



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at Catshill Village Hall

THURSDAY 30th March 2023, 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs B McEldowney (Chair), K Burgess, P Masters,
P Baker, S Osman

In attendance: Clerk – Carol Blake

Apologies – Cllr Laniosh and Cllr Parry

Members not present:

23/03-01 Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting

23/03-02 To receive apologies from any Member unable to attend

Cllr Laniosh and Cllr Parry sent their apologies.

23/03-03 Open Forum

3.1 Members of the Public - Jill Bate and Donna Ramlal representing the Village Hall Committee attended the meeting. A report had been distributed to all Councillors making them aware of the current financial situation of the Village Hall. The hire of the hall has been increased by an extra £2 per hour and 50% of hirers have agreed to the increase and will continue to use the Hall. Jill and Andrew Bate are planning to retire from the Village Hall Committee in the next year and they are a quarter of the management team but they have managed to obtain some new staff who will need to gain experience to become trustees. A meeting is to be held on 13th April to discuss the current charges and new procedures of the Hall, there will be another review in September and an annual review too.

Cllr Masters suggested that in the long run it may be a good idea for the Parish Council to take over the running of the Village Hall with the help of a management committee.

It was agreed that after the elections in May this issue should be on the agenda to establish a longer-term solution. Cllr Baker suggested there needs to be a Business Plan to forecast future financial implications that would need to be addressed and solutions put in place rather than just providing funding when funds are low.

3.2 Worcs County Councillor for the Woodvale Division.

Cllr Webb reported that the pedestrian crossing which will be on Barley Mow Lane will be in place next week.

The mobile VAS sign is currently situated on Woodrow Lane, residents have complained about speeding on Meadow Rd too so poles will be erected on 19 or 20th April so that the VAS sign can be moved to Meadow Rd.

Letters to Heaven – BDC are supportive of this idea, no planning permission is required if it goes ahead.

Poles for Oak Rd alleyway will be erected on 5th April.

Junior Councillors are researching any funding that could be requested to go towards the skatepark idea. Cllr Webb will provide a report with photos of the area and what it is likely to look like. There is a lot to discuss on this project, including consultation with residents and working in partnership with the Junior Councillors to ensure everybody has their say on this project.

3.3 Bromsgrove District Councillors for North Catshill, South Catshill and Marlbrook Wards

Cllr Till reported that the barriers by the bus stop on Birmingham Rd will be removed in April.

The wooded area on Lingfield Walk has been tidied up. Cllr Webb has requested that a dog waste bag dispenser be considered around the area, this will be discussed in the next Environmental, Highways and Planning Committee meeting

3.4 Any other community representative

No update.

23/03-04 Declarations of Interest

None received.

23/03-05 To re- open the meeting Parish Councillors and the Executive Officer may only speak from this point forward

23/03-06 Dispensations

No member had submitted a request for dispensation to any agenda item.

23/03-07 Approval of Minutes of previous council meeting and previous matters arising
It was agreed to accept the minutes of the previous Full Parish Council meeting held 23/02/2023 and Extraordinary meeting held on 02/03/2023. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

23/03-08 Chairman's Report

The Chairman summarised the various meetings he had attended during the month.

8.1 Reminder of election process – The Chairman reminded all councillors that nomination forms for the election must be hand delivered to Parkside, Market Street, Bromsgrove B61 8DA, between the hours of 10am and 4pm, by 4th April. An appointment is recommended to be booked to have forms checked.

8.2 Agreement on date for Annual Parish Council meeting (from 9th – 23rd May) –
It was agreed that the Annual Parish Council meeting will be held on 18th May and the April Full Parish Council meeting will be cancelled.

8.3 Defibrillators Update – It was agreed to purchase the pads and battery for both devices situated at the Baptist Church and The Meadow. The clerk will establish what is required firstly and how the pads and battery will be fitted.

9.1 The payments and receipts report to 21/03/2023 was received and noted.

The council’s accounts spreadsheet for March 2023 was circulated.

