

St Martins Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the St Martins Parish Council held on Thursday 9th June 2022 at 7.00 p.m. in St Martins Village Hall.

PRESENT: Cllrs, Andrew Cast, Vivienne Fisher, Mark Hayball, Sophie Hughes-Saunier, Duncan Laing, Alan Langley, Glenn Pennington, Lesley-Anne Roberts, Sue Schofield, and Helen Williams.

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

130/06/22.C Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr's Neil Arthan (holiday), John Hodgson (self-isolating), Natalie Rowley (working) and George Smith (away on business).

Proposed, seconded and carried that these apologies are accepted.

Cllr Nina Mistry was absent.

131/06/22.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.**

132/06/22.C Minutes

Proposed: Cllr Glenn Pennington **Seconded:** Cllr Sophie Hughes- Saunier

Resolved: that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 12th May 2022 having been previously circulated be approved and adopted as a true record.

133/06/22.C Urgent Items

The Parish Clerk reported on an email he had received today from Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council on a motion approved at their meeting last night.

“To plant an avenue of trees between St Martins and Gobowen along the B5069 Moors Bank to commemorate the platinum Jubilee – a unique event possibly not to occur again for numerous generations. The planting will enhance both the treescape and landscape of the parish and the wider area and will support the Parish Council’s adoption and recognition of the climate emergency. The Parish Council will be seen to be taking positive and lasting steps to remove carbon from the atmosphere.

A potential joint activity between St Martins and Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council.”

Action

Parish Clerk

Chairman

Action

Although the proposed land falls within the Selattyn and Gobowen parish, it was recognised that any avenue of trees along this road would also have a significant impact on the landscape and treescape of the parish of St Martins. Selattyn and Gobowen PC therefore invite St Martins Parish Council to be involved in the project as a joint activity between the two Councils.

If St Martins PC accept the invitation to be involved in this project as a joint activity, it would be helpful if two or three Councillors could be nominated as members of the working party.

Resolved: to support this project with Cllr's Sophie Hughes-Saunier and Sue Schofield being appointed to their working party.

Parish Clerk

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

At this point it was proposed, seconded and agreed to bring forward agenda item 141/06/22.C

141/06/22.C Audit of Accounts

These accounts, Audit Report and Statements had been circulated to all Cllr's prior to the meeting.

141/06/1/22.C Internal Audit

Cllrs noted the report and comments from the Internal Auditor. No actions were required.

141/06/2/22.C Annual Governance Statement

Proposed: Cllr Duncan Laing **Seconded:** Cllr Sue Schofield

Resolved: To approve the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 of the Annual Return). for the financial year ending 31st March 2022.

Parish Clerk

141/06/3/22.C Accounting Statements

Proposed: Cllr Duncan Laing **Seconded:** Cllr Sue Schofield

Resolved: To approve the Accounting Statements (Section 2 of the Annual Return) for the financial year ending 31st March 2022.

Parish Clerk

The Chairman and Cllr's thanked the Parish Clerk for his work on the accounts during the year.

134/06/22.C Public Session

No members of the public were present.

135/06/22.C Parish Clerk's Progress Report

- **Hanging Baskets.** The Chairman had agreed a contract with Mark Birch and Nicole Chilves to water the hanging baskets this year, including plants in the memorial garden and planters by the miners bench and school.
- **Pinfold.** Shropshire Council's Senior Conservation Officer & Technical Specialist is to visit the Pinfold and advise on what remedial action is required.
- **War Memorial.** A pre-application form has been submitted to the War Memorials Trust as the start point in applying for a grant towards work required.
- **Cedar Close.** Request received for the hedge next to Churchfields to be cut back.
- **Streetlight.** Request received for an additional streetlight in Garden Village.
- **Speed Indicator Devices.** An investigation will be requested from Morelock Signs on the reasons why these devices seem to experience intermittent breaks in power including the position of the one on Overton Road.

