

**PONTESBURY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Meeting of Council**  
**Held at Mary Webb School**  
**At 7.30pm on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

**PRESENT**

Cllr D Fletcher (Chairman), Cllr J Pritchard (Vice-Chairman), Cllr R Evans, Cllr N Hignett, Cllr A Hodges, Cllr R Martinali, Cllr C Sandells, Cllr S Lockwood, Cllr P Heywood, Cllr D Gregory, Cllr N Lewis, Cllr B Morris and Cllr C Robinson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** None

**CLERK:** Debbie Marais

**Eight members of the public were present.**

**287.18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

**288.18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

None

**289.18 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

None

**290.18 MINUTES OF COUNCIL**

The minutes were submitted and circulated as read. It was proposed by Cllr S Lockwood and seconded by Cllr P Heywood and **RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting, held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019, be approved and signed as a correct record.**

**291.18 POLICE MATTERS**

Concern was expressed at the recent local burglaries and Clerk was asked to contact the local policing team on the following matters;

- Request additional patrols in areas of burglaries
- Remind members of the public to be vigilant
- When talking to schools to remind young people about cycling safety.
- An invite would be issued to the team for the Annual Parish Meeting in March

**292.18 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT**

Cllr N Hignett gave a verbal report to the parish council including the following items.

- Pride Hill – work to upgrade Pride Hill area has begun
- Footfall figures in Shrewsbury higher than previous year
- Community Enablement Team – Mathew Meade has begun his new role of Place Plan Officer and will be covering Pontesbury area. He will focus and support parish councils on Place Plans, CIL, funding and infrastructure development and in particular community-led housing.
- Future Fit – leader of Shropshire Council will write to Secretary of State for Health supporting the decision to continue to base A&E services at RSH
- North West relief road – central government funding received for this project
- 43 grants for business growth under Birmingham Growth Programme Grant Fund leading to 113 jobs being created
- A partnership of Shropshire & Hereford Councils and Marches Energy Agency have been granted funds to pay for installation of affordable central heating systems for

households in fuel poverty – councillors were asked to advise people to contact Keep Shropshire Warm (0800 112 3743) if interested

## **293.18 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

i) The minutes from planning committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were received and **ADOPTED**.

ii) Cllr A Hodges, Chairman of the Planning Committee, gave a verbal update which was **NOTED**. Cllr A Hodges highlighted the application on Minsterley road where the parish council had had considerable input and feedback on plans submitted. It was felt that enough progress had been made to counter the committee's reservations and so their support for the revised matters was given.

iii) **STREETNAME SUGGESTIONS FOR HALL BANK DEVELOPMENT**. It was proposed by Cllr N Lewis and seconded by Cllr J Pritchard and **RESOLVED to APPROVE the following suggestions from Shropshire Council;**

- **Main thoroughfare to be named Wray Drive**
- **Cul de sacs to be named Boundary Way, Wicket Avenue and Pavilion or Bowler Close.**

iv) **WSP FLOOD INVESTIGATION REPORT**. Cllr D Fletcher wished to thank Cllr N Hignett for all his hard work in co-ordinating meetings and the ensuing report. It was proposed by Cllr C Sandells and seconded by Cllr J Pritchard and **RESOLVED to APPROVE the following recommendations from the Planning Committee for immediate action;**

1. **Option 5/Option 1 (from report). To work in conjunction with Shropshire Council to raise the awareness of Riparian owners along the brook as to their legal obligation and responsibility to keep the brook clear and to encourage Riparian owners/volunteers/Shropshire Council to undertake removal of vegetation. The committee would also like to know what Shropshire Council Highways' maintenance schedule is for brook clearance as they are significant Riparian owners in this instance.**
2. **Option 6. To investigate sources of funding (e.g. Environmental Maintenance Grants/CIL local and/or strategic funds, other funding from Shropshire Council) for the CCTV culvert survey.**

The recommendations for intermediate action are as follows;

1. **Option 3. To investigate sources of funding (e.g. CIL strategic, Rea Valley Flood alleviation fund, other Shropshire Council funds) to raise the the highway levels along Brookside Rd between bridge 3 and A488 main culvert.**

In general the Planning Committee supports the report and the recommendations included within it and is happy to work with Shropshire Council and would like to discuss further Shropshire Council's maintenance plans for the brook and any funding that may be forthcoming towards the recommended work.

