

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th MAY 2024
AT BASCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors A Woodthorpe (Chair)
Mrs A P R Budgen
Mrs G Tomlins
Mrs W Lowdon
R Thomas
N Hancocks
S Hey
D Sharpe
R Jones
Mrs C Weller

Cllr N Bardsley Shropshire Council
Mrs A Howls Clerk.

Two members of the public

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

66/2024 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr A Woodthorpe was proposed by Cllr Mrs C Weller and seconded by Cllr Mrs G Tomlins. There were no other proposals. A vote was taken and all Councillors were in agreement that Cllr A Woodthorpe be duly elected as Chairman.

67/2024 **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 the Councillors for the confidence they had showed in him continuing as Chairman.

68/2024 **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

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

69/2024 **APOLOGIES – Cllr M Feline & J H Lloyd**

70/2024 **POLICE REPORT-** This was deferred until the next Meeting

71/2024 **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.

72/2024 COMMUNITY REPORT & PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There was no reports

73/2024 REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

Councillor Nick Bardsley then gave the following report:

Planning/Highways

No progress, I'm afraid in SC Officers supplying a date for the construction of the **passing place on the lane from Weston Lullingfields to Cockshutt**. I took the opportunity, last month, of seeing Mark Wootton at another meeting of raising the issue but have had no response since then. This is really a very minor project which should have been undertaken many years ago.

To the best of my knowledge, it has again not been possible to move forward with the **much-needed TRO along Ruyton Road because of lengthy road works in recent weeks**. These works, with traffic lights effectively prevent the gathering of any meaningful data on traffic volumes, speeds etc.

I have received a complaint from a local resident about the *failure to adopt Perryfield Road in Baschurch, which has personally damaging financial consequences for him*. I have been unable to persuade Officers, so far, to supply a date for this issue to be resolved.

Local Plan - further public consultation

Parish Councillors may be aware of a new consultation on the review of the draft Local Plan. The consultation runs until 11th June, so there is time for this matter to be discussed at your next (June) meeting.

One of the more significant matters is the proposal to include elements of "overspill" housing from Birmingham and the Black Country. This of course impacts on the overall requirement for additional housing land in Shropshire.

Whilst much of this additional land will be found in the market towns, and in the East of Shropshire, there will be increasing pressure on rural villages (see pages 78-82 in the Housing and Employment land topic paper) and in open countryside via the exception site policies in the draft plan.

I'm sure Parish Councillors appreciate that once policies are enshrined in the Local Plan, subsequent applications which are said to meet policy requirements can be very hard to resist.

Access by the Parish Council to CIL Local funds: Place Plans: Housing development in the Parish

I The Chair (AW) and I (NB) had a meeting on Teams on Friday afternoon, May 10th to discuss:

- Place Plan areas and the "Priority Infrastructure" project report submitted to Cabinet in March 2024 - housing developments in the Parish
- the generation of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payments from Baschurch housing developers

- the allocation of these payments between the various SC funds
- the process by which the Parish Council makes “bids” for expenditure on priority projects within the Parish - the Expression of Interest (EOI) procedure
- particular priority projects

2 Shropshire Council officers were:

- Eddie West - head of Planning Policy and Chair of the IIG (an internal group of SC officers) (EW)
- Mathew Mead - Place Plan officer for the Shrewsbury Place Plan (MM)

3 The meeting had been arranged, at the request of NB and AW.

4 NB raised errors and omissions in the March Cabinet Report and the practical difficulties, subsisting over many years, of his ED being split between **three place plan areas**. This made the allocation of priorities (and funds) particularly difficult for major projects e.g. the new medical centre, the reopening of Baschurch Railway station, which impacted on catchment areas which crossed the boundaries of several different place plans. *Outcome of discussion: SC officers acknowledge the issue but no action will be taken.*

5 NB and AW asked that detailed information be supplied for the generation of CIL funds in Baschurch parish. EW explained that the practice of supplying detailed information had been discontinued because *in some parishes* the SC terminology was misunderstood. NB and AW pointed out that Baschurch Parish Councillors certainly understood the terminology and that, in the absence of actual and accurate figures, it was hardly surprising that inaccurate numbers were commonplace. AW said that many Baschurch residents made the assumption that a large part of the CIL funds generated in the Parish was used for projects exclusively benefitting the Shrewsbury town council area. SC Officers (EW and MM) then asked about spending by the Parish Council of funds in the (15%) Neighbourhood Fund. AW was then able to reverse calculate the total CIL generated in Baschurch, somewhat to their surprise!

