

FORD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Council Meeting of Ford Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st November 2017 at Ford Village Hall at 7PM

Present: Cllr. J. Southan (Chairman), Cllr. A. Briggs, Cllr. W. Clyne, Cllr. S. Hanmer, Cllr. A. Horn, Cllr. S. Jones, Cllr. A. Mortimer, Cllr. L. Walton

Absent: Cllr. I. Mapp

In attendance: Shropshire Councillor R. Evans, 3 members of the public

Item	Topic/Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Resignation of Chairman and election of a new Chairman Councillor Hanmer had resigned as Chairman (not as councillor) and her resignation was accepted and she was thanked for her service.</p> <p>Nominations were invited for chairman and it was RESOLVED to elect Councillor Southan. He duly signed his declaration of acceptance of office, witnessed by the clerk. Councillor Southan said that he would not wish to continue in the role beyond May 2018.</p>	
2.	<p>Election of Vice Chairman Following the election of Councillor Southan, as per Item 1 above, the Vice Chairman's role was now vacant. It was RESOLVED to elect Councillor Jones as Vice Chairman. Councillor Jones said that he would not wish to become Chairman in May 2018.</p>	
3.	<p>Apologies for absence Received and accepted from Councillor Mapp.</p>	
4.	<p>Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and requests for dispensations under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 Councillor Hanmer declared a bias in relation to item 15b and indicated that she would leave the room when this item was reached.</p>	
5.	<p>Public Participation Session A member of the public indicated that she had come to speak about planning application number 17/05227/VAR. Councillor Jones suggested that as Cllr. Evans needed to leave quickly, that the Chairman suspend standing orders in order to allow the applicant to speak when this item was reached as opposed to her speaking now.</p>	

	<p>Val Horn spoke on behalf of Ford Village Hall. She was asking if the car park grounds maintenance is paid for by the Village Hall or the parish council. The clerk replied that the council does not pay for the maintenance. The clerk agreed to send a grant form in order for the Village Hall to apply for a grant towards maintenance. Val also spoke regarding an asbestos test which she understood is a legal requirement for the Hall. Quotes have been received for this and it is circa £330. Val updated the council on the damage that had occurred to the Hall during youth club sessions. This included footprints on the toilet systems and a flood as a result of a broken pipe in the toilets. A meeting had been held with the youth club and they had paid for the damage and the matter had now been resolved.</p>	
6.	<p>Minutes of meetings held on 19th September, 5th October, 24th October 2017 and notes of the meeting held on 14th November</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes as being a correct record and they were duly signed by the chairman.</p>	
7.	<p>Shropshire Councillor report</p> <p>Councillor Evans reported that Shropshire Council has severe financial problems and is currently using a lot of one-off funding and reserves to try and balance the budget. It is projected that there will be a £5 million overspend by the end of 2017/18 and that there will be a £20 million hole in the finances in 2019/20. If officer recommendations in a recent report are followed (a spending freeze and recruitment freeze), Shropshire Council is predicted to end the financial year with a reduced deficit of £440,000. A budget recommendation will go to Cabinet in December 2017.</p> <p>In relation to the current consultation on youth funding, Councillor Evans explained that when the report of the Scrutiny group went to Cabinet, the officers rewrote the Scrutiny report so that the geographical approach recommended by the Scrutiny report has not followed and funding is just proposed to be concentrated in the market towns, leaving none for the rural areas. The proposals are currently out for consultation and a special LJC meeting is being arranged with the Portfolio holder, Cllr. Bardlsey, on 29th November.</p> <p>Councillor Evans referred to a statement in the press regarding ten refugee children placed in the care of Shropshire Council. It was reported that they were dropped off in Shrewsbury and funds of circa £1 million had been spent looking after them to date. Six of the ten refugee children have now gone missing.</p> <p>The Cultural Strategy is currently out consultation and it is recommended that the swimming pool stay at The Quarry.</p> <p>In relation to the Local Plan Review consultation, Councillor Evans encouraged the parish council to look at if the points scoring of the settlement is correct. The clerk had raised a query in relation to if The Smoke Stop has a public house licence. Councillor Evans had investigated this with the Licensing Officer who advised him that it has a full licence, including a pub</p>	

