

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHAWBURY PARISH
COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY
MARCH 10th. 2009 at 7.00pm.**

Public Session:

There were no members of the public present and no issues were raised.

Present:

Mrs. J. Manley (Vice-Chairman)
Mr. S. Jones (For part of the meeting)
Mr. R. Bailey
Mr. S. Dodd
Mr. D. Baldwin
Mr. C. Kennedy
Mrs. F. Medley
Mrs. S. Dove
Mr. G. Humphries

In Attendance:

The Parish Clerk.

Sqdn. Ldr. D. Lewis (RAF Shawbury)

In the absence of Mr. Jones at the start of the meeting – Mrs Manley (Vice-Chairman) chaired the meeting.

08/167 Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr. A. Brown, Mr. D. Roberts and Mr. N. Aldhous (District Councillor).

It was noted that, with the demise of the District Council, Mr. Aldhous would not be attending future Council meetings in an official capacity. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to him, thanking him for his valuable support over many years.

08/168 Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests:

None declared

08/169 Minutes of the Meeting held on February 10th. 2009

The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true copy.

Mr. Brown had asked the Clerk to report that under Item 08/151, he had made a 'Declaration of Interest' to Northern Marches and under Item 08/164 he would be producing a 'power point' presentation.

08/170 Matters Arising:

1. Youth Pod (08/151(3))

Mr. Bailey reported that Mr. L. Humphreys had agreed to lay the slabs round the Youth Pod at a cost of £775.00. This figure included replacing the broken slabs on the car park. He had promised to do the work by the end of the week.

It was agreed to purchase a waste bin from Iles Waste Systems at a cost of £162.00 (+ delivery). Clerk to order. It was also agreed that if the bin was satisfactory, a further one would be purchased for the car park area.

It was reported that the old pod had been removed by Wrockwardine Parish Council and the area had been repaired.

2. Bus shelter: (08/151(4))

Clerk reported that Mr. Bailey had carried out the repairs to the bus shelter.

3. Fence Posts between Park Avenue and Poynton Road (08/151(8))

Clerk had been informed by Mr. Aldhous that Meres and Mosses had engaged a contractor and that the work would be completed before the end of the week.

4. Glebelands – Leaning Fence (08/151(9))

It was noted that repairs had been carried out.

5. Street Name Signs (08/151(10))

Clerk stated that he had written to Mr. Sneddon at N.S.D.C. but had not received a reply.

He would contact him again.

6. Burial Ground Hedge and New Fence (08/152)

Arrangements had been made to have the old hedge removed quickly to avoid having problems with nesting birds. Because there was a time delay before the new fence could be installed, temporary fencing had been erected to give the burial ground some protection. The contractor selected to carry out the erection of the new fence was TSS at a cost of £6675.00

7. Northern Marches (08/151(8))

Mr. Brown had received some correspondence but it had proven difficult to relate this to the needs of the Council. He was seeking further information.

8. Village Fun Day (08/159(a))

Mrs. Manley gave an update, stating that the next meeting was planned for March 18th. Council Members would be welcome. She was seeking suggestions for a well known person who would be prepared to open the event.

Clerk reported that he had written to the insurance company advising them of the plans.

9. Items arising from the Parish Plan (08/158)

(a) Toilets.

The licensee of the Elephant and Castle Public House had agreed to allow members of the public to have access to the toilets for a fee of £50.00 per month, paid by the Parish Council.

The Clerk was asked to order two signs stating that ‘Public Toilet Facilities are available in the Elephant and Castle Public House’. One to be erected on the car park and the second in the centre of the village.

(b) Additional Seating:

It was resolved to leave a decision to the next meeting. Clerk to try and obtain further details of the price of various types of seating.

(d) Floral Gateways to the Village:

The County Council had not raised any objections to the suggestion but had asked for details of the design and position. It was decided that they should be placed on the A53 on both sides of the Village. Mr. Bailey agreed to produce a site plan and a design and forward it to the Clerk.

(e) Vehicle Operated Speed Indicators:

Clerk had been informed that the County Council was developing a policy regarding the use of this type of sign, in an attempt to get a standard procedure. Grant aid could well be available. Details would be published early in the new financial year and Shawbury would be considered.

(f) BMX Track:

Mr. M. Watney (Balfours) had raised no objection to the proposal and N.S.D.C. had advised the Clerk that a grant would be made towards the cost. Clerk to start the planning application process.

(g) Natural History Area on the Lower Glebe

Mr. Watney had indicated that he would need to discuss the proposal with the Lichfield Diocese before any decision could be made.

(h) Tree Inspection:

After varied correspondence, it had transpired that the Diocese had not included the Moat Area in their planned tree inspection. After discussions with the Chairman and Mr. Brown, the Clerk had contracted Mr. Merchant to carry out a full inspection. He had suggested to Mr. Brown that no action should be taken regarding tree management in the Moat until the full report had been obtained. It was likely that all the cost would be covered by the English Heritage grant for tree management.

(i) Adult Education:

Mrs. Medley informed Members that an article had been included in the Parish Newsletter and eight people had indicated an interest in joining a computer course.

08/171 Village Security (08/153)

Following receipt of a letter from the Crime Reduction Officer, suggesting that the Council should reconsider the placement of any CCTV cameras, the Chairman had asked Mr. Bailey to cancel a proposed meeting with a contractor and Village Hall representatives.

There followed some considerable debate about the location and need for of a security camera and eventually a motion was proposed that the meeting planned by Mr. Bailey should take place. This was carried by eight votes to one.

08/172 Parish Council Web Site:

It was unanimously agreed to ask Interactive Services to take responsibility for setting up and initially managing the site. Clerk to arrange.

