

WESTON RHYN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Weston Rhyn Parish Council held on Monday 7th November 2022 at 7:00pm in Chirk Bank Methodist Church.

PRESENT: Cllr P Barnett (Chairman)

Cllr S Barnett, Cllr J Bavin, Cllr S Haskell, Cllr P Herbert, Cllr A Layland, Cllr P Manley, Cllr P Smith, Cllr J Wallace (9)

**Shropshire Cllrs Macey and Jones
And 1 member of the public.**

441/22

PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

Members of the public were invited to question Councillors or raise any issues of concern for a period of 15 minutes.

A member of the public (Jane Trudgill) talked about the increase in volume and speed of traffic and the increase in agricultural traffic, through the Wern. A report had been sent to the Clerk and the Parish Council showing photographs of signage and road markings in need of maintenance.

Cllr Layland updated the Council on Community Speedwatch; the group had had their first meeting. However, the positions allowed in the village needed to include the Wern if possible.

Cllr Rob Macey informed the Council about flashing speed signs. Although it has been that some Parish Councils financed these signs, SALC and Shropshire Council were looking at the legality and the number of them around the county. This is a current and ongoing plan of work which will take a few months. Consideration would be given to put some budget aside for the future.

Cllr Paul Herbert arrived at 7.20pm.

Regarding additional signage and re-painting of roads, Cllr Macey was willing to meet up with the resident.

These items would also be included with the Highways Meeting involving a Shropshire Council Officer, Cllr A Hughes and Cllr P Barnett. The Clerk would send the resident's report to Shropshire Councillors Jones and Macey.

442/22

APOLOGIES

Cllr J Mattocks (holiday)

443/22

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

To receive declarations of disclosable interests on any item included in the agenda in accordance with Section 30(3) of the Localism Act 2011.

None declared.

444/22

MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meeting held on 26th September 2022 were confirmed and signed.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th October 2022 were confirmed and signed. **RESOLVED.**

445/22

REPORTS

RESOLVED to note reports as presented.

POLICE

- The Police had been informed that the report in its new format was largely irrelevant to Weston Rhyn residents.
- Community Speed Watch had had its first roadside session and four motorists were identified as speeding. A new location at Chirk Bank was being sought.
- Cllr Wallace had attended a Police Charter Zoom meeting and had been disappointed to find only 18 Parish Councils out of 150 present.

SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLORS

Cllr Mark Jones – updated the Council regarding integrated care systems and said that the Terms of Reference had been agreed.

Cllr Robert Macey – Shropshire was dealing with £5million as an overspend. The council had found savings of £30million for this year before inflation. An officer had taken control of the Highways' issue at the Wern Turn. Regarding Arriva Buses, the Clerk had been given contact details for James Willocks at Shropshire Council, who was going to help to get the council's letter to the people at Arriva.

The focus, across Shropshire, with many groups is the Cost-of-Living Crisis. Less people are volunteering in the county, but the most vulnerable are still being prioritised.

Councillors and members of the public can search Shropshire Council Cost of Living Help website.

Cllr Herbert asked if there was going to be any money for cycle highways.

CHAIRMAN

No report

446/22

COUNCILLOR EMAIL ADDRESSES AND WEBSITE

- The Clerk would contact the Clerk to Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Councils to ask for some previously researched information. **Action – the Clerk**

447/22

PLANNING ISSUES AND APPLICATIONS

REF. NO: 22/04895/AGR

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED: Timber agricultural building for storage of machinery and livestock feed and bedding.

LOCATION: Preesgweene Farm, Preesgweene, Weston Rhyn.

OS REFERENCE: 329114 – 336167

No comment to make.

REF. NO: 22/04927/HHE (validated: 31/10/2022)

Address: 34 Palmantmawr, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY10 7SN
Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension to semi-detached dwelling.

Dimensions 4.50 meters beyond the rear wall, 3.90 meters maximum height and 2.80 meters high to the eaves.

Date Received: 28/10/2022 - Health Hazard Evaluation

No comment to make.

