



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at Catshill Village Hall THURSDAY 25th April
2024, 7.00pm @ 19:00

Present: Cllrs B McEldowney (Chair), B Laniosh, K Burgess,
J Parry, P Masters

In attendance: Clerk – Carol Blake

Apologies Cllr Osman

Members not present: M Amin, S Khafajizadeh

24/04-01 Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

24/04-02 To consider any applications for Co-option

It was agreed unanimously to co-opt Becky Pagett on to the Parish Council

24/04-03 To receive apologies from any Member unable to attend

Cllr Osman sent his apologies.

24/04-04 Open Forum

4.1 Members of the Public

A Catshill resident who lives on Stourbridge Road attended the meeting and raised the issue of the excessive speeding from The Crown pub going towards Willowbrook Garden Centre. Cllr Webb explained that there is a community speed watch campaign being set up in the area and the VAS signs are also monitoring speed limits around various speeding hotspots.

4.2 Worcs County Councillor for the Woodvale Division.

Cllr Webb reported that Catshill in Bloom is underway, another planter is being located outside the Co-op and being planted up by pupils from Chadsgrove School.

There is a meeting being held next week to discuss ideas for a skate park by The Cage area, there will be a consultation meeting with residents and an open day at the Village Hall for them to attend and air their opinions.

It was agreed that Cllr Webb will purchase a plaque to be placed on the Letters to Heaven post-boxes located in the cemeteries informing residents of the blessing of the letters that take place each month and confirming that the letters are treated with the utmost respect.

The bench that was situated by the War Memorial has been removed, Daren Lacey is sourcing quotes for the stones and bark. Cleansing the war memorial will need to be booked this is likely to cost over £1000 but quotes are still being sourced.

A small service is to be held at the Memorial in June to mark 80 years of the D Day landing.

The litter pickers in the area are being co-ordinated by Cllr Laniosh, he is the main contact for this issue and has requested that his mobile number is provided to the volunteers who litter pick in the area so that the litter problem can be tackled where it is most needed.

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

Cllr McEldowney reported that funding of £5380 has been received from Safer Roads funding for 2 more VAS signs and solar panels for the area. Clerk to send quote to Chair once received.

4.4 Any other community representative

No update.

24/04-05 Declarations of Interest

None received.

24/04-06 To re- open the meeting Parish Councillors and the Executive Officer may only speak from this point forward

24/04-07 Dispensations

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

24/04-08 Approval of Minutes of previous council meeting and previous matters arising

It was agreed to accept the minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held 29/02/2024. The Chairman then duly signed the minutes.

24/04-09 Chairman's Report Councillor McEldowney informed the meeting, that the local Scout Group, who will again be responsible for organising the local Bonfire & Fireworks event later this year, have notified him, that they are proposing to move the location of the event from The Meadow, to the larger park area at Lingfield Walk. They are working with numerous organisations, including Bromsgrove District Council and Worcestershire Regulatory Services, to finalise arrangements for this year's event, which will continue to be underwritten by the Parish Council.

Earlier this year, Councillor McEldowney made a formal application, on behalf of the village hall, for a free government sponsored portrait of the King. The portrait was recently delivered and will be handed over to the Village Hall committee, for display in the village hall.

9.1 Chatty Benches Location and Quotes – It was agreed that Cllr McEldowney will provide Cllr Laniosh with all current details relating to this item for Cllr Laniosh and Cllr Masters to order the benches, and locations can then be agreed on to move this item forward.

9.2 Travelling Music Bus - It was agreed that this item can be deferred as it would be a good idea for the summer months maybe next year.

9.3 Dog Waste Dispenser and bags Lingfield Walk. - Cllr Webb will order the dog bag dispenser; the bags will be provided by the Parish Council and ownership of delivery of the bags and keeping the dispenser replenished will need to be agreed on once the dispenser is in situ.

Finance

24/04-10

10.1 The payments and receipts report to 18/03/2024 was received and noted.

The council’s accounts spreadsheet for March 2024 was circulated.

