

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN HARMER HILL VILLAGE HALL ON
WEDNESDAY JUNE 24th. 2015 AT 7.30 PM.**

Public Session:

Mr. Richards and Mr. Grocott reported that two months ago they had put in planning applications for an extension of a chicken farm at Sleaford and were surprised that the Parish Council had not made any comments. Clerk explained that no details had been received and he would contact the planning department to find out if there was a problem.

Mr. Grocott felt it would be helpful if he explained to Members what was proposed and outlined in detail the plans for the development.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Richards and Mr. Grocott for the information, apologised for the confusion and promised to get the issue resolved.

Present:

Mr. R. Jeffrey (Chairman)

Mrs. E. Hodge

Mr. G. Harding

Mr. R. Jones

Mr. R. Purslow

Mr. J. Heath

Mr. R. Tiernan

Mr. S. Parker

In Attendance:

Parish Clerk.

15/22 Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Mr. C. Ruck and Mr. P. Keyse and Shropshire Councillor Mr. B. Williams.

15/23 Disclosure of Personal or Prejudicial Interests:

None declared.

15/24 Minutes of the meeting held on May 6th. 2015:

The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

15/25 Matters Arising:

(a) Lower Road, Harmer Hill (15/06(a)):

Clerk reported that the Highways Department had promised to complete the outstanding work on Lower Road and the Chairman asked Members to check if this had been done in a satisfactory way.

(b) Highway Issues (15/06(b)):

It was reported that work had started on erecting the Vehicle Operated Speed Control on Baschurch Road, Myddle.

(c) War Memorial Committee (15/06 (c)):

Chairman reported that good progress was being made and a small group from the Committee had visited the local school and talked to the children about the project. It had been a very positive and interesting session.

(d) Yorton Seat (15/16):

Chairman reported that he had asked Mr. Griffiths to carry out some remedial work on the seat, which would allow the tree to continue to grow for several years before further action might be needed. This was already underway and would cost in the region of £200.00

15/26 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting:

The minutes of the meeting having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record

15/27 Matters Arising:

The Chairman stated that he felt it had been a very successful evening with a very positive report from the Assistant Police Commissioner. He had been pleased to hear that special attention was being placed on rural crime and projects to work in a positive way with those sentenced to prison.

He had also been impressed by the enthusiastic talk on NHS Future Fit.

15/28 Accounts for Payment:

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Mr. J. Wilson	Salary (June/July)	£683.53
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (May/June)	£137.13
Inland Revenue	Income Tax/NI (June/July)	£195.41
Mr. G. Harding	Travelling Expenses (Training Course)	£18.90
Mr. M. Sheehy	Internal audit	£205.00
SALC	Councillor Training	£40.00
Nobridge Ltd.	Ground Maintenance (May)	£305.28
Eon	Maintenance Contract (Half Year)	£236.02
SALC	Local Council Award Fee	£50.00

15/29 Financial Statement:

A financial statement was tabled and approved.

15/30 Income and Expenditure and Supporting Statements:

Both detailed statements were tabled, considered and adopted by a unanimous vote.

15/31 Internal Auditor's Report:

The report was considered in detail and it was noted and recorded that no concerns had been raised. Clerk to thank Mr. Sheehy for his excellent report.

15/32 External Auditor's Returns.

All sections of the report and the associated papers were considered, completed and then unanimously adopted.

Clerk to forward the documents to Mazars, the external auditors.

15/33 Planning Applications:

A. The following planning applications had been received:

1. Premier Inns, Harmer Hill – application for a further 21 bedrooms + alterations to landscape and car park.

Objected to for the following reasons: outside development boundary; design of extension; use of agricultural land and possible noise problem for adjacent properties.

2. Newton House Farm – application for prior approval for change of use from agricultural to residential. Not for formal consultation.

Chairman reported that together with Messrs. Jones, Heath and Purslow he had visited the site and they were both impressed by the future plans for development.

3. Burlton Lane Farm, Myddle – proposed free range poultry farm unit.

No concerns raised.

4. Meadowland Poultry, Sleaf – extension of the poultry farm.

Clerk was asked to contact the planning department and get detailed information and to see if there was still time to make a response.

B. The following application had been approved by Shropshire Council:

Land adjacent to Orchard House – approval of Reserved Matters.

C. The following application had been refused by Shropshire Council:

New dwelling west of Yorton Heath Farm.

D. Outstanding Application:

Members re-visited the application for development on land adjacent to Harmer Hill Village Hall, where there was still no decision. It was noted that Mr. Ian Kilby, Shropshire Council's Development Officer, had stated in May that he hoped the situation would soon be resolved. The Clerk had contacted him again and the reply this time was that he thought the applicants were considering reducing the number of properties.

The Clerk had replied outlining the many other reasons why the Council objected to this application but he had not yet received a response.

Members asked him to wait for a few days and if no decision was forthcoming to contact Shropshire Councillor M. Price (Cabinet Member with responsibility for planning), expressing Members' concerns over the delay in making a decision.

