

SHAWBURY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY DECEMBER 10TH. 2024 at 7.00pm.

Public Session:

There was one member of the public in attendance but no issues were raised.

Present:

Mr. P. Sharp (Chairman)

Mrs. J. Herbert

Mr. A. Foster

Mr. K. Pickering

Mr. J. Vernon

Mr. R. Pinches

Mrs. Jill Manley

Mr. C. Forshaw

In Attendance:

Shropshire Councillor Mr. S. Jones.

The Parish Clerk.

24/99 Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillors Mr. M. Roberts, Mr. A. Brown and Mr. T. Davies-Moss and Flt. Lt. J. Jones (RAF Shawbury).

24/100 Disclosure of Personal or Prejudicial Interests.

No interests were declared.

24/101 Minutes of Meeting held on November 10th. at 7.00pm.

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

24/102 Matters Arising.

(a) Burial Ground (24/89(a)).

It was reported that with the help of a group of enthusiastic service personnel from RAF Shawbury, a range of maintenance work had been carried out in the Burial ground and many of the issues which had been raised have been resolved.

However it was deemed necessary to improve some aspects of the ground, including paving some areas, levelling up graves where there had been sinkage and improving pathways. Councillor K.

Pickering had costed a series of measures and the details were passed to Members to consider before a final decision would be made at the next meeting. The overall cost of the materials would be in the region of £2,000.

(b) A53 Signage (24/89(c)).

There had not been any response from the Highways Department regarding the request to improve the road markings and the signs on the access to the Village from the Shrewsbury direction.

Shropshire Councillor S. Jones and the Clerk would continue to have discussions with Shropshire Council representatives.

(c) Parish Council Notice Board (24/92).

The Chairman reported that he had met the owner of the house where the current notice board was attached to the wall, who was happy for it to be retained there. It was noted that nearby there was a general notice board managed by Mrs Frances Medley who placed Council notices on it and it was decided to review if it could be shared and if it was necessary to retain the current board.

(d) Purchase and Planting of Trees 24/89(d)).

The Chairman reminded Members that a parishioner, who wished to remain anonymous, had made a donation of £1,000 for the purchase of trees for the Parish. Contact had been made with various garden centres and the owners of Oakgate Nursery were prepared to sell twenty suitable trees at cost price and as a gesture of good will would plant them at a discounted charge. A quotation of £800.00 was unanimously accepted.

(e) Moat -Self-Sown Trees (24/89e)).

The Vice Chairman, acting in his role as Tree Officer, had met with Mr. James Plaskett from Access2 Trees and had identified a range of self –sown trees that needed removing, to allow the more prominent trees to grow into the created space. A quote of £1,400.00 (+VAT) for removing the saplings had been received and approved and the work had been completed.

(f) Parish Paths (24/89(f))

The Chairman reported that the engagement of Harris Wilderness Mowing to carry out an experimental project on cutting back overgrown vegetation on various paths and in the Glebe area had proven to be very successful. It was agreed that the company should be contracted to carry out additional work in the Glebe area and in future Path maintenance projects.

(g) Donation from RAF Shawbury (24/94(b)).

Members recorded their thanks for the donation of £300.00 which had been given as a ‘thankyou’ for the continued support given by the Council and the Community. It was decided that the money could be used as a contribution towards the up-grade of the Burial Ground.

(h) Playing Field Fence (24/89(a)):

It was noted that JST Services had carried out an excellent job in removing the remaining wooden posts and tidying up the whole area.

24/103 Correspondence.

Members considered the attached list of correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting and forwarded to Members, noting that where necessary appropriate actions had or were being taken and responses made.

24/104 Accounts and Financial Statement:(a) Payment of the following accounts was approved:

Mr. J. Wilson	Salary (December)	£715.17
Inland Revenue	PAYE & NI Dec.)	£197.56
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (Nov.)	£49.20
Mr. M. Varndell	Litter collection and disposal (December)	£500.00
Ray Parry Playgrounds Ltd.	Installation of playing field fence	£30,524.40
JST Services	Footpath Clearance	£432.00
Mr. P. Sharp	Chainsaw, Tools, Spare Keys	£269.39
Harris Wilderness Mowing	Path Clearance	£500.00
JST Services	Removal of wooden fence posts	£576.00
Nobridge Ltd.	Ground Maintenance (05/07-25/10)	£1,796.83

(b) The Financial Statement was tabled and approved.**24/105 Budget and Precept Setting for 2025 -2026**

A draft budget prepared by the Clerk with the support of the Chairman and Vice Chairman had been forwarded to Members for consideration prior to the meeting and after discussion it was unanimously adopted. The precept was set at £58,850.00, which has remained at that level for four years even though much development has taken place, indicating careful financial management at a time of high inflation.

