

**PONTESBURY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Meeting of Council**  
**Held at Mary Webb School & Science College**  
**At 7.30pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

*(Rescheduled from the original date of 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017, which had to be postponed due to adverse weather conditions)*

**PRESENT**

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

**CLERK:** Miss Kate Davies

**One member of the public present.**

**225.17                    WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed two new Councillors – Cllr Peter Heywood and Cllr Colin Robinson. The meeting was advised that the relevant paperwork had been completed prior to the start of the meeting.

**226.17                    APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr B Morris, Cllr D Gregory, Cllr S Picken, Cllr J Pritchard and Cllr D Ryder – all personal reasons

**227.17                    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

None

**228.17                    MINUTES OF COUNCIL**

The minutes were submitted and circulated as read. It was proposed by Cllr A Hodges and seconded by Cllr N Lewis and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**229.17                    PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

None

**230.17                    POLICE REPORT**

No report available.

**231.17                    SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT**

Cllr R Evans gave a verbal report which included an update on the proposed purchase of the shopping centre in Shrewsbury, the North West Shrewsbury relief road bid for Government

funding and changes to Council Tax liability exemptions, which may mean that the tax base for Parish Council's will increase. The meeting was advised that the Government had agreed to allow Local Authorities to increase Council Tax by an extra 1% for Social Care and that Town and Parish Councils precepts will not be capped for the next three years. Shropshire Council is considering running a lottery for local charities and there are proposed changes to public speaking at Council meetings which will restrict questions to one only. The library strategy paper has now been deferred to January's meeting and plans to modernise Shirehall are being considered.

### **232.17 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The minutes from planning committee meetings held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017 were received and **ADOPTED**.

Cllr A Hodges, Chairman of the Planning Committee, gave a verbal update from the recent Planning Committee meeting.

### **233.17 SHROPSHIRE LOCAL PLAN REVIEW – PREFERRED SCALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF DEVELOPMENT**

A draft response was considered. It was proposed by Cllr P Heywood and seconded by Cllr S Lockwood and

**RESOLVED to APPROVE the draft response and submit to Shropshire Council.**

### **234.17 ANNUAL PLACE PLAN REVIEW 2017**

A draft response was considered. It was proposed by Cllr R Evans and seconded by Cllr N Hignett and

**RESOLVED to APPROVE the draft response and submit to Shropshire Council.**

### **235.17 STATUTORY BUSINESS/FINANCE**

#### **a) Receipts**

- i. Newsletter advert receipts - **£806.05**

**NOTED**

#### **b) Payments for Approval**

It was proposed by Cllr N Lewis and seconded by Cllr R Martinali and:

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

<b>Supplier/Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Chq no</b>
Pontesbury Public Hall	Room Hire	<b>£81.00</b>	2896
Greenfingers Landscape Ltd	Ground maintenance	<b>£231.40</b>	2897
Highline Electrical Ltd	Street Light repairs	<b>£1,146.60</b>	2898
Creative Digital Printing	Newsletter printing	<b>£325.00</b>	2899
Western Power Distribution	Electricity connection Street Light Brook Road/Brookside	<b>£1,062.08</b>	2900
Tony Bishton	Horticultural Maintenance	<b>£400.00</b>	2901
Cllr D Fletcher	Chairman's Allowance (net of tax)	<b>£200.00</b>	2902
K Davies - Parish Clerk	Salary for December 2017 - payable 31/12/17	<b>£1,247.50</b>	2903
HMRC	Payroll - Q3	<b>£782.13</b>	2904

**236.17 DIRECT DEBITS**

The Parish Council consider the setting up of variable direct debit authorities for utility payments - npower (street light electric) and SSE Southern Electric (Public toilet electric) to avoid late payment fees. It was proposed by Cllr C Sandells and seconded by Cllr S Lockwood and:

**RESOLVED to AUTHORISE direct debit mandates for npower and SSE Southern Electric.**

**237.17 PONTESBURY CHARITY**

The Parish Council was asked to consider a request from Pontesbury Charity to appoint two nominative trustees.

It was proposed by Cllr N Lewis and seconded by Cllr N Hignett and

**RESOLVED to approve the appointment of Mrs Mary Worrall and Mr Duncan Ellson as nominated trustees for a period of four years.**

**238.17 REPORTS**

- i. **Pontesbury Library Steering Group** – A verbal update was received from Cllr D Fletcher.
- ii. **Town And Parish Council Forum** – A verbal update was received from Cllr D Fletcher.
- iii. **Local Joint Committee** – A verbal update was received from Cllr D Fletcher.

**NOTED**

**239.17 PARISH BUSINESS**

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

- i. The hedge by the Chinese Takeaway on Chapel Street is overgrown and needs to be cut again by the owner.
- ii. There are large tree branches down on School Green as a result of the snow. It was agreed to ask Wood Matters to remove them.
- iii. The pot holes by Cruckton bridge have still not been repaired.
- iv. The white lines in Plealey/Arscott have still not been reinstated.
- v. Local residents had asked why the snow plough didn't go all around Grove Lane; rather than only doing the top section and then turning around.

**240.17 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

7.30pm on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at Mary Webb School and Science College.

**241.17 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) to allow information about the candidates to be discussed.**

**242.17 CLERK TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

An update was provided on the recruitment of a new Clerk. A recommendation from the Human Resources/Personnel Committee was considered. The provision of the Local Government Pension Scheme was discussed and the Clerk was asked to look into this further.

**RESOLVED to APPROVE the Human Resources Committee recommendations:**

- i. Increase the Clerk's agreed hours to 30 per week**
- ii. Agree to the new Clerk's completion of SLCC's training course, ILCA - Introduction to Local Council Administration at a cost of £99 plus VAT**

The meeting ended at 8.20pm

**Signed .....**  
**Chair**

**Date .....**