

St Martins Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the St Martins Parish Council held on Thursday 13th February 2020 at 7.00 p.m. in St Martins Centre.

PRESENT: Cllrs A. Cast, G. Fryer, M. Hayball, B. Herbert, J. Hodgson, S. Hughes-Saunier, Cllr D Laing, G. Pennington, L. Roberts, P. Saunier, J. Stevens and H. Williams.

Also in attendance: Shropshire Cllr S. Davenport, Clerk, Edward Davies, and the Locum Clerk, Lydia Bardsley.

Members of public: 1

Chair: Helen Williams

270/02/20.C	<p>Chairman's welcome The chair welcomed everyone present, and opened the meeting. Special welcome to returning clerk Edward Davies, and thanked the locum clerk.</p>	Chair
271/02/20.C	<p>Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs N. Mistry (childcare), and F. Kapasi (illness), J. Hoos (unavailable) It was <u>RESOLVED</u> that these apologies be accepted. It was noted that Cllr Laing had been unable to attend the previous couple of meetings due to work commitments.</p>	
272/02/20.C	<p>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests No interests declared No other Disclosable Pecuniary Interests were received on any agenda items in accordance with Sections 50-52, Local Government Act 2000 and The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (England) Act 2001 and no applications for dispensations were received.</p>	
273/02/20.C	<p>Minutes Proposed: Cllr A Cast Seconded: Cllr L Roberts Resolved: with 1 abstention that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 9th January 2020 having been previously circulated be confirmed as a correct record, signed by the Chairman and adopted.</p>	Chair
274/02/20.C	<p>Public Participation No comments were raised.</p>	
275/02/20.C	<p>Urgent Items 1. Hedge along Overton Road by new estate. Cllrs Williams, Pennington, and Stevens had met to discuss the long-standing issues with un-maintained hedges along Overton Road. The hedge was so overgrown that sharp branches were sticking out at eye level which was difficult to see in the dark, so the councillors felt it was important to take action sooner rather than later. They had agreed to ask Huw Manford to trim back the hedge as a one-off due to the safety concerns. The chairman asked the Council</p>	

	<p>to retrospectively approve this decision to trim back the hedge as a one off.</p> <p>It was <u>RESOLVED</u> to retrospectively ratify this decision.</p> <p>It was proposed to invoice Pickstock's maintenance team to cover to cover the Parish Council's bill and the inconvenience caused.</p> <p>It was <u>RESOLVED</u> to invoice Pickstock's maintenance team £250.00 for the hedge-cutting.</p> <p>2. Speeding boy racers. The chairman spoke on the recent incident of a black BMW saloon losing control and causing damage to the Memorial Garden lawn and the 3-tier planter at 3.45 pm on Sunday 26th January. It was emphasised that it could have been fatal if anyone had been in the Memorial Garden at that time of day. Councillors have attempted to rectify the damage to the lawn and planter, so the garden is looking tidy again. Police had so far been unsuccessful in tracing the driver as CCTV did not show a full number plate, but a side window was smashed when the vehicle tipped over. The Chairman repeated her plea for anyone with information to get in touch with either the police or the Parish Council.</p>	Returning clerk/RFO
276/02/20.C	<p>Parish Clerk's Progress Report</p> <p>The locum clerk went through the action list from the previous meeting, this was <u>NOTED.</u></p>	
277/02/20.C	<p>Police Report</p> <p>There was no one from the police available to give a report.</p>	
278/02/20.C	<p>Shropshire Council</p> <p>Shropshire Councillors Davenport gave an update, which included the disconnected streetlights on Ellesmere Road (due to safety issues), and the Overton Road resurfacing which had started that evening. Any leftover materials will be used to tidy up and fill pot holes in the Institute car park.</p> <p>There was no further progress on the mini-roundabout project due to staff illness.</p> <p>Local Joint Committee – Cllr Davenport could not get an officer to attend due to lack of resources, but asked the Parish Council to suggest some dates and call a meeting in St Martins with Gobowen and Weston Rhyn councillors.</p> <p>Ifton Fields verges – a complaint had been received about the condition of the verges and dog fouling. This has been passed on by Cllr Davenport.</p> <p>Contractors – Road sweeper hadn't been seen in the village for months. Returning clerk asked if Parish Council could ask Shropshire Council Street Scene team to do the work and then bill Keir for not meeting their contractual duties. Cllr Davenport was happy for the Parish Council to do so.</p> <p>It was emphasised that the new Highways consultant appointment is not purely for managing pot hole repairs but for managing big contracts and improving performance of the contractors.</p>	<p>SD</p> <p>Returning clerk/JS</p> <p>Returning clerk</p>

