

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 9th MAY 2023
AT WESTON LULLINGFIELDS VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors A Woodthorpe
B Welti
Mrs A P R Budgen
Mrs G Tomlins
D Sharpe
R Thomas
M Feline
J H Lloyd
Mrs A Howls Clerk.

Cllr N Bardsley Shropshire Council
Two members of the public

The Parish Council Meeting commenced at 7.30p.m when Cllr B Welti took the Chair and opened the meeting.

67/2023 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr B Welti was proposed by Cllr A Mrs G Tomlins and seconded by Cllr R Thomas Cllr A Woodthorpe was proposed by Cllr M Feline and seconded by Cllr Mrs A P R Budgen Cllr B Welti withdrew from the election of Chairman and there were no other proposals. A vote was taken and all Councillors were in agreement that Cllr A Woodthorpe be duly elected as Chairman.

68/2023 **CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Cllr A Woodthorpe duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Chairman. This was then countersigned by the Clerk.

Cllr A Woodthorpe thanked Cllr B Welti for his work as Chairman for the past twelve months. The Chairman then outlined how he wished the Council to progress on several matters especially Councillors responsibilities for all aspects of the Council's business.

69/2023 **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Cllr M Feline was proposed as Vice-Chairman by Cllr A Woodthorpe and seconded by Cllr. J H Lloyd. There were no other proposals and all Councillors were in agreement. Cllr M Feline was duly elected as Vice- Chairman.

70/2023 **APOLOGIES** – Cllr R Jones and Cllr Mrs W Lowdon.

71/2023 **REVIEW OF POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

- (a) Standing Orders - This had been reviewed previously by the Finance & General Purposes Committee and was now proposed by Cllr M Feline and seconded by Cllr R Thomas and agreed by all.

- (b) Financial Regulations - This had been reviewed previously by the Finance & General Purposes Committee and was now proposed by Cllr R Thomas and seconded by Cllr Mrs G Tomlins and agreed by all.

72/2023 POLICE REPORT- The Chairman gave a report on behalf of the local Police.

73/2023 DECLARATION OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST IN A MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING AND WHICH IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE REGISTER OF INTERESTS. [Members are reminded that they are required to leave the meeting during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer]

There were none.

74/2023 COMMUNITY REPORT & PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There was no report.

75/2023 REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

Councillor Nick Bardsley gave the following report:

PLANNING

Railway station for Baschurch

I will contribute to the discussion on item 15 of this evening's Agenda. At the Project Group's recent meeting I expressed the view that it is important to maintain momentum. Thanks to Steve Boulding, I now have a potentially useful contact at the WMCA. I am making arrangements for a meeting in the next few weeks. I believe that there are other steps forward possible where visible progress could be achieved.

TC Homes Development: Ruyton Road: Application 21/03108/FUL

The response, to date, from Planning Services Officers has not been encouraging. This has been the experience in neighbouring (and no doubt many other) Town and Parish Councils. Very lengthy delays and lack of action are unfortunately not unusual. One of the issues has been/still is staff shortages. I'm not satisfied that Officers are pursuing all the available options open to SC. The Council has (as in other areas of activity) *statutory duties*. The present levels of service achieved may suggest a failure to meet these statutory responsibilities.

Infrastructure Levy

Your Clerk has circulated papers from NALC. The Government's proposals are likely to have a significant impact in Shropshire, particularly in Parishes such as Baschurch. NALC is asking for responses by *May 19th*, a tight timetable. DLUHC responses must be submitted by *June 9th*. There would be time (just) for the Parish Council to discuss this at your June meeting.

Local Government Boundary Review for England

Your Clerk has circulated the Commission's proposals. The Commission's suggestions for the Ruyton and Baschurch ED broadly follow the proposals made by both Baschurch and Bomere PCs in including *the whole of Walford Heath* within an enlarged Parish. Also included are parts of the Meres ED, I think to get the numbers of electors in Ruyton and Baschurch up to the Commission's target level across Shropshire. There will be extensive consultation over the next few weeks. I suspect that SC will want to see significant changes in the Commission's proposals.

New Medical Centre

I have heard very recently from Dr Guildford that the PID submitted by the Prescott Surgery Group Practice has now been “approved in principle”. The Group Practice partners wish, if possible, to have an Outline Business Case ready for submission at the October meeting of the Primary Care Commissioning Committee. I’m very pleased that the partners now appreciate that urgent action needs energetically to be pursued. This will require significant input from Shropshire Council and I believe Baschurch (and neighbouring) Parish Councils. May I suggest that the Parish Council now needs to set up a project group with terms of reference, enthusiasm and expertise similar to that established for the Railway Station project? There is a great deal of work to be undertaken and not much time!