	<p>licence. Councillor Hanmer said she had heard information to the contrary from the restaurant owners who reported that they have a restaurant licence. Councillor Evans explained that a full pub license would also allow the business to serve food and that this may explain the difference in information.</p> <p>Councillor Evans spoke in regard to the application for houses on the A458 next Trinity School. A revised plan has been drawn up due to an objection from Highways England in regard to visibility splays. Councillor Horn asked about the unilateral undertaking of £25,000 and the requested bus shelter. Councillor Evans reported that the planning officer is inclined to approve the application in principle, subject to clarification regarding the undertaking and the bus shelter.</p>	
8.	<p>Parish Councillor reports</p> <p>None.</p>	
9.	<p>Local Plan Review</p> <p>The council reviewed the scoring assigned to Ford and considered whether Ford should be designated as a community hub. It was RESOLVED that Ford should not be a community hub. A full copy of the consultation response is appended to these minutes.</p>	
10	<p>Parish Plan Review</p> <p>It was noted that at the meeting held on 14th November there had been interest from the public in reviewing the Parish Plan. It was agreed to arrange a further public meeting in relation to this matter in March, with the preferred evening being a Thursday.</p>	RT
11.	<p>Place Plan Review</p> <p>The current Place Plan priorities did not require amendment.</p>	
12.	<p>Youth funding consultation</p> <p>The council were extremely concerned in regard to the proposed withdrawal of the rural funding element of LJC grant funding towards youth clubs. It was noted that removal of the youth funding would place the youth club in a difficult position financially and increase the risk of antisocial behaviour. This was a particular concern if Ford is to be designated as a hub and bearing in mind that 32 new homes are already proposed at the site adjacent to Trinity School. Without the youth group, there would therefore be a very limited amount of young people to do in the evenings. It was therefore RESOLVED to object to the proposals.</p>	
13.	<p>Parish Matters</p> <p>i. <i>Greenbanks, Ford</i></p> <p>Councillor Jones reported that the owner of the property had called him and had offered an assurance to the parish council that he will be taking action to tidy up the property shortly. He had also indicated that he potentially had a purchaser interested in buying the property.</p>	

<p>ii. <i>Defibrillator</i> It was RESOLVED to purchase the defibrillator at a cost of £1692 including VAT. Councillor Horn said that he has sourced an electrician who will carry out the connection work for free. He advised the council that governance procedures will need to be in place and that training will be required but the defibrillator is very intuitive to use. It was noted that the defibrillator had been purchased at a discount and the clerk therefore asked Councillor Horn to provide her with the market rate of the defibrillator so that insurance for it could be investigated.</p> <p>iii. <i>Street light reports</i> The clerk had received several reports of lights not working. All of these were Shropshire Council lights and been duly reported.</p> <p>iv. <i>Noticeboards</i> The clerk been in contact with the Village Hall in regard to this and been advised that new boards are being made for the hall.</p> <p>v. <i>Footpath issues - update</i></p>	AH
<p>vi. <i>CCTV recreation ground</i> It was noted that the wildlife camera loaned by Shropshire Council had now been removed. Councillor Clyne recommended that the council purchase its own CCTV camera and had obtained a quote for this. The clerk advised that prior to the purchase and installation, the council should put in place procedures for managing the CCTV data from it. The council RESOLVED to go ahead and purchase and install the CCTV immediately at a cost of £233.80.</p>	WC
<p>vii. <i>Ford Citizen of the Year</i> Cllr. Horn outlined a proposal to have a Citizen of the Year award as a way of recognising good deeds and achievements. It was RESOLVED to pursue this on a one year trial basis with the award to be given at the Annual Parish Meeting. A small reward, such as a trophy/voucher/plaque will be given. The award will be advertised in the newsletter and nomination forms invited. Cllr. Horn offered to draw up the nomination forms. A group of 3 councillors would assess the nomination forms.</p>	AH
<p>viii. <i>Parish Council logo</i> Several possible designs for a logo had been received. However, there had not been time to circulate them prior to the meeting and it was therefore agreed to defer this item until January.</p>	RT
<p>ix. <i>Reports of other parish matters</i> Councillor Jones expressed concern about the number of cats which are disappearing in the village. He suggested that this matter needs to be highlighted in the newsletter and that people should report cats that go missing to the police. It was agreed that it would be useful to keep a log</p>	SH/AB

