

TITLE OF REPORT:	FUTURE MEETINGS
REPORT BY:	Clerk - Sharon Clayton
BACKGROUND:	<p>Face-to-face council meetings are considered as work but there must be adequate social distancing in place. Members of the public may attend parish council meetings, but they are not classed as 'workers' and therefore the rule of 6 applies. This means that only 6 members of the public may attend parish council meetings unless rules change on 21 June 2021.</p> <p>At the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 18 May 2021 dates and venues for future Parish Council meetings were agreed. However, it was further agreed that the Marches School or North Shropshire College could be used as alternative venues. Unfortunately, due to social distancing these venues are not available.</p>
ISSUES:	<p>The full complement of Parish Council Members is 15 plus the Clerk which make 16 people. All are classed as 'workers'. Therefore the maximum number of people that can attend Oswestry Rural Parish Council meetings under the current regulations is 22.</p> <p>For the past few years the Parish Council has alternated its meeting venues between Morda and Sweeney, Trefonen and Rhydycroesau village halls. Now that Morda and Sweeney Village Hall is no longer available to the Parish Council it has presented difficulties because the rooms available at other village halls within the parish are not big enough for social distancing. Furthermore, with the new COVID variants it is possible that social distancing may remain in force for several months thus exacerbating the problem.</p> <p>From November 2021 to 31 May 2022 the Parish Council has agreed to hold meetings at Trefonen Village Hall. However, it is not available on Tuesday evenings from November 2021 onwards and therefore, if the Parish Council wishes to continue to use and support this venue, the Council will need to change the day of the week on which it meets. Mondays and Thursdays are available but, as bank holidays tend to fall on Mondays this could impact on meeting attendance. It is therefore advisable to change the day of meetings from November onwards to Thursday evening.</p>
LEGAL OBLIGATIONS:	Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, Part II, 10(1) allows parish council meetings to be held within or without its area. However, it is good practice to support venues within the parish and to hold meetings local to all parishioners.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:	<p>Rhydycroesau Village Hall - £40 per session.</p> <p>Morda and Sweeney Village Hall - £30 for main hall and £20 for small room.</p> <p>Trefonen Village Hall £30 per session and £6 for small room.</p>
COMMUNITY BENEFIT	Members of the public can attend Parish Council meetings, request to speak during the public session and observe the decision-making process. Meetings at village halls within the parish also help to support them in accordance with room charges as shown above.
CLERK'S COMMENTS:	The Coronavirus Regulations which allowed virtual meetings no longer apply and whilst it may be desirable for the Parish Council to continue to record meetings for members of the public to watch virtually, the Parish Council will need to seek expertise and set aside sufficient funding to bring this into fruition.
PROPOSAL:	<p>That the Parish Council changes the day on which it meets at Trefonen Village Hall to Thursday from November 2021 to May 2022 as follows:</p> <p>25 November 2021 16 December 2021 27 January 2022 24 February 2022 31 March 2022 14 April 2022 (Annual Parish Meeting) 28 April 2022 26 May 2022 (Annual Parish Council meeting)</p> <p>(Note: the small room at Rhydycroesau Village Hall may be available as an alternative.)</p>

DATE OF MEETING AT WHICH THIS WILL BE CONSIDERED:	22 June 2021.
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The following is a report on action taken following decisions made at the last parish council meeting.