76/2023 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3rd APRIL 2023

Cllr J H Lloyd proposed and Cllr M Feline seconded that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 3rd April 2023. This was confirmed as a true and correct record and agreed and signed by the Chairman.

77/2023 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3rd APRIL 2023, NOT ITEMISED ON THE AGENDA

There was none.

78/2023 PLANNING -There was no applications received.

Planning Permission Granted

- 23/01084/FUL- Erection of ground floor side extension incorporating garage in part and new roof configuration at Westlea, Prescott Road, Baschurch, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

79/2023 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR (BASCHURCH & WESTON LULLINGFIELD WARD)

The Chairman stated two applications had been received for the two vacancies. Both were in attendance and had already forwarded their reasons for their applications which had been forwarded to all Councillors.

After some discussion Cllr M Feline proposed and Cllr J H Lloyd seconded Mr Nigel Hancocks for the Baschurch Ward and Mrs Carole Weller as a suitable candidate for the Weston Lullingfields Ward which was agreed by all. They were duly co-opted and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was countersigned by the Clerk.

80/2023 HIGHWAYS AND STREET LIGHTING

- (a) Temporary Road Closure- Yeaton Junction Mission Cottage to Shrewsbury Road Baschurch from Monday 24th July 2023 until Tuesday 25th July 2023 for remedial work by Severn Trent.
- (b) Temporary Road Closure- Prescott junction to Yeaton Junction (Ivy Cottage) Baschurch From Thursday 27th July 2023 until Friday 28th July 2023 for repair defects by Severn Trent.
- (c) Temporary Road Closure- Station Road, Baschurch from Friday 21st July 2023 (weekend only) until Monday 31st July 2023 for level crossing renewal by Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd.

Enforcement Pattern for Station Road, Baschurch.

Level Crossing Renewal – 2 consecutive weekends- no weekend works

Road closed from 23.30 hrs on 21.7.23 until 05.20hrs on the 24 07 23 and then

Road closed from 23.30hrs on 28 07 23 until 05.20hrs on 30 10 23

- (d) Condition of Church Road, Baschurch- Cllr J H Lloyd had received a report that the footpath in Church Road, Baschurch adjacent to Millington Close the earth bank had collapsed at the stone wall which had reduced the width of the pavement by at least 50% for a considerable distance which forced pedestrians to step into the road to enable pedestrians to pass each other. **Resolved:** Clerk to contact Meres and Moses Housing Association.
- (e) Street Naming Baschurch- Julie Carswell, Shropshire Council, Street Numbering and Naming Officer had contacted the Parish Council and requested proposed names for Proposed Development at Land North of B4397 This was discussed by Parish Councillors and it was agreed that Councillors forward the name “Parry Close” The reason for putting this name forward was it was a name from the War Memorial. **Resolved:** Clerk to inform Street Naming Dept SC
- (f) Street Naming Baschurch - Carlene Cloake, Shropshire Council, Street Numbering and Naming Officer had contacted the Parish Council and requested proposed names for Proposed Development Residential Development (48 x Plots) at Land to the South and East of Station Road, Baschurch, This was discussed by Parish Councillors and they agreed to the name “Dakin Drive”. **Resolved:** Clerk to inform Street Naming Dept SC
- (g) Royal British Legion Parade. -The Chairman had e mailed the Parish Council in respect of the Parish Council’s insurance liability for the Remembrance Sunday Parade and the road closures which needed to be put in place. He proposed that the Royal British Legion would assist in the process.
- (h) Dove Meadow/Bridleway fence. -A resident of Dove Meadow had enquired if the Parish Council had any information about the responsibility for keeping the wooden fence repaired that borders the bridleway next to Newtown Garage and Dove Meadow - Unfortunately, a number of the posts which support the fence have rotted and broken so the fence panels are moving in the wind. He had been trying to ascertain from all the plans for both my property and the property owned by our management company (the private road) who is responsible for the fence - is it a joint responsibility, a council responsibility or our (the residents) responsibility? Unfortunately, the builders (Walker Sheppard) gave us very little information about this when we bought the house and they ceased trading a number of years ago.

Resolved: This was discussed at the meeting and it was confirmed that the Parish Council did not pay for the fence or adopted it. The fence appears to benefit residents of Dove Meadow by keeping the roadway private. The fence is not owned by the Parish Council.

81/2023 BASCHURCH STATION GROUP-UPDATE

The Chairman gave an update from the Station group.

82/2023 CEMETERY

Cllr J H Lloyd suggested a sign be purchased stating “Please close the gate on the rear Gates to the Cemetery.

