

PONTESBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting of Council
Held via zoom video conference
At 7pm on Monday 9 November 2020

PRESENT

Cllr D Fletcher (Chairman), Cllr N Hignett, Cllr R Evans, Cllr A Hodges, Cllr N Lewis, Cllr S Lockwood, Cllr D Gregory, Cllr D Jones, Cllr C Robinson, Cllr R Martinali, Cllr C Sandells, Cllr P Bradbury and Cllr P Heywood

IN ATTENDANCE: None

CLERK: Debbie Marais

58.20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr B Morris, Cllr J Pritchard,

59.20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS - None

60.20 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS None.

61.20 MINUTES OF COUNCIL - The minutes were submitted and circulated as read. It was proposed by Cllr S Lockwood and seconded by Cllr N Lewis and **RESOLVED that the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 12th October 2020, be approved and signed as a correct record.**

62.20 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT

Cllr N Hignett gave a verbal report which was **NOTED** including;

- Reconfiguration of the Shirehall is being carried out, to allow Meeting Rooms to be formed. Work on this has currently been paused, but, when completed, these rooms will be bookable for suitable numbers of people to meet safely, with procedures in place for social distancing.
- Officers at the Council are discussing possible schemes to encourage and support Retail Shops, between 3rd and 24th December if and when they reopen. Relaxation of Parking Fees in all Council-owned Car Parks is one possibility.
- Shropshire Council has set up a single point of contact for Vulnerable People, or those needing food and other essential items. This Covid community helpline number is 03456789028. The Call Centre can provide advice on- priority grocery slots, signposting to local support mechanisms, wellbeing and independence support and safeguarding.
- Shropshire Councils' Community Trees scheme was very successful, with 10,000 trees allocated to Parish and Town Councils in 9 hours. The Council has secured another 10,000 trees, to enable the Scheme to be reopened.
- Potential improvements to the Park and Ride system in Shrewsbury are being considered, and will be discussed at a future Meeting.
- Increased Virus control measures are being carried out in Nursing and Residential Homes in the County, leading to higher costs and more pressure on the budget for this adult social care. The total cost to the Council, for Adult and Childrens' Social Care, is now approaching £400 million annually, and will continue to rise due to the pandemic.

Cllr D Gregory raised health and safety concerns in relation to parking/traffic outside the schools. Cllr N Hignett has raised the issues with SC officers and is meeting with Highways and Transport officers at the school on 11th November. Cllr D Fletcher will also attend. A full report listing possible solutions will be sent to the headteachers of both schools and other interested parties.

Cllr R Evans is conducting a survey of Cruckton and Hanwood residents about use of CIL monies and will report back to the December meeting.

63.20 PLANNING

Cllr A Hodges, Chairman of the Planning Committee, gave a verbal update which was **NOTED** including;

- i) The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group are currently looking at policies to include in the plan
- ii) There will be a planning application imminently for the Hare & Hounds public house site
- iii) The Place Plan will be reviewed at a future planning committee meeting.

64.20 STATUTORY BUSINESS AND FINANCE

a)Receipts for Unity main current account.

- i)Savings account interest - **£3.64**
- ii)Newsletter adverts - **£17.00**
- iii)Minsterley Parish Council donation for foodshare scheme - **£100.00**

NOTED.

b)Receipts for Pavilion account.

- i)Refunded payment from EON - **£547.52**
- ii)Refund on damaged cabinet - **£30**

NOTED.

c) Payments for Approval for Unity main current account and Pavilion Lloyds account (including retrospective approval of all payments since last full council meeting on 12 October 2020).

It was proposed by Cllr D Gregory and seconded by Cllr A Hodges and:

RESOLVED: That the below payments are APPROVED for payment and the bank signatories INSTRUCTED to sign the Cheques/authorise payments online.

Unity main parish council account:

Supplier/Payee	Service	Net	VAT	Gross	Cheque No
Shropshire Council	Poles Coppice grant funding 2020-21	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	B/P422
Locsafe security systems	spare keys for public toilets	24.00	4.80	28.80	B/P423
Veolia	Refuse collection (Pavilion) 01/09/2020 - 30/09/2020	26.97	5.39	32.36	DD
Parish Clerk	Salary November 2020	1896.98	0.00	1896.98	B/P 424
Anna Lawson	Salary November 2020 (includes tax refund April-Oct 2020)	2209.00	0.00	2209.00	B/P 425
Shropshire Council	Pension payment for Clerk/Anna Lawson November 2020	960.87	0.00	960.87	B/P 426
M.I & T.E.M Pritchard	Grounds maintenance October 2020	193.33	38.67	232.00	B/P 427
Lawrence Direct	Various stationery and posters	19.21	3.84	23.05	B/P 428
SALC	Budget setting training for Cllrs	90.00	0.00	90.00	B/P 429

	Bradbury/Fletcher and Clerk				
SALC	Communications Strategy training for Clerk	30.00	0.00	30.00	B/P 430
Ray Parry	Play area repairs as per 2020 Rospa report	2715.00	543.00	3258.00	B/P 431
New Era Printing	November newsletter	330.00	0.00	330.00	B/P 432
Parish Clerk	Expenses 12/10/2020-08/11/2020	152.36	0.00	152.36	B/P 433
Anna Lawson	Expenses 12/10/2020-08/11/2020	8.50	0.00	8.50	B/P 434
Gillian Bailey	finance and other support for Clerk	187.50	0.00	187.50	B/P 435
Evelyn Griffiths	Cleaning public toilets September 2020	200.00	0.00	200.00	B/P 436
Shroptech	Various IT meetings, support, migration of emails and website training	595.00	0.00	595.00	B/P 437
Tony Bishton	Oct 2020 - May 2021 interim planting	550.00	0.00	550.00	300062
	Total			12,284.42	

