

Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

7.30pm Monday 11th July 2022

at

Shustoke Village Hall

Draft Minutes

Ver 150722

Present: Councillors N Cole (Chair), B Chandler (Vice Chair), G Dupree, L Dupree, G Farr, G Noble
Clerk – David Jeans

Also present:- County Councillor D Humphries

1. Apologies and Approval of Absences

1.1 All Councillors were present.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 It was agreed this would be agenda-specific.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting (9th May 2022)

3.1 The minutes of the meeting held 9th May 2022 had been circulated. Councillor Cole proposed that the minutes be adopted, seconded by Councillor Noble, and this was agreed by Councillors present.

4. Matters arising

4.1 There were no matters arising not covered within the main agenda.

5. Contributions from the Public (Maximum 30 minutes)

5.1 No members of the public were present.

6. Village Crime and Disorder Issues

6.1 Councillors discussed the risks of unauthorised traveller encampments within the Village.

7. Pandemic Update

7.1 Councillors resolved that this item should be removed from the standing agenda.

8. Financial Report

- 8.1 The Clerk reported that he had received a request from the Connecting Four team for an annual donation of £175. He asked Councillors whether they supported payment. Councillor Noble felt that the magazine was an excellent way of disseminating information from the Council and proposed the donation should be made, seconded by Councillor Cole and agreed by Councillors present.
- 8.2 The Clerk reported that the necessary document had been submitted to the external auditor in respect of the 2021/22 accounts. No member of the public had requested to examine the accounts in response to the advertised opportunity.
- 8.3 The Clerk had circulated a copy of the latest 2022/23 budget position which the Chair signed during the meeting.
- 8.4 The Clerk had circulated a copy of the Council's accounts for the period up to 30th June 2022. The Chair proposed acceptance of the financial report, seconded by Councillor Chandler and agreed by Councillors present. The Chair signed a copy.
- 8.5 The Chair was presented with recent invoices and a payment schedule for the period to 8th May to 20th July 2022, which he signed and which were countersigned by Councillor L Dupree.

9. Planning Matters

- 9.1 No Shustoke planning applications had been received since the last meeting.

10. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

- 10.1 Councillor G Dupree summarised the Jubilee events which had taken place, both of which had been very successful. 150 residents had attended the outside event, despite blustery weather. £507 had been raised for the Recreation Ground development work. Elaine Dupree had taken the opportunity to explain the Council's Recreation Ground plans to a number of residents who had been most appreciative. The Chair commended Councillor L Dupree and her team for their hard work and the excellent events which resulted.
- 10.2 The Clerk reported he had received one written application to sponsor a Jubilee tree. Following discussion, Councillor resolved that:-
 - 10.2.1 Residents would be able to sponsor a tree for a minimum donation of £25.
 - 10.2.2 The sponsored tree would not be identified initially, in case of early failure of any of the young plants.
 - 10.2.3 A certificate would be provided to sponsors.
 - 10.2.4 All monies received through tree sponsorship would be earmarked for Recreation Ground development work.
- 10.3 Councillors also resolved to formally disband the Jubilee Working Group.

11. Horticultural Services and Handyperson Activities

- 11.1 The Clerk reported that the Handyperson had acknowledged the request for repair to the Croxall Drive fence which he undertook to finalise during July. The Clerk had undertaken to pay his invoice from SPC funds and to reclaim the cost from the relevant landlords.

12. Recreation Ground

- 12.1 Councillors expressed appreciation for the donation of two benches by a local celebrity who wished to remain anonymous.
- 12.2 On behalf of the Recreation Ground Working Group, Councillor Chandler advised that there was potential for repair to the car park surface through HS2 funding and her enquiries were continuing.
- 12.3 The Clerk outlined the action he had taken to seek quotations for the repair of the car park, but had received just one, the details of which he shared with Councillors. Councillor L Dupree was keen for the work to be undertaken during the school holiday period which the contractor had promised. Councillors queried the experience of the contractor in relation to groundwork, and it was agreed he would be asked to provide evidence of previous similar work. Following discussion, Councillor Cole proposed that the quotation be accepted, subject to evidence of previous work. This was seconded by Councillor Chandler and agreed by all present.
- 12.4 Councillors discussed the recent work of the Recreation Ground Working Group which was due to meet again on the 13th July.

13. Road Safety Issues

- 13.1 This item was covered under item 17 (taken out of sequence).

14. Climate Change Issues

- 14.1 Councillors were advised of the County Council's Greenshoots fund which was available for ground source heat pumps, solar panels and car charging points.

15. Change of Status – Warwickshire Association of Local Councils

- 15.1 Councillor Chandler advised that WALC was now a limited company and its new Chief Executive was settling in well. New services had been introduced and the training programme widened, with more being conducted in-house.
- 15.2 A networking event was planned for 3rd August to which WALC's CEO and the Borough's Chief Executive had been invited.

16. Developments in Local Government Impacting on the Parish Council or Shustoke

- 16.1 Councillor Chandler described some of the work being considered as part of the 'Levelling Up' agenda.

17. Reports from County and Borough Councillors

- 17.1 Councillor Humphries (WCC) passed on the apologies of Councillor D Wright, NWBC. Councillor Humphries updated the Council in respect of the provision of 'Village Gates' which cost around £3k per pair. He was able to access a road and community safety fund of around £533k and would consider the gates alongside other schemes elsewhere. He queried whether there were any other initiatives Councillors felt would benefit the Village. Councillors discussed the extension of double white lines through the Village and calming measures, which Councillor Humphries thought the County Council would refuse due to a current legal case.
- 17.2 Councillor Chandler asked Councillor Humphries to consider a £1,500 grant for a nature trail in the Recreation Ground.
- 17.3 Councillors discussed the extension of overnight street lighting but agreed the lighting should not be extended after 12 midnight.

18. Report from Village Hall Management Committee

- 18.1 Councillor Cole reported a high level of week day bookings and regular bookings at the weekend. Work on the kitchen and former shop area was still in the planning stage and a number of options would be considered. The Scratchy Beard event had been very successful and a repeat appearance was being considered. Other types of events were discussed by Councillors.
- 18.2 It was agreed a Trust meeting would be held after the next Council meeting albeit the 2021/22 accounts might not be available.

19. Reports from Parish Councillors

19.1 Neighbourhood Watch

- 19.1.1 Councillor G Dupree had no specific information to share but was monitoring the activities of the group.

19.2 Four Parishes Youth Club

- 19.2.1 Councillor Noble confirmed the Youth Club continued to enjoy significant success and would soon be taking advantage of a grant to provide 2 part time assistants.

20. Correspondence

- 20.1 The Clerk had received a letter from a previous Clerk in relation to her pension which he undertook to resolve.

The meeting closed at 9.34 pm