279/02/20.C	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p>(i) Accounts for payment February. Returning clerk Edward Davies presented the payments for approval. Proposed: Cllr D Laing Seconded: Cllr G Fryer</p> <p>It was <u>RESOLVED</u> to authorise the payments.</p>	RFO
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Chq/ BACS	Payee	Description	Amount	VAT
BACS	E Davies	February salary & expenses	£1062.94	£0.00
BACS	Lydia Bardsley	Locum clerk pay and expenses	£388.50	£0.00
BACS	Nigel Thomas	Play Area inspection	£24.00	£0.00
BACS	Huw Manford	Litter Picking, Gen Maintenance	£275.11	£0.00
BACS	Vision ICT	Domain renewal	£66.00	£11.00
BACS	Highline electrical	Various repairs	£468.60	£78.10
BACS	Highline electrical	Various repairs	£155.40	£25.90
DD	Veolia	Bin emptying	£31.13	£5.19

	<p>ii) To note and adopt the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting dated 30.01.2020.</p> <p>The chair of Finance Committee noted how grateful he was for the returning clerk's efforts and help with preparing the budget whilst still on sick leave. He informed the Council that the following new earmarked reserves had been created: £2000 provision for elections £5000 provision for Climate Action Working Group.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr G Fryer Seconded: Cllr G Pennington</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Thursday 30th January 2020 having been previously circulated be confirmed as a correct record, signed by the Chairman and adopted.</p> <p>iii) Finance Committee Recommendations: Proposed: Cllr G Fryer Seconded: Cllr J Hodgson</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> to set a precept for the financial year 2020-21 of £54,554.00 (with a 0% increase on parish council portion of council tax). The RFO would confirm this precept figure with Shropshire Council the next day.</p> <p>Chairman thanked Cllr Stevens and returning clerk Edward Davies for their hard work in preparing the budget and precept.</p>	<p>Chair</p> <p>RFO</p>
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280/02/20.C	<p>Environmental maintenance grants The RFO would be doing a report on how previous grants had been spent, and would put in an application for the new financial year.</p>	RFO
281/02/20.C	<p>Planning New planning applications to be considered</p> <p>1. Reference: 20/00063/VAR (validated: 15/01/2020) Address: Efell, Puddle Lane, St Martins, Oswestry Shropshire SY11 3DE Proposal: Removal of conditions 3-13 of planning application 16/02148/FUL for the erection of two semi-detached single storey dwellings</p> <p>It was noted that this should have been a discharge application rather than an application to remove planning conditions. It was RESOLVED to support the application on the basis of it being a discharge rather than removal of conditions.</p> <p>2. Reference: 20/00051/FUL (validation date: 20/01/2020) Address: Bowers Cottage 3 Moors Lane St Martins Moor SY10 7BQ Proposal: Erection of porch to front elevation</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to support with no comments.</p> <p>3. Reference: 20/00211/FUL (validated: 20/01/2020) Address: Gledrid Farm, Gledrid, Chirk, Wrexham, Shropshire, LL14 5DG Proposal: Erection of 9 camping pods and toilet block and repositioning of 3 caravan pitches previously approved under planning reference 18/00056/FUL</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to support with the following comments: The Council is in favour of bringing tourism into the area. The Council requests additional tree planting of native species on the site.</p> <p>Current planning applications – Council to retrospectively ratify response</p> <p>1. Reference: 19/03995/FUL (validation date: 09/09/2019) Address: Proposed Residential Development Land At Rhosyllan Farm St Martins Shropshire Proposal: Residential development of 80No. dwellings to include public open space; landscaping and supporting infrastructure; associated vehicular access (from B5069); improved pedestrian/cycle links to St Martins School, demolition of existing agricultural outbuildings following grant of outline planning permission ref: 15/03726/OUT</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr G Pennington Seconded: Cllr L Roberts</p> <p>It was unanimously RESOLVED to retrospectively ratify the following response which was previously submitted to the planning authority. The applicants have worked very closely with the parish council through the various stages of the proposals to ensure that they meet the needs of the community. As such, the parish council has no objections to the proposals and gives application 19/03995/FUL its full support.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Schedule of additional planning applications</p>	Locum clerk to submit all planning comments

	<p>None received</p> <p>-----</p> <p>To receive and comment on planning decisions and recommendations below.</p> <p>1. Reference: 19/05192/FUL Address: Plot 5, Bank Top Industrial Estate, St Martins, Oswestry, SY10 7HB Proposal: Erection of commercial unit for B1, B2 and B8 use, with trade counters. Decision: Grant permission</p> <p>2. Reference: 19/05290/VAR Address: Proposed Dwelling To The North Of Moors Lane St Martins Moor Proposal: Variation of condition number 2 (approved drawings) attached to planning permission reference 19/01227/FUL dated 19/07/2019 to allow minor amendments to the design of the property. Decision: Pending consideration</p> <p>No comments required for either decision.</p>	
282/02/20.C	<p>Ifton primary school site Cllr Davenport gave an update. The next meeting will be definitely be with the new Director and with the Parish Council.</p>	
283/02/20.C	<p>St Martins Recreation Partnership The next meeting would be in two weeks to progress this, and further meetings would take place every month to make necessary decisions on development. Work would need to start soon in order to satisfy planning conditions, first step will be widening the access road into the car park and hopefully extending the car park. Once work has started final designs can be confirmed. Hopefully there will be financial support from various sources. Cllr Stevens notified everyone that the written statement for architecture has gone in with an application to discharge a planning condition.</p>	
284/02/20.C	<p>PC/Trustees Contracts review meeting</p> <p>The Council <u>NOTED</u> Cllr Stevens' report from this meeting.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr A Cast Seconded: Cllr G Fryer</p> <p>It was <u>RESOLVED</u> (with 1 abstention) to extend the litter picking contract with Huw Manford for another 3 years until March 2023.</p> <p>Returning clerk to action installation of outdoor gym equipment in play area as previously agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Davenport had reported CCTV system issues at St Martins Centre on numerous occasions. Returning clerk to write to Trustees and ask for a date for this to be actioned.</p>	<p>JS/RFO</p> <p>RFO</p> <p>Returning clerk</p>
285/02/20.C	<p>Irvine Gardens public open space</p> <p>Nick Scott has written to planning officer asking that the agreed financial provision of £26,655 for play equipment should not be used for play equipment on Irvine Gardens site, but made over to Parish Council to use for recreation equipment elsewhere in the village.</p>	

