

0St Martins Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held by (Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform) of the St Martins Parish Council on Thursday 14th January 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs, Sophie Hughes-Saunier, Fatema Kapasi, Duncan Laing, Nina Mistry, Glenn Pennington, Lesley-Anne Roberts, Paula Rooney, Natalie Rowley, Pierre Saunier, Sue Schofield and Helen Williams.

Also in attendance: Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport and The Parish Clerk.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

001/01/21.C Apologies for Absence

Cllr Andrew Cast (stuck in France).

Proposed, seconded and carried that this apology is accepted.

Absent Cllr's Brian Herbert and John Hodgson.

After the meeting an apology was received from Cllr Mark Hayball.

002/01/21.C Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- a) Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting and which is not included in the register of interests. **None received.**
- b) To consider any applications for dispensation. **None received.**
- c) Declaration of any other interests in the agenda items. **None received.**

003/01/21.C Minutes

Proposed: Cllr Nina Mistry **Seconded:** Cllr Lesley-Anne Roberts

Resolved: with two abstentions, that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting (Virtual) held on Thursday 10th December 2020 having been previously circulated be confirmed as a correct record and adopted. Due to current Covid-19 restrictions authority was given for them to be signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.

004/01/21.C Urgent Items

There were no urgent items that related to financial, health and safety issues or issues that required immediate attention.

005/01/21.C Public Session

There were no members of the public present.

Action

Chairman

006/01/21.C Parish Clerk's Progress Report.

The Parish Clerk reported that the damaged bus shelter on Ellesmere Road had been removed for safety grounds and would have to be replaced with a new one. The handyman had removed the rubbish from the rear of Stan's, this area now needs to be monitored against future fly tipping.

Reports of overturned roadside grit bins and damage to the access slabs to the post box in Moors Lane have been reported to highways.

The Parish Clerk said that all other matters were covered in the agenda.

007/01/21.C Recreation Partnership

Cllr Paula Rooney reported on recent meetings she had had with representatives from the School and Football Club. Now working on a draft Business Plan.

As regards Section 106 funding, Richard Knight Shropshire Council's Countryside Maintenance Manager, had reported that two payments of £43,806.00 & £45,478.00 had been cleared and paid into the parish account.

008/01/21.C Land Adjacent to Garden Village

Cllr's were asked to consider the current variation to the Section 106 agreement ref 20/01262/VAR106 as requested by Nick Scott of Pickstock Homes. The Parish Clerk had presented a report on this.

It was agreed that Pickstock Homes should honour their agreement that residents of this estate, who were aware of the provision to provide play facilities on this development. We have established that all new property owners have had an information pack/form which states that there will be charges relating to their property, not yet set up by Pickstock Homes. A management company would be set up to look after all aspects relating to roads, footpaths, car parks, and public open spaces. This should not be a pre confirmed decision, that the Parish Council would take on Public Open Spaces under S.106 agreement, only that it could be offered to The Parish Council for maintenance, if the PC wishes to take it on, which they resolved not to.

Therefore, Pickstock Homes will have to ask all the residents if they wish to have play equipment provided, which they as a management company would maintain, and insure as part of their management responsibilities. It isn't up to The Parish Council to ask them.

Parish Clerk

009/01/21.C Proposed Residential Development Land at Rhosyllan Farm, St Martins

Cllr's were asked to consider the S106 agreement relating to the proposed conditions to the Public Open Space (POS) and footpath through this development. Ref 19/03995.

Action

After discussing in great detail whether the parish council should take on the responsibility of the recreational land and public open spaces, including the footpath at the above development, it was agreed that;

Firstly, taking the proposed footpath that runs inside the development and adjacent to Overton Road, although the parish council supports this, they resolved not to take on the responsibility for this but this should be included in the management company's agreement with the residents on this development for future maintenance.

Parish Clerk

However as regards the Public Open Space, including a footpath that runs parallel to the gas mains pipe, they would consider this subject to clarification on a number of points.

Parish Clerk

This includes have the gas board been contacted and given assurances that they are happy with trees being planted on either side of the gas main (concern over tree roots) and would this whole area be levelled, planted with trees and shrubs and grassed over before being handed over for future maintenance.

010/01/21.C Shropshire Council Local Plan

No further updates from the following report at the December meeting, which is;

Parish Clerk

Eddie West, Shropshire Council's Interim Planning Policy and Strategy Manager had reported as follows; As a point of clarification, the recently published Regulation 19 Draft Local Plan (to be considered by Cabinet on Monday 7th Dec) includes both SMH031 – land east of Moors Bank, and SMH038 – land at the former Ifton Primary School is included as site allocations.

