



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

Present: Cllrs B McEldowney (Chair), T Gillespie, B Laniosh, S Osman,
J Parry

In attendance: Clerk – Carol Blake

Apologies Cllr's Masters, Pagett, Burgess

Members not present:

24/07-01 Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

24/07-02 To receive apologies from any Member unable to attend

Cllr's Masters, Burgess and Pagett sent their apologies.

24/07-03 Open Forum

3.1 Members of the Public

A resident who is a member of Friends of the Cemetery group attended the meeting; she raised her concerns over the state of Christchurch cemetery. The probation service has recently attended the cemetery and tidied it up over the past couple of weekends, but it needs to be a regular job. Cllr Webb reported that the cemetery is private, so it falls to the responsibility of families to maintain their family graves, but she understood that it is disrespectful to Catshill residents to see it fall into such a state and needs tending and clearing regularly. Cllr Webb will contact the Place Team to ask if any funding could be released to help with the situation and make it an on-going project rather than a one-off job. Feedback will be reported in the next Parish Council meeting.

3.2 Worcs County Councillor for the Woodvale Division.

Cllr Webb reported that the walkway between Oak Rd and Golden Cross Lane is being resurfaced on 9th Sept.

The Dock footpath and dropped kerbs are being completed in half term week.

The Catshill Games Hub recently won an award for helping to tackle anti-social behaviour in the area.

Part of the car park at The Crown pub which backs up to the War Memorial site is being sold, Cllr Osman has reported that it would be virtually impossible for anybody else to register the War Memorial land, currently it remains unregistered. Cllr Webb reported that Highways are currently conducting a search to establish who is buying the land.

Cllr Osman volunteered to clear part of the site at the War Memorial that is deemed a trip hazard.

Cllr Webb reported that she has put forward an idea to have a Community Orchard on land by Shelley Close/ Milton Rd.

The zip wire is being replaced by The Cage area and the slide is being removed to be relocated at Lingfield Park, the skate park is on-going project.

The Healthy Hubs promotion will launch in September with the idea that it will help to keep residents more independent and able to keep active and healthy as they grow older and remain in their own homes.

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

It was requested to be minuted that although Cllr Helen Jones is sent an invite to all Full Parish Council meetings, she has never attended one and therefore the Marlbrook Ward is not represented.

3.4 Any other community representative

No update.

24/07-04 Declarations of Interest

None received.

24/07-05 To re- open the meeting Parish Councillors and the Executive Officer may only speak from this point forward

24/07-06 Dispensations

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

24/07-07 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 27/06/2024. The Chairman then duly signed the minutes.

24/07-08 Chairman's Report

The chairman reported that one of the rubbish bins at the play area at Millenium Way had been damaged. He reported it to Environmental Services and notified the Safer Bromsgrove Team, who are coordinating a strategy to tackle ASB, including the riding on motorbikes and off-road bikes at that location. Portable CCTV cameras have been installed at that location.

The bus shelter that will be located on Meadow Road is on-going.

Chris Fabray who is a member of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has requested that a meeting of the NP Steering Group should be organised in September to discuss the implications that the Parish may face due to the implications of the new Government on building new housing developments, bearing in mind no review was undertaken for 2023.

Parish Councillors were reminded to take up offers of training that are available and are sent through to them at regular intervals.

The 8 May 2025 will be the 80th anniversary of VE Day, a celebration of the moment in 1945 that marked the end of the Second World War in Europe. A range of activities are being encouraged including lighting of Beacons and Lamp Lights of Peace, the raising of a unique VE Day flag and holding parties of celebration throughout the day in the streets, gardens at home, churches, villages and towns, and all manner of locations throughout the country. It would be a nice idea for the Parish Council to commemorate this special date in some way.

8.1 Update and discussion on War Memorial – It was agreed that the work that needs to be completed on the War Memorial site will go ahead and paid for by the Parish Council. The clerk will send Cllr Osman the quote that Daren Lacey has obtained, and Cllr Osman will request another two quotes from other suppliers.

8.2 Update on VAS signs – There were 2 boxes missing from the original delivery of the VAS signs. This was highlighted to the supplier; they have agreed to resend the missing items as it was the fault of the deliverer. The missing VAS signs were received today, the clerk will now contact the Lengthsman to collect and place them on the poles that are now in situ .

8.3 To discuss grant request for Meadow gate – The grant request for £7000 was discussed and rejected as currently there are other financial commitments deemed more urgent than this grant.

24/07-09 Finance

9.1 The payments and receipts report to 20/07/2024 was received and noted.

The council's accounts spreadsheet for July 2024 was circulated.

An excerpt from the council's accounts spreadsheet for March had been sent along with the bank reconciliation to 20/07/2024, it is as follows:

Bank Reconciliation as at 20/07/2024			
Opening Cash Book balance		£105,931.00	
Add receipts between 1 April - 20 July 2024	5,896.25		
Less payments between 1 April - 20 July 2024	-19,583.57		
Cashbook balance at 20 July 2024		£92,243.68	A
Bank statements at 20 July 2024			
Unity Trust Bank	96,675.46		
Soldo account	15.39		
Less unpresented cheques, as list below	4447.17		
Bank balances at 20 July 2024		£92,243.68	B

9.2 Adopt new Financial Regs from NALC- It was agreed that the new Financial Regulations from NALC are now adopted for this Parish Council.

9.3 Update on removal of two Councillors for non-attendance.

Due to six meetings being missed and no apologies received by Siavash and Amin Mohammed they have both been removed from the Parish Council

24/07-10 Items for Discussion

10.1 Dock Garden update – Cllr Osman has obtained one quote and will obtain another two which will be discussed in the next Full Parish Council meeting.

10.2 Update on chatty benches- The benches are being assembled and the plaques have been purchased, awaiting a delivery date.

10.3 Stickers Quotes for Dog Waste Dispensers and Benches – Cllr Osman will be ordering the stickers.

10.4 Catshill Cemetery Update See point 3.1 above for update

24/07-11 Committee and Representatives Report

11.1 News Magazine – Cllr McEldowney will collect the magazines tomorrow and will be sorting them out for delivery.

11.2 Junior Councillors - Cllr Parry has taken over from Cllr Laniosh and will be organising the next meeting of the Junior Councillors.