MONTH	MINUTE NUMBER	RESOLUTION/AGREED ACTION	TASK COMPLETE	COMMENTS
2020 July	422/19	Inform Shropshire Council that the Council would like to take on the undisputed land at Chapel Green.	Yes	Awaiting a response from Shropshire Council.
2021				
April	1013	Provide the Environment Agency with a grid reference for the specific flood area at Morda. Ask for the flood marker to be reinstated at Coed-Y-Rae Lane.	No Yes	Awaiting grid reference.
	1026	Arrange for commemorative seat and tree at Trefarclawdd cemetery.	Work in progress	
	1042	Try to book the Marches School and Oswestry College for future meetings.	Yes	Neither are available due to COVID restrictions. NOTE: Oswestry School will be available from July onwards.
	1043(b)	Ask Shropshire Council whether the S106 was still applicable concerning planning application 21/01898/REM, proposed residential development west of Ty Draw, Oak Lane, Treflach	Yes	Reserved matters will not change the requirements of the S106 agreement.
	1044(b)	Send a message of thanks to all outgoing councillors.	Yes	Thank you cards have been sent to each.
	1025(d)	Find out when the mast at the Racecourse will be connected.	Work in progress	Airband have responded stating that they are not aware that they are connecting any new masts as any network build is now using 'fibre to the premises' technology, rather than 'fixed wireless access'. The location in question with a postcode or descriptor is necessary to provide more detail.

TO NOTE:

- The refurbished notice board previously situated at Trefonen has been installed at Trefarclawdd cemetery.
- Following being informed that overgrown hedges are causing a blind spot Shropshire Council has applied for property ownership of a derelict building on the corner of Weston Land adjacent to Maesbury Road Industrial Estate under the Highways Act requiring that they cut back the hedges and ivy.

Expenditure	Budget 2021/2022	Balance	May 2021	Allocated Reserves
General Administration				
Clerk Salary / Employer NI/ Home Working Allowance	£13,112.00	£10,853.97	£2,258.03	
Stationery	£730.00	£561.74	£168.26	
Postage	£403.00	£366.10	£36.90	
Clerk Travel Costs	£310.00	£241.60	£68.40	
Audit Fee (internal)	£75.00	£75.00	£0.00	
Audit Fee (external)	£300.00	£300.00	£0.00	
Professional/Legal Fees	£500.00	£500.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
Insurance	£850.00	£23.61	£826.39	
Meeting Room Hire	£300.00	£288.01	£11.99	
SALC Subscription	£1,600.00	(£24.23)	£1,624.23	
SLCC Subscription	£256.00	£256.00	£0.00	
Data Protection	£35.00	£35.00	£0.00	
Quality Award Scheme	£0.00			£150.00
Communication				
Newsletter and Annual Report	£65.00	£65.00		£2,000.00
Website	£270.00	£240.00	30.00	
Website domain name	£98.00			
Notice board maintenance	£300.00			
Training				
Clerk	£500.00	£440.00	£60.00	
General (Councillor)	£500.00	£500.00	£0.00	£275.00
Elections	£3,430.00	£3,430.00		
Parish Maintenance				
Street Lights - electricity	£960.00	£726.00	£234.00	
Street Lights - repairs	£100.00	£100.00		
Street Lights - new	£0.00			£2,000.00
Grounds Maintenance - Cemeteries	£3,450.00	£3,186.00	£264.00	
Grounds Maintenance - Green Spaces	£2,205.00	£1,929.00	£276.00	
Morton Churchyard	£550.00	-£0.50	£550.50	
Bus Shelter - cleaning	£1,020.00	£850.00	£170.00	
General Repairs	£1,200.00	£1,200.00		
Leisure and Community				
Grants	£3,070.00	£3,070.00		£1,000.00
Strategic Plan (VAS)	£0.00	-£3,781.04	£3,781.04	£6,812.00
Morda Village Hall	£0.00			£92,000.00
Tony Cheetham Community Grant Award	£55.00	£55.00		
Contingency	£0.00	£0.00		
AED	£0.00			£400.00
Sub Total	£36,244.00	£25,884.26	£10,359.74	
Neighbourhood Fund Projects				£6,643.00