An excerpt from the council’s accounts spreadsheet for March had been sent along with budget excerpt and the bank reconciliation to 21/03/2023, it is as follows:

Bank Reconciliation as at 21/03/2022		
Opening Cash Book balance		£105,685.54
Add receipts between 1 April - 21 Mar 2023	£56,719.63	
Less payments between 1 April - 21 Mar 2023	-£59,504.91	
Cashbook balance at 21 Mar 2023		£102,900.26
Bank statements at 21 Mar 2023		
Unity Trust Bank	105,234.88	
Soldo card	20.26	
Less unpresented cheques, as list below	2,354.88	
Bank balances at 21 Mar 2023		£102,900.26

Items for Discussion

23/03-10

- 10.1 **Project Officer update** – Cllr Baker has met with Paul Crysell, but a job description has not yet been drafted. Cllr Baker will endeavour to get this completed by next week and distribute it to all Councillors for any comments, this can then be discussed in the next Full Parish Council meeting and agreement on the role will then be pursued.
- 10.2 **Letters to Heaven – Cllr Parry – It was agreed** in principle that this was an innovative idea for North Bromsgrove Cemetery and now quotes will need to be obtained to be agreed on.
- 10.3 **Solar Lights on Oak Road footpath Cllr Laniosh** 3 quotes have been emailed. **It was agreed** unanimously to use Reddilight for the solar lights.
- 10.4 **Donation to First School for bulbs and equipment for planting – Cllr Osman**
This was deferred to the next meeting as Cllr Osman is still awaiting a quote from Cllr Webb.
- 10.5 **Coronation funding request £200 – Cllr Parry It was agreed** unanimously to provide funding up to £200 for the event at the Methodist Church on 6th May. Katie Burgess will request receipts to be sent to the Clerk for the payment to be made to them

Committee and Representatives Report

23/03-11

- 11.1 **Finance and Staffing Committee** – Cllr Baker reported that the Clerk’s appraisal had been completed with Cllr McEldowney and she had done extremely well and no issues to report Cllr Baker thanked the Clerk for her work throughout the year.

- 11.2 News Magazine – Cllr Masters** – Thanks to all who delivered the magazines. Any ideas for the next magazine should be sent.
- 11.3 Junior Councillors – Cllr Laniosh** – An update had been received in Cllr Laniosh’s absence. Cllr Burgess had attended a meeting with Cllr Laniosh on 20th March and the Junior Councillors had been updated on Parish Council activities since the last meeting. The next meeting is booked for 17th July.
- 11.4 Footpaths Working Party– Cllr Laniosh** reported that the group had removed rubbish and vegetation from Old Birmingham Rd and Lickey Rock area. Cllr Laniosh attended a meeting on 23rd March with Worcestershire County Council Public Rights of Way team to update them and gain any feedback on his role.
- 11.5 Events Meeting Update – Cllr McEldowney/Masters** – An update needs to be organised on last year’s Fireworks Event to establish what and who will be taking responsibility for this year’s event and to ensure the same issues do not arise for the next event. The subgroup for the Coronation has met, and Katie reported that most things that we had previously proposed were now arranged. The request to the PC for funding for the trail and other activities on Sunday 7th May has been agreed, while funding for Saturday is pending.
- 11.6 Environmental, Highways and Planning – Cllr Osman** A meeting was held, and Cllr McEldowney will be obtaining quotes for chatty benches and this will be progressed. The remainder of the memorial stones for the Parish Council were installed on Saturday 25th February.

Meeting finished @ 20:54

23/03-12 Date and time of next meeting: **Thursday 18th May @ 19:00**

Excerpt from March Spreadsheet

Mar-23						
Soldo - Top up on card	BACS	v198	Top up on card		30.00	
O2	d/d	v199	office mobile		14.74	2.4
Waterplus	d/d	v200	water at Ivy Cottage Gardens		6.76	
Talk Talk	d/d	v201	Office phone and broadband - Feb 2023		49.95	
Salaries March 2023	S/O	V202-203	Salaries March 2023		948.45	
Mrs C Blake	BACS	V204	Working from Home Allowance		30.00	
Mrs Shirley webb	BACS	V205	Easter eggs		81.18	
Cllr Jess Parry	BACS	V206	King Charles cut out		35.99	
Heron Press	BACS	V207	Spring Newsletter		555.00	
HMRC	BACS	v208	Month 10,11 PAYE & NI		384.40	
Soldo - Microsoft monthly fee			Microsoft monthly sub		7.99	
Soldo Monthly Fee	Soldo	v209	Zoom monthly sub		14.39	
Soldo - Stinky Ink			Ink cartridges for printer		22.65	
Soldo - Top up on card	BACS	v210	Top up on card		50.00	
Chris Cooke	BACS	v211	Lengthsman work for Jan and Feb 2023		319.86	53.3
KOS	d/d	v212	Warranty and prints for printer		50.40	8.4
Worcestershire County Council		R10	Lengthsman Refund Nov and Dec 22	130.50		
				130.50	2,521.76	64.1
			Total for year to 31/03/2023	56,719.63	59,504.91	2,958.9