

# Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

## 7.15pm Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

at

Shustoke Village Hall

# Minutes

**PRESENT:** Councillor B Chandler (Chair)  
Councillors L Pugh, R Pugh (Joined by Councillors N Cole and G Noble at Item 7)  
Clerk – D Jeans  
3 Members of the Public, 1 Borough Councillor

### 1. Village Hall Evacuation Procedures

1.1 The Chair ensured those present were aware of the evacuation procedures.

### 2. Apologies and Approval of Absences

2.1 Councillors R Gough and S Taylor had notified their planned absence from the meeting.

2.2 The Council approved the absence of Councillors Gough and Taylor.

### 3. Declarations of Interest

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

### 4. Minutes of Previous Meeting (10<sup>th</sup> February 2020)

4.1 The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated. Councillor Chandler proposed that the minutes be adopted, seconded by Councillor R Pugh and agreed by Councillors present.

### 5. Matters arising

5.1 There were no matters arising not covered in the main agenda.

### 6. Contributions from the Public (Maximum 30 minutes)

6.1 Graham Stirrop, Chair of the Allotments Association, confirmed that his members would maintain an agreed number of planters. It was resolved to finalise the details outside the meeting.

### 7. Co-Option of Councillors

7.1 The Clerk reported that the Borough Council had confirmed no application by ten residents for a Parish Council election had been received in response to the public notice, and that the Council was free to co-opt two Councillors.

- 7.2 Councillor Chandler proposed that Gill Noble and Nick Cole be co-opted onto the Parish Council. This was seconded by Councillor L Pugh and agreed by Councillors present.
- 7.3 Councillors Noble and Cole joined the meeting and signed the 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office' forms in the presence of the Clerk.

## **8. Financial Report**

- 8.1 The Clerk presented the latest financial reports for the Council and Hall and the predicted outturn position 2019/2020. These were signed by the Chair. Acceptance of the reports was proposed by Councillors Chandler, seconded by Councillor R Pugh, and approved by Councillors present.
- 8.2 Schedules of payments were examined and signed by Councillors Chandler and R Pugh.
- 8.3 The Clerk presented updated budgets for 2020/21 for the Council and Village Hall which took account of the amended outturn figures. Acceptance of the budget was proposed by Councillor Chandler, seconded by Councillor L Pugh and agreed by Councillors present.

## **9. Establishment of Village Hall Management Committee**

- 9.1 Councillors had previously received a report to be presented to the Hall Trustee upon an option to establish a Village Hall Committee to manage and take responsibility for operational aspects of the Village Hall.
- 9.2 The Councillors noted the report.

## **10. Planning Matters**

- 10.1 There were no local planning applications received since the previous meeting.

## **11. Recreation Ground Enhancements**

- 11.1 Councillor Chandler reported upon her meeting with Councillors Gough and R Pugh in respect of applications for grants, and the nature of new equipment.
- 11.2 A full report would be presented to the next meeting.

## **12. Horticultural Services**

- 12.1 The Clerk had received confirmation from one of the contractors quoting for the work that the Company had access to the necessary heavy equipment required for the recreation ground.
- 12.2 Following further discussion, Councillors accepted the quote of CMS. The Clerk was asked to resolve details with CMS. Councillors Cole, Noble and Taylor would take responsibility for monitoring the work undertaken on behalf of the Council.

### **13. Road Safety Issues**

13.1 Councillor Hayfield had not responded to the Parish Council's enquiry.

### **14. Litter Pick – Spring 2020**

14.1 Nether Whitacre Parish Council had expressed interest in a joint litter pick.

14.2 Councillor Noble undertook to liaise with Nether Whitacre Council and to determine a suitable date.

### **15. 'Buzz' Service**

15.1 Councillor Chandler raised the limited take-up of the bus service and proposed a flyer to Shustoke residents. The Clerk reported that Connecting Four had included several mentions of the service in various editions. Councillor Cole suggested marketing the service at Meet and Eat events. Councillor Chandler proposed raising the service at the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

15.2 Councillors discussed the value of providing a service on Saturday rather than Friday. The Clerk was asked to raise the possibility with the Buzz service coordinator.

### **16. VE Day Anniversary Celebrations, 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

16.1 The Clerk reported that official guidance for events had been received and circulated to members.

16.2 Councillor L Pugh confirmed the Griffin Public House was holding an event on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

16.3 Councillor Noble advised that the combined Parishes Rogation Walk would take place on the 8<sup>th</sup> May which might give Shustoke the opportunity for a themed event at the Village Hall.

16.4 Councillors acknowledged that Coronavirus might impact on any such events and there was a risk in committing funding in advance.

### **17. Annual Meeting of the Parish – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

17.1 The Clerk needed to send out invitations and sought nominations from Councillors. It was agreed that a presentation on the history of Shustoke would be well received, and Councillor Noble agreed to contact two local historians. The Clerk was advised of other individuals who should be invited.

17.2 Councillor R Pugh proposed that the event be moved to 20<sup>th</sup> April, seconded by Councillor Chandler and agreed by Councillors present.

### **18. Reports from County and Borough Councillors**

18.1 Councillor David Wright outlined recent decisions by North Warwickshire Borough Council including the introduction of a £40pa charge to residents for collection of their green bin

contents. This would raise £0.5m for the Borough, based on 50% take up. In response to a query from Councillor R Pugh, Councillor Wright confirmed the Borough were only required to collect household waste, not garden waste. Councillor Pugh then queried the current rules applied at the County's waste recycling plant, where waste deposits by residents were not accepted if delivered in anything other than a private car. Relaxation of the rule would also decrease fly-tipping. She asked if the Borough could lobby the County Council to change the rules. Councillor Wright hoped that common sense would prevail but would consider contacting WCC. He added that there had been a number of successful prosecutions for fly-tipping in the Borough.

- 18.2 Councillor Wright confirmed the Borough was finalising the Local Plan which would dictate where new housing would be situated but this depended on Government confirmation of funding for the A5 improvements. At present, additional housing was planned for Polesworth and Dordon.
- 18.3 Councillor Wright also advised that the Borough were looking to build a new leisure centre, probably near Atherstone, and to secure the legislation allowing Council regulation of parking which should resolve the current parking issues in Atherstone and Coleshill.
- 18.4 The Chair thanked Councillor Wright for his attendance and contribution.
- 18.5 It was agreed that the agenda item would be moved to the beginning of future agendas to allow County or Borough Councillors to leave the meeting earlier.

## **19. Reports from Parish Councillors**

### 19.1 Patient Participation Group

19.1.1 Councillor Chandler advised there was no further information to provide since the last Council meeting.

### 19.2 NWAC

19.2.1 Councillor Chandler advised there was no further information to provide since the last Council meeting.

### 19.3 Village Hall

19.3.1 Councillor R Pugh provided a brief update on activities in the hall prior to the Trust meeting which followed the Council meeting.

## **20. Correspondence**

- 20.1 Residents in Bixhill Lane had written to the Council concerned that the signage at the head of Bixhill Lane, a single track road, made no indication that it was a "no through road", with no turning point available. The road was private for its eastern portion (Severn Trent) indicated with a bollard placed in the middle of the lane. Passing places were also often blocked with parked vehicles. The Council was being asked to recommend new signs to the Highways Authority.

20.2 Councillors agreed that the Clerk should make enquiries with the Highways Authority.

*I certify that these minutes, comprising five pages and attached payment schedules covering 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 to 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020, represent a true record of the Ordinary meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020.*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Chair* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date*