With regard to land to the rear of Stans on the playing fields (SMH024), whilst I do understand that the Parish Council has expressed support for this site's inclusion, Shropshire Council must take this site through the site assessment process and weigh up a number of considerations, which in this case includes the overall scale of growth for the village and the need to relocate the sports pitches.

As things stand the proposed development boundary for the settlement excludes both Stans and the playing fields from the Draft Local Plan. There is potential for the Council to consider moving Stans store within the development boundary as a minor modification to the Plan before it submits the Plan to the Government for examination (proposed for next April) if there are views expressed through the upcoming consultation to this end.

011/01/21.C Highway Issues

The road surface that was repaired by Severn Trent by the bus stop adjacent to No. 2 Alberta Villas which had sunk causing noise to adjacent properties when vehicles go over this area and after rain this area floods causing spray to cover the front of No.2 Alberta Villas, has now been repaired by Shropshire Council. All other highway issues have been reported and logged on the highways system.

012/01/21.C	Public Footpaths/Rights of Way	Cllr's Sophie Hughes-Saunier and Pierre Saunier will continue to carry out surveys on all the Rights of Way (ROW) footpaths through the parish when COVID-19 restrictions allow. Any defects on stiles etc. or obstructions are being forwarded to Shropshire Council's ROW officer.	<u>Action</u> Cllr's Sophie Hughes- Saunier and Pierre Saunier																												
013/01/21.C	Street Lighting	The street light at the top of Trevor Avenue has now been converted to a part time night cell.	Parish Clerk																												
014/01/21.C	VAS	The Parish Clerk reported that all four signs are now working although the volume of traffic and lack of sunlight does result in some of them not working at times. Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport questioned whether the solar panels were big enough and agreed to look into this and report back.	Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport																												
015/01/21.C	Broadband	Cllr Nina Mistry reported that she had contacted Shropshire Council and Openreach to see what further action can be taken with regard to the poor broadband speed in the parish. Hopefully this can be resolved with one solution being connecting to Airband but further investigation and costs were now being looked at.	Cllr's Nina Mistry & Natalie Rowley																												
016/01/21.C	Financial Matters	016/01/21.C Accounts for payment;	Parish Clerk																												
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	Proposed: Cllr Duncan Laing	Seconded: Cllr Nina Mistry																													
	Resolved that the above payments be agreed in accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.																														

Action**017/01/21.C Budget 2021/22**

The Parish Clerk had carried out a considerable amount of work on these figures which he presented to Members. He then explained his proposals for the budget for 2020/21 going through each cost centre.

Proposed: Cllr Helen Williams **Seconded:** Cllr Nina Mistry

Resolved: **with 1 abstention to recommend to Council a budget for 2021/22 of £53,707.**

Parish Clerk

018/01/21.C Precept 2021/22

The Parish Clerk explained that Shropshire Council had advised that in order to show a 0% increase in the Band D Council Tax charge for our parish on the 2021/22 Council Tax Demand Notices our Council's precept requirement for 2021/22 would need to be £53,707 compared to £54,554 requested in 2020/21. Between 2020/21 and 2021/22 our Council's Council Tax tax base has decreased by -1.55%.

Proposed: Cllr Helen Williams **Seconded:** Cllr Glenn Pennington

Resolved: **to recommend a budget for 2021/22 of £53,707.**

Parish Clerk

019/01/21.C Planning

To consider any new planning applications received since the last meeting.

Reference: 20/05087/FUL (validated: 05/01/2021)

Address: Broadoak, Mount Bradford Lane, St Martins, Oswestry, Shropshire,

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension

Parish Council Decision: Raise no objections.

Parish Clerk

Reference: 20/04913/FUL (validated: 09/12/2020)

Address: Proposed Stable and Living Accommodation at New House Farm, Pen-Y-Bryn, St Martins, Shropshire

Proposal: Erection of stables with living accommodation above and installation of septic tank.

Parish Council Decision: Support this application.

Parish Clerk

Reference: 20/02248/FUL

Address: School House, Overton Road, Ifton Heath, St Martins, SY11 3DH.

Proposal: Erection of 35 dwelling units and associated operational development following demolition of existing school buildings and retention of the former schoolhouse as a single dwelling (amended description)

Parish Council Decision: Cllr's supported the amended plans which included changes they had requested which included reducing the number of units to 35, change of design and type of the units facing Overton Road and the retention of the School House.

