Shrewley Parish Council

CLÉRK: MRS E CHOUDRY CROSSWAYS, SHREWLEY COMMON NR WARWICK CV35 7AU

Minutes of the Meeting of Shrewley Parish Council held at Shrewley Village Hall on Monday 9th January 2023 at 7pm

Present at the Meeting:

Cllr R Wesbury Chairman Cllr R Hinton Cllr H Darwen Cllr J Cleary Cllr D Lawrie Cllr S Underwood Cllr E Forty WCC Cllr Matecki (left at 19:30hrs) WDC G Illingworth (arrived 19:20hrs) WDC R Hales (left at 19:30hrs)

Clerk Eleanor Choudry Members of the Public: 3

58/22. APOLOGIES Cllr M Wood, WDC Cllr J Cooke

59/22. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Cllr Cleary declared an interest in agenda item 68.3 as her husband had quoted for the Shrewley Common crossroads maintenance contract. Cllr Cleary left the meeting at 20:22 hours and returned once the contractor had been agreed.

60/22. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:- Parish Council Meeting – Monday 7th November 2022 – approved and signed as a true record.

61/22. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - None.

62/22. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM – Resident Annie Dixon-Dunn explained that she had created a social Shrewley Community Facebook page with almost 100 followers. Events and activities within the parish can be shared. Search 'Shrewley Community' on Facebook or Instagram. The Clerk agreed to promote and use the Facebook page for parish activities.

Little Shrewley Resident Joe Taylor had emailed councillors regarding the siting of a number of old derelict caravans in Green Lane. He attended the meeting to ask whether the council could help to get the caravans removed. The history of the site was discussed. WDC G Illingworth advised that it is not illegal to store caravans on one's own land. It was agreed that Joe Taylor will send the details to WDC G Illingworth to advise further.

63/22. NEW WEST WARWICK MINIBUS DRT SERVICE – In Stuart Kocan-Paynes absence WCC Cllr Matecki was happy to advise on the service. The council received a grant to run the ongoing pilot rural bus service which is to be funded for four years. It is hoped the trial will expand into other areas. It is a new bus service so inevitable problems that are being reported are being resolved. Adult single fares are currently reduced to £2 until the end of March 2023 and the service is quieter in the mornings.

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....

11

W/22/1325 Land On The North West Side Of, Five Ways Road, Shrewley NO OBJECTION 30/9/22
W/22/1425 Forge Farm, Pinley Lane, Pinley GRANTED 7/11/22
W/22/1426 Forge Farm, Pinley Lane, Pinley REFUSED 29/11/22
W/22/1534 Ketsoc Lawns, Nunhold Road, Pinley Green, Warwick, CV35 8NA NO OBJECTION 29/10/22
W/22/1657 Pinley Farm, Pinley Road, Hatton, Warwick, CV35 8XQ NO OBJECTION 19/11/22
W/22/1962 Hawthorns, Shaws Lane, Shrewley, Warwick, CV35 7JA NO OBJECTION 28/12/22

65/22. WCC REPORT - C Cllr Jan Matecki

Applications for the Cost-of-Living Fund have now closed. All local bus fares have been reduced to a maximum of £2 until the end of March. Hospital numbers are at critical levels and there is a push for people to have their Covid and flu vaccinations. The new Oakley School will open in Bishops Tachbrook in 2024. 20,000 acorns have been planted in a Warwickshire tree nursery. A case of Avian Flu has been confirmed in Stratford-upon-Avon. Warwickshire Property and Development Group with Countryside Partnerships have agreed a joint venture to deliver 2,000 homes over the next 25 years with the majority being built in the north of the county.

66/22. WDC REPORT - D Cllr George Illingworth/Richard Hales

The district elections will take place in May so purdah will begin on the 17th March ensuring specific restrictions on communications. Projects are being finalised and the headquarters premises move to Covent Garden car park has been agreed, saving £600k. It is proposed that the WDC portion of the council tax will be frozen by bringing forward savings and using reserves. Stratford upon Avon and Warwick DC are working to produce a new South Warwickshire Local Plan which is available online at www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swip/issuesandoptions

67/22. PARISH ONLINE PRESENTATION – Cllr Wood – Apologies received.

68/22. OTHER PARISH BUSINESS

- **68.1 Community Emergency Plan –** Cllr Lawrie has completed the form for the Village Hall to be proposed as a place of refuge in an emergency.
- 68.2 Climate Action Plan Cllr Wood sent apologies.
- **68.3** Shrewley Common village green maintenance contract The Clerk presented 3 anonymised quotes to ClIrs for the maintenance contract. The quotes included a one-off cost to tidy the area and the cost of ongoing maintenance. ClIrs agreed to go ahead with the quote from Gardening by James, James Brooks because the ongoing costs were the cheapest at £35 per visit. ClIr Underwood agreed to manage the contractor. The Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Roly Robinson for his many years maintaining the crossroads.
- **68.4 Replacement Oak tree at Shrewley Common crossroads –** Cllr Forty confirmed that Heather Howell has a suitable Oak tree that will be planted at the crossroads to the left of the bus shelter.
- **68.5** Bin collection service Cllr Underwood discussed the ongoing problems she has had with the Biffa refuse collection. Cllr Underwood had complained to WDC. WDC Cllr Illingworth asked Cllr Underwood to send the details directly to him to investigate.

Cllr Lawrie and Cllr Darwen mentioned that the food waste bins are too flimsy and were being blown into the road and could potentially cause an accident.

