

Chetwynd Parish Council

Chairman Municipal Year 2024/ 25 – Cllr Derrick Clancy

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MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING

(draft until signed at a subsequent meeting)

Held

MONDAY 19th August 2024

in

The Village Hall, Sambrook

Members Present:

Cllrs:, BUTLER, CLANCY, GRIMSTON, HUMPHREYS, PHILLIPS, ROBSON, WILLIAMSON, WILKINSON.

In Attendance: Sheila Atkinson – Clerk

30-24/25 **APOLOGIES** for **ABSENCE**, were received from:- Cllr STEFAN,

31-24/25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none. The Clerk informed Members that a document has been created to formally record members interests.

32-24/25 Members **APPROVED** the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 17th June proposed by Cllr Wilkinson seconded Cllr Humphries, signed by chairman Cllr Clancy.

33-24/25 **Public Session** - No members of the public present at the meeting.

REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

34-24/25 **Public Rights of Way Projects Report from Cllr Stefan**

Members noted and discussed some of the information which had been provided from Cllr Stefan, as a report in the agenda:-

Positive feedback has been received to the recently completed Footpath 21 works.

Clarity was provided as to the exact location and the whereabouts of Foot path 21.

However, an issue has been raised in as much as the stile has been cut into a privately owned fence and the entrance to the path is now over the entrance to Stanford Bridge Business Park rather than off the main road.

This matter is being addressed by Telford & Wrekin with the support of Cllr Stefan and should be fully resolved by the end of the year.

Cllr Robson informed members that he had been contacted by a member of the public and he had informed Cllr Stefan of the issue. Members, were disappointed that such a mistake had occurred, stating that those undertaking the work should have known the correct location, however, hoped the issue is resolved as soon as possible.

Efforts are still on-going to outline future planned works to upgrade/reinstate footpaths/ and public Rights of Way provision within the parish - one scheme of note, being the practicality of reinstating elements of "Byway 4A" or converting it to a public footpath.

Cllrs Stefan & Butler will continue to work together to provide a list of desired work to be undertaken.

Noted - Members made no comment and did not discuss the item further.

Cllr Stefan, had a very productive discussion with Rodington Parish Council in relation to understanding their current Parish Paths Partnership Agreement with Telford & Wrekin Council. Details of Rodington Parish Council's agreement and their Parish Pathways Group terms of reference have been shared with Cllr Stefan, and he will continue to explore options with Telford & Wrekin for a similar commitment (but proportionate) match funding arrangements, which could benefit Chetwynd Parish Council.

Noted - Members made no comment and did not discuss the item further.

35-24/25 Sambrook Parish Fate

Cllr Robson provided the breakdown of expenditure for the £500 grant given for the Parish Fate held in July – **attached at Appendix 'A'** and informed members of the issue of lost cheques, which was to be an agenda item under finance. He also provided an overview of the day, stating that they had been unlucky with the date as other events were taking place on the same day and numbers were down due to two birthday parties in the village. The weather and heavy rain also curtailed activities in the afternoon. However, overall the event was considered a success and various elements were well received, in particular the dog show and the sack race. Cllr Robson provided photos of the event for the council records, and acknowledged comments from members, that the event could have been advertised more widely within the parish.

36-24/25 Rural Police Vehicle Update

Members noted that Cllr Phillips had attended a virtual meeting on 25th July with Inspector Matt Sanders, PC Rigby of West Mercia Police and local surrounding parish councils, to provide information and to bring supporters up-to-date on the usage of the new rural police vehicle. She explained to members that the purchase of a Rural Police Vehicle was funded by contributions from several rural parish council's, and the Police and Crime Commissioner, and has been a successful venture. It is giving the police a "visibility" within the rural area and providing a focal point for resident to talk and raise issues with the neighbourhood policing team, and has resulted in a decrease in "mister meaner" crime. The vehicle is only for use by the local rural police team, and not part of the wider fleet vehicles and is deemed suitable for driving on "rural roads".

Members were skeptical of the benefits of providing any future funding and felt that the vehicle is just being used as a PR exercise to make life easier for the police. However, the item may be reviewed/considered at the Budget meeting.

37-24/25 Proposed Road Works on the A41

Members noted an email update from Telford & Wrekin regarding the proposed A41 Road Works scheduled for Autumn 2024. They are currently carrying out design works and looking at potential programme dates with their contractual partners. It is appreciated there

may be some concern caused with the signs only referencing Autumn 2024, however, Officers have given reassurance to the Parish Council that more precise dates will be provided as soon as possible, that they are also happy to meet with the Parish Council to discuss further, when designs and programmes are finalised.

38-24/25 Newport Community Library

Cllr Phillips and the clerk, representing Chetwynd PC, attended a meeting on 14th August regarding a request for support for the Newport Community Library from the local parish councils, Chetwynd, Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote, Church Aston, Edgmond & Tibberton.

