

SHRAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in Shrawley Village Hall and virtually via Zoom, 9 February 2021 commencing at 7.15pm.

Present: Councillors Ms R Mosedale (RM) – Chairman
Ms A Dorrell (AD)
Mr M Dymond (MD)
Mr H Jackman (HJ)

In attendance: Ms C Shinner – Clerk, Dst Cllr P Cumming and 9 members of the public

501 Apologies for absence:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that there were no apologies received.

502 Declaration of Interest for a) The Meeting and b) Any Changes to be notified to the Registers of Interests and Gifts & Hospitality

There were no declarations of interest made.

Rebecca Mosedale closed the meeting for public question time and reopened the meeting after public question time had finished.

503 The minutes of the meeting of 26 February 2021 were approved with the following changes. 496 is amended as follows; "Rebecca Mosedale noted that this Parish Council meeting was called mainly to discuss the planning application. She noted that the Parish Council have taken into consideration the views on the planning portal and consulted with the applicant, Little Squirrels and the Village Hall (via their chairman)"

504 To consider any Co-options to the Vacancies of office for Parish Councillor and to receive their declaration of acceptance of office accordingly.

- It was noted that there had been 2/3 expressions of interest to join the Parish Council.
- Forms for co-option need to be received by the Clerk on at least the Tuesday prior to the meeting ie the 2nd March for the 9th March meeting – so that they can be placed on the agenda.
- Each applicant will be asked to submit a 100word piece to be included in their application regarding why they wish to join the Parish Council.

505 Planning matters. There were no planning matters for consideration at the meeting.

506 Planning application decisions notified by Malvern Hills District Council

20/01751/HP – Severn Bank Corner, Shrawley, Worcester WR6 6TB

Approved – Rear single storey kitchen extension and detached greenhouse.

507 Correspondence and progress reports – emailed with agenda where possible and also available for consideration prior to the meeting.

- C Freeman – Parishioner asks for Highways to be consulted to address the parking issues in the village because of the visitors to the woods who visit to see the Bluebells in May. The Clerk has sent highways a request to monitor this issue.
- C Freeman also asks the pedestrian footpaths are checked for width as they are not wide enough. The Clerk sent highways a request to check the footpath width. It was suggested that the parish lengthsman may be able to clear them.
- C Freeman notes that the Council agreed to replace the signs on the Millennium Oaks in the wood last January. Cllr RM noted that this action had been overlooked and she would contact C Freeman to follow this up.

- Correspondence from Mrs J Jeavons-Fellows was received with regard to the nuisance associated with the Parish Hall Car Park. This item was not placed on the agenda so will be included for discussion at the March Parish Council meeting. Cllr RM will contact the Parish Hall Trustees for their comments on this letter.
- Correspondence received from Colin Honan to be discussed at the March meeting. In it he notes that the contact details in the defibrillator opposite the former Rose and Crown need updating.
- WCC note that Rectory Lane from junction with U64208 Back Lane to junction with B4196 is to be closed for around 14 days from 9 March 2021 for carriageway patching.

508 Report from Cty Cllr P Grove is attached to these minutes.

509 Dst Cllr P Cummings gave the following report.

"The ten-year census will take place on Sunday 21st March. It is expected that most people will complete online but the option of using a paper form will be available. It is a legal requirement for everyone to participate in what is an important exercise to plan for allocation of future resources.

One of the local parishes has just received £1,100 Community Infrastructure Levy towards providing local facilities. The CIL is levied on newly approved residential development at a rate of £46.71 per additional square metre of new space, although there a cap. Self-build and affordable housing is excluded from this.

Parish Councils receive 15% of the amount paid and 25 % if they have a neighbourhood plan. It is payable once the development starts.

The Boundary Commission has agreed we reduce the number of Councillors from 38 to 31. The process of how ward boundaries can be altered is underway and I will share information about this as it becomes available. Anyone can put a submission in.