83/2023 KING CHARLES III CORONATION

Cllr J H Lloyd stated that the coronation bench was being put in situ on the Village Green in the next few days.

84/2023 BADGERS WAY PLAY /WHEATLANDS PLAY AREA

There was nothing to report as repairs had been carried out.

85/2023 FINANCES

- (a) Cheques for Approval – The following cheques totalling £11,240.52 (which includes VAT) were put forward for approval. These were proposed by Cllr J H Lloyd and seconded by Cllr B Welti and agreed by all.

003419	Scottish Power	157.45
003420	P. Birch Contracting Ltd (General Maintenance)	674.46
003421	P. Birch Contracting Ltd (Cemetery)	264.30
003422	A Howls Salary-April	1332.60
003423	Inland Revenue-April	473.38
003424	PG Skips Ltd	46.96
003425	Zurich Insurance	1916.34
003426	Highline Electrical Ltd	136.20
003427	Futurform- Coronation Bench	622.80
003428	Seth Bradbury Tree Services Ltd	600.00
003429	Weston Lullingfields V Hall –Hire of Room 9/5/2023	70.00
003430	Inland Revenue	254.99
003431	Baschurch PCC(ALL Saints Church Porch Pantry Donation	500.00
003432	Baschurch Pay Trust Donation –Mowing One Year	3,751.56
003433	Scottish Power	319.48
003434	Royal British Legion –Poppies on Lamp posts	120.00

Resolved: Payment of the cheques was approved.

(b) Other items of expenditure for consideration

Parish Council Insurance.

The Clerk stated that the Parish Council Insurance is a long-term agreement until 1st June 2026. This was proposed by Cllr A Woodthorpe and seconded by Cllr J H Lloyd and agreed by all.

Report from Finance & General Purposes Sub Committee

A subcommittee meeting took place on 17th April 2023 when the Financial Regulations, Standing Orders along with the Parish Council Insurance were discussed.

(b) Other items of expenditure for consideration

Baschurch Village Hall-An e mail had been received from the Chair of Baschurch Village Hall Trust who were requesting a contribution of funding towards significant roof repairs now required to the hall. This item was deferred on the request of the Chair of the Baschurch Village Hall.

Church Pantry, Baschurch- An e mail had been received from the Treasurer of the PCC of All Saints Church, Baschurch who acknowledged the contribution made in January for the Porch Pantry and stated the Council's support had been invaluable in this difficult financial period. There had been a high demand for the pantry products, so much so that nearly all the grant given to them has been spent. A copy of the Bank statement had been produced to the Parish Council from 3rd January to date. The PCC would be grateful if the Parish Council would consider allow a further donation. **Resolved:** This was discussed and Cllr B Welti proposed £500.00 be donated to this. This was seconded by Cllr R Thomas and agreed by all present.

Royal British Legion - Replacement Lamppost Poppies. An e mail had been received from the Royal British Legion who stated a few years ago the Parish Council purchased lamp post poppies for Baschurch and surrounding villages. These poppies now need replacing having suffered from the weather etc over the years. They asked if the Council would agree to donate a further £120 to purchase new replacements? This was discussed by Councillors and proposed by Cllr B Welti and seconded by Cllr M Feline to donate the £120.00 as requested. All were in agreement.

Church Fete -An e mail had been received from a representative from All Saints Church, Baschurch asking permission to hold the Annual Church Fete on the Village Green this year on Saturday 8th July 2023. This was agreed by Parish Councillors.

Baschurch Women's Institute -A request had been made to plant a tree on the village Green. Councillors discussed this and were in agreement. Contact would be made with members of the Women's Institute to look at a suitable place to plant the tree.

Station Mews - New Business Units in Station Road- Councillors were invited to attend an official visit to the new small business units which were nearing completion and would be advertised late June. Date to be arranged via the Clerk.

Road collisions and safety improvements on A5 Holyhead Road, Shropshire- An e mail had been received from the Clerk of Ruyton-X1 Towns pointing out the serious safety concerns about a dangerous section of the A5 Holyhead Road. The number of collisions on this stretch of the A5, outline the impact these collisions have on families, local communities, and the emergency services, and to request that National Highways introduce safety improvements (i.e. double white lines) on this section of road, to reduce the risk of future collisions and fatalities. A request had been made that Baschurch Parish Council forward a letter to the National Highways to support Ruyton X1 Towns Parish Council in their concerns. Councillors were in agreement to forward a supporting letter.

86/2023 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 10.15pm. The next regular Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 5th June 2023 at 7.30pm at Baschurch Village Hall.

Signed.....

Dated 5th June 2023