Allocated reserves				£112,280.00
Unallocated reserves (Neighbourhood Funds)				£31,471.00
			TOTAL	£143,751.00
General reserves				£58,958.00
Total reserves			Approved	£202,709.00
Total net expenditure	£36,244.00	£25,884.26	£10,359.74	
VAT	0	0	£819.92	
Total gross expenditure			£11,179.66	
Income	Budget 2021/2022	Balance	May 2021	
Precept	£35,114.00	£0.00	£35,114.00	
Cemetery Fees	£1,000.00	-£425.00	£1,425.00	
Interest	£80.00	£78.36	£1.64	
Donations	£50.00	£50.00		
Grants received	£0.00			
Sub total	£36,244.00		£36,540.64	
Neighbourhood Fund			£44,330.34	
Total net income	£36,244.00		£80,870.98	
VAT refunds			£568.47	
Total income received			£81,439.45	

Income and expenditure to date:

MONTH	EXPENDITURE	INCOME	BALANCE
	£	£	£
31-Mar-21		B/F	203833.46
2021			
April	-6829.24	36,183.46	233187.68
May	-4350.42	45,255.99	274093.25
June			274093.25
July			274093.25
August			274093.25
September			274093.25
October			274093.25
November			274093.25
December			274093.25
2022			
January			274093.25
February			274093.25
March			274093.25
BALANCE	-11179.66	81,439.45	274,093.25

Bank balance as at 31 May 2021:

Current account 10649120	4343.26
Deposit account 11313924	244464.44
Reserve account 21514768	285.55
PSDF	25000.00
	<u>274093.25</u>

Contact tel 03457 60 60 60
 see reverse for call times
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Your Statement

Oswestry Rural Parish
 Council
 64 Cherrybrook Drive
 Broseley
 Shropshire
 TF12 5SH



Account Summary	
Opening Balance	7,768.68
Payments In	925.00
Payments Out	4,350.42
Closing Balance	4,343.26

1 May to 30 May 2021

International Bank Account Number

GB84HBUK40353210649120

Branch Identifier Code

HBUKGB4148G

Account Name

Oswestry Rural Parish Council

Sortcode

40-35-32

Account Number Sheet Number

10649120 643

Your Community Account details

<i>Date</i>	<i>Payment type and details</i>	<i>Paid out</i>	<i>Paid in</i>	<i>Balance</i>
30 Apr 21	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			7,768.68
11 May 21	CR CHQ in via Mobile		100.00	7,868.68
13 May 21	CR DAVID DAVIES & SON DD&S M L DUNCAN		325.00	8,193.68
20 May 21	CR DAVID DAVIES & SON DD&S LLOYDWILLIAMS		500.00	8,693.68
26 May 21	BP SHARON CLAYTON SALARY AND EXPENSE	1,009.25		
	BP Came & Company Insurance	826.39		
	BP HMRC PAYE/NIC CUMB 671PR00169499	201.25		
	BP VIKING PAYMENTS 5562083	64.30		
	BP MARK EVANS BUS SHELTER CLEAN	60.00		
	BP A G Royce OSWESTRY RURAL PC	540.00		
	BP SALC AFFILIATION FEES	1,624.23		
	BP COLIN TURNER Bus shelters	25.00		4,343.26
30 May 21	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			4,343.26

1 May to 30 May 2021

Your Statement

Account Name
 Oswestry Rural Parish Council

Sortcode Account Number Sheet Number
 40-35-32 10649120 644

Information about the Financial Services Compensation Scheme

Your deposit is eligible for protection under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). For further information about the compensation provided by the FSCS, refer to the FSCS website at www.FSCS.org.uk, call into your nearest branch or call your telephone banking service. Further details can be found on the FSCS Information Sheet and Exclusions List which is available on our website (www.hsbc.co.uk).

