

Oswestry Rural Parish Council

Minutes of a virtual Parish Council meeting held at 7 pm on Tuesday 29 September 2020 by Zoom online video conference

Present:

Chairman: Cllr. Peter Richardson, Cllr. Janet Barlow, Cllr. Pam Broomby, Cllr. Peter Davies, Cllr. Bob Kimber, Cllr. Les Maguire, Cllr. Claire Mahoney, Cllr. Phil May, Cllr. Paul Milner, Cllr Tony Milner, Cllr. Robert Milton, Cllr. Elliot Roberts Jones, Cllr. Tracy Rowe.

Clerk to the Council:

Sharon Clayton

In attendance:

Approximately 7 members of the public

807/20 Chairman's Welcome

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

808/20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. John Davies who was not well and Cllr. Martin Jones who had a family commitment.

These apologies were accepted and AGREED as APPROVED absence.

Apologies were also received from Shropshire Councillor Joyce Barrow.

809/20 Police Report

An email had been received from Oswestry Rural South, Safer Neighbourhood Team warning about rogue traders. Members of the public were advised to only use professional trades people for any gardening work, building work, roofing repairs and any other similar work. People going door to door touting for work should be treated with caution.

NOTED.

810/20 Shropshire Councillor Report

There was no report since Cllr. Joyce Barrow was not present at the meeting.

811/20 Public Participation

One member of the public referred to a forthcoming road closure at Gwern Y Brenin which had false information and was to be updated with the correct details.

One member of the public spoke on behalf of the Trefonen Rural Protection Group and thanked Trefonen Ward Councillors for supporting the Group's response to Shropshire Council's Local Plan Review which endorsed the Group's wish that Trefonen should remain classed with 'Countryside' status because if it was designated as a 'Community Hub' it would drastically change the character of the village.

One member of the public referred to PCC funding which he hoped could be accessed to help with traffic calming in Coed Y Go.

812/20 Minutes

The minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on 25 August 2020 were considered for approval.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the minutes be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.

813/20 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.

None declared.

814/20 Dispensations

None requested.

815/20 Declaration of Acceptance of Gifts and Hospitality

None declared.

816/20 Planning Matters

a) Planning Decisions

The following planning decisions were **NOTED**.

Planning Application Details	Proposals
19/05552/FUL Proposed residential development on land at Maesbury Marsh	Erection of two storey dwelling and detached garage (retrospective application made under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act) for a change of house type to that approved under 16/01094/REM Permission GRANTED 25 August 2020 <i>The Parish Council objected on the basis that the original application was refused. The Council is also disappointed at the loss of a Saxon hedgerow and would like to see the hedgerow replaced.</i>

b) Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered:

Planning Application Details	Proposals
20/03229/FUL The Waen Farm, Maesbury Marsh	Erection of outbuilding for domestic storage; formation of hardstanding and parking to include change of use of land. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to support, although Shropshire Council should be advised that the location plans were inadequate.

817/20 Clerk's Report

Members received a written report from the Clerk on action taken following decisions made at the last Parish Council meeting.

The Clerk also gave the following verbal update:

- The Barley Mow public house at Chapel Lane was listed as an Asset of Community Value on 22 March 2018 and its Listing was valid for 5 years, which means that the pub would remain Listed until March 2023.
- The Clerk had received a Title folder from Lanyon Bowdler which included a compilation of title deeds and other information.
- With reference to pollution of the River Morda the Environment Agency was treating the Parish Council's enquiry as a FOI request and had responded stating that, due to the current COVID-19 situation and its impact on working arrangements, the Office for the Information Commissioner had accepted that public authorities might not be able to meet the statutory 20 working day timescale for responses to requests for information. If unable to provide an answer to enquiries within the statutory timeframe, they would let the Council know as soon as possible, along with the reason why.
- A Public Protection Officer had previously visited Fairhaven Camping and Glamping and noted there were sensible measures and precautions in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and the Parish Council's concerns would be logged for intelligence to help with Shropshire Council's intervention programme.
- The Clerk had applied for the Bone and Manure Works to be Listed.

NOTED.

a) Income and Expenditure and Bank Reconciliations

Members considered for approval income and expenditure and bank reconciliations up to 31 August 2020.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the income and expenditure and bank reconciliations to 31 August 2020 be APPROVED.

b) Payments for September 2020

Members considered for approval payments for September 2020.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following payments for the month of September 2020 be APPROVED.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT £
Viking	Stationery and postage stamps	170.37
Silver Marbles	Website and emails maintenance	144.00
Mark Evans	Bus shelter cleaning	108.00
SLCC Enterprises Ltd.	Clerk training	30.00
HMRC	PAYE/NI	224.89
Sharon Clayton	Salary/expenses/reimbursements	1074.16
Lanyon Bowdler	Legal fees	1044.00
	TOTAL	2795.42

819/20 Trefonen Old Cemetery

Members considered for approval the installation of Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) signs in the old cemetery at Trefonen in commemoration of the five war graves. Members were also informed that there are war graves at Nantmawr cemetery.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that CWGC signs should be installed at the old cemetery at Trefonen and also at Nantmawr cemetery.

