

SHUSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 15th May 2023 at 8.00pm

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

APPROVED MINUTES

Present: Councillors G. Dupree (in the Chair), L. Dupree, G. Farr and G. Noble
Joint Clerks – David Jeans and Neil Millard
3 members of the public (Part)

1 Apologies

1.1 All Councillors were present.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest and the Chair advised members to declare any interests under the relevant item if appropriate.

3 Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of the Council (27th March 2023)

3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting of the Council had been circulated to all members. It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held 27th March be approved as a true and correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 The Chairman reported that a constitution has been drawn up for the “Friends of Shustoke Recreation Ground”. The Council as a trustee will be provided with a copy of the constitution. The “Friends” group will have no powers or responsibilities.

5 Contribution from a Representative of Warwickshire Police Safer Neighbourhood Team

5.1 An officer from the Neighbourhood Policing Team based at Coleshill attended the meeting to update members and the local community about their operations and limitations. He predominantly responded to concerns regarding parking and advised that parking tickets will be issued if a vehicle is causing an obstruction and drivers will be spoken to if present. He advised that he would endeavour to speak to the relevant authorities regarding signage and other preventative measures. He also reported on the requirements and operation of a Speedwatch scheme and the support that would be provided. He also advised the meeting regarding the geographical challenges facing the team and the resulting impact on visibility.

6 Contributions from Public

6.1 Two residents attended the meeting to draw attention to the problem of vehicles parking on the village green in front of the Plough pub and the potential hazards arising from the parking. A list of vehicle regulation numbers was presented to the Chairman. A reasonably lengthy discussion took place regarding the problem and potential solutions.

7 Financial Report 2022/23 (including audit)

- 7.1 The Council's financial report for the 2022/23 financial year, the internal audit report and the accounting statement and annual governance statement for the AGAR had all been circulated and considered by members prior to the meeting.
- 7.2 It was RESOLVED that the financial report for the year ended 31st March 2023 be approved.
- 7.3 It was RESOLVED that the report by the internal auditor be received, its contents noted and the report approved.
- 7.4 It was RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement as submitted by the Clerk be approved.
- 7.5 It was RESOLVED that the Accounting Statement as submitted by the Clerk be approved.

8 Council Budget and Financial Report 2023/24

- 8.1 The updated budget for the 2022/2023 financial year and the financial report for the 2023/2024 financial year had been considered by members prior to the meeting. The Clerk also advised that the "Connecting 4" magazine had requested an increase of the annual donation to £260. The question of changes to the Council's banking arrangements was also considered by the meeting.
- 8.2 It was RESOLVED that an increased donation of £260 be made to "Connecting 4" and the necessary adjustments be made to the budget.
- 8.3 Members approved the financial report for 2023/24 subject to the above amendment and also the updated budget for 2022/23
- 8.4 Members agreed that there should be no changes to the online banking arrangements and the incoming Chair will have view-only access to the bank account.
- 8.5 Members agreed that the signatories to the Council's cheque book shall be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Clerk.
- 8.6 Members agreed a proposal by the incoming Clerk that he produce a summary of all payments made using online banking on a monthly basis and it be submitted to the Chair and Vice-Chair.

9 Confirmation of Council Contracts 2023/24

- 9.1 Members confirmed the Council's contracts for grounds maintenance at the Recreation Ground, grounds maintenance on all other sites and the arrangements for minor works.

10 Planning Matters

- 10.1 The Clerk had circulated details of two planning applications within the parish to all members of the Council. Members raised no objections to either of the applications.

11 Recreation Ground Developments and Equipment

- 11.1 A brief report was made regarding the event on the Coronation Bank Holiday and the equipment which is now available. Further support is awaited from Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. The Chairman offered his gratitude to Councillor L. Dupree for her hard work and also to those who made donations.
- 11.2 Members agreed to defer approval of the terms of reference of the 'Friends of Shustoke Recreation Ground' group.

12 Reports from County and Borough Councillors

- 12.1 The Clerk provided a brief update of the changes to local representation following the District Council elections.

13 Reports from Parish Councillors

- 13.1 The Chairman reported on recent improvements to the Village Hall including a new floor, kitchen improvements, new kitchen shutter and a store cupboard.
- 13.2 A brief discussion took place regarding the condition and maintenance of the planters outside the Village Hall.

14 Arrangements for Annual Meeting of the Parish – 22nd May 2023

- 14.1 The Clerk confirmed that the buffet had been arranged and advised members of the menu. Members expressed the view that the meeting should be as informal as possible.

15 Correspondence

- 15.1 The Clerk advised that there was no outstanding correspondence to be considered.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:40pm.