

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHAWBURY PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE
VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY DECEMBER 8TH. 2015 at 7.00pm.**

Public Session:

Mr. Richard Bailey was in attendance and advised Members that a serious amount of vandalism was taking place with waste bins pulled down and fires were being lit and bottles broken and left on some of the equipment in the children's play area on the playing field. Members agreed to the police being asked to make a positive response and to involve the Councillors responsible for issues relating to young people.

Present:

Mr. D. Roberts (Chairman)
 Ms. S. McIntosh
 Mr. P. Sharp
 Mrs. G. Matthews
 Mrs. J. Manley
 Mrs. F. Medley
 Mr. J. Kennedy
 Mr. A. G. Foster
 Mr. R. Pinches

In Attendance:

Mr. R. Bailey (for part of the meeting).
 The Parish Clerk.

Apologies:

Apologies were presented and accepted from Shropshire Councillor S. Jones and Councillors Miss R. Wall, Mrs. T. Howells and Mrs. M. Clark.

15/117 Declaration of Personal or Prejudicial Interests.

There were no interests declared.

15/118 Future of the Fireworks

Mr. Richard Bailey had been invited to the meeting to discuss the future arrangements for the Bonfire/Firework event, which he had organised for several years on behalf of the Parish Council. He had decided that next year would be the last event he was prepared to organise and was looking for someone to work with him next year and take responsibility to for it in the future if it was to continue. He briefly outlined what was entailed in the planning and oversight of the event. Although he wished to withdraw from organising the event he would happily put together a manual to assist whoever took over. It was decided to defer any detailed consideration until the next meeting when discussion would take place on the best method of organising future events and publicising the need for volunteer support. On behalf of the Council and the community, the Chairman thanked him for the tremendous effort he had put in to make this event so popular and successful.

15/119 Minutes of Meeting held on November 10th. 2015:

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

15/120 Matters Arising:

(a)Wem Road – Speed Cushions (15/104(a))

Members considered a detailed response received from Mr. Richard Ayton (Project Manager) and the email from the Clerk indicating that he had located the email outlining the planned changes, which had been forwarded to them on July 24th. 2013. The attachments with the email had contained details of planned changes to the A53 and Wem Road and this had also been sent to a range of consultees and made available at various locations in Shawbury. A decision to include speed retarders on the Wem Road had been outlined.

The contents of the documents had been discussed at the Council meeting held on August 13th. 2013 and the only response had been concerns about the location of the start of the 30mph limit on the A53. Shropshire Council had not received any responses to the proposals for Wem Road.

It was noted that the system introduced had successfully achieved the objective of reducing the speed of vehicles using Wem Road and that to introduce an alternative system would cost between ten and twenty thousand pounds, dependent on the type of system used.

It was decided that there was a need to ensure that when the current cushions needed replacing a more appropriate system was used.

(b) Highways (15/104(b&c) :

It was noted that arrangements were in hand to clear the drains to reduce the risk of roads being flooded but other than that there had been no further action regarding outstanding issues.

(c) Fitness Area (15/104(d)):

Councillor P. Sharp reported that the Council had been unsuccessful in its efforts to secure a grant from the Lottery Fund and the application to Community Green Space did not match the required criteria. It was agreed that the Clerk should discuss alternative avenues of grant aid with Sue Thomas.

(d) Bus Service to Wem:

Clerk had been notified that only two people had expressed an interest in the provision of a bus service to Wem and it was unanimously decided not to pursue this with the Bus Company and Shropshire Council.

(e) Local Council Award Scheme (15/104(l)):

Clerk reported that he and the Councillor Manley had attended the assessment meeting on November 27th. The Committee were prepared to award the Council the Foundation Award providing there was a re-location of some items on the web site to make it easier for the public to access information.

This had now been done and the Clerk had been advised that official confirmation of the award would be sent within the next few days.

(f) Shawbury Library (public session):

Chairman and Clerk reported that they had attended a meeting with representatives from Shropshire Council and the Village Hall Committee, as part of a renewed effort to get a local organisation to take responsibility for Shawbury Library.

The Chairman pointed out that there were no changes to the original plan and taking it over would cost a minimum of £18,000.00, which would mean increasing the precept by almost 40% and cost each householder about £25.00 extra on their Council Tax each year.

Although 1,000 people had signed the petition asking for the library to be retained there had been no increase in usage.

The Council were asked to consider taking responsibility for the computers and broadband connection but there was no clarity as to what this would involve and again records showed that there was minimal usage and it seemed the most popular use was for identifying family trees.

It was also noted that unlike some Parishes, the Parish Council did not have ownership of the Village Hall and this would increase the problem of managing any system.

(g) Shawbury Moat – sign (15/109):

The Vice-Chairman gave an up-date on the proposals stating that the sign had been ordered and she would arrange for its erection when it was completed.

15/121 Correspondence:

Members considered the following correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting, most of which had already been sent to them:

Mark Vickers – photograph of Shawbury.

NALC – Future audit arrangements.

It was agreed that the Council should opt into the NALC scheme for future audits.

Police Commissioner – weekly newsletter. November 13th).

SALC – Shropshire Health and Well Being – update.

