

Oswestry Rural Parish Council

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held at 7 pm on Tuesday 27 July 2021 at Trefonen Village Hall

Present:

Chairman: Cllr. Paul Milner, Cllr. Martin Bennett, Cllr. John Davies, Cllr. Peter Davies, Cllr. Roger Jones, Cllr. Bob Kimber, Cllr. Les Maguire, Cllr Tony Milner, Cllr. Peter Richardson, Cllr. Steve Watts, Cllr. Chris Woods.

Clerk to the Council:

Sharon Clayton

In attendance:

Shropshire Councillor Joyce Barrow
Approximately 5 members of the public.

1074 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1075 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Robert Milton who had a work commitment and Cllr. Martin Jones who had a family commitment.

These apologies were ACCEPTED.

1076 Public Participation

One member of the public referred to her request to have correspondence included on the website alongside supporting documents for Council meetings. She was asked to write to the Chairman if she wished to complain about the Clerk's actions as the Clerk was responsible for updating the website and agenda preparation.

One member of the public referred to the Council's reserves and said there was £200,000 of residents' money to be spent on them. He asked the Council to think about how this money could be spent. He referred to the initiative for a 30mph speed limit in Coed-Y-Go and asked the Council to continue to support this. He also said he had put forward his own ideas on how the Council should spend money.

1077 Police Report

A police report had not been received at this point in the meeting. Cllr. Joyce Barrow offered to write to the police and ask for a detailed report.

1078 Minutes

The minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on 22 June 2021 were considered for approval. Following agreed amendments, it was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the minutes be APPROVED and ADOPTED as a true record.**

1079 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they are required to leave the room 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.

The following interests were declared:

Cllr. Peter Richardson declared an interest in Fairhaven Campsite.

Cllr. Bob Kimber declared a non-pecuniary interest in Trefonen Village Hall.

1080 Dispensations

None requested.

1081 Declaration of Acceptance of Gifts and Hospitality

None declared.

1082 Committees/Working Groups

a) Members considered for approval the appointment of Members to the Personnel Committee.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following Members be appointed:

Cllr. Peter Richardson

Cllr. Bob Kimber

Cllr. Tony Milner

Cllr. Martin Bennett

b) Members considered for approval the appointment of Members to the Road Safety Working Group.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following Members be appointed:

Cllr. Les Maguire

Cllr. Roger Jones

Cllr. John Davies

Cllr. Bob Kimber

Cllr. Steve Watts

1083 Schedule of Future Meetings

Due to Morda Village Hall and Trefonen Village Hall being unavailable on Tuesday evenings Members considered for approval changing the meeting day from Tuesday to Thursday as from 30 November 2021 to 31 May 2022.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that meetings would take place on Thursday evenings as from 30 November 2021 until the end of the Council year and that they should be alternated between Morda Village Hall, Trefonen Village Hall and Rhydygroesau Village Hall provided the rooms were of sufficient size.

1084 Representatives on Outside Bodies

Members considered for approval the appointment of Members to represent the Parish Council on the following outside bodies.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following be appointed:

Shropshire Association of Local Councils (Oswestry area)	Cllr. Peter Richardson and Cllr. Martin Bennett
Rhydygroesau Village Hall Management Committee	Cllr. Peter Davies

It was further AGREED that the appointment of an emergency planning representative would be considered at a future meeting once more details of the role were known.

1085 Planning Matters

a) Planning Decisions

The following planning decisions were **NOTED**.

Planning Application Details	Planning Proposals
21/00962/VAR Trefarclawdd Farm, Tref-Ar-Clawdd, Oswestry	Application reference number 18/02895/FUL Condition Number(s): 2 Conditions(s) Removal: Revised Elevation plan RJC-MZ272-03 Revised Elevation plan RJC-MZ272-15 WITHDRAWN 5 July 2021
21/00963/VAR Trefarclawdd Farm, Tref-Ar-Clawdd, Oswestry	Application reference number 18/05455/FUL Condition Number(s): 2 Conditions(s) Removal: Revised Elevation plan RJC-MZ272-03 A Revised Elevation plan RJC-MZ272-12 WITHDRAWN 5 July 2021
21/01334/EIA	Hybrid Planning Application for: Full planning permission - formation of a 360m spine road; two 3.5m wide foot

