

## UPPER ARLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Upper Arley Parish Council held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 at Arley Memorial Hall, the meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

**Present:** Cllr G Rickhuss, Cllr Mrs T Lawley, Cllr Mrs S Rickhuss, Cllr J Lawley, Cllr H Link, Cllr S McLachlan and Cllr A Potter

In Attendance: Mrs A Preece (Clerk) District Cllr J Byng and PCSO Jeni Bray.

**1. Election of Chairman and signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office:** Cllr Graham Rickhuss was elected as Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year and duly signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

**2. Election of Vice Chairman:** Cllr Mrs Tracey Lawley was elected as Vice Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year.

**3. Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs L Snodgrass, Cllr I Latimer, District Cllr Paul Harrison and County Cllr D Morehead.

The Chairman advised that Cllr Latimer had been elected as Mayor of Bewdley Town Council and gave his congratulations on the election.

**4. Declarations of Interest:** None.

**5. Community Policing:** PCSO Jeni Bray gave the Police report, she was unable to access the system since coming on shift but not aware of any incidents lately. The current Police priority set by the Parish Council was rural crime. Cllr Potter raised issues of speeding traffic in Trimpley Lane which can be added to the priorities for the next quarter.

No members of the public were in attendance for Public Question Time.
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**6. Dispensations:** No dispensation requests received.

**7. Council's Scheme of Delegation:** Members were appointed to the following Committees:

Staffing Committee –The Chairman Cllr G Rickhuss, Vice Chairman Cllr Mrs T Lawley and Cllr S McLachlan.

Finance Committee – The Chairman Cllr G Rickhuss, Cllr I Latimer and Cllr Mrs L Snodgrass.

Members were appointed to the following outside bodies:

Worcestershire County Association of Local Councils and Parish Forum – The Chairman Cllr G Rickhuss and Cllr Mrs S Rickhuss.

Arley Memorial Hall Committee – Vice Chairman Cllr Mrs T Lawley.

Shatterford Village Hall Committee – Cllr H Link.

Pound Green and Button Oak Community Hall – Cllr I Latimer.

**8. Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 at Shatterford Village Hall were approved.

**9. District and County Council Matters:** The Chairman congratulated Cllr Byng on his appointment as Chairman of Wyre Forest District Council. Cllr Byng advised that he had been consulted by the District Council on a planning issue relating to 24/0187/HOU Coldridge Farm Witnells End Shatterford and asked if the matter was still to be considered by the Planning Committee.

**10. Service Reports:**

- a) Lengthsman: Timesheets circulated for perusal.

**11. Highways Issues:** Cllr Lawley is going to check the footpath from Nash Elm to the lane at the side of the Housing Estate as County Highways cannot locate the issue of the damaged footpath previously reported.

**12. Financial Report and Payment of Accounts:**

- a) Members noted the bank balances at the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024
- b) Members approved payments as per the schedule.
- c) Members ratified payments as per the list.
- d) Annual Financial Return: Members resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statement for submission to the external auditors PKF Littlejohn. The Statement was duly signed by the Chairman.
- e) Annual Financial Return: Members resolved to approve the Accounting Statement for submission to the external auditors PKF Littlejohn. The Statement was duly signed by the Chairman.

**13. Planning and Development Control:**

- a) Planning Applications Received  
None
- b) Additional Planning Applications/other Planning Matters Since Close of Agenda  
24/0187/HOU Coldridge Farm Witnells End Shatterford Members were asked to reconsider their response to the amended application and decided to remain with their original response to ask the application to be called in and considered by the Planning Committee.

24/0138/FUL Shatterford Lakes Bridgnorth Road, Shatterford. Members were asked to reconsider their response to the amended application but decided to remain with their original response.

The Clerk advised that two planning applications in relation to Dowles Barn had been received earlier that same day and would be added to the agenda for the June 2024 meeting. Planning Officer will be asked to wait until after the next meeting for comments.

c) Planning Decisions Received

24/0079/FUL Nash End Farm Lion Lane Arley Bewdley

Demolition of barn and replacement with 1No. rural workers dwelling. Approved.

**14. Clerk's Report:** Clerks report on ongoing items noted.

**15. Correspondence for Information:** Members noted correspondence received report from the Clerk.

**16. Councillor's Reports and items for future agendas:** Cllr Mrs Rickhuss expressed her concerns regarding the condition of the verges on the A442 Birch Bank and asked the Clerk to chase up when the work was going to be undertaken.

**17. Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will take place on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at Arley Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m.

*The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.*

*Signed .....*

*Chairman to Upper Arley Parish Council Cllr G Rickhuss*

Notes of Public Question Time

No members of the public in attendance for Public Question Time