

MINUTES OF THE SHELSLEYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held in the Village Hall on 9th January at 7pm in the year 2024															
	Present: Val Jones (Chair), Louise Hutton (Vice-Chair), Karen Metcalfe, John Stinton, Dave Bates, Laura Taylor, Carole Warren and Jean Hammond.														
	In attendance: Two members of the public and the clerk.														
5.1	Apologies: David Belfield, (accepted) and District Councillors Pam and Paul Cumming														
5.2	<p>Declaration of Interest:</p> <p>1. Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.</p> <p>2. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.</p> <p>3. To declare any other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.</p> <p>Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or another Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4)b of the code of conduct must leave the room for the relevant items.</p> <p><i>Failure to register or declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may result in the commission of a criminal offence.</i></p> <p>None declared.</p>														
5.3	Minutes: The minutes of November 7 th 2023 were proposed and seconded and were agreed as a true record. The minutes were then signed by the Chairwoman.														
	Public Question Time: None.														
5.4	Budget: Figures previously circulated were agreed and used as an aide to determine the precept.														
5.5	Precept: It was agreed to keep the precept the same at seven thousand pounds. Clerk to inform MHDC.														
5.6	<p>Finance: The following payments were approved.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td>CALC sub</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£312.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Councillor Training</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£36.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q2 expenses Clerk</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£78.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q3 expenses Clerk</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£76.17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lengthsman invoice</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£288.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WCC salt invoice</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£305.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1096.40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The bank balance as at January 8th was £4338.04</p>	CALC sub	£312.36	Councillor Training	£36.00	Q2 expenses Clerk	£78.42	Q3 expenses Clerk	£76.17	Lengthsman invoice	£288.00	WCC salt invoice	£305.45	Total	£1096.40
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5.7	District and County Councillor Reports: County Councillor Chambers and District Councillors Cumming had sent written reports. These will be available on the website.														
5.8	Highways Footpaths and Lengthsman: Lengthsman's Report, there was no report, the worksheets were accepted.														

Chairperson:

Date:

	<p>New Mill Bridge the nearby culvert has been reported to WCC who require a specialist contractor to alleviate the problem of the blockage causing flooding across the lane. WCC has been requested to jet the gullies which have become blocked. WCC has been advised of the debris building up against New Mill Bridge. WCC has advised that there are many similar problems within the county. The lengthsman will be asked if he can quickly improve the mud and drainage problems at New Mill Bridge.</p> <p>Councillors were urged to report drainage and highways matters on the WCC website. The Clerk to send a link which will also be placed in the Teme Triangle.</p> <p>MHDC has been asked to sweep the mud and debris from the road between the bridge and the church.</p> <p>Safer Roads Grant the information was circulated prior to meeting but not discussed.</p>
5.9	<p>Midland Automobile Club (MAC):</p> <p>In response to a letter sent on the Parish Council's behalf by the clerk a letter from Mark Harrison was read out by Helen Evans an MAC Board member. The contents described the history of and the background to the current orchard planting together with the reasons for making new tracks in the orchard. Councillor Stinton reported that together with Tony Harrison they have knowledge of the original varieties of trees planted by Montague Taylor at the beginning of the twentieth century, the same number of which will be replanted in a more sensible location on the bank thus avoiding any damage from cars. The trees will be planted so that the blossom will be visible from across the valley. It is hoped in due course that the new trees will become hosts to the noble chafer beetle already established in the old trees within the orchard. These older trees will only be removed when totally dead and unable to support any insect life. The MAC had not received any information on whether a planning application for the tracks was required.</p>
5.10	<p>Village Hall Management Committee:</p> <p>Councillor Stinton Chairman of the VHMC gave a report of a recent VHMC meeting. He stated that there had been no resolution of the PC to send a letter to members of the VHMC to which no reply had been received. The Chairwoman of the PC replied the letter had been sent in order to gain answers from questions raised at the meeting in November. With regard to the accounts The VHMC saw no obligation to do anything other than supply figures to the Charity Commission which had been done the week before. At the AGM, held in public in April or early May all members of the committee will resign and may stand for re-election At this time the accounts will be available for the public to see. These accounts are the sole responsibility of the VHMC. The AGM will be advertised at least a week before the meeting is held. The chair of the VHMC submitted a document (40 from ACRE) showing that the Custodian Trustees (the PC) hold the title to the Village Hall but are not the beneficial owners. The Chairman of the VHMC requested the PC not to interfere with VH matters. After further questions from the councillors it transpired that the accounts previously submitted to the council by another member of the committee were incorrect and as such are unreliable. There has been some inadvertent conflation resulting in inaccurate accounting which is in the process of being rectified. One of the councillors offered to help with current but not past accounts. The VHMC is investigating ways of securing funding through patrons and friends who would contribute regularly.</p>

Chairperson:

Date:

Meeting 5 2023 2024

	<p>It was determined that the buildings insurance is up to date and due for renewal in two months' time.</p> <p>The Chairwoman noted, after taking advice from CALC, that the PC bears no financial responsibility for the VHMC. She also stated that the PC acts on behalf of local parishioners and asked that the PC be informed of the date of the VHMC AGM.</p> <p>No resolution was made.</p>
5.11	<p>Urgent Decisions: M/23/01601/FUL Old Rectory Planning comment. PC support application.</p> <p>M/23/01550/LB Cherry Cottage "The Parish Council is keen to support this application which should improve the thermal efficiency of the property."</p>
5.12	<p>Planning:</p> <p>MHDC Decisions:</p> <p>M/23/00484/FUL Agricultural barn at land (OS 7355 6281). Approved.</p> <p>M/23/01550/LB Cherry Cottage replacement doors and windows. Approved</p>
5.13	<p>Correspondence and Consultations:</p> <p>All relevant items were circulated via email or are available at the meeting.</p>
5.14	<p>Village Fete:</p> <p>Informal discussions to be reported at the March meeting.</p>
5.15	<p>Parish Council website:</p> <p>This was not considered necessary. The Parish Council will continue to use the Worcester County Council hosted web site.</p>
5.16	<p>Progress Reports:</p> <p>Biodiversity. A draft report will be available for the March meeting.</p> <p>Police Contract and Newsletter. The contract has been renewed and the newsletter distributed to both the councillors and the Teme Triangle.</p> <p>Data Protection Certificate. The renewed certificate has been received following payment.</p> <p>Fly tipping at the end of Camp Lane was reported and swiftly removed by MHDC.</p>
5.17	<p>County Association of Local Councils (CALC):</p> <p>Training course details are available on the CALC website.</p>
5.18	<p>Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:</p> <p>It is believed that the culvert on the Winnington Estate is resulting in water pooling at the junction of Kingswood and Pard House lanes. Clerk to report.</p>
5.19	<p>Date of the next meeting: March 12th at 7pm in the Village Hall.</p> <p>Following meetings:</p> <p>Annual Meeting of the Parish Council May 14th</p> <p>Ordinary Meeting July 9th</p> <p>The meeting concluded at 20.40</p> <p>Jan Speyer Clerk and RFO January 10th 2024</p>

Chairperson:

Date: