

CLUN with CHAPEL LAWN PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman welcomed Chief Inspector Martin Whitelegg to the meeting and he gave a presentation on the merits of the Parish Officer Scheme. He was asked many questions and the chairman thanked him for his informative and interesting presentation.

In view of the Chief Inspector Whitelegg's presentation there was no public session

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Community Rooms, Hazelhurst Close, and Clun on Thursday, 25 November 2004 at 7.30 p.m.

In attendance: Chairman Cllr. Mrs B Vesty, Vice Chairman M J K Smith, Councillors N Appleton-Fox, R Jameson, C Pendry, Mrs V I Sherring, Mrs S J William's, Mrs S Smith and Mrs S Dowell.

Apologies for absence. Cllr K Terry's apologies were accepted. It was noted that Cllr. S Bird was absent and had not sent any apologies.

Chairmans opening remarks. None

Declarations of interest.

In accordance with Parish Councils (Model code of conduct) order 2002 issued under the Local Government Act 2000. The following were declared.

Declarations of Personal interest: Cllr Sherring on Item 6 Parish Officer Scheme

Declarations of Prejudicial Interest: None

Approval of previous minutes.

It was noted that Cllr R Jameson had been missed off the attendance list and a spelling mistake was corrected.

Proposed by Cllr J William's

Minute 04-05-54 It was resolved, after the above amendments had been done, to approve the minutes of this meeting.

Continued business.

Vacancy for Councillor. Cllr S Bird had not sent any apologies for this meeting; he had not attended meetings for a total of eight months in total with no apologies for the last six months. He is therefore now disqualified. Clerk is to notify him in writing and advertise the Casual Vacancy. The vacancy declared in October had attracted two applicants, Mr S Blood and Mrs J Devaney. Cllr Pendry proposed that council delayed the filling of the first vacancy until January in order that the second vacancy could be advertised and co-option would take place for the two vacancies together. Cllr Appleton-Fox seconded this proposal. The Clerk did remind members that they should co-opt as soon as possible. A vote was taken with 4 for the motion and 3 against, with one abstention.

Minute 04-05-55 It was resolved that co-option to fill the first vacancy should wait until January when the second vacancy would also be considered.

Town Hall Clock. Clerk had checked in the files for information regarding the clock mechanism and found nothing. It appeared that the clock was slowly readjusting to the correct time and Cllr Dowell agreed to monitor the situation and report back at the January meeting. If necessary then the supplier of the clock would be contacted.

Ford Street Light. This has still not been fitted and the clerk would contact MEB Contracting regarding the delay.

Clerks Contract. A copy of the draft contract had been sent to members and also SALC who had suggested several items that should be included. The draft would be amended for further consultation in January.

Cemetery Committee review of charges for memorials. Mrs Davies had given a list of memorial charges to the clerk. They were the same as adopted by the church.

Small wooden cross £16.00

Vase 12x8inches £66.00

Tablet marker for cremated remains £66.00

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All other headstones £124.00

Additional inscriptions of existing headstones £30.00

Cllr Pendry proposed that these charges be accepted, all were in favour

04-05-56 It was resolved that the council continues with the same charges for memorials.

Details of a forth coming training course on Cemetery and burial grounds was noted and the Chairman hoped to attend with Mr T Wood who had been co-opted to the Cemetery committee.

Clun Memorial Hall & Playing Fields –

Custodial Trustees Dispensation. The clerk had written to Mr Biggs for guidance on this matter. He had replied confirming that dispensation should be applied for.

Minute 04-05-57 It was proposed by Cllr Pendry and resolved that Clun Parish Council, in accordance with the Relevant Authorities, (Standards Committee, Dispensations) Regulations 2002, apply to the Standards Committee of South Shropshire District Council for a dispensation to be granted for a 4 year period for the whole membership of the Clun Parish Council to consider matters relating to the Clun Memorial Hall and Playing Fields Charity land and premises in respect of which the parish Councillors are Custodian Trustees.

Mr Biggs had also given advice of declarations of interest for Management Trustees. Clerk was seeking further clarification on this matter.

Memorial Hall & Playing Fields, Legal Matters. Clerk had written and directed Mr Medlicott to prepare a supplementary document and also to register the land.

Parish Officer scheme. Following the presentation by Chief Inspector Whitelegg the Council unanimously decided to consult the electorate on this issue at the Annual Parish Meeting. Mrs Thorpe would mention details of the scheme in her report for the next Clun Chronicle. Mr Jamison advised the meeting that the present editor of the Clun Chronicle Mr R Marston had resigned and a new editor would be appointed quite soon.

Health and Safety – Foul Vents. This matter was still ongoing Cllr M Smith had provided details of the whereabouts of the vents and would prepare a history on the issue. The clerk would then write to Health & Safety Executive & the Water Watchdog regarding the matter.

Bridge Post-box. Four letters had been received in response to the notices on the post box and at the Post Office. A copy of the notice was to go in the next Clun Chronicle and councillors decided to defer their decision until the next meeting.

