



## **Minutes of the High Offley Parish Council Meeting held at 19:30 hours on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024, at Woodseaves Village Hall.**

### **Present:**

E.Halls (Chair), P.Haslop, R.Hockenhull, P.Mason, M.Smith, D.Turpin.  
Staffordshire County Council Councillor M.Winnington. Clerk D.Cox

### **24/039: To Receive any Apologies and Record any Absences.**

Councillor M Turvey and Stafford Borough Councillor S Spencer.

#### **a) To Elect a Chair for the Forthcoming Civic Year and to Receive the Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Councillor Halls was nominated as the Chair of Council and there were no other nominations. Councillor Halls was happy to accept the role and responsibilities. Councillors were unanimously in favour of Councillor Halls being the Chair of Council for the new civic year and Councillor Halls signed the Acceptance of Office, that was countersigned by the Clerk.

#### **b) To Elect a Vice Chair for the Forthcoming Civic Year**

Councillor Turpin was nominated as the Vice Chair of Council and there were no other nominations. Councillor Turpin was happy to accept the role and responsibilities. Councillors were unanimously in favour of Councillor Turpin being the Vice Chair of Council for the new civic year.

### **24/040: To Receive and Consider the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 11 April 2024**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.

### **24/041: To Note any Declarations of Interest.**

No Declarations of Interest were made.

### **24/042: To Discuss Highway Issues.**

#### **a) To receive an update on Grub Street**

**Action:** Clerk to resend email to Councillor Winnington to request a meeting with Police, SCC and HOPC at site.

#### **b) To receive an update on gritting schedule – salt costs, plan for the gritter and budget allocation.**

Councillor Mason has sourced grit/salt costs from three suppliers and found the costs to be comparable. Cheapest with free delivery was 60 X 20 kg bags totalling £300. Discussion took place around amount of grit/salt needed per Winter and wastage. Councillor Hockenhull offered storage if required.

**Action:** Clerk to contact Councillor Winnington to ascertain if it is possible for a new bin to be installed on Dicky's Lane by the school and the existing bin on High Offley bank could be filled. Clerk to also ask if Staffordshire County Council has a store that we could collect the grit from.

#### **24/043 To Receive an Update on Planning Applications.**

24/38931/HOU - The Old Smithy Lodge Lane

No objections.

24/38798/FUL – The Chapel, Eccleshall Road, Woodseaves

No objections but the parking allocation is a cause for concern.

23/38398/FUL – Batchacre Hall, Shay Lane, Shebdon

No objections.

#### **24/044: To Receive an update on Defibrillators – Shebdon / Battery**

Henry James Angell Memorial Trust visited and checked the battery life at High Offley defibrillator and found it to be sufficient.

**Action:** Councillor Haslop to investigate further.

The defibrillator based at Shebdon is now dried out and defunct. It has been decommissioned from the circuit but now needs removing from site. Councillor Haslop will store when removed.

**Action:** Councillor Hockenull to contact landowner for permission to access the defibrillator to remove.

Chair Halls has contacted a charity regarding a new defibrillator and they will be able to assist with fundraising ideas. Councillors agreed that its replacement will be an ongoing consideration.

Defibrillator/CPR training to be arranged from September 2024.

**Action:** Clerk to contact Ade Turner for possible training dates.

#### **24/045: To Receive an Update on Installation of the Speed Indicator Sign for Stafford Road**

Speed Indicator Sign dimensions and weight have been returned to the Highways Team who have now said that they are ready to install but require payment.

**Action:** Chair Halls to forward email to Councillor Winnington who will then resolve with Mark Keeling/Diane Firkin.

#### **24/046: To Discuss correspondence relating to proposed solar farm in Adbaston**

Councillor Smith listed the reasons in which planning applications can be objected to. Discussion took place. Councillors decided that further information is needed specifically connectivity to the grid and overhead cables that will pass by the church.

**Action:** Chair Halls to let the objectors know that High Offley Parish Council are considering if there will be any impact and to ask for any information they might hold i.e. travel route, connectivity etc.

#### **24/047: To Discuss Membership to Society of Local Council Clerks**

Councillors and Clerk agreed not to pursue at this point.

#### **24/048: To Consider Finance Matters.**

a) Approval of Payments/Payments made since the last meeting.

- PAID: Clerk's Wages - £156.77
- PAID: Stafford Borough Council Civic Amenity Visits £236.00
- PAID: First Responders donation - £100.00

b) To discuss and consider grants for financial year 2023-24 / 2024-25

- Parish Mag

Councillors agreed to pay £220 this year and the same amount for 2024. Total = £440.

- Churchyard maintenance

Councillors agreed to pay £195 per year and the same amount for 2024. Total = £390.

c) To consider the purchase of a new flag for High Offley Church  
The old flag now needs replacing. Councillors agreed to its replacement.  
**Action:** Clerk to source replacement and order.

**24/049: To Request Items for the Next Meeting Agenda.**

It was requested that all unresolved items feature on the agenda for the next meeting in June.

**24/050: To Confirm the Time and Date of the Next Meeting.**

19:30 – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Deb Cox, Clerk to Council. Monday 20 May 2024