



High Offley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held at 19:30 hours on Thursday 13th October 2022, at Woodseaves Village Hall.

Councillors Present.

E. Halls; D. Turpin; R. Hockenhull; M. Smith & M. Turvey; together with the Clerk and nine members of the public.

Public Open Forum.

Members of public present expressed continued concerns over the continued closure of Shay Lane, due to a collapsed culvert. It was reported by parishioners that a 613 signature petition had been handed to Councillor Winnington on Monday 10th October.

22/122: To Receive any Apologies and Record any Absences.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Mason. Apologies were also received from Staffordshire County Councillor M. Winnington. Neither Stafford Borough Councillor P. Farrington nor Councillor S. Celecia, were present at the meeting.

22/123: To Receive and Consider the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 8th September 2022.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th September 2022 were approved as a true and accurate record.

22/124: To Note any Declarations of Interest.

Councillor Smith declared an interest in Item 22/133.

22/125: To Receive an Update on the Post Box at Grub Street.

Councillor Turvey provided an update and Tuesday 18th October at 18:00 hours, was set for councillors to meet at the site of the former post box for a picture to be taken, that would accompany a Stafford Newsletter submission on the subject.

22/126: To Receive an Update on the Speed Indicator Sign for Stafford Road.

Councillor Winnington was not present and no update had been forthcoming. The quotes for the sign were considered, but a vote was not taken until clarity was gained from Staffordshire County Council regarding permits and costs.

Action: The Clerk agreed to ask Councillor Winnington for an update.

22/127: To Receive an Update on Maintenance of the Noticeboard at Shebdon.

Councillor Turvey stated that, whilst he had made repairs to the noticeboard, it was unlikely to be usable for much longer.

Action: The clerk agreed to obtain quotes for a new noticeboard.

22/128: To Receive an Update Regarding Works at the Sewerage Plant in Moscow Lane.

The Clerk updated council that he had contacted Environmental Health at Stafford Borough Council and the matter had been left with them to pursue.

22/129: To Receive an Update Regarding the Website.

The Clerk again requested that councillors view the new website, which is not yet in the public domain, and consider that facets of the site that it would be unnecessary to keep.

22/130: To Consider Adoption of the General Power of Competence.

Resolution: Following discussion, council resolved NOT to adopt the GPC, as it was felt this was more specific to larger parish councils.

22/131: To Consider Planning Application 22/35717/HOU for Mayfield, Eccleshall Road, Woodseaves.

There were no objections to this application.

22/132: To Discuss Public Rights of Way Issues and Receive an Update on the PRow Group.

Councillor Halls provided an update regarding group activities and the status of local PRow. In particular, it was apparent that users of HO19 were still using the farm track, rather than the footpath which crosses the adjacent field.

Action: The Clerk agreed to source some SCC way markers, for the group to place so that the path is clearly shown.

22/133: To Discuss Highway Issues.

- a) To receive an update concerning the closure of Shay Lane.

An update provided to Councillor Halls by Councillor Winnington was provided, to the effect that the petition gathered by local residents had now been formally submitted to Staffordshire County Council. Following discussion involving, at the chair's request, members of the public present, it was agreed that council would send a formal letter to the County Council outlining concerns. It was recommended that concerned parishioners do likewise.

Action: Councillor Smith agreed to draft a letter to be sent to the County Council.

- b) Potholes on Park Lane, High Offley.

Councillor Halls reported that the recent 'repairs' to the potholes were insufficient and partial.

Action: Councillor Halls agreed to make an online report to the County Council.

22/134: To Consider Finance Matters.

a) Payments made since the last meeting.

The Clerk reported that the only expenditure since the last meeting was £30 for staff training.

b) Staff wages.

Resolution: Staff wages for the last quarter were unanimously agreed.

c) Acquisition of spare flag for St. Mary's Church, High Offley.

Councillor Turvey stated that he was still in possession of the last flag purchased as a spare and, consequently, there was no need to purchase another at this stage.

d) Hall hire from October 2021 to September 2022.

Resolution: It was unanimously agreed to pay the hall hire charges over the last year of £167.75.

22/135: To Request Items for the Next Meeting Agenda.

All unresolved items were requested for the next Agenda, together with an item concerning seasonal gritting.

22/136: To Confirm the Time and Date of the Next Meeting.

The next meeting was confirmed as being at 19:30 hours on Thursday 10th November 2022.

The meeting was closed by the Chair at 20:13 hours.

S. Ridgewell, Clerk to Council. Friday 4th November 2022.