136/06/22.C Police Report

PCSO Peter Roberts had sent his apologies. The latest police incident report had been circulated to all Cllr's. Concerns were expressed that vehicles were still parking on pavements and that this was not a traffic offence. Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport had also expressed concern over these issues with their Enforcement Team. He added that he had also contacted Shropshire Council with regard to the dangerous parking of their staff at Ifton School House and that there was insufficient parking on site for the majority of their staff.

137/06/22.C St Martins Recreation Partnership

Tessa Lanstein from Coombe Management Services, the appointed Programme Manager for this Partnership had forwarded the following report.

- Iain Hill-Trevor is keen to finalise the land transfer via a 999yr leasehold agreement. His solicitors are ready to receive a first draft document. The production of this first draft is being completed by the School Trust and their legal advisors, no update on progress at this stage.
- Iain confirmed that he was supportive of the School Trust taking the lead for the development project and the ongoing operational maintenance of the recreation site.
- Iain also reinforced the need for the westerly "Moors Bank buffer strip return" to be part of the leasehold agreement.

This land is currently leased by the School Trust from Shropshire Council; the land being sold to Shropshire Council by the Brynkinalt Estate nearly 50 years ago. The school Trust advises that the Department of Education take considerable time to process these types of transactions. The leasehold agreement will need to reference the agreed transfer of ownership, but the implementation of transfer will need to play out over several years.

The School Trust and the Football Foundation have also met via Team Meets:

- School Trust gained sufficient information / comfort from the meeting to take on the lead role for the Project
- Football Foundation provided updated documentation
- Next step would be for School Trust to sign the Joint Agreement FF form, but leasehold agreement needs to be finalised to ensure all utility wayleaves / access permissions etc are in place.

In summary, the Project is now well aligned on the “how” and the “who” which is positive after so many weeks of uncertainty of approach; the leasehold document is now key to moving forward and I am chasing the school Trust for information / progress on a weekly basis.

138/06/22.C St Martins Branch Doctors Surgery

It had been established through the Land Registry that two retired Doctors from Chirk Surgery do own the property in St Martins. However, Cllr's expressed concern over a number of false statements received from the Practice Manager from Chirk Surgery on why they had decided to close this branch surgery after we had put a case forward that it should remain open. It was agreed that the parish council should investigate the possibility of purchasing the building known as “The Surgery” on behalf of the community and to be retained as a community asset.

Parish
Clerk

139/06/22.C Highway Issues

All recent highway issues are now being reported via Shropshire Council's Highways department at Whittington and then logged on their 'Fixmystreet'

140/06/22.C Financial Matters

140/06/01/22.C Accounts for payment;

BACS	E Davies	Salary & Expenses	£878.20
BACS	HMRC	Month 11 PAYE & NI	£255.26
BACS	Nigel Thomas	Play Area Inspections	£36.00
BACS	Huw Manford	Litter Picking, etc.	£317.81
BACS	Audit Solutions	Internal Audit	£276.00
BACS	Neil Rheade	Baskets & Planters	£1240.00
BACS	Cllr S Hughes-Saunier	Plaque	£62.40
BACS	GW Shelter Solutions	Bus Shelter Repairs	£1754.86
BACS	Surrey Hills Solicitors	Professional Fees 3G Pitch	£924.00

Proposed: Cllr Duncan Laing **Seconded:** Cllr Glenn Pennington

Resolved **that the above payments be agreed in accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.**

Action

Parish Clerk

140/06/22.C Insurance

The parish clerk reported that he had received the following quotations for our insurance cover, Gallagher (Came & Co) £1932.90 and BHIB £1079.71.

Cllrs questioned the large difference in quotations and suggested the parish clerk contacts Gallagher to question this and ensure that the BHIB covers the same schedule as Gallagher. If this was the same,

Proposed: Cllr Duncan Laing **Seconded:** Cllr Sue Schofield

Resolved **with one abstention and one vote against that the parish clerk has delegated powers after consultation with the Chairman and Chairman of Finance to cancel the Gallagher cover and take out a new policy with BHIB.**

Parish Clerk

142/06/22.C Street Lighting

Highline Electrical had been asked to provide a quotation for an additional streetlight in Garden Village. Still outstanding issues with streetlights owned by Shropshire Council.