Credit Interest Rates	<i>balance</i>	<i>AER variable</i>	Debit Interest Rates	<i>balance</i>	<i>EAR variable</i>
Credit interest is not paid			Debit interest		21.34%

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Your Statement

Oswestry Rural Parish
 Council
 64 Cherrybrook Drive
 Broseley
 Shropshire
 TF12 5SH



Account Summary	
Opening Balance	200,133.45
Payments In	44,330.99
Payments Out	0.00
Closing Balance	244,464.44

Interest Rate - Valid as at end date of the statement period
 0.01% AER

1 May to 30 May 2021

International Bank Account Number
 GB32HBUK40353211313924
Branch Identifier Code
 HBUKGB4148G

Account Name
 Oswestry Rural Parish Council

Sortcode **Account Number** **Sheet Number**
 40-35-32 11313924 100

Your Business Money Manager details					
<i>Date</i>	<i>Payment type and details</i>		<i>Paid out</i>	<i>Paid in</i>	<i>Balance</i>
30 Apr 21	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD				200,133.45
05 May 21	CR	SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL		44,330.34	
	CR	PUBLIC SECTOR DEPO		0.65	244,464.44
30 May 21	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD				244,464.44

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Your Statement

Oswestry Rural Parish
 Council
 64 Cherrybrook Drive
 Broseley
 Shropshire
 TF12 5SH



Account Summary	
Opening Balance	285.55
Payments In	0.00
Payments Out	0.00
Closing Balance	285.55

Interest Rate - Valid as at end date of the statement period
 0.01% AER

29 April to 28 May 2021

International Bank Account Number
 GB14HBUK40353221514768
Branch Identifier Code
 HBUKGB4148G

Account Name
 Oswestry Rural Parish Council

Sortcode **Account Number** **Sheet Number**
 40-35-32 21514768 110

Your Business Money Manager details				
<i>Date</i>	<i>Payment type and details</i>	<i>Paid out</i>	<i>Paid in</i>	<i>Balance</i>
28 Apr 21	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			285.55
28 May 21	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			285.55

Information about the Financial Services Compensation Scheme

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STATEMENT

Mrs S Clayton
Oswestry Rural Parish Council
64 Cherrybrook Drive
BROSELEY
Shropshire
TF12 5SH

CLIENT: OSWESTRY RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

ACCOUNT NAME: Oswestry Rural Parish Council

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0132240001PC

Statement at 31 May 2021

Date	Description	Value of shares sold £	Value of shares bought £	Balance of shares held £	Share Class
01/05/21	Brought Forward			25,000.00	
31/05/21	Carried Forward			25,000.00	

Statement of Dividends paid during the month to 31 May 2021

Date	Receiving Account	Amount Paid £
28-05-21	Nominated bank account	0.45

From May 2020, prices and yields for CCLA's Funds will no longer appear in the Financial Times. To view the fund prices and yields, please visit www.ccla.co.uk