REF. NO: 22/09249/ENF

Status: Pending Consideration

Address: Sycamores, Vicarage Lane, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY10 7RE

Description of Issue: Alleged breach of Planning Control in relation to the removal of a boundary wall.

No comment to make.

448/22

CIL FUNDING

Shropshire Council confirmed that since 2017, Weston Rhyn had received £59,000. More information was needed to see what this money had been spent on. The Clerk would investigate further. **Action – the Clerk/previous clerk.**

449/22

NO. 6 AQUEDUCT COTTAGES

More information would be received towards the end of November.

COMMUNITY

450/22

BUS SERVICES AND BUS SHELTERS

- **Bus Service** – The Clerk was in contact with James Willocks (Shropshire Council) and Les Bell (Bus Users Shropshire) regarding changes to the bus routes and services. Arriva had received the letter from the council.

451/22

PLACE PLANS

- The council was waiting to hear from Shropshire Council but needed to be ready to act quickly when the time came. Cllr Rowlands had been working on this plan and Shropshire's timescale had been pushed back a little.

REPORTS

452/22

REPORT FROM GREEN SHOOTS

- The bike shelter was almost complete and was being used. There would be a public meeting in January.

453/22

REPORT FROM WESTON RHYN TRUST

The article on the Facebook page had received very positive comments.

The Trustees were congratulated for their work.

454/22

REPORT FROM WESTON RHYN VILLAGE INSTITUTE

No report had been received.

There was now no longer a treasurer or secretary on the Institute Committee, which should be made up of a mix of representatives of community group hirers.

The lack of heating was causing problems and was a complicated system.

The Clerk was asked to invite Carl Rowley to a meeting to share the Institute problems with the Council.

Shropshire Cllr Mark Jones left at 8.11pm.

There were concerns around the use of the Institute as a meeting venue over the winter, if heating could not be guaranteed. **Action – the Clerk**

455/22

'WARM ROOM' AT CHIRK BANK METHODIST CHAPEL

- As electrical work was soon to be needed here, it was looking unlikely that the schoolroom could be used this winter as a 'warm room'. Costs for the work were being sought.
- Chirk Bank Community Group would need to put in the application to the Parish Council if it wanted to go ahead. The next meeting was due to take place on November 21st.
- Since the last meeting, Coffee and Co. at St. John's have also made plans to run a 'warm room'.
- It was **RESOLVED** to wait for feedback on the electrical work and Coffee and Co. before making any more decisions.

456/22

GRANT APPLICATION FROM 'COFFEE & CO'.

- The council looked at the Grant Application from St John's Church, asking for £425. St John's also holds a Post Office on a Thursday, which is an obvious attraction.
- A proposal was made to allocate £425 to Coffee & Co. with the proviso that the group would request donations from the Lichfield Diocese in addition.
- An amendment was made to allocate the £425 to Coffee & Co. with no proviso.
- It was therefore **RESOLVED** to allocate £425 to Coffee & Co. to help to run a 'warm room'.

457/22

FINGER POST FOR INFORMATION NEAR CHIRK BANK BRIDGE

- Cllr S Barnett had researched the cost of finger posts. It was felt that a post near the bridge would be safer, as people meet in the space by the canal asking directions and it was not clear where the pavement ends and the road begins. There was a good example of a finger post in Chirk as well as a new one on the towpath near the Lion Quays.
- Chirk Bank Community Group would be willing to pay something towards it.
- The Clerk was requested to speak to C&RT first. It was also decided to ask Men's Sheds. The money to pay for this could come out of the 3PBL.

Action: the Clerk.

458/22 **PHONE BOX AT PONTFAEN**

- This is still an operating phone box so a defib couldn't be put there. Previously the Parish Council had been asked to agree to the decommissioning of the phone box at Chirk Bank therefore it might be wise to ask BT about this one. The Clerk would inform the resident at Pontfaen about the phone box. ***Action: the Clerk.***

459/22 **LACK OF HEATING IN THE INSTITUTE**

- The Clerk would ask the committee about the state of the heating. ***Action: the Clerk.***

HIGHWAYS/MAINTENANCE ISSUES

460/22 **WERN TURN VISIBILITY ISSUE**

Hopefully, there would be an update by the next meeting.

