

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

In the absence of the Chairman at the start of the meeting, Mrs Manley (Vice Chairman) chaired the meeting.

The Chairman introduced Group Captain James from RAF Shawbury, who informed the meeting that he had recently taken up the post of Officer Commanding the RAF Base and wished to meet members of the public and Council Members. He went on to give an interesting and informative outline of the activities taking place at the base. He apologised for any inconvenience caused by helicopters but stated that the training programme was invaluable to helicopter crews as, within twelve months of leaving the base, they were on active service in war zones. The personnel at the base were grateful for the support given by the Shawbury community.

He was certain that the base would be active for many years and continue to play a vital role in training service personnel. He wished to see the base develop in a number of ways, including generating its own power using waste processed in an anaerobic digester

In answer to a question from Mr. Bailey, he confirmed that allotments were being created for service personnel but at present there were no plans to extend this provision to civilians.

Public Session:

No members of the public were present and no issue were raised.

Present:

Mrs. J. Manley (Vice Chairman)

Mr. D. Baldwin

Mrs. F. Medley

Mr. J. Kennedy

Mr. R. Bailey

Mr. A. Brown

Mr. R. Pinches

Mrs. S. Dove

Mr. S. Jones (for part of the meeting)

In Attendance:

The Parish Clerk

Sqdn. Ldr D. Lewis (RAF Shawbury)

Mrs. G. Moore (Community Development Officer, RAF Shawbury).

Group Captain James (RAF Shawbury)

09/114 Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr. S. Dodd and Mr. D. Roberts

09/115 Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests:

Mr. Bailey declared an interest in Items 4(6) and 6 of the agenda.

09/116 Minutes of the Meeting held on October 13th. 2009

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

09/117 Matters Arising:1. Footpaths to Play Area and Youth Pod.

Mr. Brown and the Clerk reported that contact had been made with Mr. T. Brettell (Shropshire Council), who was under the false impression that he had dealt with the issue and had asked other officers to contact the Council. He had promised urgent action.

It was agreed that it was necessary to proceed with the identified footpaths and Mr. Brown promised to produce an updated specification.

2. BMX Track:

Clerk reported that Allianz Insurance had raised concerns about insuring the track but that they were more amenable after it had been explained that it was simply a soil track and they had seen pictures of the site. They had stipulated that the site had to be fenced, had appropriate notices and needed to be inspected by RoSPA.

It was recorded that the site was already fenced and the Clerk had ordered signs which should be delivered by November 15th, Contact had been made with RoSPA who would charge £400.00 for the site inspection and Members approved this.

Mr. Bailey advised the meeting that the signs needed to be erected on a steel frame and he offered to erect the signs without a charge for labour. £100 was allocated for the purchase of the materials. It was also agreed to purchase a brazier type waste bin and a maximum of £200 was allocated for the purchase of this from Price Fallows..

After discussion about safety issues on the approach path, Mr. Bailey was asked to erect two offset barriers, ensuring there was sufficient room to allow a double buggy to use the path.

3. Village Security – Provision of CCTV coverage for the area surrounding the Village Hall, Car Park and Recreation Ground.

The Clerk has sent out an email report covering a number of issues relating to the use of cameras. He had been advised that there was a need for the police to confirm the legal aspects and he had invited the Beat Officer to the meeting. Unfortunately he had been informed late on Monday that she was on sick leave and unable to attend. Attempts to get a substitute officer had failed.

Clerk was asked to contact either the area Inspector or Sergeant to arrange for an officer to attend either next month's meeting or a specially arranged one.

4. New Road Signs:

Ms. Ashmore had replied stating that the signs had been erected at the agreed site.

Mr. Bailey begged to differ and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact Ms. Ashmore and ask for a replacement sign for Church Close and for the new signs to be re-located at the site shown on the map already sent to her.