Parish Clerk

143/06/22.C Planning

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

Reference: 22/01997/OUT (validated: 27/04/2022)

Address: Proposed Dwelling To The East Of, Puddle Lane, St Martins, Shropshire

Proposal: Outline application (all matters reserved) for the erection of one single storey dwelling with creation of access (off Puddle Lane)

Parish Council Decision: Object, over development of the area.

Parish Clerk

Reference: 22/02008/FUL (validated: 27/04/2022)

Address: 42 Moors Bank, St Martins, Shropshire, SY10 7BG

Proposal: Erection of front extension

Parish Council Decision: Support

Parish Clerk

Schedule of additional planning applications

There were none.

Schedule of planning decisions

There had been no planning decisions and recommendations of the planning authority since the last meeting.

144/06/22.C Shropshire Council

Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport reported that he had now received an update on the CIL funded project in St Martins. Taking on board concerns from the local community the footprint of the roundabout has been increased and will extend over the verge area with large overrun areas for the HGV's. The swept path analysis has been done so that large HGV's can take every exit which was also a concern brought up at the parish meeting. WSP are completing the detailed/construction design currently as part of that Kier will be engaged so they can contribute and cost the scheme. He added that we are now back to where we started but with another scheme being looked at. Cllr Sue Schofield suggested they should consult local businesses in the area who operate HGVs through the village.

Cllr Steve Davenport

Steve added that he was taking on board the recent tree planting issues and arranging a date for the LJC to meet,

Cllr Sue Schofield expressed concern over the recent standard of grass cutting through the village.

Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport left the meeting at 8.17 pm.

145/06 /22.C Shropshire Association of Local Councils (SALC)

All correspondence received from the County Secretary had been previously circulated to all Cllr's. The next meeting of the Area Committee will be held on Monday 10th June.

146/06/22.C North Shropshire MP Helen Morgan

Cllr Vivienne Fisher reported that MP Helen Morgan had recently met with the Oswestry Health Group. Future meetings had been set quarterly, Cllr Vivienne Fisher felt these should be monthly and agreed to follow this up.

Cllr Vivienne Fisher

147/06/22.C Ifton School Development

There had been no further meetings on this development

148/06/22.C Oswestry - Gobowen Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC)

Cllrs were requested to comment on benefits or otherwise to our constituents, such as improved access to the RJAH Orthopaedic Hospital, following an email circulated on the 25th May 2022. Their only comment was could they possibly forward us a smaller version of around 200 words as they found it most difficult to digest.

Parish Clerk

Action

149/06/22.C Shropshire Council’s draft revised housing allocations policy and scheme

Cllrs noted the above policy following an email circulated on the 25th May 2022.

150/06/22.C Save Our Shropshire

Cllr Sophie Hughes-Saunier reported that there had been no recent meeting of the Working Group appointed to the Climate & Ecological declaration procedure for St Martins.

151/06/22.C Members Reports

Cllr’s expressed concern that no-one in the village had witnessed the removal of BT cabling.

Parish Clerk

Cllr Sue Schofield asked if we could look at a policy of notices being put up in the parish council notice boards.

Parish Clerk

Cllr Alan Langley expressed concern over the speed of traffic in the early morning and late afternoon on Ellesmere Road in the area around the junction of School Lane.

Parish Clerk

Cllr Sophie Hughes-Saunier reported recent incidents of vehicles again parking on the pavement outside The Keys PH.

Parish Clerk

Cllr Glenn Pennington requested that the hedge adjacent to the footpath in Garden Village adjacent to the play area is cut.

Parish Clerk

152/06/22.C Next Meeting

Full Council meeting on Thursday 14th July 2022 @ 19.00 in St Martins Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed at 20.34.

Signed

Date

Chairman