TITLE OF REPORT:	ALLOCATION OF RESERVES																		
REPORT BY:	Clerk and RFO - Sharon Clayton																		
BACKGROUND:	<p>The Parish Council previously approved the following reserves:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>£1000</td> <td>professional and legal fees</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£150</td> <td>Local Council Award Scheme</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£2000</td> <td>newsletter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£275</td> <td>councillor training</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£2000</td> <td>new streetlights</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£6812</td> <td>Strategic Plan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£1000</td> <td>general power of competence</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£400</td> <td>AED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£6643</td> <td>Neighbourhood Fund Projects</td> </tr> </table> <p>It is recommended that these reserves be revised in accordance with Appendix 1.</p> <p>The Parish Council no longer qualifies to apply for the Local Council Award Scheme nor to use the general power of competence, newsletters are no longer printed and distributed to households within the parish, and the Council no longer wishes to support the redevelopment of Morda and Sweeney Village Hall. These funds therefore need no longer be earmarked.</p> <p>As the Council has considerable Neighbourhood Funds these can be earmarked for infrastructure improvements such as the installation of gateway signs at the entrance of each village within the parish. These would help to slow traffic and could include a speed limit sign alongside the name of the village. Flower planters could also be installed to make the area even more attractive.</p> <p>Gateway signs start from circa £375 depending on size and material. The Council could consider allocating £500 for each gateway sign and planter.</p>	£1000	professional and legal fees	£150	Local Council Award Scheme	£2000	newsletter	£275	councillor training	£2000	new streetlights	£6812	Strategic Plan	£1000	general power of competence	£400	AED	£6643	Neighbourhood Fund Projects
£1000	professional and legal fees																		
£150	Local Council Award Scheme																		
£2000	newsletter																		
£275	councillor training																		
£2000	new streetlights																		
£6812	Strategic Plan																		
£1000	general power of competence																		
£400	AED																		
£6643	Neighbourhood Fund Projects																		
ISSUES:	<p>The Parish Council is holding too much money in reserves. NALC promotes local councils as statutory bodies that work towards improving community well-being and providing better services. "Their activities fall into three main categories: representing the local community; delivering services to meet local needs; striving to improve quality of life and community well-being." [NALC 2021]. The money the Council is holding should therefore be spent in accordance with local need as outlined in the Place Plan.</p>																		
LEGAL OBLIGATIONS:	<p>Regulatory Requirements for the use of the Neighbourhood Fund</p> <p>Any Neighbourhood Fund monies received, must be used to support development by funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or ○ Anything else concerned with addressing the demands that development place on an area. <p>If these funds are not used to support development as specified, or within five years of receipt, Shropshire Council can require the repayment of these monies in line with the Regulations, however Shropshire Council has no intention of doing so if it is not spent within five years.</p> <p>If the community's infrastructure priorities are consistent with Shropshire Council infrastructure priorities for the area, to maximise efficiency and minimise project management complexity, it can be agreed that Shropshire Council retains the Neighbourhood Fund to spend on these infrastructure priorities.</p>																		
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:	<p>As of 31 March 2021, the Parish Council carried forward balances of £203,834.</p> <p>Since 2015 the Parish Council has received a total of £168,699.45 in Neighbourhood Funds of which only £26,685.43 has been spent leaving £141,014.02 unspent. (See appendix 2)</p>																		

	<p>The revised reserves, if approved, will leave a greater amount in the general reserves and this can be earmarked for projects.</p> <p>The following are some of the projects included in the Place Plan for Oswestry Rural with suggested reserve allocations alongside them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tackle litter problems in Sychtyn, Rhydycroesau, Trefonen, Treflach, Morda, Sweeney, Maesbury – £3,000 for new litter bins including the cost of emptying. ○ Repair and provision of improved signage at various locations – £1,000. ○ Traffic calming at Coed-y-Go and Nantmawr - £2,000.
COMMUNITY BENEFIT	Funds spent within the local community will improve the social and environmental capital within the parish.
PROPOSAL:	<p>That the Parish Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approves the allocation of reserves to make improvements within the parish as recommended in Appendix 1. ○ Earmarks £6,000 in Neighbourhood Funds for new litter bins, improved signage and gateway signs.
DATE OF MEETING AT WHICH THIS WILL BE CONSIDERED:	Tuesday 22 June 2021

EARMARKED RESERVES 2021/2022

	Revised allocated reserves			
	£	£	£	
Earmarked reserves:				
Reserve 1	1000		1000	Professional/legal fees
Reserve 2	150	-150	0	Quality Award Scheme
Reserve 3	2000	-2000	0	Newsletter
Reserve 4	275		275	Councillor training
Reserve 5	2000		2000	Street lights - new
Reserve 6	6812		6812	Strategic Plan
Reserve 7	1000	-1000	0	General Power of Competence
Reserve 8	92000	-92000	0	Morda Village Hall - rebuild
Reserve 9	400		400	AED
Reserve 10	6643		96684	Neighbourhood Fund Projects (£6643 included in funds received to March 2021)
TOTAL	112280	-95150	107171	

Neighbourhood Funds unspent up to March 2021 is £96684

Allocated reserves	107171
Unallocated reserves	96663
General reserve as at 31 March 2021	<u>203834</u>

Minute no: 690/20(b) dated 26 May 2020 it was agreed to earmark £92,000 towards the cost to rebuild Morda Village Hall.