Planning Application Details	Planning Proposals
Land off Mile End Roundabout, Oswestry	and cycleways; one 2m wide footpath; one electricity substation; supporting utilities infrastructure; drainage system; landscaping and ancillary works; Outline planning permission - 10 plots to be delivered in four phases, providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a hotel (use class C1) up to 30,000sq. ft; - three units providing up to 6,000sq. ft of hospitality and up to 3000sq. ft of services; - five mixed use units providing general industry with ancillary office (B2 & E) providing up to 180,000sq. ft; - one office unit (use class E) providing up to 15,000sq. ft; - one light industrial unit (use class E) providing up to 63,000sq. ft; - two mixed use units providing storage/distribution with ancillary office (B8 & E) providing up to 200,000sq. ft; - the provision of green infrastructure and all ancillary works. Permission GRANTED 13 July 2021. <i>The Parish Council objected to this application as follows:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Any jobs created will be low paid. 2) A new hotel will take away trade from established hotels in Oswestry. 3) The proposed development will take away trade from the town of Oswestry. 4) The site is located in open countryside.
21/01760/FUL 9 Belle Vue, Morda	Erection of two storey side extension Permission GRANTED 02.07.21 <i>This application was supported by the Parish Council.</i>
21/01878/FUL The Mile House Farm, Shrewsbury Road, Aston	Erection of agricultural building for storage WITHDRAWN 28.06.21 <i>The Parish Council supported this application.</i>
21/01958/FUL Summerhill, Trefonen	Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of a triple carport/hay feed store with external staircase to office and craft room above with dormer windows Permission REFUSED 22 June 2021 <i>The Parish Council objected on the grounds that it should not become another dwelling.</i>
21/02501/FUL Berlian, Dallas Lane, Trefonen	Erection of single storey side extension Permission GRANTED 7 July 2021 <i>The Parish Council supported this application.</i>

b) Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered:

Planning Application Details	Planning Proposals
19/03030/FUL The Elms, Middleton	Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the use of land and buildings for production, storage and sale of biomass fuel and animal bedding (re-submission) (amended description). It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to continue to object for the same reasons previously submitted to Shropshire Council and to further object on health grounds due to the dust created from on site activities.
21/02954/FUL The Byg Farm, Old Racecourse, Oswestry	Demolition of majority part of existing agricultural building. North side part of existing structure to be retained and converted to a single residential dwelling (revised scheme). It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support the application provided the condition of the greater crested newts was known at the time the decision was made to allow demolition and conversion of the building.

21/03040/FUL Unit Mo12, Mile Oak Industrial Estate, Oswestry	Erection of commercial building and all associated works. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support.
21/03226/FUL Summerhill, Trefonen	Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of a triple carport/hay feed store with external staircase to office and craft room above with dormer windows. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to object on the grounds that it should not become another dwelling.
21/03362/FUL Tan-Y-Coed-Y-Gaer, Llansilin	Erection of a fodder and machinery building. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support.
21/03454/TPO Cedar House, Morda Bank, Morda	Crown reduce by 20%, reduce over-extended branches by no more than 2m & crown lift to clear around 4m of 1no Lime (T1) protected by The Council of the Borough of Oswestry (Glentworth, Morda) TPO 1990 (Ref: OS/00025/90). As this tree is on land owned by the Parish Council it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to object until more information was available from the tree officer as to the origins of the application.

c) 21/00442/FUL – Development of 20 Affordable Homes on land to the north of Weston Road, Morda

Members considered for approval an invitation to meet and engage with the developer for the delivery of 20 affordable homes on land to the north or Weston Road in Morda.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the developer be invited to the next Parish Council meeting.

d) Footpath Diversion

Members considered for approval a response to the proposed diversion of part of Footpath 11Y in association with planning application number 20/01605/FUL at Blackthorn Fishery, Ty Canol, Trefonen.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support.

1086 Clerk's Report

Members **NOTED** a written report from the Clerk on action taken following decisions made at previous Council meetings.

The Clerk informed Members that a by-election had been called to fill the casual vacancy caused by the resignation of Cllr. Phil May.

NOTED.

The Clerk asked for a volunteer to post the notices on the notice board at Nantmawr, previously undertaken by Cllr. Phil May and Cllr. Bob Kimber agreed to do so.

The Clerk also informed Members that she would be participating in a training session on Thursday 29 July 2021 entitled "A guide to broadcasting Council Meetings".

