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**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023, AT 7PM, AT  
THE URWICK ROOM, FORD VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllrs. Horn (Chairman), Carlyle, Clyne, Southan, Walton

Absent: Cllrs. Deane, Paterson and Wells

Public: SC Roger Evans, 9 public, Mathew Mead (Place Plans Officer SC)

In attendance: R. Turner (Clerk)

43/2324 **PRESENT, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Cllrs. Paterson and Wells.

44/2324 **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.*

None declared.

b) *Dispensation requests*

None being sought.

c) *Gifts or hospitality*

None declared.

45/2324 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

**The following concerns were raised:**

***Speeding traffic /road safety***

- Childminders drop offs at Dinky's Hill – very fast driving.
- Speeding by school.
- Resident on A458 – seen a big increase in speed. Four accidents on crossroads in last 6 years.
- House on corner nearly hit as cars turn corner.
- Crossing main road unsafe.
- Motorbikes unsafe driving/overtaking – swerved into oncoming traffic to avoid sleeping policeman.
- Cross Gates Meadow – cats being killed at night.
- Pulling out of Cross Gates Meadow – road is so straight for such a period that speed builds up. Cars often don't slow until near petrol station. Struggle to slow down in time. Need some sort of physical barriers like speed bumps.
- Vehicles tailgating/intimidating driving.
- Noise level from lorries.
- Chavel resident – see people speeding up and not slowing. Get a lot of overtaking at Chavel junction.
- Poor adherence to speed limit.
- Narrow pathway Chavel to Ford – wind rush from trucks.
- Potential impact of more houses.
- Not enough signage and lot of what is there is faded.
- Suggest traffic island on Butt Lane head on A458.
- Need crossing for A458.
- Speed checks need to be done in week at peak times not weekends.
- Speed camera?

Cllr. Carlyle commented that at Loton WI in Alberbury, Mr John Campion is coming on the first Thursday in October at 2pm. She suggested people come and question him.

The chairman said that the PC has been working behind the scenes in regard to these issues. Key points:

- 1) *Local Policing Community Charter* – speed and school safety key issues. Met with previous village constable May 2021 – was going to write to try and bid for the motorcycle traffic sped enforcement team to visit Ford. Was raised again with R Walters earlier this year
- 2) *Met Highways England Nov 2021* to discuss speeding issues and asked for fading 40mph signs to be replaced. Mar 2023 put temp signs up
- 3) *Monitoring ANPR camera pilot on A488* – some public. Some teething issues.
- 4) *Looked at grant aid for upgrading VAS* – people asking for it.
- 5) Police cover 300 sq miles which limits how much they are in Ford.

#### **Cllr. Evans comments:**

- *Police cover* – speeding and visibility in parishes. Police priority from higher up is videos of shoplifting and town-based issues. Leaves little time for rural areas.
- *Police officers increased but not back to 2010 level*, especially when you factor in growth over the last 13 years.
- *Chief Constable held to account by John Campion*. Chief Constable finishes soon and new one being appointed. It was suggested to write to Mr Campion – publish in newsletter and can write to him.
- *Public advocating community action*
- *Cllr. Evans led ANPR project as part of his role at Hanwood* – consortium of councils on A488. Vehicles travelling at higher speed are reported to the police, for educational action. ANPR cameras not used for prosecution. The cameras have had a positive effect.
- *Cllr. Horn asked for speed gun volunteers 4 years ago* but had no community volunteers
- *Welshpool Rd* – problems coming off the main road especially in reservation as turn right. An island has been suggested.
- *VAS signs on lampposts need updating.*
- *Speed on main A458* needs to be slowed down.
- *Cllr. Evans said SC have contacted Highways England, as had Ford PC* – Cllr. Evans said residents can contact the local Highways England Office Richard Timothy on 07849 078655.

The clerk suggested requesting ATC counters on main road to establish speeds at all times of day.

#### **Actions:**

- Request from Highways England ATC on main road.
- CSW – ask police to come out and assess the site. Needs 6 /7 volunteers.
- Write to the MP and PCC.
- Publicise WI meeting.

A member of the public reported anti-social behaviour and swearing at the playground and a person being threatened with a weapon. Some of the perpetrators are late primary/early secondary. The chairman expressed his concern.

Action: Clerk to highlight this issue to the police.

46/2324 **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR** – the applicant was not able to attend so this item was deferred until October

47/2324 **PLACE PLAN**  
Mathew Mead explained about Place Plans. In summary, they set out the community infrastructure needs of areas across Shropshire. They are currently being reviewed. Place Plans are split into projects of different levels linked to different funding pots.

STRATEGIC – essential infrastructure on a major area, typically covering a wide area .g. NWRR.

LOCAL – key services in an area like schools, doctors.

NEIGHBOURHOOD – parish level projects

It was noted that Highways England have put nothing forward for the A458 – MM said he can take this forward through the External Infrastructure Group

### **Projects for Ford**

It was **RESOLVED** to agree the following:

Community safety on A458 is key –house building will increase in/out traffic – CIL Local being sought to fund an island. Cost unknown, timescale within a year.

#### **HIGH PRIORITY**

- Roundabout at head of Butt Lane to safely manage traffic flow.
- Enforce current speed limits and assess need for reduction to 30 mph limit on Welshpool Road
- Upgrade the VAS signs to smart ones that show speed.
- Pedestrian crossing to the garage on A458
- Bus shelter A458
- School parking and pick up/drop off and considering lower speed limit in vicinity of the school. SC highways don't think issue asking from strips on the road. M Mead suggested ask Safer Schools' team – shared with school travel plan co-Ordinator.

