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**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022, AT 7.30PM, AT  
THE URWICK ROOM, FORD VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr. Horn (Chairman), Cllrs. Carlyle, Clyne, Deane, Paterson, Southan  
Absent: None  
Public: SC Roger Evans, 4 members of the public  
In attendance: R. Turner (Clerk)

32/2223 **PRESENT, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Noted as above. The resignation of Cllr. Hanmer was noted.

33/2223 **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.
- c) *Gifts or hospitality*  
None declared.

34/2223 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

The chairman brought forward item 40/2223d, regarding request from multiple members of the community for allotments. The chairman read out the request from 14 residents interested in having an allotment in the parish. A member of the public read out further comments from those interested in allotments. The following points were noted:

- 6 apologies from persons interested in allotments who can't attend tonight.
- 2 supports from people who can't attend.
- The nearest allotments are in Bowbrook - the catchment area doesn't reach to Ford and 2 year waiting list.
- Would help with food supply, cost and carbon footprint.
- Opportunities for food sharing.
- Enforces sense of community.
- Educational.
- Highlighted motion from Cllr. Rosemary Dartnell, "Dig for Victory" food growing schemes and roadside verges allotment scheme at Bayston Hill, making use of corner of streets.
- Land at New Street highlighted as a possibility.
- Recreation area underutilised. Noted that security may be a concern
- Potential interest for both community gardens and allotment plots.
- Water provision may be desirable.

Cllr. Horn read out some info for ALC, including a Government response to a e-petition. Planning Policy Guidance requires provision for open space of public value. This is expected to include adequate provision for allotments. If there is demand for allotments, the Smallholdings Act places the local authority (parish council where there is one) under a statutory duty to provide allotments, if 6 or more residents request for them. There is no time limit for provision once demand is established and no national minimum provision standard. The LA can apply for compulsory hiring if no spare land. Planning permission not needed for change of use from agricultural land. Average plot size 250sq.m (16 plots per acre). No minimum facilities. The chairman suggested a parish council-led working group take this forward, to include 2 or 3 members of the public. Tracy Greenside offered to find volunteers from within the community to sit on the group.

35/2223 **MINUTES** – it was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting dated 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022 as being a true record and to authorise the chairman to sign them.

36/2223 **REPORTS**

- a) *Police Report* – twice yearly reports to be provided at the end of September and end of March.  
b) *Shropshire Council*

Cllr. Evans reported as follows:

- *Financial update* – SC predict an overspend of £4 to £17 million, estimated £9 million; would place reserves below level recommended by auditors. Re-visiting financial plan for 2022-3. 2023/4 predict £27 to £29 million overspend, partly due to inflation and also extra costs e.g. safeguarding children. Out of 30 shire authorities, 26 predicting an overspend next year.
- *Shirehall* – bottom 3 floors soon to be opened after updating them. Upper three floors have a prohibition notice placed on their use.
- *Quarry pool* – closed. Issue with the roof, rivets rusted. Swimming pool at Sundorne not being pursued.
- *Remote working* – now primary option for SC.
- *Local transport buses subsidy* – extra subsidy to last until March.
- *Levelling Up fund* – second round bid gone into government for £104 million. Includes Shrewsbury Connect and Rural Connect bus upgrades.
- *Climate change* - board formed.
- *Electoral Commission* – looking to increase number of Shropshire councillors from 74 to 76. Will then cascade to parish level.
- *Shropshire Plan* – to be launched 17<sup>th</sup> October showing SC’s priorities.
- *Local Plan* – meeting early July. Inspectors won’t be back in Shropshire until end of 2022/2023 and rule if the Local Plan is legal. If it is legal, will progress to Stage 2 hearings.
- *GP surgeries in Shrewsbury* – NHS want to amalgamate 5 surgeries into one.
- *Waste collection day* - likely to change in November.
- *Integrated Care System* – launched in August. GPs, hospitals and local authorities working together.

Cllr. Carlyle commented on neglect of the swimming baths. She also commented on the financial shortages and the impact of £51 million spend on shopping arcades and loss of the value of them. She asked if the £51 million could have lessened the shortfall. Cllr. Evans said it could have helped with the current shortfall. Shopping centres likely to cost SC £1 million this year.

- c) *Newsletter* – due out early December.  
d) *Ford Parish Paths Partnership* – Cllr. Horn advised the group had to take a break due to lack of resources. The group have now had a delivery of new gates and are meeting tomorrow to install them.  
e) *S106 Open Space Working Group* – the clerk said she had spoken to Richard Knight at SC from whom permission has to be sought to access the S106 money. He had indicated he would support a project to refurbish the play area and outdoor fitness equipment. It was noted that Richard had advised allotments were unlikely to be supported due to timescales to spend the money and the shortfall in open space on the related development (Cross Gates Meadow) relating to play/recreation space.  
f) *Public Realm Working Group* – Cllr. Deane and Cllr. Clyne have formed a sub-group with John Adam and Mark Duffell. The group has not met yet. Cllr. Horn said he will place an article in the newsletter asking for ideas from the community.  
g) *Parish councillor reports (of external meetings attended)* – Cllr. Carlyle said she was appointed to SALC and had not received paperwork for meetings. The clerk said she would contact SALC.