	<p>of cats which go missing and whether they are found. Councillor Hamner and Lindsay Wharton (who had lost 3 cats of her own) undertook to keep a log and work with the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Councillor Briggs on this matter</p> <p>It was also reported that a pothole at the entrance to Manor Crest was quite large. Clerk to report.</p>	RT
14.	<p>Planning Matters</p> <p>a. Planning Decisions & Updates</p> <p>i. 17/03865/FUL - Proposed Residential Development Land North Of A458, Ford, Shrewsbury, Shropshire Erection of 32No dwellings and formation of vehicular access Comments: The council noted the amendment to the plans and it was <u>RESOLVED</u> to reiterate the previous concerns raised.</p> <p>ii. 17/04785/TCA - Leasowes Recreation Ground, Ford Notification of tree works to include: pollarding of four Crack Willow trees; removal of planting guard around 1 Oak tree; all lying within the Ford Conservation Area Decision: No Objection</p> <p>b. Planning Applications for comment</p> <p><i>Councillor Hanmer left the room.</i></p> <p>i. 17/05227/VAR – 4 Manor Crest, Ford, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 9NZ Removal of condition 4 (parking) attached to 14/00259/FUL dated 24.3.14</p> <p><i>It was <u>RESOLVED</u> to lift standing orders to allow the applicant to speak.</i></p> <p>The applicant explained that she had obtained planning permission to extend her property and that this application relates to the variation of the condition attached to the application concerning parking. Since she built her extension, her circumstances have changed and she has split up with her partner. The house was previously 3 bedroomed and is now 4 bedroomed. When it had 3 bedrooms, a car was always parked on the road. The planning officer had said that this was not blocking access and the building control would not have signed it off had it not been satisfactory. The proposed area for parking in the original planning permission is not suitable as it is on a steep slope is very small and there is a lamppost in the way. The applicant said that there is already gravel on the proposed parking area and that there is a bush in the area as well. The applicant considered that creating an extra parking space does not solve anything as people can still legally parked on the road.</p>	

	<p><i>Councillor Southan left the room at this point as he is a neighbour to one of the properties opposite number 4 Manor Crest. Councillor Jones took the chair and Standing Orders were resumed.</i></p> <p><i><u>Comments:</u> It was RESOLVED to make a neutral representation as it is the council's understanding that a gravelled area where the second car space is indicated on the plans is already in existence. Therefore, if the bush were removed this area could be used to park a second car.</i></p> <p><i>Councillor Hanmer and Councillor Southan returned to the room and Councillor Southan resumed the chair.</i></p>	
15.	<p>Police/Neighbourhood Watch/Community Speedwatch</p> <p><i>Police Report – During October: 2 ASB, 2 x Burglary, 2 x criminal damage to a vehicle. It was also reported that there is still an issue with antisocial behaviour at the playing field. During one instance, some children had told their parents they were at youth club but were on the playing field causing trouble. Councillor Hanmer to give details of those concerned to Councillor Briggs.</i></p>	SH
16.	<p>Ford Recreation Ground - tree report, ROSPA report and valuation report</p> <p><i>The tree works have now been carried out. The logs are due to be removed shortly.</i></p> <p><i>Some minor repairs are needed to the basketball court and the clerk was asked to organise this.</i></p>	RT
17.	<p>Youth Group</p> <p><i>It was noted that extra checks have been put in place to ensure that any instance during the sessions are reported to the village hall as soon as possible. The council was grateful to the hard work of all of the volunteers who run the youth club.</i></p>	
18.	<p>Loton, Longden, Ford and Rea Valley LJC</p> <p><i>It was noted that a special meeting of the LJC will take place on 29th of November in regard to youth issues.</i></p>	WC
19.	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>a. External auditor report and conclusion of external audit 2016/17 <i>This was noted.</i></p> <p>b. Q2 bank reconciliation <i>This was noted, with the reconciled balance being £34,714.62.</i></p>	

c. Payments for approval, including payments made to meetings

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

Ref	Payee	Item	Chq no /payment type	Amount
P65-1718	Landright Services	Tree work	BACS	£1560.00
P66-1718	Mazars	External audit	BACS	£120.00
P67-1718	SCPF	Pension October	BACS	£72.73
P68-1718	Defib Store	Defibrillator	BACS	£1692.00
P69-1718	Great Hanwood PC	Equipment	BACS	£28.95
P70-1718	Landright Services	Grass cut (shortfall)	BACS	£20.00
P71-1718	R Turner	Expenses & Oct salary shortfall	BACS	£165.55
P72-1718	Solon Services	CCTV camera	BACS	£233.80

d. Income received

None.

e. Amendments to bank mandate

The clerk said that the mandate forms were now out of date so councillors were asked to sign a new copy the mandate. Once the signatories have been added, those councillors who are not currently internet banking users will need to apply to the bank to be given access to internet banking.

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20.	Correspondence This item was deferred.	
21.	SALC legal advice This item was deferred.	

Signed by ChairmanDate