461/22 **MEETING WITH HIGHWAYS**

Councillors Hughes and P Barnett were in the process of arranging the meeting with the Highways Officer. If councillors have any issues with Highways, please forward them to Cllr P. Barnett. ***Action – Cllr P Barnett***

462/22 **PARKING ON STATION ROAD (FROM JUNE 2021, 124/21)**

This item was going to be mentioned at the meeting with Highways.

463/22 **QUAD BIKES AROUND BROOKFIELDS**

An update would be requested from Cllr A Hughes. ***Action – Cllr Hughes***

STREET LIGHTING

464/22 **STREET LIGHTING ISSUES**

There were none to report. Cllr A Hughes was dealing with Highline. The Clerk would report the light out at the Institute. ***Action – the Clerk.***

465/22 **LED UPGRADES**

The Clerk was asked to speak to the Clerk at Selattyn and Gobowen about the arrangement whereby energy costs are cheaper by paying via Shropshire Council.

The Clerk was asked to speak to Highline about how far the upgrades to LED had gone. ***Action – the Clerk.***

FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

466/22 **PAYMENTS**

RESOLVED to confirm payment of;

	To authorise the payments as per the schedule below			
	Mark Adams	1587.00	Chq	Bike Shed from Green Shoots grant
	Clerk	954.81	Chq	Clerk's Salary for November 2022 (includes pay award and back pay April – October)
5413	Highline	70.80	PAID	Trehowell Avenue
	HMRC	176.92	PAID	Tax and Employer's NI Period 7
	Clerk for EE DD	20.76	PAID	Clerk's phone for November
	Chirk Bank Chapel	20.00	Chq	Room hire November meeting
	JDH Business	270.00	PAID	Internal Audit 2021-2022
SB20223593	PKF Littlejohn	240.00	Chq	External Audit 2021-2022
INV-000083	Save our Shropshire	55.00	Chq	Climate Change – A Layland
	A Royle	4463.30	Chq	Grasscutting
		7858.59		

The Clerk would present the grass cutting contract at the next meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to make the payments.

At 9pm, Council voted to continue with the meeting.

467/22 **COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE**

A 7pm Zoom meeting, on a mutually convenient day, would be arranged for Cllr Herbert, P Barnett, Haskell and the Clerk. **Action – the Clerk**

Cllr R Macey left the meeting at 9.03pm.

468/22 **FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR WESTON RHYN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Cllr Wallace as school governor requested financial help (estimated at £500) for repair to a window at the school. After much discussion it was not thought that it was appropriate for the Parish Council to be paying for this as it is Shropshire Council's responsibility.

Any request for money from the school, should come to the Parish Council as a grant application.

469/22 **CIVILITY AND RESPECT PLEDGE**

The councillors were asked to read the information on Civility and Respect ready for the next meeting. **Action: Councillors.**

470/22 **CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

A report would go into the next Wren by to bring attention to the vacancy. **Action: Clerk – re-advertise.**

471/22 **TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS**

On which at least 48 hours' notice has been given, no discussion to take place thereon.
None to answer.

472/22

PART 2: BENCHES

Cllr P Smith had researched this project at length.

A motion was proposed and seconded to inform Shropshire Council that [REDACTED] were the preferred contractor and to ask for authority for them to be used.

It was hoped that the benches could be delivered to [REDACTED]

Cllr P Smith was thanked. **Action: Cllr P Smith.**

473/22

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

The main items of correspondence had been shared with the council.

474/22

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

December – Budget meeting. Flashing Speed Signs. No community reports due to time constraints.

January agenda - co-option forms when applying to become a councillor.

475/22

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED the next meeting to be held on Monday 12th December at 7pm, at Weston Rhyn Village Institute, if heating could be guaranteed.

MEETING CLOSED at 9.30pm.