Again Baldwin ward has been affected by the mighty river Severn flooding. Although Shrawley was affected by the Lenchford the biggest problems were in Astley Burf with Riverlands and Severn Meadows taking on the appearance of the name. We collected sandbags from Powick for some of the residents but next time I am insisting that the Council delivers them or otherwise makes arrangements with Stourport so that snadbags can be collected from there"

510 Finance.

a) Barclays Bank balance (as at 1/10/2020)
 Business Current account £9904.52
 Business saving account £3245.84
 Cambridge and Counties Bond (at 1/6/20) £10468.27
 The Clerk has not seen statements for the above bank accounts since the dates above.

b) Accounts for payment;
 Clerk work for January 2021 £306.25
 The friends of St Marys Church Shrawley £15.75
 Parish Magazine postal subscription 2021
 New website charges;
 Domain renewal for shrawleyparishcouncil.gov.uk £120
 (2 years hosting)
 Shared web hosting £100
 (annual charge)
 SSL security certificate £30
 Annual charge

c) Current banking arrangements for Barclays Bank.
 Progress report on actions; RM has rung Barclays to confirm her signature and Cllr MD needs to visit a branch to provide further ID.

- d) Cambridge and Counties Savings account
To change address of bank statements
To arrange for additional signatories (Currently RM, MD, AD)
The forms are ready to be sent off after the final signatures from AD and RM are received by the Clerk.
- e) The Parish Council agreed to appoint Diane Malley as the internal auditor for Shrawley Parish Council financial audit 2020-21.
Ms Malley performed this task for the parish council for 2019-20 and highlighted various issues that have since been addressed.

- 511** Projects for consideration by the Parish Council. Progress reports and new projects.
The planting of wild native daffodils progress. Thanks were given to Chris Freeman for sourcing cowslips, lily of the valley, daffodils and primulas that would be planted as soon as they arrive or by the end of March. The cost will be £250 in total.
- 512** Millennium Green project.
Cllr MD proposed that the maintenance work on the Millennium Green should be agreed by the Parish Council in order to proceed as soon as possible.
The Millennium Green was noted as needing extensive maintenance to return the area to a level that was easy to maintain. He noted that the work involved 3 people for a week using heavy machinery on the site to remove self-seeded trees, brushwood and brambles at a cost of £3,000 to be paid for from the parish maintenance fund within the budget 2020-21. This cost also includes widening and stabilising the footpath and cleaning the bench. This work would be done by George Crump - the Parish Lengthsman.
The Parish Council voted to accept this proposal and asked Cllr MD to go ahead with the work required.
Cllr HJ noted that after this work was finished then volunteers could be encouraged to help maintain the area.
Cllr MD also noted that the next stage would be additional work on the Millennium Green - to be undertaken after consultation and discussion with the parishioners. This could include additional planting, a wildflower area, specimen trees and perhaps a feature entrance to bring attention to the presence of the Millennium Green.
Cllr RM thanked Cllr MD for his hard work on this project.
- 513** Defibrillator. The process of testing the defibrillators is still ongoing. Cllr RM noted that she would be actioning this shortly.
- 514** High speed fibre broadband programme progress report. Cllr HJ noted that there were currently two live broadband projects in the Parish.
One starts at Noutards Green and encompasses New Inn Lane and is on track for completion. One encompasses the 01905 numbers. This programme is being worked on by Jenny Nichols, Chris Dring and Nick Latcham. Based on current expressions of interest there is £120k available under the grant scheme to progress this application. HJ is currently registering the legal entity for the collection of residents to apply to Openreach. HJ is communicating with Openreach and is aware that he needs to fully complete the application by 19/2/21 to meet the deadline of 31/3/21.
- 515** West Mercia Police 'Operation Snap' programme signage.
Cllr HJ has received a quote for some discrete signage to advertise the above programme for £350.
- 516** A new Parish Council website is under construction and will be online very shortly. Please note the Clerk has a new ".gov.uk" email address, which will allow any future Shrawley Clerks to use the same contact details and to aid with continuity.
- 517** Update on the parish lengthsman and work undertaken since the last meeting.

