

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MORVILLE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2022 AT MORVILLE VILLAGE HALL AT 7:00PM

Present: Councillors: Cllr G Brown, Cllr J Davey, Cllr L Moxon-Jones, Cllr S McDermott (Chairman),
Cllr A Pitchers, Cllr P Yuille

In Attendance: Officer: C Maclean (Locum Clerk)
Members of the Public: 2

22.74 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

22.75 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Cllr R-L Brown, C Bullock, J Cantrill, D Gibson, G Wilkes and Shropshire Cllr R Tindall.

22.76 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None.

22.77 PUBLIC SESSION

No questions or issues raised by those present.

22.78 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Proposed by Cllr A Pitchers, seconded by Cllr P Yuille and it was resolved the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10th September 2022 be adopted and that the Chairman sign these as a true record.

22.79 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Councillors noted that following discussion at the previous meeting under item 22.54 Disclosable Pecuniary Interest forms had been lodged with Shropshire Council.

22.80 SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In the absence of Shropshire Cllr R Tindall Councillors noted his report submitted prior to the meeting (Appendix 1). It was noted that Cllr R Tindall had been referred to Shropshire Council's Standard Conduct executive by a resident of Monkhopton in relation to Cllr R Tindall's position on a planning application relating to the opening of an access onto the B4368. It was further noted that the complaint had been dismissed.

22.81 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- (i) Cllr S McDermott updated Councillors on recent activities he sees impacting the parish. Full report attached as Appendix 2.
- (ii) **Planning Application Responses:** Councillors noted that meetings of Council had to be convened in person and in public to enable formal responses from the Parish Council to planning applications. Cllr S McDermott advised Councillors that, where required, extraordinary meetings of Council would be called to address planning applications where

discussion and response was required and where the deadline for response was prior to the next meeting date.

- (iii) **Bridgnorth West and Tasley Ward By-Election:** Councillors noted that a by-election had been held in the ward on 6th October 2022 following the death of Cllr L Winwood. Cllr S McDermott advised Councillors that he had questioned the candidates on their position relating to the proposed Taylor Wimpey development proposals for farmland in Tasley and noted that the Labour and Conservative both replied that they would oppose it. Councillors noted the by-election was won by the Labour Party candidate.
- (iv) **Morville Telephone Box:** Cllr S McDermott expressed appreciation on behalf of the Council to Cllr D Gibson for replacing the broken glass in the phone box.

22.82 CLERK'S REPORT

- (i) **Communications to Parish Council in Relation to Highways Works:** The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that he had received contact from Laura Howells at Shropshire Council where she advised that she had assumed the role of coordinating communications on highways works including works by utility companies. This is with the aim of providing details of upcoming street works within the parish to allow time to consider and feedback on any impact that need to be considered.
- (ii) confirmed that feedback was awaited from the Solicitor to the clause amendment.
- (iii) **Draft Minutes on Council Website:** The Locum Clerk had noted recent discussion amongst Councillors over the necessity to place draft Minutes on the Council website in view of subsequent amendments. The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that the Parish Council was required to place draft Minutes on the website and it was confirmed that where amendments are made, the updated version is placed on the site.

22.83 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Councillors noted there had been no further progress in filling the vacant seat for Morville.

22.84 COST OF LIVING CRISIS

Councillors considered the potential to support parish residents in the current cost of living crisis. The discussion was led by Councillors J Davey and P Yuille.

Cllr J Davey noted his understanding that the support mechanisms being put in place were greater than previously understood. Some of the organisations providing support are working face to face with people requiring advice and support.

Councillors noted the dynamics of the parish and its emphasis on farming where workers experience particular challenges. Councillors agreed that talking to other groups would benefit a better understanding across the parish.

Councillors agreed that the topic of the crisis remain a standing item for future meetings.

Cllr P Yuille advised Councillors that she attended a zoom session hosted by Shropshire Council which covered the areas of support including financial and wellbeing and the organisations which were in place to support residents in Shropshire. Cllr P Yuille advised Councillors that she had taken the details of the respective organisations, including their contact details and had shared the with fellow Councillors. Councillors noted that a key role of Parish Councils is to function as signpost to Shropshire Council and the support

organisations as they are best placed to provide support. In terms of providing “warm hubs,” Councillors noted that an approach had been made to Morville Village Hall Chair, but that a response had been received that the facility was not available due to the number of bookings currently in place.

Cllrs J Davey and P Yuille proposed they function as first respondent on behalf of the Parish Council to requests for information or support from residents which was agreed by Councillors. Councillors agreed that support information be provided by the Parish Council via the Council’s website, social media and the parish newsletter. Councillors agreed the importance of getting the message across to residents including via the school and church as it was noted that older residents may not get the message due to lack of access to the internet.

Councillors noted and agreed the importance of the Foodbank at Bridgnorth where volunteers were required to assist. Cllr J Davey noted the seriousness of the situation where he had been advised that even members of the Police required use of the Foodbank. Councillors agreed to continually communicate and disseminate the message across the parish.

22.85 ENVIRONMENTAL MAINTENANCE

The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that following negotiations with Shropshire Council, he had been advised that Shropshire Council would provide the environmental maintenance grant up to £1,500 if the Parish Council applied.