- **68.6** Parish Assesmbly Agenda The Clerk to invite Bar Zero from Barford to attend. The agenda to include the Indie Go Bus Service, Climate Action Group and Ferncumbe News. The draft agenda to be presented at the next meeting in March.
- **68.7** Ferncumbe News complimentary copy delivery Cllr Wesbury to draw up letter explaining to residents about the initial free copy of the Ferncumbe News that has been funded by the parish council. The letter will be stapled to the outside of the magazine. Included in the letter will be details about the Shrewley Community Facebook page and the Annual Assembly Agenda. The magazine to be delivered at least 10 days before the Assembly.

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....

- **68.8 Civility and Respect Pledge –** The Clerk to sign up to the Pledge.
- **68.9 Dignity at Work Policy** The draft policy had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Darwen recommended that the policy be amended to change 'Chairman' to 'Chair' and that councillors were referred to as such throughout the document and not referred to as 'members', section 13.1 wording to be changed to 'action' not 'actions'. The Clerk to make amendments. Cllrs approved the changes and agreed to adopt the policy.

69/22. ONGOING ACTION ITEMS

69.1 Friends of Hatton Station Report – No report received.

69.2 Shrewley website update/ Statutory publication of documents on website – No update.

70/22. HIGHWAY AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH/TOWPATH MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

70. WCC Fault Reporting System: Register to track and report highway problems Highway Fault Reports

70.1 Broken missing bollards at Barn Close Nurseries bend/VAS – The number of bollards has been reduced with the remaining bollards being straightened.

70.2 Broken crossroads sign Five Ways Road/Stoney Lane – The sign remains in the hedge.

70.3 Drain opposite shop, Shrewley Common – Cllr Cleary to chase Michael Newham.

70.4 Street light repairs, Shrewley Common – All the streetlights along Shrewley Common have been repaired.

70.5 Reported smell from drain in Mill Lane, Little Shrewley – Cllr Wesbury confirmed that this has been marked up with yellow paint. Cllr Wesbury has reported a blocked drain in Little Shrewley.

70.6 WCC Verge Management Policy 2023 – We requested that a verge in Little Shrewley be included in the 'no mow policy'. We are awaiting an update.

70.7 Footpath fault report – Cllr Wesbury has reported a rotten footpath waymark post in Little Shrewley.

70.8 Towpath maintenance east end Shrewley Tunnel – Andre Batchelor, Canal and River Trust had responded to Cllr Darwen to explain that he was unaware of a request for work to be carried out.

71/22. CORRESPONDENCE – Details of the WALC Briefing Session on the Cost of Living were circulated. WALC had also sent details encouraging people to become Councillors. Elections will take place on 4th May 2023.

72/22. VILLAGE HALL UPDATE - We received response from CSW Resilience Team in December with an application form which we duly completed. It will be interesting to learn whether the Hall is suitable for registration in their organisation as a place of refuge in the case of a major emergency. The Social Club's live concert "Restless Dog" rounded off the year's entertainments with a bang, and planning has started for next year's programme. The first event of the Club's 2023 will be to screen "Maverick" the new Tom Cruise movie for members on 13th January.

73/22. MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS - None.

74/22. FINANCE

- 74.1 Review of Clerks contract There are no changes to the contract. The Clerk works for 25 hours per month at the top of LC1 scale SCP 17.
- **74.2** Internal audit 22/23 The Clerk had contacted resident Beverley Baker who previously carried out the internal audit. Beverley confirmed that she would carry out the audit for 22/23 if our advert for the post was unsuccessful. It was agreed that the position will be advertised at the Annual Assembly for an auditor for 2023/24.
- 74.3 2022/2023 Budget and Estimated Final Expenditure and Proposed 2023/24 Budget previously Circulated – The cost for the agreed maintenance at Shrewley Common crossroads was added to the budget therefore Cllrs agreed a precept for 2023/24 of £7,192. Cllr Lawrie proposed, seconded by Cllr Forty and unanimously agreed.

74.4 Permission to pay items listed below proposed by Cllr Darwen, seconded by Cllr Forty and unanimously approved.

Cheque/ BACS	Payee	Amount £
BACS	Clerk December Salary(Net),Postage £0, Printing Ink £0	259.05

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....

BACS	HMRC December Income tax	64.70
BACS	Clerk January Salary, Mileage £0, Postage £0	279.00
BACS	HMRC January Income Tax	69.75
BACS	Back dated pay increase £1 per hour as agreed by LGA from Apr 22 to Dec 22	180.00
BACS	HMRC back dated pay increase £1 per hour as agreed by LGA from Apr 22 to Dec 22	45.00
BACS	Stationery A4 paper reimburse Clerk	6.00
	Total	903.50

75/22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 6th March 2023.

76/22. CLOSURE OF MEETING – The meeting closed at 9.34pm.

Bank Reconciliation as at 31st December 2022

		£
Cash Book Balance b/f		11,194.20
Receipts		
First half precept 29.4.22	2,952.00	
Shaw Lane Rent 20.5.22	52.00	
HMRC VAT Reclaim 14.7.22	93.00	
Second Half Precept 30.9.22	2,952.00	6,049.00
Total Income		17,243.20
May payments	2,634.71	
July payments	821.39	
Sept payments	811.32	
Nov Payments	712.49	
Jan Payments		
March Payments		
Total Payments		4,979.91
CASH BOOK BALANCE		12,263.29
Balance as at 31 st December 2022		6,763.29
Reserve Account as at 31 st December 2022		5,500.00
BANK BALANCE		12,263.29

Date.....