1087 Councillor Reports

a) Shropshire Councillor Joyce Barrow gave the following report:

The draft Local Plan had progressed through Shropshire Council and would be submitted to the planning expectorate following a vote of 34 to 28 with 5 abstentions. Originally, Trefonen was to have 55 houses, but after numerous telephone conversations with Eddie West, the lead officer, and Robert Macey, this had been reduced to 35. She felt that the Plan may fail due to numerous inconsistencies in the methodology, which could make the draft Plan unsound.

Work had begun to tackle the state of the roads in Shropshire with over 7,000 being filled over the last three months and extra funding had been approved to do this work.

Shropshire Council was about to build its first ever solar farm to power local businesses on the Maesbury Road, with electricity being used by Arla.

Two highway depots were to close, one in South Shropshire and one in Market Drayton. Oswestry depot would remain. The closures were to streamline services.

Claire Porter, Head of Legal was retiring and Tim Collard would take over her duties until an appointment was made. Karen Bradshaw was also retiring.

The new council Leader was Lezley Picton, and Steve Charmley was Deputy. There had been a number of changes in the Cabinet, with two new members being chosen for cabinet positions.

The third bin for household recycling had been approved and would replace the boxes, so that plastic, glass and tin would all go in the same bin. Blue bags for cardboard would be retained. Details would follow soon on how to apply for the new bin.

There continued to be concerns about the traveller site in Croesabach. The application was refused, but neighbours were concerned, as there had been activity with diggers at the site. Officers were aware of this and were keeping an eye on it.

NOTED.

b) Cllr. Peter Ricardson had attended a recent Oswestry Area Committee (OAC) meeting and gave the following report:

18 attendees were present and, as no-one volunteered for Chair nor Vice Chair, the Chair of Meverley Parish Council acted as Chair for the meeting. It was planned to have 6 meetings per year with the next in September. Charles Green volunteered to be an OAC representative on the SALC Executive. There was a discussion about "Fix my Street" and "Find my Place".

SALC gave an update on the Boundary Review, their monthly meetings, and talked about the new Police Commissioner for West Mercia Police.

Items for future meetings would include Constitution, Funds, Green Canopy, someone from Shropshire Council to talk at each meeting, and it was proposed that meetings be quarterly (not 6 times per year).

NOTED.

Cllr. Bob Kimber reported that the gate needs replacing at Trefonen cemetery.

The Clerk agreed to deal with this.

1088 Financial Matters

a) Income and Expenditure

Members considered for approval income and expenditure for June 2021.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that income and expenditure for June 2021 be APPROVED.

b) Bank Reconciliations

Members considered for approval bank reconciliations for June 2021.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that bank reconciliations for June 2021 be APPROVED.

c) Payments for June 2021

Members considered for approval payments for July 2021.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following payments for the month of July 2021 be APPROVED.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT £
Scottish Power	Street lighting electricity	248.47
Mark Evans	Bus shelter cleaning	60.00
Silver Marbles	Email storage, support and website maintenance	168.00
Viking	Stationery	62.32
SALC	Training	30.00

HMRC	PAYE/NI	190.35
Sharon Clayton	Salary/expenses/reimbursements	1235.99
	TOTAL	1995.13

d) Allocation of Reserves and Neighbourhood Funds

Members considered for approval the allocation of reserves and Neighbourhood Funds.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED** that reserves be allocated as follows:

Professional/legal fees	1000
Councillor training	275
New streetlights	2000
Strategic Plan	6812
AED	400
Neighbourhood Fund Projects	96684
Unallocated reserves	96663
Total reserves	203834

It was further **AGREED** that the allocation of funds would be ongoing in accordance with the needs and aspirations of members of the public and that a Strategic Plan should be developed with a bottom-up approach.

e) Annual Zoom Subscription

Members considered for retrospective approval the discounted annual subscription for Zoom.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED** that the cost of **£199.90 + VAT** be **APPROVED**.

f) Poll Cards

Members considered for approval the cost for the distribution of poll cards for the forthcoming by-election to fill the vacancy for Morda with Sweeney Ward.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED** that poll cards be sent out not just for this election but for future elections.

1089 The Queen's Green Canopy

Members considered for approval planting a tree in Trefarclawdd cemetery as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED** that a tree be planted in Trefarclawdd cemetery as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative.