Finance

Account balances as at 24 November 2004 are as follows:

Treasurers Account		3251.22
Money manager Account	14164.02	
COIF Money Master	191.26	
Leek Building Society ROWE	763.14	
Bills for payment 24 November 2004		
Clerks Salary	£177.36	
Postage & Photocopies	£ 12.68	
travelling	£ 40.00	£230.04
Enterprise South West Shropshire	£ 25.39	
Hire of Community Hall	£ 30.00	
R Tortorriello		£390.00
Office Express		£ 6.38
Office Express		£37.55

Minute 04-05-58. It was proposed and resolved that these outstanding bills be paid. In addition it was resolved that during the Christmas recess any necessary bills should be paid

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Request for financial assistance from Mrs Bradbury, Clun Post Office. Cllrs were informed that they were unable to use precept money to assist a commercial business.

Peter James had requested reimbursement of monies from the P3 money. Clerk confirmed that money had been provided by Shropshire County Council for Parish Paths Partnership (P3) to be used for safety equipment, or on other occasions “work done”. Shropshire County Council organised insurance for all P3 volunteers so there would not be any come back on the Parish Council for providing the monies for equipment as the money was not from Precept money The money was held in a separate bank account at the Leek Building Society. This payment was sanctioned.

At this point clerk informed the meeting that the Clun branch of Leek Building Society was closing. Clerk was instructed to arrange a fourth account with HSBC to be opened for the P3 money.

Street Lighting . The possibility of updating the time switches on the streetlights was discussed. Clerk was asked to get a quote for the work and details of what benefits we would have from such an expense.

Purchase of a recording machine.

Minute 04-05-59 It was proposed by Cllr M Smith and resolved that the clerk should purchase a suitable machine for recording future minutes, and a budget not to exceed £200-00 was also agreed.

Precept 2005-6 Clerk provided details of budget, giving present spending, and projected spending for 2005-6. After considering these figures and bearing in mind that they were only approximate projections based on present rates of spending, it was proposed by Cllr S Smith and seconded by Cllr S Dowell that no increase in precept was required therefore a precept of £11,000 should be requested.

Minute 04-05-60 it was resolved to apply for a precept of £11,000. All were in favour.

Highways. None for discussion

Lights. Several problems had been reported by the clerk as and when she had been rung with complaints.

Public Seats. An insurance form had been obtained from our insurers but it appeared that in order to make a claim the police should have been noted at the time of the accident. It was agreed that the council should replace the damaged seat There was a quantity of oak at the Memorial Hall and it was decided that consideration should be given to using this to make a new seat for the bridge and also a new one for the Memorial Hall. Three local people were suggested as being possibilities for making the seats. The situation regarding the availability of the oak would be looked into first.

Youth Worker – Discussion on financial support. Cllr Pendry addressed the meeting and suggested that a sum of £1500 be set aside for the Youth Club, payable on receipt of invoices. The money should be used for equipment and occasional trips.

Clerk would confirm that a grant of this nature was permissible or if it should be a Section 137 payment. The council would require invoices as proof of the expenditure.

Minute 04-05-61 It was proposed by Cllr Dowell and seconded by Cllr J Williams that £1500 be paid to the Youth Club on receipt of invoices for expenditure. All the Council was in favour.

Clun Bridge. Cllr Pendry as directed had provisionally booked the Memorial Hall for a Public Meeting to discuss the Clun Bridge problems on Monday 24 January 2005. Members had no objection to this date.

Procedure at the public session. After some discussion on the matter and consultation, whilst the meeting adjourned, with members of the public present, it was unanimously agreed to restrict the time of the session with each speaker allowed a total of 3 minutes to speak. This was in line with other tiers of local government. It was suggested that the length of the public session should not exceed 30 minutes but obviously this would be at the discretion of the Chairman on the evening. Clerk confirmed that such a resolution was legal and did not require any standing order to be changed.

Minute 04-05-62 It was resolved that new guidelines for the public session as described should take place as from next meeting in January.

South West Shropshire Community Forum. *Cllrs felt that they did not think joining the forum would be of any benefit to Clun so they did not wish to take part. Clerk was requested to notify the forum secretary.*

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Re –tendering of local bus service contracts. Cllr Pendry had replied to the consultation and he informed councillors of his comments. Clerk was asked to write to the County Council supporting Cllrs Pendry's views.

Planning.

There were no planning applications for consideration.

Notice had been received that the appeal by C J D Cooke and W D Cooke for a new access at Turnpike Field had been granted.

Correspondence

A list of correspondence was noted..

Notification re Diversion/Extinguishment Order BW13

Code of Conduct-Revised advice

S Shropshire Rural Transport Partnership AGM

Wasteless Society Newsletter

Details of Opportunity Fund for South Shropshire

Matters for Next Agenda

Any other business. None

Next meeting to be held on 27 January 2005 and a Public Meeting regarding Clun Bridge on Monday 24 January 2005

The meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.