Councillors noted the position that had previously been adopted within the Parish Council but in light of this further information the merits of taking the grant were reconsidered.

Proposed by Cllr A Pitchers, seconded by Cllr J Davey and it was resolved that the Parish Council apply for the full grant of £1,500 and that the Locum Clerk submit the application on behalf of the Parish Council.

22.86 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- (i) Councillors noted and considered application 22/04045/FUL relating to the proposed camp site West of Hurst Farm, Morville. Concerns were shared in relation to access to and from the site and the physical impact on the locality.

Proposed by Cllr A Pitchers, seconded by Cllr P Yuille and it was resolved via a recorded vote with Cllrs L Moxon-Jones, S McDermott, A Pitchers and P Yuille in objection with Cllrs G Brown and J Davey abstaining and that the Parish Council respond to the application with its objections concerning highways issues, environmental concerns and size of the site.

- (ii) Councillors noted the appeal to the Planning Inspector in relation to the proposed erection of a wedding dress and accessories shop and associated access and car parking area at proposed Bridal Shop at Upper Meadowley, Upton Cressett that had been refused by Shropshire Council. Councillors agreed that no comment be expressed.
- (iii) Councillors noted the decisions by Shropshire Council to grant permission to (i) erection of oak framed 2 bay carport adjoining existing garage gable end at The Olde Vicarage, Monkhopton; (ii) erection of single storey rear extension at Brookside, 51 Acton Round,

Bridgnorth; and the refusal to the proposed residential development land North of B4368 at Beacon Hill, Monkhopton.

22.87 COUNCILLOR EMAILS

The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that he had received feedback from all Councillors and whilst there were variations in the requirements stated, he would work with the IT support provider to satisfy these.

22.88 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that work continues to address new online access to the bank accounts. The Locum Clerk presented to Councillors a list of invoices currently awaiting payment or refunding. Councillors noted that further invoices needed to be added to the list.

Councillors noted the priority in paying a couple of invoices within the list.

Proposed by Cllr S McDermott, seconded by Cllr J Davey and it was resolved that the Locum Clerk arrange settlement of the required invoices.

22.89 INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

22.90 PARISH MATTERS

Cllr S McDermott advised Councillors that Cllr D Gibson continued to share his concerns over the situation at an adjoining owner's barns. It was agreed that this matter be deferred to the next meeting when the Councillor can be present to address his own concerns.

Cllr L Moxon-Jones expressed concern over the possible continued use of the firm dealing with the previous Clerk's tax obligations. The Locum Clerk advised he was checking this out. Councillors noted that an invoice would be received for the Village Hall bookings.

22.91 FUTURE MEETINGS

Cllr S McDermott noted with Councillors the list of future meeting dates in 2023 for the Council. These have been agreed as (i) 9th January (ii); 13th March; (iii) 8th May (Annual Council Meeting; (iv) 15th May (Annual Parish Meeting); (v) 10th July; (vi) 11th September; (vii) 13th November.

Cllr S McDermott advised that he would book the Village Hall for these dates.

22.92 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- (i) Budget/Precept Requirements
- (ii) Locum Clerk to be advised of any items to be added.

22.93 NEXT MEETING

14th November 2022 at 7:00pm.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:32pm.

Appendix 1: Shropshire Councillor's Report for October 10th 2022

Please can you give my apologies for not attending this evening's meeting.

I have one item to report:

1. I was reported to the Standards Conduct at Shirehall by a resident of Monkhopton who took exception to my not opposing the planning application to open an access onto the B4368. His complaint was dismissed.

Best wishes,

Robert Tindall

Shropshire Councillor for the Brown Cleve Electoral Division

Appendix 2: Chairman's Report for October 10th 2022

Because Morville PC has generally met every two months, it is sometimes the case that meetings do not fall within the 31 day opportunity for the PC to comment on a planning application. The previous councillors had introduced the practice of conferring by email to decide on PC comments, but Anthony has recently circulated a document covering planning application procedure, which makes it clear that this is not (and never has been) legally acceptable.

The PC can only agree to comment on applications at a properly called meeting that the public can attend.

In the future, if a significant planning application cannot be discussed at a previously scheduled meeting within 31 days, it may be necessary to call an extra meeting, or perhaps ask Shropshire Council for an extension to the 31 day period.

The by-election for the Bridgnorth West and Tasley Ward of Shropshire Council was held on October 6th - this was called because of the death of Cllr. Les Winwood. Cllr. Winwood had been a strong opponent of the Taylor Wimpey development proposals for farmland in Tasley and had voted against his party to oppose it. I took the opportunity to ask each of the candidates for the election about their position regarding this matter, and the Labour and Conservative candidates each replied that they would vote against the adoption of the Draft Local Plan if it included the Tasley proposals. The election was won by Rachel Connolly, the Labour Party candidate. I am sure we can rely on her support in opposing the Tasley development.

Finally, our thanks to David Gibson for replacing the broken glass in the Morville phone box.

For Agenda Item 22/91:

I have circulated suggested dates for the council meetings in 2023.

They are: January 9th, March 13th, May 8th (Annual Council Meeting), May 15th (Annual Parish Meeting), July 10th, September 11th, November 13th.

If councillors approve, I will book the Village Hall for these dates, and post them on the PC Website and on Facebook.

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Chairman

14th November 2022