15/34 Community Led Plan:

Traffic and Transport:

No report tabled.

Community Spirit and Amenities:

Mrs. Hodge reported that according to the July publication of the Messenger it seemed that elderly people were arranging various activities and coping very well and currently there was no call for Council involvement.

Housing:

No report tabled.

Business and Farming:

No report tabled.

15/35 Police Report:(a) Offences recorded in April:

Myddle (Hillside) – Burglary 1

Near Yorton – Criminal Damage 1

At or near Pickhill – Theft 1; Violence 2.

Sleap – Criminal Damage 1.

(b) Speed Checks:

Members considered in detail a report from Ian Connolly (West Mercia Police), regarding Speed Watch and the Safer Road Partnership. It was noted that no mention had been made of the problems related to Baschurch Road and there appeared to be some ambiguity in the responses. There was no objection to enforcement being carried out on the A528 or in asking Shropshire Council to introduce calming measures on the A528 in Harmer Hill but there was confusion over the suggested methods of speed control in general.

Clerk was asked to contact Ian to see if he would attend the next Council meeting or meet with Councillors to clarify his suggestions.

15/36 Community Service Awards:

Chairman asked the Clerk to outline the scheme that was operating in Shawbury and one which he felt might be a worthwhile venture for the Council to consider. Members felt that this might be a worthwhile project and asked the Clerk to forward further details by email and agreed to consider it in detail at the next meeting.

15/37 Correspondence:Members considered the following correspondence received by the Clerk

Shropshire Council – Empty Homes Newsletter.

Police Commissioner – Weekly Newsletter (May 11th).

Gail Power – Nesscliffe Hills.

Dianne Dorrell – Newsletter (May 15th).

Dianne Dorrell – North Shropshire Area Committee.

Gail Power – Chairmanship Training.

Dianne Dorrell – Newsletter (May 27th).

Geoff Harding – Future CIL funding.

Shropshire Council – SAMDev – Inspectors Report for consultation.

It was decided that there was no need for a response from the Council

Councillor Brian Williams – SAMDev report.

Gail Power – Police Commissioners weekly newsletter (June 3rd).

Gail Power – NALC newsletter.

EM North East – proposed closure of Yorton Station road junction.

Shropshire Council – Place Plan Review.

Clerk reported that he had reviewed the document and the only change needed was to point out that the up-grading of the streetlights had already taken place. He would notify the appropriate officer.

Sue Thomas – National Rural Crime Study.

A Council response had already been sent to this consultation document

Dianne Dorrell – Information Bulletin (June 15th).

Sue Thomas – Day in the life of an airman at RAF Shawbury.

Dianne Dorrell – Health and Well Being Newsletter.

15/38 Committee Reports:

1. SALC Area Committee:

The Clerk gave an outline of the business conducted at the meeting, which had included a detailed report by Councillor Malcolm Price and Shropshire Council's Development Manager, Ian Kilby. They had highlighted many of the problems faced by Shropshire Council and actions being taken to improve the situation. There had been constant changes in Government regulations coupled with a need to reduce Shropshire Council's expenditure, which had resulted in the loss of many planning officers. They explained that recent media reports about changes to the system were factually incorrect and the decision not to charge CIL money on small scale developments was being challenged in the High Court by a County Council.

SALC representative, Diane Dorrell, reported that the executive were keen to make the area committees more meaningful and welcomed suggestions as to how the committees should operate.

The Council chairman had been nominated to be a representative on the Executive Committee.

2. LJC Committee Meeting:

Mr. Purslow reported that he had been unable to attend the planning meeting and that the next full meeting had been postponed until September.

15/39 Exchange of Additional Information:

(a) Felled Trees:

Mr. Jones stated that two trees planted by the Parish Council to celebrate the wedding of Prince Charles had been felled and wondered who had given permission for this.

Clerk to discuss with Shropshire Council's tree officer.

(b) Parked Vehicle:

Mr. Tiernan raised concerns about a vehicle that had been parked illegally in 'The Hollow', which appeared to have no MOT and therefore would not be insured. He was discussing possible action with the police in Wem.

(c) Local Council Award Scheme:

The Clerk advised Members that all the information was in place for an application to be made for the Foundation Award. He issued copies of the completed pro-forma that had to be submitted, which indicated where the information could be found on the Council's web site and asked Members to check it.

(d) Hedge Cutting

Mrs Kerr had contacted the Clerk asking for the hedge between her property and Myddle Recreation Ground to be cut again this year. Mr. Tiernan agreed to do this in the autumn.

(e) Safer Schools Meeting:

Chairman gave a report on the recent meeting he had attended, when he had clearly stated his dissatisfaction with the police and Shropshire Council in dealing with issues that had been previously identified.

The school staff had agreed to carry out a survey with parents with regard to the need for a crossing being provided from the school to the Village Hall and to notify the Clerk of any traffic incidents in the vicinity of the school.

15/40 Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday September 2nd. 7.30pm in Myddle Village Hall.

Minutes approved as a true record:

Signed: R. Jeffrey Chairman

Date: September 2nd. 2015