

MINUTES

of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 21st October 2024
7.30pm at Hope Bowdler Village Hall

101/24 - Present

Cllr. P Jenkins – acting Chairman for this meeting

Cllr. L Gray

Cllr. S Jones

Cllr. B Orme

Cllr. T Madeley

Cllr. C Pugh

Apologies received and accepted from

Cllr. G Watts - Chairman

In Attendance

The Clerk, one member of the public and Shropshire Cllr. C. Motley

102/24 - Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting.

Members are requested to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests they may have in matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

No declarations were made.

103/24 – Public question time

No matters were raised.

104/24 – Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th September 2024

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th September 2024 had been circulated and considered by the councillors. No objections were raised to the Minutes.

Cllr. Jones **proposed** that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 16th September 2024 be approved by the councillors.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Gray

Vote: Four in favour, two abstentions.

105/24 – Matters arising from the Minutes of 16th September 2024

086/24: The Clerk advised that Shropshire Council have not as yet issued instructions on how to book a slot to visit the Craven Arms re-cycling centre. Councillors advised that the labels to be applied to green waste bins, indicating payment had been made for waste collection, had been a fiasco as the labels would not stick to the bins.

094/24: Cllr. Madeley had asked at the July meeting, which Cllr. Motley had been unable to attend, that she should give this parish council an update on the all the outstanding planning

issues at Oaklands campsite, but nothing had been heard from her. It was agreed to take the matter up with the new MP, Stuart Anderson. and to raise further FOI requests about the payment of business rates at the property. Cllr. Motley had not arrived at this point in the meeting, and this matter was revisited: she advised she had not been able to make contact with the Enforcement Team.

098/24: Cllr. Orme had contacted Mr. Hall and he has now given an up-date on his maintenance duties around the parish and delivered an invoice.

106/24 – Reports

Cllr. Motley reported on the rains of Biblical proportions which fell on south Shropshire on 16th October: parts of A49 had to be closed and diversions put in place. Cllr. Jenkins advised that for the second time his home had been flooded, despite precautions he had put in place to avoid a repeat flooding episode. He was incensed that Highways had not done more about alleviating flooding in Hope Bowdler, an issue he has been raising for five years. Cllr. Motley responded Highways could not possibly calculate how much water would run off the hills and fields when there are exceptional amounts of rain, and that SC could not cover every problem in a county of this size, especially as it received inadequate funding from the government. Cllr. Jenkins responded that if Highways had cleaned culverts and drains regularly it would have helped. Cllr. Motley reiterated that SC is under-funded for all the work it has to do – the government haven't offered any extra funding for the care of children and the elderly; SC can't put up the council tax so can't raise more revenue. She advised SC is moving out of the Shirehall as it can't afford to heat it. Some staff will be working permanently from home and others will be re-located in the Guildhall in Frankwell. The news is that 19 local authorities are on the verge of bankruptcy.

107/24 – To discuss any planning matters.

Councillors had been surprised and concerned that planning application 24/02864/FUL, which they had supported, had been refused planning permission by SC. The application was for a modest single storey extension to the front of Chelmick Manor, which appeared to be entirely reasonable and unobtrusive. The reasons for the refusal given by the Planning Officer in her Decision Notice were considered by councillors to be ludicrous.

108/24 - Correspondence/Communications

Councillors considered the following items of correspondence:-

1. Minutes of the South Shropshire Area Committee on 19.09.24, including a presentation by Stuart Anderson MP for South Shropshire who is keen that parish council's should reach out to him.
2. Planning application result notification : 24/02864/FUL- application for erection of a single storey extension to front elevation of Chelmick House, Soudley. Refused.
3. Road closure notifications
Unnamed road between Harton and Westhope: closed on 18th December 2024 for tree trimming
Unnamed road between A49 and Acton Scott: closed on 18th & 19th November 2024
4. Email from Kirsty Prescott, Tree & Urban Forest Apprentice with Shropshire Council

seeking volunteers for future tree planting efforts & to engage in public initiatives such as a Tree Warden scheme. Contact details: Kirsty.Prescott@shropshire.gov.uk

5. Latest Update from the Leader of Shropshire Council
6. Invitation to attend a conference on nature recovery across Shropshire. It is entitled Nature Recovery Town & Parish Councils, and is on Friday 6th December, 10am to 4pm at the Sylvester Horne Institute, Church Stretton. Bookings to be made via: conferences@middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk
7. Request from John Bellis, Drainage and Flood Risk Manager at Shropshire council asking for details of any flooding issues arising from the intense rain on 16.10.24. Cllr. Madeley advised of a flood issue in Harton and that information was passed on, with a renewed request that the drainage at this site be fixed.
8. Notification and Receipt from Shropshire Archives confirming receipt of Eaton Under Heywood & Hope Bowdler Parish Council's Minutes from January 2011 to November 2022 and its Annual Accounts and Annual Return documentation from 2016 to 2022.

109/24 – Highways and Environmental matters

Cllr. Jenkins requested that Highways be contacted about the flooding in Hope Bowdler in the 16th October 2024.

Cllrs. Pugh and Orme asked that Highways be contacted about the flooding in Harton and Darby Lane.

Cllr. Jenkins asked that Mr Hall be asked to cut back the hedge behind the bus shelter in Hope Bowdler.

110/24 - Finance Report for October 2024

Balance carried forward from September 2024 **£6,296.26**

1. Payments to be made on 21st October 2024 from Precept Fund

• HSBC bank charges to 3 rd September 2024	£ 5.00		
• Clerk's net salary for October 2024	£190.39		
• HMRC - PAYE on Clerk's October 2024 salary	£ 47.80		
• <u>Admin expenses incurred in October 2024 paid by Clerk and reclaimed by her.</u>			
• Contribution towards telephone/internet provision for October 2024 @ £20 p.m.	£20.00		
• Set of ink cartridges from Badger Inks	£14.98		
• Pkt of photocopying paper	£ 4.98		
• Travelling expenses @ 45p per mile			
21.10.24 – to Hope Bowdler for PC meeting			
34 miles	<u>£15.30</u>		
Total of October 2024 admin. expenses	<u>£55.26</u>	<u>£ 55.26</u>	
-		<u>£298.45</u>	<u>£ 298.45</u>
Balance of Precept fund c/fwd to November 2024			<u>£5,997.81</u>