5. Annual Bonfire/Firework Display:

Mr. Bailey reported that it had been a very successful evening with increased public attendance. He thanked everyone who had helped especially the RAF personnel who had given first class support. He stated that there had been a slight profit, which would be put towards next year's event and that there had been no need to use any of the reserved budget available for the event. Retrospective agreement was given for the purchase of 24 crowd control barriers at a cost of £430.00

Photographs of the children in costume had been taken and he was hoping to put them on display in the library.

Jack Flash Fireworks had been booked for November 6th. next year.

The Chairman, supported by the Members, thanked him for all the dedicated hard work he had put into making it such an enjoyable and successful evening. She felt sure that his efforts were appreciated by the public.

6. RoSPA Play Area Inspection – Erdington Close:

Clerk reported that he had held a site meeting with Mr. Bailey to discuss issues raised in the RoSPA report. Several areas needed remedial work and this would take about a day to complete. Members asked Mr. Bailey to do the repairs and he indicated that the cost would be in the region of £100.00. This was agreed.

7. Access Report:

Members considered an updated report from Mrs. Medley. Two issues needed urgent attention:

(a) A crossing by the shops on the A53.

(b) Dropped kerbs in Whitelodge Park.

Clerk to contact Highways Department about both.

It was agreed that the report should be discussed with the Disability Department at Shropshire Council – Clerk to action.

8. CSO's Powers to issue on the spot fines.

Members considered reports from Mr. Roberts (Shropshire Council) and the Beat Officer, which gave conflicting views on the powers of Community Support Officers. Clerk was asked to contact Roger Wedlake and Tim Sneddon at Shirehall to ensure that CSO's were trained and licensed to issue fines for allowing dog fouling and litter dropping offences

9. Gap in Hedge on Poynton Road:

Clerk reported on a site meeting attended by Councillors, P.C. L. Mitchell, Mr D. Gradwell (Shropshire Council) and himself. Mr. Watney (Balfours) failed to attend and later apologised for putting the incorrect date in his diary. Those who attended felt that the only option was to remove a section of the hedge and erect some barriers. A site meeting had been arranged with Mr. Watney for November 11th. to gain the views of the Diocese.

10. Recreation Ground and Car Park Leases:

Members considered a detailed paper produced by Mr. Brown outlining the rent payable if the increases had been based on the retail index. Members approved a recommendation from the Clerk that the proposed increases from Balfours should be

accepted, with a request that future increases were based on the index. Mr. Brown was thanked for his report.

11. Highways:

It was noted that repairs had been carried out to the footpath behind the Glebelands

12. Floral Gateways

Clerk had not received a reply to the request for information on the specification and criteria for sponsorship signs. He promised to notify Mr. Bailey as soon as he received a reply.

13. Street and Pavement Cleaning:

Members noted that the side roads and paths were being cleared but were not sure about the A53 and Church Street. Clerk was asked to seek Councillor Robert's views before responding to Shropshire Council

14. Collaborative projects:

After discussion it was decided not to make an application to the Community Council.

09/118 Correspondence:

The following correspondence was brought to the attention of Members:

1. Shropshire Council's Urban and Rural Speed Limit Policy.
2. Shropshire Council - 'Standards in Local Government.'

09/119 Accounts for Payment:

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Mr .J. Wilson	Salary (November)	£336.50
	Back pay April – October	£29.96
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (October)	£95.16
Inland Revenue	Income Tax (November)	£91.56
Mr. T. Creber	Village work (November)	£417.00
Mr. A. Houlihan	Toilet facilities (November)	£50.00
N.W. P. Electrical	Streetlight Maintenance (Nov.)	£223.73
Mr. R. Bailey	Erdington Play Area Maintenance	£50.00
	Plants for Floral Gateways	£124.00
Jack Flash Fireworks	Firework Display	£1,500.00
St. John Ambulance	Attendance at firework/bonfire evening	£50.00
Scottish Power	Electricity supply (November)	£166.35
Mr. A. Houlihan	Grant for Christmas Tree	£50.00
Mr. R. Bailey	Expenses related to Firework evening	£600.14

09/120 Financial Statement:

A financial statement was tabled and approved.