*Outcome of discussion: SC officers acknowledge the dilemma and will **consider** supplying the information requested. MM mentioned verbally a total figure of £2.9 million and a net figure of £2.16 million in the Baschurch Local Fund. Approximately £0.5 million (of the £2.16 million) has been used for the additional classroom at the primary school and the safety railings installed outside the primary school 2/3 years ago.*

6 The meeting concluded with a more detailed discussion of a number of priority projects ranging from improvements to the car park and the hall itself at Baschurch Village Hall to major projects such as the proposed new medical centre and the reopening of the Baschurch Railway Station. There was discussion about the use of the Baschurch Neighbourhood fund and AW confirmed that the Parish Council was more than willing to supply detailed information on its use.

AW and NB updated SC officers with progress on the Station project and asked what process should be followed to access the modest sum required by the Parish Council's consultants (SLC Rail) to progress to a “final” opinion on the basic viability of the project. *Outcome of discussion: SC officers will send the amended EOI paperwork to AW and NB so that the Parish Council can then apply for funds from the CIL Local Fund in order to commission SLC Rail in accordance with their April proposal.*

74/2024 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8th APRIL 2024

Cllr Mrs Tomlins proposed and Cllr S Hey seconded that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8th April 2024. This was confirmed as a true and correct record with one abstention, and signed by the Chairman.

75/2024 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8th APRIL 2024, NOT ITEMISED ON THE AGENDA

There were none.

76/2024 PLANNING

- (a) 24/01671/TCA- To fell one ash (T1) and one dead elm (T2) and to prune branches overhanging neighbouring property from one Sycamore (T3) within Prescott Conversation Area at Prescott Surgery, Prescott Road, Baschurch, Shropshire.

The Chairman discussed the application with Councillors and the proposed the proposed tree works to be justified and necessary for the following reasons:

Public Safety: The felling of the ash tree (T1) and the dead elm tree (T2) is essential to mitigate potential hazards posed by these trees. Dead or diseased trees can pose significant risks to public safety, especially in populated areas or near structures such as Prescott Surgery.

Tree Health: Removing the dead elm tree (T2) is crucial not only for safety reasons but also for the preservation of the overall health of the tree population in the area. Dead trees can harbour pests and diseases that may spread to neighbouring trees if left unattended.

Property Maintenance: Pruning branches overhanging neighbouring properties from the sycamore tree (T3) is necessary to maintain the aesthetic appeal of the area and to prevent any potential damage to adjacent properties. Overgrown branches can cause issues such as blocked sunlight, damage to roofs, and obstruction of views.

Conservation Area Considerations: While we acknowledge that the work will take place in a Conservation Area the proposed tree works are deemed necessary for the proper management and maintenance of the tree population within the area.

Cllr N Hancock's seconded the proposal which was agreed by all. Shropshire Council to be informed.

Planning Permission Granted

- 24/00567/FUL Erection of first floor extension over existing double garage with terrace and conversion of double garage into games room at Nobold House Baschurch, Shrewsbury, Shropshire

77/2024 HIGHWAYS AND STREET LIGHTING

1. Temporary Road Closure- Road through Stanwardine, Baschurch from Monday 3rd July 2024 until Friday 19th July 2024 for mains replacement scheme carried out by Severn Trent Water.
2. Temporary Road Closure- Road near Stanwardine, Baschurch from Tuesday 2nd July 2024 until Thursday 4th July 2024 for B Box Install 25mm and meter carried out by Severn Trent Water

77/2024 (Cont'd)

3. The Chairman stated the Clerk had received information from the Street Lighting Contractor that he had received a delivery of around twenty replacement LED Boards, unfortunately the cherry picker has some work to be done having warranty faults but we will get started on changing lights within the next couple of weeks.

78/2024 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The Clerk stated she had written to the governance review board who are discussing the changes and had requested consideration to be given to adding an extra Councillor on to Baschurch Parish Council. We now await Shropshire Council's decision.