Parish Clerk

However, a number of issues were raised which they wish to bring to the planning officer's attention for further consideration before they complete their report which the parish council hope will go to the Local Area Planning Committee. These are as follows;

- There are no plans or mitigation measures in the form of acoustic barriers planned to reduce the background noise levels north of the site from Ridgway Rentals Plant Hire. Do you have a report on the noise impact assessment and a Health & Safety report?
- Concern from a highways point of view on access to the site, traffic calming and signage. At one stage it was suggested that refuge areas were put in and the 30mph area extended. There is also only a very narrow footpath on the opposite side of the road to this entrance. In addition, has a pollution test been carried out in this area?
- We can see no firm reasons or justification given on why the school building can-not be retained. This is highlighted in the latest (6th January 2021) report from Shropshire Council Historic Environment Development Services. Have you visited the site and had access to the school building?
- As a result of the bat survey what are your conclusions please?

Schedule of additional planning applications

To comment on planning applications not listed above that are received after the date of publication of this agenda due to response time frames set by Shropshire Council.

There were none.

The following planning decisions and recommendations of the planning authority listed in the schedule below were noted;

Reference: 20/04064/OUT (validated: 14/10/2020)

Address: Proposed Dwelling To The NE Of Ash Grove, Overton Road, St Martins, Shropshire

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of a dwelling to include access, appearance, layout and scale

Decision: Withdrawn

Reference: 20/03671/FUL (validated: 23/09/2020)

Address: Rhos Y Llan Cottage , Overton Road, St Martins, SY11 3ER

Proposal: Erection of a garage/work shop

Decision: Refuse

020/01/21.C Shropshire Association of Local Councils (SALC)

All correspondence received from the County Secretary had been previously been circulated to all Cllr's. Cllr's Natalie Rowley and Sue Schofield had requested to attend a training session on Fundamentals for Councillors. This was agreed.

Parish
Clerk

Action

8.30 pm Cllr Glenn Pennington left the meeting.

8.30 pm Cllr Natalie Rowley joined the meeting who said she had been trying to join the meeting since 7.30 pm

021/01/21.C Shropshire Council Free Tree Scheme.

An order for up to 5 bundles of hedgerow mix (minimum order allowed) had been submitted to Alison Hosker, Shropshire Council's Arboricultural Technician. It was agreed to plant the 5 bundles of hedgerow mix along the grass verge on either side of the railings on the entrance to St Martins School. Shropshire Councillor Steve Davenport agreed to this and would contact the school.

Parish Clerk & Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport

022/01/21.C Highway Improvements.

Still no update from Paul Field-Williams at Shropshire Council who is leading on the CIL commission for St Martin's roundabout. Cllr's along with Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport are getting very frustrated that design work has not been released.

Parish Clerk & Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport

023/01/21.C Shropshire Climate Action Partnership

Cllr Sophie Hughes-Saunier reported on the Shropshire Climate Action Partnership. A draft zero carbon policy has now been released by Shropshire Council. She also reported her concerns over the amount of rubbish being dumped along the highway grass verges and hedges especially in Cottage Lane where they had recently carried out two litter picks. Dog poo bags were being thrown into hedge rows. Cllr Nina Mistry agreed to add these concerns to Facebook.

Cllr Nina Mistry

At 9.00 pm it was proposed by Cllr Nina Mistry, seconded by Cllr Lesley-Anne Roberts that Standing Orders are suspended.

On the subject of litter, Cllr Nina Mistry said that until recently the residents of St Martins were very happy with the refuse collection service carried out on a Monday in St Martins. However, whether this was a result of a crew change, but we are receiving complaints over the amount of re-cycling rubbish that is being dropped after the collection has been done from the boxes. Veolia would be contacted to look into this as a matter of urgency and advise us what action they intend to take to resolve this issue.

Parish Clerk

024/01/21.C Members Reports

Cllr Lesley-Anne Roberts said she was receiving numerous complaints from residents over flooding in Oak Drive St Martins. This is caused by a blocked drain outside the block of 7 garages. Unfortunately, every time the council go to unblock this drain, they cannot gain access to it due to a van parked over it which belongs to the owner at Rhosyllan House, next to the garage in Overton Road. The police and Highways would be contacted.

Parish Clerk

Cllr Nina Mistry reported that previously reported pot holes are now getting bigger and dangerous in Moors Lane, St Martins. Highways would be contacted.

Parish Clerk

025/01/21.C

Next Meeting(s)

Cllrs approved the meeting schedule for 2021.

The next meeting - Full council (**VIRTUAL**) will be held on Thursday 11th February 2021 @ 19.00.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.10

Signed Date

Action

Chairman