The Planning Committee wished the Clerk to ask Shropshire Homes for a site visit to look in detail at what Shropshire Homes are doing to control the removal of surface water on site in light of the investigations into flooding issues in the parish.

Clerk to send the CEO of Shropshire Rural Housing the report so that they are able to make any additional recommendations/comments.

Cllr C Sandells/Cllr J Pritchard wished to ask for an additional length of the brook down to the sewerage works and the upper area of the Habberley Brook to be included.

## 294.18 STATUTORY BUSINESS/FINANCE

### a) Receipts

- i. Nationwide Savings Account interest - **£30.62**

**NOTED**

### b) Payments for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr C Sandells and seconded by Cllr N Hignett and: **RESOLVED That the below payments are APPROVED for payment and the bank signatories INSTRUCTED to sign the Cheques/authorise online bank payments**

Supplier/Payee	Service	Net	VAT	Gross	Cheque No
Evelyn Griffiths	Public toilets cleaning - January 2019	180.00	0.00	<b>180.00</b>	<b>B/P107</b>
Greenfingers Landscape Ltd	Ground maintenance January 2019	185.42	37.08	<b>222.50</b>	<b>B/P108</b>
Parish Clerk	Expenses - 14 January-10February 2019	174.68	0.00	<b>174.68</b>	<b>B/P109</b>
Parish Clerk	Salary for February 2019 (payable 20/2/19)	1355.83	0.00	<b>1,355.83</b>	<b>B/P110</b>
Highline Electrical Ltd.	Maintenance/repairs for January 2019	317.00	63.40	<b>380.40</b>	<b>B/P111</b>
Shropshire Council	Pension payment for Clerk February 2019	423.22	0.00	<b>423.22</b>	<b>B/P112</b>
Shropshire Council	Joint energy costs 2018-19 Qtr 3	1393.97	278.79	<b>1,672.76</b>	<b>B/P113</b>
Creative Digital	February 2019 newsletter	330.00	0.00	<b>330.00</b>	<b>B/P114</b>
SDH Accounting	Finance training for clerk - budget, training for internal checker	181.10	0.00	<b>181.10</b>	<b>B/P115</b>
Cruckton Village Hall	Room Hire for meeting 10/1/19 for finance training	40.00	0.00	<b>40.00</b>	<b>B/P116</b>
NBB Recycled furniture	Bench for Cruckmeole bus stop	280.00	56.00	<b>336.00</b>	<b>B/P117</b>
Lawrence Direct	various stationery	24.52	4.90	<b>29.42</b>	<b>B/P118</b>
Wood Matters	Tree work on School Green and Sports Area as agreed 10/12/18	640.00	0.00	<b>640.00</b>	<b>B/P119</b>
	<b>Total</b>			<b>5,965.91</b>	

- c) It was proposed by Cllr J Pritchard and seconded by Cllr D Gregory and: **RESOLVED to APPROVE £27 for SALC Audit training for Clerk.**

- d) It was proposed by Cllr D Gregory and seconded by Cllr S Lockwood and **RESOLVED to APPROVE £27 for SALC training 'Fundamentals of being a councillor' for the new councillor to be co-opted**

**295.18 PENSIONS DISCRETIONS POLICY** – It was proposed by Cllr N Lewis and seconded by Cllr N Hignett and **RESOLVED to APPROVE Pensions Discretions policy as recommended by Cllr D Fletcher, Cllr J Pritchard and Clerk who had been delegated authority to draft the policy.**

**296.18 COMMUNITY HUB BUILDING UPDATE** – Cllr D Fletcher gave a verbal update which was **NOTED.**

- i) It was proposed by Cllr R Evans and seconded by Cllr A Hodges and **RESOLVED to APPROVE small area of additional land to be used by Ark Nursery on the Hall Bank site.**
- ii) It was proposed by Cllr D Gregory and seconded by Cllr R Martinali and **RESOLVED to APPROVE delegated authority to the Parish Council Community Hub Working Group to seek quotes for internal IT wiring for the new community hub building.**