The Town Mayor and Clerk from Newport Town Council provided a presentation and provided background to the reasoning for the town council to take on some of the additional services of the Library. Explaining that Telford & Wrekin have a statutory obligation to provide funding for a free book lending service within the unitary area, but not necessarily other library services or to continue with the current service provision in Newport.

Members have received the presentation slides and a copy of the latest draft service level agreement (SLA) which has been formed with a suggestion of £4.00 per household contribution from the local area parish council's.

Cllr Phillips provided a verbal account of the meeting, and expressed the importance of reading and the necessity for everyone to have access to books and education.

Following protracted debate on the merits of the Newport community library provision and offer and the disadvantages for this council on these proposals along with a reluctance to raise the precept, Members agreed a **RESOLUTION that, Chetwynd Parish Council enter into NO financial agreement at the moment – however, may consider ad-hoc payments or grants in the future.**

39/24-25 Community Governance Review 2023/24 - Final Consultation

Members noted the decision of Telford & Wrekin's Community Governance Review Committee (BRC) meeting held on Friday 19 July 2024 at which, due to feedback and responses provided to the committee ahead of the meeting, the BRC determined to undertake a second stage consultation, "**which proposes no changes to the boundaries of our Town and Parish Councils**" for the time being. The period for responses to the proposal at stage two now ends on 4 September 2024.

Members agreed with the suggestion included in the original draft proposals that it made sense to reduce the number of councillors for Chetwynd Parish Council to 7no., and tasked the clerk to respond to the consultation and to also support the request from Edgmond Parish Council to alter the Chetwynd boundary to include the one property on Newport Road into Edgmond PC boundary.

FINANCE

40-24/25 Banking

a. There is no progress regarding the clerk having limited authority on the bank account for the Parish Council.

b. Members received correspondence from NatWest bank informing that two cheques issued to the Sambrook Village Hall, have not been deposited and possibly misplaced, with a request for the re-issue. The matter was discussed quite vigorously, with Members raising concerns that the usual task of simply banking cheques has caused a problem. Also of concern was the business practices of a national bank. Members tasked the clerk to inform NatWest, in writing, of their worries. Also, to advise that they do not wish to be out of pocket because of this situation and should any charges be incurred to Chetwynd Parish Council they should be met by NatWest Bank. If the original cheques are found, they are not to be presented and should be destroyed.

- Members **RESOLVED to re-issue two cheques:-**
£500.00 grant for the fun day
£20.00 room hire.

41-24/25 Financial Report (*Balances, Invoices, Receipts*)

a. Cllr Clancy presented the current account bank statement up to 31 July 2024, with a statement closing balance £8,203.02. Members noted invoices issued from April to July 2024.

b. Members approved payment of Clerks expenses of £68.59.

Clerk's Note: *The list of expenditure from April to August is **attached at Appendix 'B'** and has been sent to all Cllrs following the meeting.*

PLANNING

42-24/25 Planning Applications

Cllr Humphreys informed members that there has been one application for consideration:-

TWC/2024/0558

4 Pickstock, Newport, Shropshire, TF10 8AH
Erection of a two storey gabled front extension

Members agreed that the application is uncontentious, albeit that it is in part retrospective. However, there are no concerns raised by neighbours and the response to the LPA will be No Comment.

43-24/25 Stanford Villa

Members are still concerned about the on-going development at Stanford Villa, following the enforcement complaint and the subsequent amended planning application. The garage was supposed to be finished with a rendering coating, which has not as yet been

completed, and the planted Laural Bushes outside the boundary of the property, considered to be public highway, have not been removed and are perceived to be a traffic danger. Members requested that the Stanford Villa is an agenda item for the next meeting.

44/24-25 the Local Nature Recovery Strategy Survey

Cllr Robson, tabled a hard copy of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy survey for Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin, asking members if they were aware of the document and if any one was going to complete the survey.

Members were aware of the document has it had been acknowledged as an earlier agenda item under the Rights of Way section, which had been overlooked.

There are three surveys open, one for landowners and land managers one for Town and Parish councils and another for the general public. This survey will remain open until 16 October.

Cllr Bulter will complete the survey as a “land owner” and the Clerk will complete the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

[Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Local Nature Recovery Strategy | Shropshire Council](#)

45/24-25 Emails and Web-site

Cllr Robson raised his concerns regarding the implications of the .gov email and the recent upgrade and host migration, stating he is uncomfortable with the .eu host and with using the app on his phone. Others councillors concurred, stating that they would not be using the Cllr .gov.uk email address. Cllr Humphreys questioned if the web-site was now fully functioning, as he was advertising it in the Sambrook Newsletter as “under construction” Cllr Phillips confirmed that work is still in progress with uploading and setting up the documents on the web-site, stating that it is complicated and time consuming. However, the web-site is live.

Clerk’s note .gov email: *Members have access to support through the web service provider and information is available from SALC, NALC and the ICO as to the good practice of implementing a dedicated platform for conducting council business, for the protection of individuals and the council as a corporate body.*

Signed

Dated