1090 Airband Installation

a) Members **NOTED** confirmation from 'Connecting Shropshire Economic Growth' that, wherever possible, Airband would use highways land to install their equipment. This requires no landowner consents. However, in all cases, should there be a need to install equipment on privately-owned land, Airband would seek consent and appropriate permissions from landowners.

b) Members received information that a pole was to be installed by Airband on the public verge at Gibraltar Lane, Treflach.

NOTED.

1091 Litter Bins

Members considered for approval the purchase and installation of litter/dog waste bins at strategic locations within the parish as requested by local residents. The cost to install each bin was £300 plus an annual emptying fee of £125 per bin.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED** that the Parish Council would pay for the installation and annual service costs to Shropshire Council for bins to be placed at the following locations:

- **One near to Hope House Hospice in Nant Lane, Morda.**
- **One halfway up Nant-Y-Caws.**
- **One at Morton Playing Field.**
- **One near the exit at Glentworth.**

It was further **AGREED** that the installation of litter bins alongside the canal be considered at the next meeting.

1092 Trefonen Village Hall

Members considered for approval whose name as trustee should be used to update the Deed of Appointment of 7 March 1977 for Trefonen village Hall.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Deed be updated to reflect that the Parish Council was the Custodian Trustee and individual trustees are as appointed from time to time.

1093 Annual Report 2020/2021

Members considered for approval the draft Annual Report for 2020/2021.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Annual Report for 2020/2021 be APPROVED.

1094 Road Safety

a) Members received information from Shropshire Council concerning plans to introduce 20mph speed restrictions outside schools.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to ask Shropshire Council to include the nursery at Maesbury.

b) Members were informed that the 20mph speed counters would not be installed until Shropshire Council had introduced the 20mph speed restrictions as per (a) above.

NOTED.

1095 Fairhaven Campsite

Members received an update from Natural England and Owen Patterson MP concerning activities at Fairhaven Campsite.

Cllr. Peter Richardson left the room.

It was **AGREED** to discuss this further when more information had been received.

Cllr. Peter Richardson returned to the room.

1096 Recycling

There was no discussion as Cllr. Martin Jones was not present to speak about this.

1097 Mile End Industrial Estate

There was no discussion as Cllr. Martin Jones was not present to speak about this.

1098 Consultation

Members considered for approval a response to Shropshire Council's consultation on a 'Statement of Principles' under provisions contained in the Gambling Act 2005.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to ask that the 'Statement of Principles' should include a revision in its reference to gambling being a source of crime and disorder so that it states that crime and disorder should not be used to support nor facilitate crime or criminal behaviour.

1099 The Wiseman Report

Members received information that the police had confirmed that no action would be taken against the Parish Council following receipt of a report written by Paul Wiseman, and that the matter was now concluded.

NOTED.

1100 Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The following items were requested for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting:

- Allocation of funds
- Strategic Plan
- Notice board at Sweeny Mountain
- Extending the 30mph speed limit in Maesbury
- Flooding and drainage in Coed-Y-Go

1101 Date for Next Meeting

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 31 August 2021 at Trefonen Village Hall.

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act it was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RESOLVED** that due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public and press should not be present.

Members received a report from the Clerk which defined how confidential matters relating to Parish Council business should be treated.

NOTED.

At this point in the meeting, it was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **AGREED** to suspend Standing Order number **3(x)** to enable the meeting to exceed more than 2 hours.

1102 Notice Board Maintenance

Members considered for approval a quote to re-varnish notice boards throughout the parish.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **AGREED** that Colin Turner should re-varnish the notice boards at a cost of between £280 - £300.

1103 Stock Fencing at Trefarclawdd Cemetery

The Clerk informed Members that she had only received one quote for the installation of stock fencing at Trefarclawdd cemetery, and she had spoken to Trefarclawdd Farm who had offered to help with the appointment of a contractor and make a contribution towards the cost.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **AGREED** that this should be pursued once the crop on the land had been harvested in October 2021.

1104 War Memorial at Maesbury

Members considered for approval a quote to carry out work to add a new inscription to the War Memorial at Maesbury.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **AGREED** to defer this to a future meeting.

1105 Website

Members considered for approval a quote for the provision of a new website that conforms with WCAG 2.1 and email transfer.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **AGREED** that MyParishCouncil be appointed to provide a new website and email transfer at a cost of £30 per month plus hosting, migration and transfer of domain costs.

1106 Planning Enforcement

Members **NOTED** a recent planning enforcement.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21:11.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date: _____