



## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at Catshill Village Hall

THURSDAY 27th July 2023, 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllrs B McEldowney (Chair), B Laniosh, S Osman, K Burgess, M Amin

**In attendance:** Clerk – Carol Blake

**Apologies** – Cllrs J Parry, P Masters

**Members not present:**

### 23/07-01 **Chairman's welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting

### 23/07-02 **To receive apologies from any Member unable to attend**

Cllr Parry and Cllr Masters sent apologies.

### 23/07-03 **To consider any applications for co-option**

None received.

### 22/07-04 **Open Forum**

#### **4.1 Members of the Public**

No members of the public attended the meeting.

#### **4.2 Worcs County Councillor for the Woodvale Division.**

No update received.

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

Cllr McEldowney has been busy attending meetings and is on the board for the Artrix theatre which is currently being given consideration to open as a viable business. Ideas include to be used for conferences, wedding venue and this will be discussed in future meetings.

Cllr Laniosh asked if the replacement bin on Milton Road could be given priority as BDC have not installed the bin, yet which needed to be ordered. Consideration could be given for the Parish Council to purchase their own bin if there is such a delay from BDC.

#### **4.4 Any other community representative**

No update.

**23/07-05 Declarations of Interest**

None received.

**23/07-06 To re- open the meeting** Parish Councillors and the Executive Officer may only speak from this point forward

**23/07-07 Dispensations**

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

**23/07-08 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 on 05/07/2023. The Chairman then duly signed the minutes.

**23/07-09 Chairman's Report**

**9.1 Reminder of Election Expenses** - The Chairman reminded all Parish Councillors to complete and return their election expenses forms as their failure to do so may lead to them being barred or being unable to vote in future meetings.

**9.2 Chairman for Finance and Staffing Committee** – Cllr Osman is interested in this role but requires basic finance training before he makes a firm decision on taking responsibility. The clerk will contact CALC to organise training for him.

**23/07-10 10.1 Grant Application for Catshill Village Hall £250 for Lottery License – It was agreed** to fund £250 for this cause.

**10.1 Grant Application for Catshill Village Hall £600 for Fire Detection System – It was agreed** to fund £600 for this cause.

**10.1 Grant Application for Citizens Advice Bureau** – Item deferred as application form has not yet been received.

**10.4 Ideas for the municipal year 2023/2024**

Cllr Laniosh's ideas included:

- Recruitment of additional parish councillors
- Focusing on reducing litter and dog waste
- Identifying the issues of concern to residents by
  - The use of social media channels and our parish magazine
  - Attending events that publicise who we are and what we do.
  - Increasing the opportunities for meeting members of the public

- Continuation of Junior Councillors initiative
- Village walkabouts
- Encouraging and supporting initiatives that promote better communities and wellbeing (including personal safety) such as the Footpath Work Party and lighting.
- Streamlining and improving monthly meetings so that they are more effective.
- Setting up a working group to permanently address the ongoing IT/Email issues that have been an issue for the PC.

Cllr Osman ideas included:

- Events - support people/organisations putting on events in the parish.
- Youth - continue junior parish councillors. Additional youth provision in the area and to promote further youth projects.
- Improving the area - planters, gardens, lighting.
- Skatepark/improve the facilities at the cage area including improving its usage.
- Improve the "entrances" to the village. Signage and tidying up the roads leading into the village/parish is a necessity. Bollards at the top of Golden Cross Lane need replacing. "You are entering Catshill/Marlbrook, please drive carefully" signs at the other mains roads leading into the area.
- Increase parish council size.
- Streamline digital media. The website needs to be simpler and cleaner looking. Mainly giving information on councillors, how to get in touch and a digital location for the parish magazine and meeting information.

Cllr Amin's ideas included:

**23/07-11**

- Contacting the local football coaching team to establish what sessions they currently run in the area and request that the Parish Council could utilise these sessions for needy children in the holidays.
- Contacting local schools to target the children who would be best suited to these sessions.
- Contacting Basement Project to establish if the Parish Council could promote youth projects with them.

## **Committee and Representatives Report**

**11.1 News Magazine – Cllr Masters** – The Summer edition of the news magazine is currently being printed and will be delivered to all residents in the coming weeks.

**11.2 Junior Councillors** - Cllr Laniosh reported that Cllr Parry and Cllr Burgess and possibly Cllr Amin will attend the next meeting. The litter pick around the Poets estate was enjoyed by the school children.

**11.3 Footpaths Working Party** – Cllr Laniosh reported that the group have installed 7 new steps behind the Crown pub and Battlefields Brook. The next project is Monarch’s Way and is due to take place on 15<sup>th</sup> August at 10:00. Vegetation is an issue now with all the rain that we have had, the footpath between Golden Cross Rd and Oak Rd has been cleared and other affected areas will be tackled this month.

**11.4 Events Update Cllr Parry** – No update.

**11.5 Environmental, Highways and Planning – Cllr Osman** A meeting is organised for 31<sup>st</sup> July online.

**Meeting finished @ 20:55**

**Date and time of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> September in the Village Hall @ 19:00**