This was based on £2,000 already held in reserves for Morda Village Hall, £31,471 in unallocated reserves and unallocated

Neighbourhood Funds and £58,958 in unallocated reserves brought forward from 2019/2020 making a total of

£92,429.00

This decision was rescinded on 18 May 2021 (minute no: 1050). Ownership of property unknown.

Oswestry Rural Parish Council

Neighbourhood Funds received to date

YEAR	CIL FUNDS RECEIVED	TOTAL CIL FUNDS AVAILABLE	CIL FUNDS ALLOCATED	CIL FUNDS SPENT	CIL FUNDS RETAINED	REASON FOR SPEND
	£	£	£	£	£	
	Neighbourhood Funds received and spent					
2014/2015	231.45				231.45	
2015/2016	1311.53	1542.98			1542.98	
2016/2017	7220.02	8763.00		2120.31	6642.69	£2120.31 maintenance and improvements to Trefarclawdd cemetery
2017/2018	25167.96	31810.65		4930.00	26880.65	£400 cemetery and £4530 street lights
2018/2019	48485.59	75366.24		19134.10	56232.14	Street lights upgrade
2019/2020	7547.16	63779.30		1501.02	62278.28	Street lights upgrade
2020/2021	34405.40	96683.68		0	96683.68	
2021/2022	44330.34	141014.02				
	168699.45	141014.02		27685.43		
Balance	113328.59					

Annual Internal Audit Report 2020/21

E Oswestry Rural Parish Council

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During the financial year ended 31 March 2021, this authority's internal auditor acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with the relevant procedures and controls in operation and obtained appropriate evidence from the authority.

The internal audit for 2020/21 has been carried out in accordance with this authority's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and alongside are the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of this authority.

Internal control objective	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year.			
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.			
C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.			
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.			
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.			
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.			
G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.			
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.			
I. Periodic bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.			
J. Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded.			
K. If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2019/20, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. <i>(If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2019/20 AGAR tick "not covered")</i>			
L. If the authority has an annual turnover not exceeding £25,000, it publishes information on a website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the Transparency code for smaller authorities.			
M. The authority, during the previous year (2019-20) correctly provided for the period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations <i>(evidenced by the notice published on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set)</i> .			
N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2019/20 AGAR <i>(see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes)</i> .			
O. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	Yes	No	Not applicable

For any other risk areas identified by this authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas on separate sheets if needed).

Date(s) internal audit undertaken

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

DD/MM/YYYY DD/MM/YYYY DD/MM/YYYY

ENTER NAME OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Date

DD/MM/YYYY

*If the response is 'no' please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).

**Note: If the response is 'not covered' please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned; or, if coverage is not required, the annual internal audit report must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2020/21

We acknowledge as the members of:

Oswestry Rural Parish Council

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021, that:

	Agreed		'Yes' means that this authority:
	Yes	No*	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.			<i>prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.</i>
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.			<i>made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.</i>
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.			<i>has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.</i>
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.			<i>during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.</i>
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.			<i>considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.</i>
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.			<i>arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.</i>
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.			<i>responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.</i>
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.			<i>disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.</i>
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A
			X

*Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

DD/MM/YY

and recorded as minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by the Chairman and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chairman

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Clerk

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

ENTER <https://www.oswestryrural-pc.gov.uk/> B PAGE ADDRESS

Oswestry Rural Parish Council

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2021 £	
			<i>Please round all figures to nearest £1. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or Nil balances. All figures must agree to underlying financial records.</i>
1. Balances brought forward	108159	135660	<i>Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.</i>
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	45583	45583	<i>Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.</i>
3. (+) Total other receipts	20410	55603	<i>Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.</i>
4. (-) Staff costs	13088	12895	<i>Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.</i>
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	<i>Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).</i>
6. (-) All other payments	25404	20117	<i>Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).</i>
7. (=) Balances carried forward	135660	203834	<i>Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).</i>
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	135660	203834	<i>The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.</i>
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	20442	17068	<i>The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.</i>
10. Total borrowings	0	0	<i>The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).</i>
11. (For Local Councils Only) Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	Yes	No	<i>The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.</i>
		X	