37/2223 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

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

Ref	Payee	Item	Method	Net	VAT	Gross
P40-2223	R Turner	Salary	SO	£737.73	£0.00	£737.73
P41-2223	V Abbotts	Caretaker	SO	£83.33	£0.00	£83.33

P42-2223	Landright services	Maintenance contract	SO	£245.00	£49.00	£294.00
P43-2223	SCPF	Pension	SO	£158.12	£0.00	£158.12
P44-2223	R Turner	Salary	SO	£737.73	£0.00	£737.73
P45-2223	V Abbotts	Caretaker	SO	£83.33	£0.00	£83.33
P46-2223	Landright services	Maintenance contract	SO	£245.00	£49.00	£294.00
P47-2223	Kingsley Press	Newsletter	BACS	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00
P48-2223	Broxap	Picnic bench	BACS	£643.00	£128.60	£771.60
P49-2223	Play Inspection Co	RoSPA	BACS	£139.00	£27.80	£166.80
P50-2223	Shropshire Council	Street lighting	BACS	£109.39	£21.88	£131.27
P51-2223	R Turner	Expenses	BACS	£92.40	£0.00	£92.40

b) *Income received*

Ref	Payee	Item	Amount
R5-2223	Lloyds	Interest	£0.60
R6-2223	Lloyds	Interest	£0.77
R7-2223	A Horn	Defib donation	£10.00

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**PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS – FOR INFORMATION**

- 1) 22/02431/FUL - Bankcroft, 25 Manor Crest, Ford, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 9NZ  
Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension following removal of conservatory  
**Decision: Grant Permission**
- 2) 22/02675/FUL - New House, Ford, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 9LW  
Proposal: Erection of part two part single storey extension at rear and associated alterations, new porch to front following some demolition work  
**Decision: Grant Permission**
- 3) 22/02381/FUL - Brookfield, Ford, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 9LG  
Proposal: Erection of two storey rear and first floor side extensions, installation of solar panels to front roof line and the creation of ancillary accommodation (re-submission) to include change of use of land to domestic garden land  
**Decision: Refuse**
- 4) 22/02996/FUL - Shoot Hill Cottage, Shoot Hill, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 9NR  
Proposal: Remodel to include erection of single storey front extension and partial first floor extension (resubmission)  
**Decision: Grant Permission**
- 5) 22/03274/FUL - Oakstead House, Alberbury Road, Ford, Shrewsbury, SY5 9NA  
Proposal: Erection of office facilities for the existing work force.  
**Decision: Grant Permission**

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**PLANNING APPLICATIONS – FOR CONSIDERATION**

None received at time of issuing agenda.

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**PARISH MATTERS**

- a) *Highway maintenance matters* – none reported.
- b) *Asset maintenance report (Cllrs. Clyne and Horn) & actions arising:*
  - Composite picnic bench – it was **RESOLVED** to order one for the playing field
  - 9 Neighbourhood Watch signs but 8 recorded on register – it was **RESOLVED** to add the extra one by the Smoke Stop
  - Fence repair by the brook at the playing field – it was **RESOLVED** to instruct Landright Services to repair it.

Action: Clerk to action the above points.

- c) *Greenbanks* – Cllr Horn reported that the owner had rang him claiming he has a buyer and Cllr. Horn also received a call from Julia Preston. She had advised that the owner’s personal circumstances are very delicate and SC are constrained in what they can do as they have had no complaints from village or parish council. Julie Preston had since written to Cllr. Horn saying the owner had felt harassed regarding the issue. She also assured Cllr Horn that there is a buyer. The possibility of an empty homes development management order was raised by the parish council, as the property meets the criteria for action.  
Action: Cllr. Evans agreed to take the matter up with Julia Preston and Cllr. Horn also to write to her.
- d) *Allotments* – it was **RESOLVED** to set up a working group. Cllr. Carlyle, Paterson and Horn plus Tracy Greenside and one other nominee to participate.  
Action: Tracy Greenside to identify a community volunteer and the clerk to ask other councils who have set up allotments from scratch for their advice.
- e) *Councillor recruitment* – one potential candidate has come forward but was unable to attend this evening, having just returned from holiday.  
Action: It was agreed that all councillors will try and seek candidates and the clerk will contact the potential candidate asking if they still want to apply.
- f) *Archiving of parish council documents* – it was **RESOLVED** to approve the use of NALC document retention guidelines as a guiding approach. The clerk ran through a list of current documents and the council agreed which to keep and which not to. It was **RESOLVED** to store the documents at the Shoothill facility and review after 12 months.
- g) *Reports of other parish matters*
- Jubilee tree – it was **RESOLVED** to name The Queen Elizabeth tree in honour of both the Jubilee and in memoriam of HM The Queen.  
Action: Cllr. Carlyle to order.
  - *Planning* – Cllr Deane asked what influence the parish council would have over eco standards in new development? The clerk advised that this is primarily set out in the Local Plan and the only document that would override this that the parish council can influence is a Neighbourhood Plan.
  - *Code of Conduct* – the clerk circulated documentation which councillors agreed to read before the next meeting.

41/2223 **NEXT MEETINGS**

- a) *Next council meetings* – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022, 7pm, The Urwick Room at Ford Village Hall
- b) *Items for next meeting agenda- to note requests*
- Code of Conduct
  - Tree planting

42/2223 *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 Item 43/2223, due to the likely disclosure of confidential information*

43/2223 **OPEN SPACES PROJECTS**– *to approve the following:*

- a) *Tender documents and process for play area refurbishment*  
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the documents with a closing date for tenders of 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 5pm. It was further **RESOLVED** to hold a tender evaluation meeting on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 7pm, with a minimum of 3 councillors needed to attend. The appointment of a supplier will be made by full council on 15th November.
- b) *Quotation documents and process for outdoor fitness equipment*  
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the documents with a closing date for tenders of 28th October 2022 at 5pm. It was further **RESOLVED** to hold an evaluation meeting on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 7pm, with a minimum of 3 councillors needed to attend. The appointment of a supplier will be made by full council on 15th November.

Actions: Clerk to publicise tender and quote documents and finalise application for S106 monies.