Avenue and Woodland Close area and concerns about this as winter approaches. A replacement was requested for the salt bin previously on this location.

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should investigate the possibility of Shropshire Council putting in a salt bin in this location or alternatively the cost of a replacement.

21.94 Correspondence: For Action

- a) **Orelton Hall Garden Party** – the Lord-Lieutenant has requested nominations Garden Party at Orleton Hall in June 2022. Deadline is March 2022.

Suggestions were made from the Nature Reserve, First Responders, and general public. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should follow up the suggestions.

21.95 Correspondence: For Information.

The following were noted:

- a) **Shropshire Local Plan (2016-2038)** - Shropshire Council advises that all information concerning the examination of the Local Plan will be made available on: <https://shropshire.gov.uk/planning-policy/local-planning/local-plan-review/>
- b) **Planning application 21/04533/FUL** - Tong Parish Council has written to the Parish Council to express its concerns about this application

21.96 Planning

- a) **Applications:** There were none at this time

- b) **Permission Granted:**

The following was noted:

21/03654/FUL (validated: 16/09/2021)
High Holborn , Donington Lane, Albrighton, WV7 3AD
Erection of a single storey side extension, first floor rear extension, replacement pitched roofs to existing front and rear dormers and replacement pitched roof to existing first floor bathroom

- c) **Permission Refusals:** There were none at this time

- d) **Any other planning matters:**

Cllr Christine Jones reported on a matter that had been raised by a member of the public about whether or not planning permission had been sort on a development. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should consult with Shropshire Council's Planning Department about this matter.

21.97 Finance.

a) payments –

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

John Parry	Annual Care and Maintenance of the Church Car Park	£276	Parish Councils Act 1957 s.1
Clerk	Clerk's salary (November)	£558.30	LGA 1972 s 112 (2)
HMRC	Tax (November)	£27.	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)
Clerk	Travel expenses (November)	£27	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)
Clerk	Office Expenses (Town and Parish Councils VAT Guide)	£35	LGA 1972 s.111
RBL	Donation (as agreed in October's meeting)	£50	General Power of Competence
Red House [to transfer to Melville Club]	OAPs Christmas Party (as agreed in October's meeting)	£300	General Power of Competence

b) Income received

The following was noted

Dividend (Public Sector Deposit Fund) - £1.63 for statement end 31st October 2021

c) Bank Reconciliation and Spend to Date

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

Bank Reconciliation –bank reconciliation until the end of October 2021

Spend to Date – the spend to date to the end of October 2021

21.98. Reports:

- (a) **SALC:** Cllr D. Beechey reported that he had attended the recent AGM
- (b) **RAF Cosford :** Sq. Ldr. C. Wilson had advised the Parish Council he intended to do arrange another visit next year
- (c) **Nature Reserve Report :** the Nature Reserve Management Committee had formally requested access to the nature reserve via the Parish Council's newly acquired land. It had also requested that it be allowed to place a bug hotel on it. It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, that the Nature Reserve Management Committee be permitted to move the bug hotel on the Parish Council's land and to allow them access to the land. It was noted that parking is at own risk.
- (d) **Albrighton Village Halls Trust :** Cllr H. Kirton reported on discussion regarding the OAP Christmas Party and the effect of Covid considerations on decision-making.
- (e) **AFLAG** – referred to earlier in the agenda
- (f) **Clerk's Report** – referred to earlier in the agenda
- (g) **Royal British Legion** – Cllr David Williams reported on Remembrance commemorations being well-attended and noted that the ATC and ATC band were exceptional

21.99. Training

The following was noted:

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

21.100 Confidential Session

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act and due to the confidential nature of the following business to be transacted it will be PROPOSED, SECONDED, and RESOLVED that the public and press should not be present

21.101. Correspondence

The Parish Clerk updated members on the progress of the final paperwork regarding the recent purchase of land adjacent to the Nature Reserve

21.102 Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **21.12.21**

Items for the agenda to be notified to the clerk by **11.12.21**