79/2024 UPDATE- RAILWAY STATION

Cllr A Woodthorpe informed Councillors that following the response to the opinion piece that Simon Hey and Nick Bardsley had constructed, the consultants, came back with proposals to do a further study to delve more in depth into the local nuances that we highlighted, the cost is around £8,500.00. After some discussion Cllr Mrs C Weller proposed to instruct the consultants to undertake the further study at the cost of £8500.00. This was seconded by Cllr N Hancocks and agreed by all. Councillors agreed this cost would be paid for from Parish Council funds rather than apply for CIL monies. Cllr A Woodthorpe would inform the consultants to go ahead.

80/2024 ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNCILLORS

The following decisions were made after discussion.

Planning – Cllr's M Feline, D Sharpe & Mrs A P R Budgen

Cemetery- Cllr J Lloyd, Mrs A P R Budgen & Mrs G Tomlins

Footpaths – Cllr Mrs G Tomlins

Open Spaces -Cllr N Hancocks

Highways -Cllr N Hancocks

Maintenance/Infrastructure- Cllr J H Lloyd

Baschurch Village Hall- Cllr S Hey & Mrs W Lowdon

Allotments- Cllr A Woodthorpe

PGL- Cllrs Mrs W Lowdon, S Hey & Mrs A P R Budgen

Walford College - Cllr R Jones

Schools - Cllr Mrs C Weller

Facebook- Cllr R Thomas

Village Newsletter- Cllr A Woodthorpe & S Hey

Playground Trust- Cllr J H Lloyd, N Hancocks, A Woodthorpe & Mrs C Weller.

80/2024 (Cont'd)

SALC- Cllrs A Woodthorpe & Mrs A P R Budgen

Baschurch Junior Football Club- Cllr R Thomas

Neighbourhood Planning – To be decided at a later date.

Railway Station – Cllrs S Hey & A Woodthorpe

Police Liaison – Cllr R Thomas.

81/2024 BADGERS WAY PLAY /WHEATLANDS PLAY AREA

The Clerk stated she had met with Mr R Parry, Playground Specialist who was going to carry out repairs and additional play equipment at the two sites. The work had been held up due to the weather but he was going to try and start work at the Wheatland's after the school half term holiday. Paul Birch to order and put down turf under the basket swing and flat swings before work was to commence.

The Clerk stated she had received a complaint from a local resident to the Badgers Way Play area that young children about ten years old were playing ball games in the Play area and causing a disturbance most evenings. Councillors discussed the complaint and were in agreement that the play equipment was for younger children up to approx. 7yrs of age. It was agreed to place a sign in the play area stating that the play equipment is suitable for children of 7yrs and under. Councillors were in full agreement that it was a play area and if children wished to play there with balls it was in order. It was a children's play area. Clerk to inform local resident of the Councils decision.

82/2024 FINANCES

- (a) Cheques for Approval – The following cheques totalling £27,388.87 (which includes VAT) were to be paid over the month of May. These were proposed by Cllr Mrs G Tomlins and seconded by Cllr N Hancocks and agreed by all.

003548	Baschurch V Hall Trust -Donation Car Park	4,500.00
003549	Re Issue Cheque SLC Rail	12,228.00
003550	Mr Hancock – Speed Visor Batteries	165.42
003551	P. Birch Contracting Ltd (General Maintenance)	674.46
003552	P. Birch Contracting Ltd (Cemetery)	264.30
003553	A Howls Salary- April	1403.60
003554	Inland Revenue-April	517.32
003555	PG Skips Ltd	49.76
003556	J Hamlett –Hedging	120.00
003557	Zurich Insurance- 2024/25	2,037.46
003558	Baschurch Village Hall –Hire (8/4/2024)	47.50
003559	Scottish Power	333.93
003560	Baschurch Playground Trust Donation –Mowing One Year	3,751.56
003561	SALC –Affiliation Fees	1,295.56

Resolved: Payment of the cheques was approved.

- b) Other items of expenditure for consideration

There were none.

83/2024 CORRESPONDENCE

There was none to discuss.

84/2024 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 9.40pm. The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 3rd June 2024 at 7.30pm at Baschurch Village Hall.

Signed.....

Dated 3rd June 2024