



Parish Clerk/RFO: Rebecca Turner, The Old Police House, Nesscliffe, SY4 1DB
Telephone: 01743 741611, email: fordparishcouncil@outlook.com
Website: www.fordparishcouncil.org.uk

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18th JULY 2023, AT 7PM, AT THE URWICK ROOM, FORD VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs. Horn (Chairman), Clyne, Deane, Paterson, Southan, Wells

Absent: Cllrs. Carlyle and Walton

Public: SC Roger Evans

In attendance: R. Turner (Clerk)

29/2324 **PRESENT, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Cllrs. Carlyle and Walton.

30/2324 **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS & DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

- a) *Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting and which is not included in the register of interests.*
- Cllrs. Paterson and Clyne declared a potential perceived bias regarding item 37/2324f as the trees are located between their homes.
- b) *Dispensation requests - none.*
- c) *Gifts or hospitality – none declared.*

31/2324 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

A period of 15 minutes is set aside to allow the public the opportunity to speak on an agenda item. A member of the public who lives close to the parish spoke. He runs a cleaning products business and is a member of the Rapid Relief Team charity, who provide support for persons in need and community care and compassion. He was keen to organise a litter pick to help the community. Cllr. Horn explained the kits are on loan, but he will ask for them back. The council thanked him for his much-appreciated offer of help.

32/2324 **MINUTES** – it was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting dated 13th June 2023 as being a true record and to authorise the chairman to sign them.

The meeting adjourned to visit the play area (ref item 43/2324) before bad weather started.

At 7.30pm the meeting resumed.

33/2324 **REPORTS**

- a) *Police Report, including update to quarterly charter priorities – it was noted that a PCSO was outside the school today.*

The quarterly police community charter parties were agreed as being:

- 1) ASB,
- 2) Parking by the school
- 3) Criminal damage.

The parish council noted its disappointment that the police are not adhering to what they promised in terms of reports/communication.

Action: Clerk to submit priorities and ask for more frequent communication.

b) *Shropshire Council*

Cllr. Evans reported:

- **SC finances** - £7.1 million in general reserves as at 31.3.23. On 1st April, £37.1 million was held broken down, the additional £30 million being £20 million anticipated savings budgeted to go into general reserves, and £10 million in earmarked reserves, which can be put into general reserves.
- **Pest control** – this service may cease.
- **Divisional Boundary Review** -SC is supporting Bicton going into Loton Division and Ford staying in Longden division. The LGCBE's decision is awaited.
- **NWRR** - was due to go to Planning Committee in July. £5 million of funding coming from LEP which is winding up soon. The LEP is pushing for planning approval so that they know the money will be spent on the NWRR. EA queries re piles for road bridge by the Shelton aquifer which supplies Shrewsbury's water. Concern re damage to water supply. SC have not guaranteed that any costs of damage to the water network will be covered. The application will now go to an autumn committee. LEP due to meet in September. The local MP is claiming the road will cost £30 million above the original forecast – he is approaching the government for funding.
- **Highways consultation** - to 3,000 residents.
- **Bus changes** - pilot in October in Longden and Radbrook for bus on demand service.
- **Over 16 transport dispute** – SC will only provide statutory required transport, not discretionary funded services, such as nursery and Post 16 SEN Transport.
- **Future Fit** – planning application going in. Shrewsbury proposed as the main A & E, PRH as a clinical centre.
- **Swimming pool** – the Quarry pool is re-opening in September
- **Blue badge applications** – currently long delays.
- **Grant for Afghan refugees** – obtained.
- **Houses** – looking at where homes can go re the Local Plan Review.
- **Glyphosate** – only to be used in certain circumstances.

Cllr. Horn asked if the recent tragic fatality at Alberbury Road may change the situation re the walk to school status of this route? Two lorries were on the road and a car overtook and crashed into an oncoming vehicle. This tragic incident exemplifies safety issues posed by speeding vehicles and HGVs using the road.

Action: Clerk to raise.

- c) *Newsletter* – 15th August deadline. Cllr. Horn reported there will be a further 5% increase due to increased consumable costs. Average cost £240 per edition. The council agreed to this as the quotes sought recently were still very competitive, when comparing the supplier to others.
- d) *Ford Parish Paths Partnership* – no update. Still waiting for agreement to start on the installation of 3 stiles in Ford Heath.
- e) *Open Space Working Group* –Cllr Clyne reported that the play area install is almost complete.
- f) *Public Realm Working Group* – Cllr. Deane had no update. Proposals include tubs and wildflower planting by the noticeboard. Cllr. Wells raised the issue of numerous hedges and trees overgrowing paths from Butt Lane to the school, causing aesthetic and safety issues. Overgrowth around noticeboard also noted.