08/173 New Children's Play Area:

Mr. Stewart Dodd offered to take responsibility initially, for making weekly safety checks on the equipment and it was agreed that Mr. Creber would be asked to empty the waste bins that would be on the site.

Clerk to obtain prices of each item of play equipment and make immediate arrangements for insurance cover.

08/174 Councillor Responsibilities:

Please see full details on attached Document A

08/175 Paths to Youth Pod and Play Area:

It was noted that two quotations had been received for this work but that neither matched the right specification for the work. Clerk was asked to write to both Companies with a detailed specification and ask for a new quotation and also to seek two further quotes.

08/176 Issues Raised in the Parish Plan and the Capital Bids Paper:

1. Reinstatement of the area following the removal of the old Youth Pod and the erection of a new fence.

It was decided to delay any action to a later date.

2. Publicity:

It was agreed to have the photograph of Members, together with personal details and responsibilities, displayed at various centres around the village. Clerk to arrange printing.

3. Village Signs:

Clerk was asked to arrange a site meeting with a representative of the County Council, to review the number and positioning of various signs around the village. Mr. Bailey and Mr. Kennedy agreed to represent the Council.

08/177 Correspondence:

The following correspondence was brought to the attention of Members:

1. Shropshire County Council - Delegation/Devolution of Services to Parish Councils.
After consideration it was decided not to apply.
2. Shropshire Playing Fields Association – ‘The Playing Field’
3. Standards Board – Parish Council Responsibilities:

Clerk informed Members that he would be including this paper on the next Agenda.

08/178 Accounts for Payment

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Mr. J. Wilson	Salary (March)	£340.16
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (February)	£227.98
Inland Revenue	Income Tax (March)	£76.10
Mr. T. Creber	Village Work (March)	£417.00
NWP Electrical	Streetlight maintenance (Feb.)	£222.73
Scottish Power	Electricity Supply (Feb.)	£165.93
Allianz Insurance	Additional fee to cover Youth Pod	£42.85
Meres and Mosses	Allotment Rent	£25.00
Nobridge Ltd.	Repairs to areas of the Recreation Ground	£172.50
Brookside Garden Centre	Various equipment	£440.00

Grants of £100.00 to each of the following organisations:

West Shropshire Talking Newspaper, Severn Hospice, Macmillan Nursing, Hope House and Shawbury Scouts and Guides.

08/179 Financial Statement:

A financial statement was tabled and approved.

08/180 Parish Matters:(a) Items for inclusion on the next agenda:

- (i) Councillor Training
- (ii) Purchase and location of additional seats.
- (iii) Standards policy

(b) Issues needing urgent attention:i. Highways:

Leaning traffic sign at entrance to River Gardens

Poor state of road surface on the adopted part of Painsbrook Lane.

ii. Other:

Members agreed to the Church Committee using the Recreation Ground for the Annual Village Fete on July 11th.

Mr. Bailey informed the meeting that there was to be a meeting on March 25th. to discuss the maintenance and care of footpaths and by-ways in the area. It was hoped to form a Parish Paths Partnership and apply for a £100 grant from the County Council for out of pocket expenses.

iii. Lighting:

The Chairman suggested that there was a need for a new streetlight opposite the entrance to Church Close. After debate, it was decided to defer any decision until later in the year, when the new paths to the pod and play area were in position

08/181 Reports from:(a) **Police:**

A written report had been received which indicated that in the period from February 5th. to March 8th. the following crimes had been recorded – Burglary (Non-Dwelling) - 2; Theft from motor vehicle - 2; Assault – 1.

(b) **Youth:**

No report tabled.

(c) **RAF Shawbury:**

Sqdn. Ldr. Lewis reported that:

1. The building work on the airfield had been completed and the helicopters would be returning to that area.
2. The Army Officers were holding a 'Dining in Night' in the Officers Mess on Thursday 12th. March.
3. RAF Cosford Air Show was planned for June 14th. and Shawbury would be hosting a range of planes over the weekend.
4. The Officer's Mess Summer Ball was planned for July 17th.

He reminded Members that the base was always looking for Local Community Work Activities for groups of trainees to undertake at weekends. It was suggested that the Moat Committee would welcome some support.

Mrs. Dove raised concerns about the amount of litter which was being left on routes to and from the base and asked if personnel could be reminded of the need to dispose of litter properly.

Clerk was asked to remind N.S.D.C. that a request had been made several months ago for a litter bin to be placed on Wem Road, opposite the entrance to Bridgeway.

(d) County Councillor:

No report tabled.

(e) District Councillor:

Mr. Jones gave a brief report on the likely final financial situation when the District Council ceased to exist on April 1st.

08/182 Planning Applications:

No objection raised to the following applications:

1. Parklea, 110, Poynton Road – change of use of part of the domestic cartilage for the operation of a light haulage business,
2. Wytheford Heath Farm – extension of dwelling and conversion of outbuilding into a dwelling.

08/183 Committee Reports:

(a) Moat

Clerk distributed a written report prepared by Mr. Brown – copy on file.

(b) Parish Plan

Mr. Bailey reminded Members of the Draft Action Plan consultation meeting taking place on Friday, March 20th. The event would be well publicised and the Committee were hoping for a good turnout.

(c) Helicopter Noise Liaison Committee:

Chairman reported on the meeting held earlier in the evening, when it had been noted that there had been an increase in the total number of complaints about helicopter noise but not in the number of people complaining. The RAF had stated that there had been no increase in the number of flights being made.

The Members of the group had agreed to ask the new Council to retain a dedicated committee for the North Shropshire Area.

08/184 Press Matters:

No matters identified.

08/185 Date and Time of next meeting:

Tuesday, April 14th. at 7.00pm.

Approved as a true record of the Meeting:

Signed Simon Jones

Date April 14th. 2009

Chairman