Lloyds Pavilion Account:

Supplier/Payee	Service	Net	VAT	Gross	Cheque No
Shropshire Council	Business rates November 2020	1448.00	0.00	1448.00	PB/P 40
E-ON	Gas bill - 30/08/2020 - 15/09/2020	6.84	0.34	7.18	DD
Border Janitorial supplies	Cleaning wipes and disposable aprons	12.85	2.57	15.42	PB/P41
	Total			1,470.60	

d) It was proposed by Cllr D Gregory and seconded by Cllr A Hodges and **RESOLVED to APPROVE £30 for annual eye test for Clerk as a DSE user (required by law)**

65.20 PAVILION UPDATE – Cllr D Fletcher gave a verbal update which was **NOTED**. The Library will open for Ready Reads service only during lockdown. The Pavilion risk assessment is being reviewed under lockdown and discussions with the PCC continue.

66.20 CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION GROUP UPDATE – Cllr S Lockwood gave a verbal update which was **NOTED**. There were 13 people at the last meeting and various biodiversity and cycling projects were discussed and the group are working with the local schools. The request for £200 for seeds was deferred until a future meeting.

67.20 NATIONAL PAVEMENT PARKING CONSULTATION - It was proposed by Cllr R Evans and seconded by Cllr N Hignett and **RESOLVED to APPROVE to adopt the same response as Shropshire Council which is Option 2. Where local councils can maintain control over their own local enforcement decisions.**

68.20 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL RURAL STRATEGY CONSULTATION – It was proposed by Cllr R Evans and seconded by Cllr D Fletcher and **RESOLVED to APPROVE delegated authority to Cllrs Fletcher, Evans, Hignett, Jones, Hodges and Pritchard to co-ordinate a parish council response.**

69.20 SPEEDING ISSUES ON MONTGOMERY ROAD – Cllr A Hodges raised the issue of concerns about speeding on the Montgomery Road. Clerk would write to Shropshire Council and local policing team to request the number of accidents/incidents registered along this stretch of road. Any decisions about traffic calming measures for the A488 would also take into consideration the Montgomery Road.

70.20 POLES COPPICE ANNUAL REPORT AND REQUEST FOR FUNDING – The management report for 2020 to date had been circulated to Councillors. Cllr D Fletcher wished to thank the P3 group for all their help. The area has been designated as a Local Nature Reserve by Shropshire Council. It was proposed by Cllr D Jones and seconded by Cllr C Sandells and **RESOLVED to APPROVE a grant of £1500 to Shropshire Council towards management costs for 2021-22.**

71.20 CLERK'S REPORT

A verbal report from the Parish Clerk on outstanding matters, and action taken, since the last Council meeting was received and **NOTED.**

72.20 PARISH BUSINESS

The following was reported at the meeting and the Clerk was asked to report to the responsible bodies

- i)an update on the Hall Bank junction improvements was requested. Cllr N Hignett reported that the improvement are currently being costed.
- ii)Abandoned bike in Cruckton – Cllr A Hodges had reported
- iii)There have been some break ins in the Cruckton and Ford area
- iv)Fly tipping at Cruckton bridge had still not been cleared
- v)Local farmers are frustrated at walkers straying from the designated footpaths
- vi)Hanwood Bridge is timetabled for repairs and the A488 will be closed at Hanwood and the overhead sign at Lea cross is to be replaced shortly
- vii)SC had cleared the drains on Hall Bank but have reported that the structure under the road has been damaged and they will need to carry out investigative work when the road is closed for the junction improvements
- viii)Finger post at Asterley has been repaired
- ix)Clerk asked to put something in next newsletter about walkers keeping to the Countryside Code
- x)Residents in Plealey are applying for a broadband upgrade and may come to the parish council for support
- xi)The issue of contract tractor drivers speeding is to be raised on a NFU future agenda

73.20 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

It was proposed by Cllr S Lockwood and seconded by Cllr N Hignett and **RESOLVED to APPROVE exclusion of the Press & Public on the grounds that the consideration of the following items may involve the likely disclosure of confidential information (s1(2) Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960).**

74.20 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PERSONNEL COMMITTEE HELD ON 19 OCTOBER 2020. It was proposed by Cllr D Fletcher and seconded by Cllr P Bradbury and **RESOLVED to APPROVE the following;**

1. **Gillian Bailey be asked to do 7 hours per week (to include general clerk support and finance/end of year support) until April 2021. This will cost £3150 for November 2020 – end of March 2021 (18 weeks). A couple of Clerks were approached but Gillian was chosen as she has already been giving financial support to Clerk in relation to The Pavilion, is a qualified Clerk and is knowledgeable about the work of the parish council. This support will be reviewed by the personnel committee in January 2021.**
2. **Delegated authority to the Personnel & HR Committee to examine the staffing requirements relating to the Parish Council Strategic Plan 2021- 2024 (to be reviewed annually) and to make recommendation to F&GP committee and Full Council in December 2020.**

75.20 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting to be held via Zoom on Monday 14th December at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 8.05pm

Signed

Date

Chair