09/121 Capital Bids for consideration in next year's budget:

The following were suggested:

- (a) Street Lighting - particularly Church Road and Church Close.
- (b) Additional Seating.
- (c) Grant to Village Hall
- (d) Car Park

(e) Upgrading/maintenance of BMX Soil Track

(f) Fencing on A53 at entrance to Moat area

09/122 Exchange of Information:

(a) Members raised the following for inclusion on the next agenda:

i. Dog Fouling and loose dogs.

ii Car Park Issues

iii Traffic signs

(b) Members raised the following which were in need of urgent attention.:

1. Highways:

i. Request for results of the traffic light monitoring survey.

ii. Request for information on the possible development of a road crossing by the shops on the A53.

iii. Poor state of the road surface and flooding on the Wem Road (Noted that this was technically outside the Parish boundary).

iv. Need for the 30mph sign on Poynton Road to be moved further out of the village.

v. Debris left on the footpath between the Farm Shop and the Telephone Exchange.

vi. Response to the paper on road signs produced by Mr. Brown.

Clerk to forward details to and request responses from Mr. Limb (Highways Maintenance) and Mr. Gradwell (Road Traffic).

2. Street Lights:

Church Close – light No.100 burning all day. Clerk to report.

3 Other:

(a) Dog bin by BMX Track vandalised and new one required.

(b) Litter bin required on left hand side of Wem Road by the RAF Base.

Clerk to report to Street Scene Manager.

(c) Details were given of Community Christmas events being planned at the Elephant & Castle Public House on December 13th.from 4.00pm.

09/123 Junior Football Club:

As there were no representatives from the Club present to outline plans for changes to the football pitch, the item was deferred to the next meeting.

09/124 Land beyond the Recreation Ground:

Council use of this area had been suggested to the Diocese some months ago and the Clerk was asked to contact them to see if any progress had been made. It was also suggested that it could be raised with Mr. Watney at the planned site meeting about the hedge.

09/125 Reports from:

(a) Police:

A written report had been received indicating that in the period since the last meeting the following offences had been recorded:

Fraud -1; Criminal damage to property -2; Criminal damage to motor vehicle -1; Theft -1; Making threats to injure -1; Possession of controlled drug -1; Possession of bladed article in public -1; Attempted theft from motor vehicle -1.

(b) Youth:

No report tabled.

(c) RAF Shawbury:

No report tabled.

(d) Shropshire Council:

No report tabled.

09/126 Planning applications:

The following applications have been approved by Shropshire Council:

Cookes Farm Shop – siting of a mobile hot food takeaway van.

44, Church Close – remedial work on an oak tree.

2, River Gardens – remedial work on an ash tree.

09/127 Committee Reports:**(a) Helicopter Noise Liaison Committee:**

Chairman reported that the Northern and Central area committees had been amalgamated and the next meeting would be on Tuesday March 30th.

(b) Moat:

Mr. Brown outlined the developments that had and were taking place. These included:

- A tea and cake afternoon to raise funds for the Moat was being held on November 11th.
- Trying to get a firm date from Mr. James for carrying out the remedial work on the trees.
- The pool was tidied up on the last Saturday session. Nearly 2,000 volunteer hours logged. One person had done 150 hours and he had done over 100.
- Mince pies and festive drinks would be available at the December tidy up session.
- Grant application for the purchase of equipment had been submitted to the Community Council.
- Meeting taking place with English Heritage and the Environment Agency on November 16th. to discuss proposals for ponds within the Moat ditch.
- Major grant application is progressing.

(c) Parish Plan:

Mr. Bailey reported that the plan had been proof read and as soon as the corrections had been completed the document would be sent to the printers. Council Members gave unanimous approval for the publication.

09/128 Press Matters:

It was suggested that the vacancy for a co-opted Councillor should be publicised again.

09/129 Date and Time of next meeting:

The next meeting will be on December 8th.at 7.00pm in Shawbury Village Hall.

Approved as a true record of the Meeting.

Signed: S. JONES Date: December 10th. 2009

Chairman