An excerpt from the council’s accounts spreadsheet for March had been sent along with the bank reconciliation to 18/03/2024, it is as follows:

Bank Reconciliation as at 14/03/2024			
Opening Cash Book balance		£102,483.02	
Add receipts between 1 April - 14 Mar 2024	£58,416.69		
Less payments between 1 April - 14 Mar 2024	-£80,474.34		
Cashbook balance at 14 Mar 2024		£80,425.37	A
Bank statements at 14 Mar 2024			
Unity Trust Bank	84,322.54		
Soldo card	88.68		
Less unrepresented items, as list below	3,985.85		
Bank balances at 14 Mar 2024		£80,425.37	B

10.2 To Discuss Annual Parish Meeting to be held in May. - It was agreed that the meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st May if the room is vacant as the Clerk is unavailable on 30th May. Clerk to contact Phil Lacey to request the room booking is changed and inform Councillors.

10.3 To Discuss Annual Insurance Quotation 24/25. The clerk stated that the annual Insurance for the Parish Council has increased by £51.28 to £1143.74 this year. **It was agreed** to continue using Zurick for this year.

24/04-11 Items for Discussion

11.1 War Memorial This item was discussed at point 4.2.

11.2 To Discuss grant for Games Hub - A grant for £840 has been received to fund room hire, purchase food and run DBS checks on all volunteers for the Games Hub. **It was agreed** to fund this grant.

11.3 Discuss Committees and Attendees – It was Agreed to defer and discuss in the annual Parish Meeting next month.

11.4 Stickers Quotes for Dog Waste Dispensers and Benches – Cllr Osman - Deferred as Cllr Osman was absent from meeting.

11.5 Racking for lock-up - Deferred as Cllr Osman was absent from meeting.

11.6 Update on COVID Memorial Garden quotes - Cllr Webb agreed to progress this issue, **it was agreed** that Cllr Laniosh will send her details of the ideas that have already been discussed for the garden.

24/04-12 Committee and Representatives Report

12.1 News Magazine – Cllr Masters thanked everybody for their input and helping deliver the magazines which have been well received by residents.

12.2 Junior Councillors - Cllr Laniosh reported that Cllr Parry and Cllr Burgess attended the last meeting with the pupils, and it was well received by all involved. It was suggested that the next meeting at the school could be attended by other Councillors if they would be available.

12.3 Footpaths Report – Cllr Laniosh reported that the footpath behind the Crown pub was cleared of various amounts of debris.

Meeting finished @ 21:10

**24/04-13 Date and time of next meeting: Annual Parish Meeting 21st May
at the Village Hall @ 19:00**

Excerpt from March Spreadsheet

Mar-24							
O2	d/d	V200	office mobile		17.28	2.88	14.40
Talk Talk	d/d	v201	Office phone and broadband - Feb 2024		49.95		49.95
Waterplus	d/d	V202	water at Ivy Cottage Gardens		7.81		7.81
Salaries	S/O	V203	LP salary Mar 2024		979.24		979.24
Mrs C Blake	BACS	V205	Working from Home Allowance		24.00		24.00
JRB Enterprise Ltd	BACS	V206	Dog waste bags		327.60	54.60	273.00
HMRC	BACS	V207	Month 10 PAYE & NI		275.36		275.36
HMRC	BACS	V208	Month 11 PAYE & NI		275.36		275.36
HMRC	BACS	V209	Month 12 PAYE & NI		275.36		275.36
Chris Cooke	BACS	V210	Lengthsman work for Feb 2024		270.30	45.05	225.25
Catshill Village Hall Games Hub	BACS	V211	Grant for games hub		500.00		500.00
Catshill Village Hall	BACS	V212	Grant for 130th birthday for Village Hall		1,500.00		1,500.00
Open Spaces Society	BACS	V213	Annual Subscription		45.00		45.00
Jane Hallett	BACS	V214	LP mileage and expenses for January 24		13.63		13.63
Cllr Shirley Webb	BACS	V215	Easter event expenses		368.81		368.81
Doorstep Princesses	BACS	V216	Easter event		330.00		330.00
Soldo - Microsoft monthly fee	Soldo	v217	Microsoft monthly sub		7.99		7.99
Soldo Monthly Fee			Zoom monthly sub		15.59		15.59
KOS	D/D	V218	Standard warranty and standard copy charge		50.40	8.40	42.00
					-	4,255.40	108.05
			Total for year to 31/03/2024		58,416.69	80,474.34	4,756.27
							75,718.07