**297.18 SCOPE TEXTILE BIN**

It was proposed by Cllr J Pritchard and seconded by Cllr N Lewis and **RESOLVED to take no further action on this matter due to the possible threat of vandalism and adequate provision already locally**

**298.18 WAR MEMORIAL**

This was deferred to April meeting in order to receive feedback from the community. Clerk to put article in March newsletter

**299.18 CHAIRMAN’S COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and **NOTED.**

<b>From</b>	<b>Subject and summary information</b>
SALC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future Fit media releases</li> <li>• Update on Princess Royal Telford</li> <li>• Briefing Note Community Enablement Team</li> <li>• Invite to Mosque open day</li> <li>• Opthamology services consultation</li> <li>• CIL update</li> <li>• Area committee survey</li> <li>• Crane Quality Counselling – request for funding.</li> <li>• NALC February bulletin</li> </ul>
Rural Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• February rural bulletin</li> </ul>
Rea Valley U3a Petanque group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looking for a site near the play area or new community hub (similar size to a badminton court)</li> </ul>
Mark Blount, Shropshire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notification that Poles Coppice is being put forward for Local Nature Reserve status</li> </ul>
Jean Jones, Shropshire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Path Diversion Order</li> </ul>

- a) Clerk to suggest to Rea Valley group that they contact the Sports Association in the first instance.
- b) Cllr R Evans gave an update on CIL and the closing date of 22/3/19 for applications to the Local Fund. Clerk to put matter on extraordinary full council meeting in March.

**300.18 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.** Cllr D Fletcher wished to state the continued commitment to tackling dog fouling in the village. Clerk to put on April agenda.

**301.18 PARISH BUSINESS**

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

- i. Cllr N Hignett had been asked to raise the matter of re-siting the bench on Pontesbury Hill. Clerk to mention in newsletter.

- ii. Report decay on oak tree near Mary Webb Close to Shropshire Council Tree Officer
- iii. Blocked drains on Habberley Rd near Linley Terrace
- iv. Request for more litter bins as bus stops, another litter bin in Cruckton required
- v. Cllr B Morris reported near miss on junction of Main Rd and Minsterley Rd, crossing to Station Rd, due to parking close to junction. Clerk to report to police team
- vi. Potholes on Station Lane Plealey, near A488 junction
- vii. Scaffold poles on verges in Cruckton reported to Shropshire Council, Cllr R Evans to investigate
- viii. Complaint about environmental hazard of fires on Budget Skips site. Clerk reported to Shropshire Council Public Protection and Environment Agency
- ix. Hedge falling into the road by The Wharf, Cllr N Hignett to investigate
- x. Potholes on Brook Rd
- xi. Base of ford by Plough – already reported to Shropshire Council
- xii. Cllr J Pritchard wished Clerk to write to MP raising the following issues;
  - Concern about withdrawal of bus services in rural areas
  - Problem of internet speeds in rural areas particularly for farmers and other businesses when accessing essential sites such as VAT returns/HMRC

**302.18 ELECTION BY CO-OPTION OF A PARISH COUNCILLOR FOR PONTESBURY WARD**

Applications had been received from two people and written information from both candidates had been sent out with the agenda papers. Each candidate addressed the Parish Council.

A vote was taken in the form of a paper ballot, where each member voted for their preferred candidate and the Clerk counted the votes. Chair announced the candidate with the majority vote which was Mr Douglas Jones.

It was proposed by Cllr N Lewis and seconded by Cllr S Lockwood and **RESOLVED to co-opt Mr Douglas Jones to Pontesbury Parish Council, representing Pontesbury Ward.**

- i) The closing date for the second vacancy for Pontesbury Ward is Friday 8 March 2019 and co-option will take place at 8 April full council meeting.

**303.18 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED to exclude 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).**

**304.18 NALC NATIONAL SALARY AWARD**

It was proposed by Cllr D Fletcher and seconded by Cllr N Hignett and **RESOLVED to approve the adoption of the NALC National Salary Award from 1 April 2019.**

**305.18 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

7.30pm on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at Mary Webb School, Pontesbury  
The meeting ended at 8.55pm

Signed .....  
Chair

Date .....