24/106 Exchange of Information.(a) Additional Items for inclusion on the next Agenda.

Section 137 Grants

Annual Awards.

(b) Urgent issues regarding the following:(i) Highways:

A complaint had been received regarding a vehicle being parked on a side road throughout the day. It was suggested that it was owned by the company installing the new fast fibre and Shropshire Councillor S. Jones agreed to speak to the person in charge of the local project and ask them to use the car park.

(ii) Streetlights:

No issues raised.

(iii) Other:

No issues raised.

24/107 Reports from:**(a) Police:**Incidents Recorded in October:

Possession of a weapon – 1 (Poynton Road).

Violence/Sexual – 1 (Oak Drive).

Burglary – 2 (A53).

Shop Lifting -1 (A53)

Anti-Social Behaviour - 1 (Erdington Close)

Other Crime – 1 (Wem Road).

(b) RAF Shawbury:

Flt. Lt. Jones was unable to attend the meeting and had informed the Clerk that he had been posted from RAF Shawbury and Flt. Lt. Hewitt would be attending future Council meetings. However he had forwarded the following report:

Night Flying:

The programme is complete for 2024 but will resume again next year in blocks of seven weeks with three weeks in between. The periods will be well advertised and everyone is grateful for the tolerance of this essential training.

Helicopter Noise Liaison Group:

This has now been replaced by a six-monthly Newsletter which will be distributed to all Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin Town and Parish Councils.

Airfield Works Programme:

The works programme is progressing well and will maintain the airfield operating surfaces for many more years, ensuring that flying training can continue.

Drones:

If anyone flies a drone or model aircraft locally they are recommended to check the Drone Code which is available on the CAA website as there are restrictions near all airfields regarding the flying of drones and model aircraft.

Aries Magazine:

The Winter Edition is available at the link –<https://www.rafmags.co.uk/>.

Website: <https://www.raf.mod.uk/our-organisation/ststions/raf-shawbury/>.

Low Flying Complaints: Telephone 01939 251712 or Email: SHY-LowFlying@mod.gov.uk

(c) Shropshire Council:

Shropshire Councillor S. Jones reported that:

(a) Budgets:

Shropshire Council had balanced the 2024- 2025 budget by using money from the reserve budget and consultation was underway regarding the budget for 2025-2026, with the need to identify savings across a number of areas. Before it could be finalised there was a need to see what the level of the Government grant was going to be as there were rumours that there could be changes which would reduce the amount that rural authorities receive.

(b) Green Waste:

A further £65 thousand had been raised by charging a fee for the collection of green waste and Christmas trees would only be collected from properties where a licence had been purchased.

Buses:

(c) Over the Christmas period the 64 bus service would only be operating a 'Saturday service' each day.

24/108 Planning Applications:

No applications had been received since the last meeting.

24/109 Committee and Other Reports.

No reports were tabled.

24/110 Press Matters.

The Chairman and Clerk will co-ordinate reports to the Parish Newsletter and the local Facebook page.

24/111 Date of Next Council Meeting:

Tuesday 9th. January, 2025 at 7.00pm.

Approved as a true record of the Meeting.

Signed: Paul Sharp (Chairman) **Date:** January 14th. 2025

Correspondence received since November Meeting.

Project Gigabit – Progress report.

Chris Mellings – Crowdfund Workshops.

Richard Bailey – litter.

Parish Newsletter.

Dianne Dorrell – Weekly Briefing.

Chris Mellings – Fire Service consultation.

Chris Mellings - SLCC Education Trust.

Dianne Dorrell – 'Thank you' letter

.Dianne Dorrell - Monday Briefing.

Amy Taylor – Simpler Recycling.

Chris Mellings - Poverty Awareness Day.

Mark Harris - Unsafe streetlight column.

PCSO James Robinson –Local Police Newsletter.

Chris Mellings – Shropshire Council Budget.

Tim Davies-Moss – Christmas Help

West Mercia Police – Fraud Advice.

Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital Trust – Newsletter.

Resident – Complaint about verge parking alongside the A53.