#### **MEDIUM PRIORITY**

- Pedestrian and slow signs on Back Lane -
- Mirror by the telegraph pole at entrance to West View to aid visibility when pulling out.
- Allotments - £30,000
- Village hall improvements.
- Flooding – Jacksons Bank and sewerage leakage.
- Shoot Hill – flooding.
- Broadband.

Action: Clerk to submit projects and incite Safer Schools Team to visit Ford, looking at school travel plan.

48/2324 **MINUTES** – it was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023 as being a true record and to authorise the chairman to sign them

#### 49/2324 **REPORTS**

a) *Police Report*  
None.

b) *Shropshire Council*  
Cllr. Evans reported that a funding uplift is needed for the NWRR and the Marches LEP money may be withdrawn.

c) *Ford Parish Paths Partnership*  
Cllr. Horn reported that the partnership is not continuing at present as it is surplus to the requirements of the agreement; the last projects were done with Shrewsbury Ramblers.

d) *Parish councillor reports (of external meetings attended)*  
None.

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**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

a) *Payments including payments made between meetings – it was **RESOLVED** to approve the following:*

Ref	Payee	Item	Method	Net	VAT	Gross
P31-2324	R Turner	Salary	SO	£857.07	£0.00	£857.07
P32-2324	V Abbotts	Caretaker	SO	£83.33	£0.00	£83.33
P33-2324	Landright Services	Maintenance	SO	£287.50	£57.50	£345.00
P34-2324	EON	Street lighting	BACS	£221.19	£44.24	£265.43
P35-2324	Landright Services	Maintenance	BACS	£375.00	£75.00	£450.00
P36-2324	Ford Village Hall	Room hire	BACS	£140.00	£0.00	£140.00
P37-2324	V Abbotts	Caretaker	SO	£83.33	£0.00	£83.33
P38-2324	Landright Services	Maintenance	SO	£287.50	£57.50	£345.00
P39-2324	R Turner	Salary	SO	£263.84	£0.00	£857.27
P40-2324	SCPF	Pension	SO	£173.26	£0.00	£173.26
P41-2324	Shropshire Council	Energy	BACS	£211.23	£42.25	£253.48
P42-2324	R Turner	Expenses	BACS	£86.65	£0.00	£86.65
P43-2324	Shropshire Council	Bin collection	BACS	£163.00	£0.00	£163.00
P44-2324	Kingsley press	Newsletters	BACS	£467.00	£0.00	£467.00
P45-2324	PKF	Audit	BACS	£315.00	£63.00	£378.00
P46-2324	Huck nets	Football nets	BACS	£53.16	£10.63	£63.79
P47-2324	HMRC	PAYE Q2	BACS	93.10	£0.00	£93.10
P48-2324	Telford and Wrekin Council	GDPR Service	BACS	£205.00	£41.00	£246.00

b) *Income received – noted as follows:*

Ref	Payee	Item	Amount
R6-2324	Lloyds	Interest	£12.34
R7-2324	HMRC	VAT refund	£5,028.98
R8-2324	Lloyds	Interest	£13.44
R9-2324	Lloyds	Interest	£16.99

c) *Mid-year internal control check – it was agreed to nominate Cllrs. Carlyle and Southan to carry out the check with the clerk, at Cllr. Carlyle's house.*

d) *External audit report and conclusion of audit 2022/3 -external audit complete with no matters raised.*

51/2324

**PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS – FOR INFORMATION**

1) 23/03014/FUL - Tythe House Farm, Ford Heath, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 9GD

Proposal: Erection of detached garage office outbuilding

**Decision: Grant Permission**

52/2324

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS – FOR CONSIDERATION**

Late application:

23/23/03962/FUL - Robins Yard, Ford, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 9LZ

Proposal: Extension to existing greenhouse, erection of a summer room and erection of a privacy screen

**Action: It was **RESOLVED** to delegate to the clerk to respond.**

53/2324

**PARISH MATTERS**

- a) *Highway maintenance matters*  
None reported.
- b) *Playing field matters*
- (i) *Replacement football nets needed*  
Action: Clerk to order.
  - (ii) *Covid signs now removed and it was **RESOLVED** that a Covid risk assessment is no longer needed.*
- c) *Tree between 3 and 4 Quail Ridge*  
Ownership now established but not resolved yet.  
Action: Clerk to follow up with the company landowner.
- d) *Reports of other parish matters*
- West View – binmen urinating on large tree opposite  
Action: Cllr. Clyne to speak to them before taking formal action.
  - Ford Hall – large fir tree concern it may fall.  
Action: Clerk to write to trees department.

54/2324

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) *SALC AGM*  
Action: Cllr. Caryle to attend.
- b) *SALC Shrewsbury Area Committee*  
Action: Cllrs. Deane and the clerk to attend.
- c) *D-Day commemoration*  
Action: Deferred to next agenda

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**NEXT MEETING**

- a) *Council meeting, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023, 7pm, The Urwick Room, Ford Village Hall*
- b) *Items for next meeting agenda-*

55/2324

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 should be excluded during discussion of Items 56 to 57/2324 due to the likely disclosure of confidential information

56/2324

**SUBSTATION LEASE**

The solicitor has made contact and there have been delays on the other party's side. The map shows the access as being via The Leasowes not Butt Lane. The solicitors are reviewing the map.  
Action: Clerk to pursue lease completion and backdated payments.

57/2324

**PLAY AREA INSTALLATION – update on contractual matters**

There have been a number of snagging issues and the leaves are not the same way up. The contractor has been asked to correct this. It was **RESOLVED** to:

- Seek a credit note for the £1,000 pre-agreed discount prior to processing the invoice.
- Offer either payment after 30 Days or a retainer which will be paid once new leaves on.