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2021 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Date

DD/MM/YY

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

DD/MM/YY

as recorded in minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by Chairman of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

TITLE OF REPORT:	DOG/LITTER BINS
REPORT BY:	Clerk - Sharon Clayton
BACKGROUND:	<p>At a Parish Council meeting held on 30 March 2021 it was agreed to ask Shropshire Council to install dog bins in Morda and alongside the Montgomery Canal, and to install more signage to prevent dog litter. Shropshire Council has responded and said that the request has been investigated by a Street Scene Officer.</p> <p>Shropshire Council says there are a number of bins in Morda in which litter and dog waste can be deposited and a map of bins in that area is appended with this report. Shropshire Council will look to see if any signage needs refreshing but on rural lanes there is a lack of lamp posts or road signs on which to attach them.</p> <p>Bins have been requested in the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Near to Hope House Hospice in Nant Lane, Morda. ○ Half way up Nant-Y-Caws. ○ Morton Playing Field
ISSUES:	Shropshire Council will not install any bins along the Montgomery Canal as this is the responsibility of the Canal Trust.
LEGAL OBLIGATIONS:	Litter Act 1983 ss56
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:	 <p>Due to budget constraints Shropshire Council only replaces broken bins when they are able to. Therefore, parish councils are asked to meet the cost of purchase and emptying for new bins. All new bins fitted must be Broxap metal bins (as shown above) because they are long lasting and have a large capacity for waste.</p> <p>The cost of one bin including installation is £300. The annual cost for emptying each bin is £125.</p>
COMMUNITY BENEFIT	Dog walkers will have more opportunity to deposit dog waste and dog litter should be reduced.
PROPOSAL:	That the Parish Council considers the purchase of new litter bins at the above locations at a total cost of £1,275 including installation and emptying.
DATE OF MEETING AT WHICH THIS WILL BE CONSIDERED:	Tuesday 22 June 2021.

Dear Sir or Madam,

In September 2020, Shropshire Council approved the development of a programme for introducing 20mph speed restrictions outside schools, where existing highway conditions suggest it would be appropriate to do so. We have now started our programme of data collection and feasibility work and would like to provide you with some further information on the project and the forthcoming surveys in your area.

What is proposed?

There is no single generic approach for the introduction of a 20mph speed restriction, and site-specific characteristics determine the level of intervention that may be required. In some circumstances this may be physical traffic calming, and in others current conditions could suggest that a 20mph speed restriction is unnecessary or inappropriate and would deliver minimal benefits.

The Council has committed to undertaking the necessary data collection and feasibility work to identify appropriate measures that will deliver the greatest benefits to the school community, local residents, other highway users and the local environment. As part of this work, parking behaviour and existing traffic regulations near schools will also be reviewed and, where appropriate, enforceable parking measures will be introduced.

What does this mean for the schools in your area?

Data collection and feasibility work will only be carried out where schools do not currently have a mandatory 20mph speed restriction or where schools with multiple access points would benefit from the introduction of a 20mph speed restriction where one does not already exist.

At schools where data collection is carried out, this will provide an up to date insight into current traffic behaviour outside of school and could present the following potential benefits:

- Identification of funding to implement a low speed environment outside of your school, where appropriate and where supported by a positive response to consultation with the wider community.
- An opportunity to promote active travel to school which can improve the health of pupils, improve air quality outside of school and help to relieve parking pressure.
- An opportunity for Shropshire Council to enforce parking restrictions outside of school.
- An opportunity for school pupils to engage in the process. We have offered schools the opportunity to discuss how we can link into their curriculum work.

What next?

A programme of traffic data collection, site reviews and feasibility work has been initiated.