- Footpath issue at Glazenbridge. Cllr MD has walked the footpath in question and notes that the footpath needs siding out.
 - Severn Bank. This is an overflowing ditch that was jetted out in January and is flowing correctly. It is understood that there is an issue with the drain on the corner of Hollingshead lane and the B4196 near the top of Severn Bank. This is affected by the height of the river and will not flow properly until the river level drops. This drain is the responsibility of Holt Heath.
 - The Clerk has asked Alex Clarke-Ellson to put George Crump on the next available Parish Lengthsman training programme.
 - The verges at the Lenchford triangle are also needing some attention, vehicles are getting stuck on the verges. AD to forward a map to the Clerk in order that she can ascertain ownership and identify who is responsible for their upkeep.

518 Dates of the next Parish Council meetings were confirmed as 9th March and 13th April 2021.

519 Cllr RM closed the meeting and noted that over the last year as Chairman there had been some difficult times and some super times that brought the Community together. She said that the Parish Council is a group of volunteers who give up their time to help the Village. She noted that there is great support from the village, in particular recently with regard to the bulbs and the broadband and thanks were given to all those who put time and energy into supporting the Parish Council and the Parish.



Members Update

Top 5

FEBRUARY 2021



Open for Business

Sabrina Bridge in Worcester re-opened on 29th January, following major works which included the removal, refurbishment and reinstallation of the main span of the bridge.

Some work will continue on Hylton Road to complete the landscaping and in coming weeks, works to install the bridge dampers will take place.

A major scheme to make improvements to transport links in the **Churchfields area of Kidderminster** is now complete.

Works to improve the busy **Hoobrook Junction in Kidderminster** commenced last month.

The improvement works, which are planned to be completed by the Autumn, include additional lanes and signalisation on the three main arms of the roundabout to improve the flow and manoeuvrability of traffic.

Market Place in Redditch is next in line to be improved as part of the Council's Town Centre Improvement Programme.

The scheme includes a full refresh of the paving at the junction of Evesham Walk and Market Place and down Market Place into Mercian Square. The refreshed paving will then link with previous improvement works on Alcester Street and Church Green East.

Works on three schemes to make improvements along the **A38 corridor in Bromsgrove** are set to go ahead, prior to the wider A38 Bromsgrove Route Enhancement Programme (BREP).

These three schemes aim to provide a high-quality walking and cycling corridor between the Artrix area and Charford Road. The works include a new Toucan Crossing of the A4448 Stratford Road, adjacent to Blackwood Road and Fordhouse Road, a segregated footway/cycleway between Harvington Road and Charford Lane and an upgrade to the northern footpath on Charford Road between the A38 and South Bromsgrove School, which will include a new Toucan Crossing.

Children and Families



Worcestershire Libraries are offering a helping hand to parents and students by providing access to free books, free online reference resources and free opportunities for children to participate in online educational activities. New library services have been launched to make it easier for parents and carers to access books and learning resources throughout lockdown.

These include, reserve and collect service, Children's Book Bundles, eBooks & eAudio and many more. A wide range of free digital events, activities and courses are also available throughout lockdown for all ages and can be accessed via [the Digital Library Hub](#).



Worcestershire Libraries have also revealed the most borrowed books of 2020 to inspire our residents to reap the health and wellbeing benefits of reading for pleasure. Lee Child's 'Past Tense' topped the list for the second consecutive year after it was borrowed a total of 443 times and for younger audiences, Liz Pichon's 'Spectacular School Trip' was the most borrowed children's title in 2020 with 190 issues. Worcestershire residents can sign up for instant digital membership online via the libraries website www.worcestershire.gov.uk/Libraries

Health and Wellbeing



Building on the continued success of the Here2Help service, our vision is to provide a service that empowers people in our communities who may need support to help themselves and to be supported by their community. Using Here2Help as a dedicated Health and Wellbeing Hub, we want to encourage a community response for people in need of health and wellbeing support with the aim of focusing on the strengths of the individuals and the support network around them.

