

**Buildwas Parish Council
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
on Monday 18th November 2019
at 7.30pm in Buildwas Village Hall**

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. L. Pratt (Chairman), Cllr. J. Heath, Cllr. S. Heath, V. Morgan, Cllr. R. Wilcox

In attendance: Mrs S. Morris (Clerk), Cllr. C Wild (Shropshire Councillor), 1 member of the public

1) Public Session

None.

2) Apologies for Absence

None.

3) Declarations of Disclosable Interests & Dispensation Requests

None declared.

4a) To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16th September 2019

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes as being a correct record, subject to the following amendment:

Item 9: Defibrillator. Amend to read "The Village Hall Committee had purchased a defibrillator and cabinet. Arrangements were being made to install the equipment outside the Village Hall. The equipment was covered on the Village Hall insurance."

4b) Matters arising from the minutes

We Don't Buy Crime/SmartWater. The Clerk explained the arrangements to distribute and register kits to residents. The initiative would be publicised to residents through individual letters to each property, and a poster on the noticeboard.

5) Shropshire Councillor report

Councillor Wild reported that the demolition of the power station cooling towers was anticipated soon and a permit had been secured to close the road for one day to facilitate this. The full planning application for the site was expected by the end of the year. Councillor Wild was arranging a meeting for the affected parishes to discuss traffic issues arising from the development with Harworth and Shropshire Council officers.

Councillor Wild highlighted the My Shropshire app which could be used to report issues and which she would include an explanation of in the next parish newsletter.

Councillors asked when the Buildwas bypass and the road through Wroxeter would be repaired. The bypass would be a joint project with Telford & Wrekin Council and should be discussed at the meeting with Harworth and Council officers. Councillor Wild

suggested that the Parish Council could request bi-monthly meetings with the engineer for the parish to discuss current issues and progress on issues previously reported.

6) Ironbridge Power Station Development.

There was no further information to discuss.

7) Play Area Maintenance

The ROSPA report was noted, and it was noted that the majority of recommendations were low risk. It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Wilcox would review the playground equipment alongside the report and arrange for any necessary repairs.

8) Neighbourhood Plan

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the member of the public to make comments in relation to the agenda item.

The Clerk fed back that the application form for grant funding to support development of a Neighbourhood Plan required more information than the Parish Council currently had with regard to the purpose and aims of the Neighbourhood Plan. The awarding body had informed the Clerk that the Parish Council would likely be awarded the full grant of £9,000 if the application was for eligible spending, but recommended that some money be set aside in the precept for contingencies. The Clerk highlighted that any grant awarded must be spent in the current financial year, therefore if a grant was to be pursued it would be prudent to apply for a smaller amount initially for a set piece of work, and for the remaining amount in the next financial year. If this route were to be pursued, the Clerk recommended establishing a working party to clarify the purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan and complete the grant application.

It was noted that a Neighbourhood Plan was a statutory document which would carry legal weight in planning applications. Councillors again queried whether developing a Neighbourhood Plan at this stage could have any impact on the development at the power station site. Councillors discussed the work involved in developing a Neighbourhood Plan and the costs associated with it. Councillor Wild informed the Parish Council of two other local parishes which had successfully developed a Neighbourhood Plan.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- 1) The Chairman and Vice Chairman would speak to Shifnal and Much Wenlock Town Councils to discuss the process, benefits and drawbacks of developing a Neighbourhood Plan;
- 2) Councillors would review the available information regarding Neighbourhood Plans;
- 3) The Parish Council would take a decision at the January meeting as to whether to pursue development of a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

9) Finance

a) To approve Q2 budget report and bank reconciliation

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget report and bank reconciliation, the reconciled balance being £14,352.12

b) To approve payments made between meetings

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

Ref	No	Payee	Item	Amount
P23-1920	SO	S Morris	Salary September	£195.00
P24-1920	DD	N Power	Street Lighting Electricity	£99.94
P25-1920	DD	N Power	Street Lighting Electricity	£80.52
P26-1920	SO	S Morris	Salary October	£195.00

c) To approve payment of accounts

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:-

Ref	Chq No	Payee	Item	Amount
P27-1920	575	S L Bott	Maintenance contract	£998.44
P28-1920	576	Under the Wrekin	Contribution*	£200.00
P29-1920	577	S Morris	Expenses	£48.70
P30-1920	578	Smart Water	Smart Water kits	£1240.20

*agreed as part of 2019/20 budget – January 2019

d) Draft budget 2020/21

The draft budget was noted. Councillors raised some areas which might benefit from having further funds allocated. The final budget would be approved at the January meeting.

10) Review of policies

The Planning Procedure and Data Protection Policies were due for review and had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Planning Procedure and Data Protection Policies for adoption.

11) Planning matters

a) Notifications & updates on previously reported applications

None.

b) Applications for comment

19/04950/FUL Porch and single storey extension, Glebe Cottage

It was **RESOLVED** to submit the comment of No objections.

c) Applications received between meetings

None.

12) Correspondence

None.

13) Parish Matters

a) Update and actions arising re matters previously reported

Ironbridge Road hedges

The hedges from Buildwas Bridge to Devil's Dingle had not been cut back despite approaches from Councillor Wilcox to highlight the problem. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would write to the landowner to request action within a set timescale, after which the issue would be reported to Shropshire Council for further action.

b) Reports of new parish matters and actions arising

Footpaths – Homestead to Buildwas Sand Quarry

Councillors had received complaints from residents about the condition of the footpaths, left covered in thick mud following recent work in the area. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would report to Shropshire Council via My Shropshire.

Surface water issues

Councillors reported concerns about the standing water at the bottom of the bypass, and on the road towards Leighton. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would report these issues to Shropshire Council via My Shropshire.

The meeting closed at 8:21pm.