820/20 Damage to Verges and Hedgerows

Members were informed that the Clerk had written to Mark Barrow at Shropshire Council, as agreed at the last Parish Council meeting, to express concerns about large vehicles using narrow country lanes within the parish and causing damage. The Clerk had received notification that a response would be received as soon as possible although, at the time of writing, no response had been received.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that, as no update had been received, this would be considered at the next meeting.

821/20 Speeding at Coed Y Go

a) Cllr. Les Maguire informed Members that the Road Safety Working Group had met via a Zoom meeting in August 2020 and the Group wanted to hold a site meeting with local residents, an officer from Highways at Shropshire Council, Cllr. Joyce Barrow and possibly someone from the police to discuss what options were available and the costs involved to introduce traffic calming measures at Coed Y Go.

Cllr. Phil May informed Members that he had contacted Llanyblodwel Parish Council concerning the introduction of traffic calming at Nantmawr and had been informed that Shropshire Council had no funding available for speed restriction measures and the police were reluctant to introduce speed restrictions at Nantmawr. If it was not possible to have a reduced speed limit then traffic calming signage could be installed.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that:

- **The Clerk should arrange for a site meeting to take place to discuss speed restrictions/traffic calming at Coed Y Go.**
- **The Clerk should find out what CIL money was available to put towards traffic calming.**

b) Members considered for approval the installation of a traffic/speed counter at Coed y Go.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the cost of the installation should be determined before the Parish Council would proceed with financing a traffic/speed counter.

822/20 20mph Speed Limit Outside Trefonen C of E Primary School

Members considered for approval supporting the school in its request to Shropshire Council to implement a 20mph speed limit outside Trefonen C of E Primary School. Letters asking for support had been received from the Head Teacher and some of the school children.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that:

- **The Parish Council would support the school in its request to have a 20mph limit introduced outside the school.**
- **The Clerk should find out whether a 20mph speed limit is enforceable.**

823/20 Offa's Dyke Footpath Through Nantmawr

Cllr. Phil May informed Members that he had received an email from the Shropshire Council Rights of Way officer stating that an alleged offender had been informed that his actions on Offa's Dyke footpath through Nantmawr were illegal and the officer was passing the matter to the police. The alleged offender had erected a padlocked gate blocking the footpath.

NOTED.

824/20 Remembrance 2020

Members considered for approval plans for this year's Remembrance Service. Due to COVID-19 restrictions it would be difficult to hold the usual community gathering although it was important that a wreath was still laid to commemorate those who had lost their lives in war.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that:

- **The Chairman should lay a wreath at Trefonen Cross on behalf of the parish.**
- **Plans would be considered further at the next meeting.**

825/20 Consultation

Members considered for approval a response to the following consultation:

a) Shropshire Council's Local Plan Review

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED that the Parish Council's approved response should be submitted to Shropshire Council.

b) Shropshire Council's draft Leisure Facilities Strategy

No response.

c) National Pavement Parking Consultation

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously AGREED to consider a response at the next meeting.

826/20 Correspondence

Members received the following:

- a) SALC information bulletin and NALC information.
- b) Information concerning the coronavirus.

NOTED.

827/20 Agenda Items for Next Meeting

It was **AGREED** that the following matters should be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting:

- Coed y Go speeding concerns.
- Nantmawr speeding restrictions.
- Cemetery burials and breach of regulations.

828/20 Date of Next Meeting

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would take place by Zoom video on Tuesday 27 October 2020.

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.

829/20 Land/Property Ownership

a) Members received information concerning the registration of the water pump at Crickheath.
It was NOTED that the water pump at Crickheath had been registered to the neighbouring property.

- b) Members considered for approval actions required concerning the following leases:
- i. Morda and Sweeney Village Hall.
 - ii. Morda Playing Field.
 - iii. Trefonen Village Hall.

There was some confusion concerning the Parish Council’s responsibility for Morda and Sweeney Village Hall and the playing field and whilst Members agreed the Council had no responsibility for the playing field the Council was the custodian trustee of Morda and Sweeney Village Hall.

It was **NOTED** that there had recently been a change in trustee membership of Morda and Sweeney Village Hall; one of the three trustees had resigned, thus leaving two trustees.

Cllr. Bob Kimber informed Members that the land on which Trefonen Village Hall was sited was leased from Shropshire Council and the Parish Council has no responsibility for Trefonen Village Hall other than being the custodian trustee.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that Cllr. Bob Kimber would liaise with the Clerk and Lanyon Bowdler.

830/20 Staffing

Members **NOTED** that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) had agreed the new pay scales for 2020-2021, to be implemented from 1 April 2020 and, as the Clerk’s Employment Contract includes NJC Terms and Conditions, the Clerk would receive the agreed increase in salary in accordance with new pay scales.

831/20 Planning Enforcement

Members **NOTED** a recent planning enforcement case.

The meeting closed at 20:18.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date: _____