Actions:

- Cllr. Horn to contact the owner of The Oaklands re the hedge.
- Clerk to write a general newsletter reminder to cut hedges.
- Cllr. Deane to follow up on getting costs for projects identified.
- Cllr. Wells to join the group and lead it, supported by Cllr. Clyne; a meeting will be arranged.

g) *Parish councillor reports (of external meetings attended)*

None.

- 34/2324 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**
- a) *Q1 Budget Report and Bank Reconciliation* – the report was noted, as per Appendix 1. The reconciled balance is £84,056.84, as at 30.6.23, with payments totalling £6,081.19 and receipts of £25,137.34.
 - b) *To approve payments including payments made between meetings*
 - c) *To note income received*
 - d) *Appointment of internal auditor 2023/24* – it was **RESOLVED** to appoint SDH Accounting.

- 35/2324 **PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS – FOR INFORMATION**
- 1) 23/02015/FUL - Ford Pumping Station, Ford, Shrewsbury, Shropshire
Proposal: Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for installation of a kiosk, security fence and retention of a container housing ultraviolet treatment
Decision: Grant Permission

- 36/2324 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS – FOR CONSIDERATION**
- 1) 23/02717/FUL - Orchard House, Chavel, Ford, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 9LB
Proposal: Replace current large shed with a double garage with a room over. The building will be used for Gym/ tool storage and cars and is not for commercial use.
Comments: It was **RESOLVED** to not comment.
 - 2) 23/03014/FUL and 23/03015;BC - Tythe House Farm, Ford, Shrewsbury, SY5 9DG
Proposal: Erection of a detached garage office outbuilding.
Comments: It was **RESOLVED** to not comment.

- 37/2324 **PARISH MATTERS**
- a) *Highway maintenance matters, including street light faults*
 - A recurrent street light fault has now been fixed.
 - b) *Playing field matters*
 - It was agreed to seek quotes to replace the broken football nets. get quote for a net.
Action: Cllr. Clyne to take measurements.
 - Overgrown hedge at pedestrian entrance close to the village green.
Action: Cllr. Clyne to find out the house number and clerk to write.
 - c) *Greenbanks* – Cllr. Evans asked the parish council if they still want the issue to be addressed. The council replied that it did.
Action: Cllr. Evans to request that SC looks into taking action.
 - d) *Parking near to Trinity CE School* – noted that the issue is going.
Action: Clerk to ask Shaun Sutton to attend at start of the new school year and issue PCNs as necessary.
 - e) *Request for slow sign and pedestrian warning sign, Back Lane, Ford* – SC Highways have noted the request but budget issues mean no action is possible at this time.

Cllrs Clyne and Paterson took no part in the decision on item f.
 - f) *Tree between 3 and 4 Quail Ridge* – it was noted that one tree is growing fast, 1/3rd of it is overhanging a private garden. Cllr. Paterson has raised concerns about safety and aesthetics as it is unbalanced relative to the other tree and drops fruit in the garden. It was noted that ownership of the land is unclear so nothing further can be done until ownership is established.
Action: Clerk to research who owns the land.
 - g) *Place Plan Review* -it was **RESOLVED** to highlight the following projects:
 - Allotments
 - Open spaces & public realm
 - Roundabout at head of Butt Lane to safely manage traffic flow
 - School parking and pick up/drop off and 20mph in vicinity of the school
 - 30 mph limit on Welshpool Road
 - Pedestrian and slow signs back lane.

- Upgrade the VAS signs to smart ones that show speed.
- Improved footpath and cycle links
- Pedestrian crossing to the garage on A458
- Mirror by the telegraph pole at entrance to West View to aid visibility when pulling out.

Action: Clerk to circulate the list and submit it. The list will be put on the next agenda for further review in September.

- h) *Clerk's SLCC membership and training* – it was **RESOLVED** to contribute 1/3rd towards clerk's annual SLCC fees and 1/3rd towards training.
- i) *Reports of other parish matters* – none.

38/2324 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) *OPCC Annual Survey*

Action: Cllr. Deane to complete.

- b) *Climate Change and Energy Bill* – it was **RESOLVED** not to write in support at this time.

39/2324 **NEXT MEETING**

- a) *Council meeting, 19th September 2023, 7pm, The Urwick Room, Ford Village Hall*
- b) *Items for next meeting agenda- to note requests*
- *Place Plan*

40/2324 *It was **RESOLVED** that pursuant to Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972 and pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and press be excluded during discussion of Items 41 to 42 /2324 due to the likely disclosure of confidential information*

41/2324 **PENSION MC CLOUD REVIEW** – it was noted that the council is assessed as being in the lowest risk category re this issue. It was **RESOLVED** to note the outcome and sign the form agreeing with the risk assessment outcome.

42/2324 **PLAY AREA INSTALLATION** – *update on contractual matters* – a number of issues that need addressing were identified. It was noted that the play area is safe to open. However, a full handover and as such payment cannot be made whilst there are outstanding works.
Action: Clerk and Open Space WG to liaise with contractor.