

Shobdon Parish Council Meeting April 2021

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday 26th April 2021 at 7.45pm via zoom.

Attendance Mr W Stokes, Mr S Macdonald, Mr C Jaques, Mrs A Boxhall, Mr R Bowen, Mr R Phillips, Locum Clerk Mrs A Taylor and 2 residents

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received and accepted from Annie Walker and Sue Whittaker.
2. **Declarations of interest:** No declarations were made.
3. **Public Participation**
- 3.1 **Report from Ward Councillor:** A report was given on possible concerns regarding Children's Services at Herefordshire Council. It was raised that a complaint had been received regarding the removal of cycle racks. The Council advised that they had been removed because of H&S concerns but would be re-instated shortly.
- 3.2 **Report from West Mercia Police:** The police reported that there were no incidents to report.
- 3.3 **Views of residents on Parish matters:** The residents present requested an update on the following:
 - Reducing the speed limit on Canterbury Road. The residents were advised that an adjustment to the speed limit would need Parish Council and Police support and as there are no reported incidents it would need to be funded by the Parish Council or developer contributions. Councillor Philips agreed to find out the cost.
 - Pedestrian access from Canterbury Road end of the village. Various options were discussed including a roadside pathway and a permissive footpath on private land. The residents were advised that a roadside footpath would be a significant cost and would therefore need to be funded by developer contributions and as no developments on that side of the village are planned this would not be a viable option and if funded by the Parish Council the opinion of the village for this significant expenditure would need to be sought. A footpath on private land would be entirely a goodwill gesture from the landowners.
 - A road sign on Canterbury Road. As this would be a matter for Herefordshire Council Councillor Philips agreed to find out the costThe residents left the meeting at this point.
4. **Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 29th March 2021:** The minutes were **agreed** as a correct record and will be signed after the meeting.
5. **Finance**
- 5.1 **Financial statement to date:** The financial statement was **agreed**; the Current account has a balance of £24,024.70 which included a vat reclaim of £1,358.88.
- 5.2 **Cheques:** Cheques were agreed as follows (and will be signed after the meeting) – Bucknell Nurseries - £148.60
The cheque of £524.52 to BHIB for the annual insurance premium would be discussed as a later agenda item.

- 5.3 **Locum Clerk's Timesheet:** The timesheet had been circulated and **agreed**.
6. **Planning:**
- 6.1 **No planning applications received.**
- 6.2 **Update on any other planning issues:** No issues to report.
7. **Recruitment of New Parish Clerk:** HALC had suggested that the Chair and Vice -Chair interview prospective candidates on either 14th or 21st May 2021. It was agreed that Cllr Stokes and Macdonald availability for both dates should be confirmed.
8. **Updates and action**
- 8.1 **Minerals & Waste Local Plan Pre-Submission Consultation May 2021:** noted
- 8.2 **COVID 19 – virtual meetings:** The meeting was advised that the Council is awaiting a High Court ruling regarding whether virtual meetings can be held after 6th May 2021. As this would impact on how future meetings are held it was **agreed** that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on 17th May 2021 and the Annual Parish Council Meeting would be held on 24th May 2021 and that the Chairman and the Clerk should decide the format of the meetings once the High Court ruling has been decided.
- 8.3 **Insurance renewal:** The insurance schedule and quote had been circulated. It was **agreed** to accept the quote from BHIB for £524.52 and that the cheque should be signed.
- 8.4 **Lengthman/PROW:** The options regarding Tree Preservation Orders would be discussed with an officer at Herefordshire Council.
- A reply from Herefordshire Council regarding a stile being replaced by railings on footpath 10 was noted.
- An enquiry from Herefordshire Council regarding a dangerous stile on footpath 8 was circulated and it was agreed that they should be advised that Shobdon Motorcycle Scramble Club are due to change the gate this year.
9. **Items for the next agenda:** No items were raised.
10. **Date of next meeting:** It was agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting at 8pm on 30th April 2021 to appoint an Internal Auditor. The May meetings had been discussed as an earlier agenda item.