

THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MORVILLE PARISH MEETING HELD ON 16TH MAY 2022 AT 7.30PM AT MORVILLE VILLAGE HALL

1. WELCOME

Mr S McDermott, Chairman of the Council, welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting for 2022.

2. PRESENT

Mr S McDermott (Chair), Locum Clerk C Maclean, PC A Boardman from the Police and 15 Parishioners.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr J Cantrill, Mr A Pitchers and Shropshire Councillor Mr R Tindall.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8th November 2021 were approved and it was resolved that the Chairman sign these as a true record.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr S McDermott, Parish Council Chairman, highlighted some key events from the previous year.

5.1 COVID

Following the relaxation of the restrictions meetings could now take place in person.

5.2 Previous Council Administration

It was noted that seven Councillors resigned their positions in November 2021 followed by the resignation of the Clerk who left the Council in December 2021.

Recruitment of new Councillors has had some success and at the time of the meeting there remained two vacancies. Filling of the Councillor positions to date has been achieved through a combination of elections (uncontested) and co-option.

Locum assistance has been provided to cover the Clerk role.

5.3 Draft Local Plan

Focus within the Council and the parish has been on Shropshire Council Draft Local Plan. Particular concerns relate to the proposed development at Tasley which appears to overspill into the Morville parish.

Morville is one of 700 consultees and the parish council is holding back from specific comment until Stage 2 of the process takes place.

5.4 School Playing Field Licence

Research has identified that the licence relating to the school playing field is due for renewal in August.

Concerns have been raised in relation to responsibility for maintenance of the field and it appears that the parish council has been paying for this for at least eight years when it should sit with the school.

Safeguarding concerns also exist over access to the playing field during school hours and to address this the gates are locked.

The condition of the play equipment suggest that it would best be removed.

5.5 **Defibrillators**

It was noted that there are two defibrillators in the parish. The unit in Morville telephone box is maintained by the Village Hall Committee whilst the unit in Monkhopton is the responsibility of the Parish Council.

The telephone box at Monkhopton which houses the unit has been refurbished and thanks were expressed to Mr D Gibson Mrs L Moxon-Jones for their efforts.

5.6 **Council Social Media**

The Council's Facebook is being well used and the website has been refreshed and being kept up to date. Thanks were expressed to Ms P Yuille for her efforts on the refresh of the website.

6. **SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLORS REPORT**

In acknowledging the absence of Shropshire Councillor Mr R Tindall, the following points were noted as part of his brief.

6.1 **New Shropshire Council Leader**

It was noted that following the election, a new leader had been installed. Ms L Picton had been elected as Leader of the administration.

6.2 **Tasley Housing Development Proposals**

Following Mr Tindall's objection to the planning application by Taylor Wimpey to develop a large number of homes on the Tasley site he had lost his seat on Shropshire Council's Southern Planning Committee.

6.3 **Roads**

A number of B roads within the parish have been repaired.

Plans are in place to install 40mph speed limit at Weston.

6.4 **Acton Arms, Morville**

The proposed development of a number of homes adjacent to the Acton Arms in Morville was noted.

7. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

7.1 The Locum Clerk advised the following for the financial year 2021-2022:

Opening Balance at 1 April 2021 £14,741.28

Receipts £7,600.05

Payments £12,243.84

Closing Balance at 31 March 2022 £10,097.49

7.2 The Council has no loans or debts. There have been no S137 payments.

7.3 The precept for the year 2022-2023 was increased to £18,000. At the time the Precept was being agreed by Councillors, the costs relation to the elections within the parish had not been advised and a worst case scenario had to be assumed to prevent the Parish Council experiencing financial difficulties. The subsequent notification of lower costs than expected will enable the Parish Council to hold adequate reserves.

8. **POLICE**

PC A Boardman was thanked for taking the time to attend. A number of parish matters were discussed.

8.1 **Police Charter**

Discussion took place on the priorities for the parish.

It was considered appropriate to combine rural property theft with wildlife crime and include speeding within the charter.

8.2 **Team Resources**

Team currently up to strength.

Residents were reminded of the importance of reporting incidents direct to the Police as the team cannot rely upon the social media channels which appear to be used.

8.3 **Crime**

Residents were advised that there had not been any reports of wildlife crime in previous two months. That included hunting.

Mr G Brown advised of his understanding that there had been incidents of diesel theft from farms in February.

Residents were advised that drones and electric bikes are used by the Police in attempts to deal with incidents.

8.4 **Smartwater**

A resident enquired whether Smartwater was considered to be effective. PC Boardman advised that having this was better than no protection or recording of personal items.

9. **PARISHIONERS BUSINESS**

A resident questioned the amount of time it was taking to install the 40mph speed limit at Weston. She was advised that this was a matter for Shropshire Council Highways and outside the scope of the Parish Council who also continued to push for this through the Ward Councillor.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8:53pm.

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Chairman

15 May 2023