EON – Scottish Power Supplies.

Councillor Tim Barker – place plans.

Clerk stated that he had attended a meeting where the future format of Place Plans was discussed. Little progress had been made and future meetings were planned for the New Year.

Councillor Madge Shingleton – Rural Service Network Conference.

Shropshire Council – Gambling Act Policy Statement (Consultation).

Dianne Dorrell – SALC Newsletter (Nov. 19th).

Richard Bailey – fallen trees in the Moat/Glebe.

These had been removed by Richard.

Alison Hanson – Erdington Play Area notices.

Mrs. Hanson had suggested improved notices could help prevent youngsters playing football in the play area. There had been no other responses or recent complaints but it was decided to consider a review of the site signs.

Shropshire Council – SAMDev briefing note.

Richard Bailey – damage to both play areas.

Shropshire Council – Keeping Healthy and Fit this winter.

Police Commissioner – Weekly Newsletter.

Shropshire Council – Big Conversation Newsletter.

Gail Power – NALC Newsletter.

P.C. Dave Carpenter – News up-date.

Shropshire Council – ‘Big Conversation’ press release.

Richard Bailey – incidents of vandalism/arson.

15/122 Accounts for Payment:

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Mr. J. Wilson	Salary (December)	£550.90
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (November) Postage	£63.48
Inland Revenue	Tax (December)	£137.60
	N.I. (December)	£1.72
Mr. R. Bailey	Maintenance (November) £440.00	
	Expenses re wild flower beds £5.00	
	Errington play area – repair £10.00	£455.00
Mr. R. Bailey	Expenses related to firework event	£145.33
Mrs. J. Manley	Travelling expenses	£5.40
Mr. T. Creber	Village Work (November)	£310.00
Centrewire	Seat for Glebe area	£219.00
Shropshire Youth Assoc.	Skateboarding event	£460.00
St. John Ambulance	Cover at Firework event	£68.64
Shawbury Village Hall	Rent for meetings in 2015	£141.00
Shawbury Village Hall	Fee for housing CCTV in 2015	£250.00

15/123 Financial Statement

A financial statement was tabled and approved.

15/124 Budget and Precept Setting.

Clerk had forwarded Members a copy of the proposed budget and supporting documents for 2016 – 2017, which had been finalised following a meeting with the Vice Chairman and Councillor Mrs. Manley.

After due consideration the budget was adopted and it was agreed to set the precept at £47,000.00, which was the same as for the previous year.

15/125 Exchange of Information:(a) Agenda Item for the next meeting:

Arrangements for future firework/bonfire events.

(b) The following items of concern were reported:(i) Highways:

No further reports tabled.

(ii) Street Lighting:

Light on car park still not working.

(iii) Other:

No issues raised.

15/126 Reports from:**(a) Police:**

Incident figures for October:

Anti-Social Behaviour – 10 (McKinley Way; Petrol Station; Harcourt Close; Oak Drive and six in Hazeldine Crescent.

Drug Offence -1 in Hazeldine Crescent (Under investigation)

Public Order Offence – 1 in Hazeldine Crescent (Awaiting Court outcome).

Shop Lifting – 1 near River Gardens (No suspect identified).

Violent Behaviour – 2 in Church Close (Court case for one and the second under investigation).

Burglary – 2 in Leasowes (Under investigation) and in Muckleton Road (No suspect identified).

(b) RAF Shawbury:

No report tabled.

(c) Shropshire Council:

No report tabled.

15/127 Planning:A. The following applications were considered.

1. Proposed dwelling adjacent to Bridge Mount, Drayton Road, Shawbury – seeking approval of reserved matters.

Objected to on the grounds that the design was inappropriate and out of keeping with other properties in the area.

2. 74, Bridgeway, Shawbury – erection of single storey extension and conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation. *Application supported.*

B. The following application had been refused by Shropshire Council:

Outline application for development on land east of Wem Road.

C. The following application had been approved by Shropshire Council:

The Old Post Office, Wem Road – removal of electric fire and replacing it with a wood burner.

15/128 Committee Reports:(a) United Charities:

Mrs Medley reported on the autumn meeting of the Committee, when it had been decided to give grants towards the carpeting of a room for a deserving parishioner; offer a grant to a young widow to enable her to provide a headstone for her deceased husband's grave; £300.00 to the Scouts and Guides to help fund the Christmas party for elderly people and small grants and hampers to a few families and /individuals.

(b) Burial Ground:

Mrs. Medley stated that she had met with the Chairman and Lt. McArdle to plan the lay out of the extended burial ground. The details were outlined and approved by Members.

Mr. Sharp reported that there had been interesting presentations from Shropshire Council Officers on Road Safety Issues and Footpaths, Bridleways, etc.

(d) Tree Officer:

Mr. Kennedy reported that he had inspected all the Council owned trees following the recent gales and there were no problems to report.

15/129 Meetings:

A calendar of dates for meetings in 2016 was approved.

15/130 Date and time of next meeting:

The next meeting will be on January 12th. 2016 at 7.00pm in Shawbury Village Hall.

Approved as a true record of the Meeting.

Signed: D. Roberts (Chairman)

Date: January 12th. 2016