The hub will support all ages and will be available for residents, organisations and staff to access information, advice, tools, guidance and local support in an interactive way. To help shape this new service, we want to bring a group of residents together in a regular focus group where positive discussions about the services we provide will be welcomed. If you know someone with an interest in health and wellbeing, encourage them to be part of the focus group by visiting the webpage and completing the expression of interest form at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2helpfocusgroup



Schools and colleges may be closed, but the careers helpline set up to support young people during the pandemic remains open to young people in Worcestershire. Run by the County Council and Worcestershire LEP, the joint careers helpline is continuing to offer advice, information and guidance to young people across the county despite the

latest lockdown measures. First launched in March 2020 during the first lockdown, careers services are still available via email and phone for all Worcestershire students, schools, parents, carers, job centres and those interested in finding out more about apprenticeships.

Please call 0300 666 3666 or email careersworcs@worcestershire.gov.uk to find out more.

The Environment



Last month saw Storm Christophe hit Worcestershire and the county's highways teams worked around the clock dealing with multiple occurrences of flash flooding. As the water found its way into catchments we saw numerous road closures associated with river flooding, particularly along the Severn and Avon; at the time of writing we still have several roads closed around Upton.

The value of recent road raising schemes was demonstrated however, as both New Road in Worcester (which operated as a contraflow) and A4104 ('Marina Road') at Upton, both stayed open where previously they would have had to close given the flood levels.

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This weekend is looking likely to bring further challenges in the way of snowfall. The Winter Maintenance Team will be watching forecasts closely and gritters are standing by ready for action.

Whilst the highway network will be gritted prior to any snow event, it is important to remember that salt is not a magic ingredient – salting will only slow down the freezing process; it will not make 3" of snow just disappear – the teams will continue to work with snow ploughs fitted to clear the county's road of any accumulations.

Council News Update



The County Council has launched a new round of funding for charities and organisations to make a real difference in their communities. The County Council, along with Malvern and Wychavon district councils, has set up **Crowdfund Worcestershire** as it was keen to build on the success of its Here2Help community campaign.

The scheme gives residents who have ideas about how to improve their community, the opportunity to gain much needed funding. The deadline to submit an idea for the Spring round of funding is April 21st 2021.

To find out more go to: <https://www.spacehive.com/movement/worcs>

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It is sad this month to report another death of a former County Councillor.

Peter Pinfield was first elected as a County Councillor in 1981 and was Leader of the Worcestershire Labour Group for over ten years in the 1990's and early 2000's. He was both a County and District Councillor for Droitwich.

Peter was also governor of several schools. He had been involved with the Diabetic Association and launched Droitwich's first Music and Arts Festival. Peter headed up Healthwatch, Worcestershire's independent watchdog for all health and social care services, and also held a place on a number of NHS organisations, representing patients, carers and service users.

Find out more online:
www.worcestershire.gov.uk



The Public Question times do not form part of the meeting and are not minuted. The following are notes.

Public Question time 1

- A parishioner (J.Lee) submitted questions to the Council. Cllr RM asked the questions to be put in writing so that she could provide a response. Response also to be sent to Ms. V James.
- Nutcross Lane – Rectory Lane needed clearing and scraping – full of ruts and no white lines.
- 2 parishioners noted their concern re the cost of the work on the Millennium Green.

Public Question time 2

- Thanks were given to Cllr MD for the work he had done on the Millennium Green.

Actions from February 2021

- Signs on the Millennium Oaks. **Cllr RM** noted she would contact C Freeman to follow this up.
 - Correspondence from Mrs J Jeavons-Fellows was received with regard to the nuisance associated with the Parish Hall Car Park. **Cllr RM** will contact the Parish Hall Trustees for their comments on this letter. **Agenda March**
 - Correspondence received from Colin Honan to be discussed at the March meeting. In it he notes that the contact details in the defibrillator opposite the former Rose and Crown need updating. **RM**
- 511** The planting of wild native daffodils and bulbs - as soon as they arrive or by the end of March.
- 512** **Cllr MD** the maintenance work on the Millennium Green to proceed as soon as possible.
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Severn Bank. This is an overflowing ditch. This drain is the responsibility of Holt Heath. **Clerk**
The **Clerk** has asked Alex Clarke-Ellson to put George Crump on the next available Parish Lengthsman training programme.
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