You can expect to see any of the following in the vicinity of schools in your area:

- Automatic Traffic Counters (ATCs) on the road(s) near to school. These are black tubes that run across the road and collect data on traffic flow, traffic speeds and vehicle type over seven days, 24 hours a day.
- Individuals in high visibility clothing with a hand-held speed recording device at the start and end of the school day, on a designed date. These will only be used where site-specific problems mean that ATCs will not be appropriate.
- Individuals carrying out highway assessments and measurements in high visibility clothing.

Traffic data collection commenced on Friday 21st May 2021 at some schools, and we will be carrying out the remaining surveys, after the half term break, which will include a school / some schools in your area. All traffic surveys are due to be completed by Wednesday 30th June 2021. The installation of equipment will be carried out in one of two phases by the survey company 'Severnside' either during the week following Thursday 3rd June 2021 or the during the week commencing Monday 14th June 2021.

No surveys will take place during half term week, although installation of equipment may be carried out during that time to ensure that data collection can commence from 7th June 2021.

Due to varying traffic levels and behaviour during the Covid-19 pandemic, the robustness of any data collected will be considered before commencing the surveys. It is important that the traffic environment outside of the school entrance(s) is considered to be representative of the medium to long-term situation so that we can get a realistic a view of current behaviour at school start and end times. Schools will be contacted with in advance of any surveys taking place. The survey work should not cause any disruption outside schools and is simply a means of data collection to evidence and understand the right options to be considered outside each school. In order to support reliable data collection, school operations should remain as normal.

Where the potential for the introduction of traffic management measures are identified, we will endeavour to engage with individual schools, the neighbouring community and elected representatives on any proposals.

It is currently planned that the programme of scheme delivery will commence in April 2022 and will span several years.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at schoolspeed.restrictionproject@shropshire.gov.uk.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Steven Brown
Head of Transport and the Environment

Subject: BT Payphones Consultation
Date: Tuesday, 18 May 2021 at 18:24:25 British Summer Time
From: Dianne Dorrell
Attachments: BT Consultation Listings 2021 Initial Consult JCLD11052021.pdf

27a

Sent on behalf of Mrs Lois Dale, Shropshire Council

Dear Clerks to Parish and Town Councils

As indicated a little while back, and as you may have seen in the local media from last Friday, a new BT consultation on potential payphone removals in Shropshire has commenced as of that date, ie Friday 7th May. I would be very grateful for the help of parish and town councils covering locations for the kiosks affected, in assisting us to reach a considered position based on local views as to whether kiosks should be:

- a. Retained as operational kiosks
- b. Adopted for community use such as defibrillator storage, community library, etc, whereby the structure remains but the operational telephony is removed
- c. Removed altogether due to there no longer being a local community social need, including mobile connectivity issues in the area, rural isolation, locations in which they are needed by local residents and visitors, etc.

I know that in at least two cases the telephony has not been working, which we are noting on the spreadsheet attached. This spreadsheet is also on the Council website under "BT Payphones", and includes comments from town and parish councils, local councillors and residents where the kiosk has come up for removal before.

Thank you in advance for your help in this matter. I am similarly asking members of the VCSA, and all councillors, whilst the press release will hopefully assist us in encouraging local residents, Local Policing Teams, etc to have their say as well.

The closing date for the initial phase of the consultation is Wednesday 23rd June at 4pm, after which we will issue the provisional view of the Council for each kiosk. Please send any comments via email to give us a written record, to Mrs Lois Dale, Rurality and Equalities Specialist: lois.dale@shropshire.gov.uk

Thank you all

Mrs Lois Dale, Rurality and Equalities Specialist, Shropshire Council

Thank you again

Regards

Lois

Mrs Lois Dale
(pronouns she/her/hers)
Rurality and Equalities Specialist
Information Reporting Insight Shropshire (IRIS)
Resources Directorate

Shropshire Council
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury
Shropshire SY2 6ND
Telephone 01743 258528
Email lois.dale@shropshire.gov.uk
www.shropshire.gov.uk

[For information about Coronavirus click here/image below](#)

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