	<p>for bollards next to the Church as well. It was AGREED that clerk will remind them to look at it as soon as possible re. church wall and Trevor avenue (traffic mirror, speed tables, SD rumble strips etc.)</p> <p>ii. B5070 between Gledrid and Escob bridge It was NOTED that Shropshire Council were unable to consider a speed reduction scheme in this area as Community-led concern requests are on hold due to budget restraints, and the site is not on list of accident cluster sites. The environmental maintenance team will deal with the obscured Give Way sign by Nefod junction/Escob bridge.</p> <p>Cllr Davenport emphasised that it is vitally important that people report accidents, otherwise Shropshire Council has no record of problem areas. It was AGREED that clerk will write to David Gradwell (cc. in Gurnek Singh) and give details of accidents that had not been officially reported. It was noted that there had recently been a serious accident at that site with 2 ambulances and police involved. Cllr Davenport mentioned that he and David Gradwell were nearly involved in a head-on collision at that junction themselves 18 months ago.</p> <p>It was proposed that the Council research independent traffic surveyors to assess the site and provide data to report to Shropshire Council. Cllr J Hodgson will research this and bring estimated costs to March meeting.</p> <p>iii. B5069 and Moors Lane It was NOTED that Shropshire Council would not consider extending the 30mph limit to Moors Lane, and that they felt that 40mph was the appropriate speed limit for this stretch of road. The speed monitoring completed by the Highways team after the 40mph limit was put in place had been circulated previously. No further actions</p>	<p>Returning clerk</p> <p>Returning clerk</p> <p>Cllr Hodgson</p>
290/02/20.C	<p>Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS's) The working group had not had a chance to meet, so no recommendations were available. Cllr H Williams to follow up with Cllr N Mistry.</p>	Chair
291/02/20.C	<p>Climate Action Working Group</p> <p>Cllr Williams gave her apologies for not being able to attend the first meeting. The chair of the working group Cllr Hughes-Saunier gave an update. They had met with Shaun Burkey to look at the mapping system. Contact would have to be made with landowners and invite NFU to get involved to encourage private landowners to plant trees. Shaun Burkey had sent a report on coppicing which had been very successful.</p> <p>Cllr Hughes Saunier had also attended a climate change workshop and gave a summary on some of the ideas that had been discussed e.g. loyalty schemes for park and ride, and other financial incentives for reducing waste, vehicle charging points, electric buses, etc.</p> <p>Cllr S Hughes-Saunier proposed writing an article for Village Life magazine and local newspapers encouraging landowners and private individuals to plant trees on their</p>	

	<p>land.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr H Williams Seconded: Cllr G Pennington</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that Cllr Hughes-Saunier will share a draft article with the council first before sending to Village Life and local press.</p> <p>The Chair congratulated Cllr Hughes-Saunier on her excellent work on this project.</p>	SHS
292/02/20.C	<p>Derelict property, no. 3 Gertrude Cottages</p> <p>The locum clerk had been liaising with Empty Homes Officers who had so far been unable to track down the owner, though they know who it is. They would be visiting the site next week and would review possible actions after that. The locum clerk has asked them to keep the Parish Council updated of any progress.</p>	
293/02/20.C	<p>Shropshire Association of Parish/Town Councils (SALC)</p> <p>Members noted the following correspondence received:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SALC bulletins and Monday News in Brief updates 2. Carer Emergency Response Service update 3. Proposals for new joint Health Organisation 4. Poppies for VE/VJ Day – Returning clerk would look into ordering more poppies. 5. NALC – legal update. <p>It was RESOLVED to note these items of correspondence.</p>	Returning clerk
294/02/20.C	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>The following items of correspondence were noted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep Britain Tidy – Great British Spring Clean (20th March – 13th April) – The chairman and friends had collected six full bags of rubbish from Colliery Road. Chairman asked all councillors to consider collecting small amounts of litter regularly from their own area (“Adopt an area”). The clerk will ask Shropshire Council (Steve Brown) about providing hi-viz jackets, litter pickers, bin bag hoops, etc. in time for March. Chair happy to collect from Whittington depot. Suggested that Parish Councillors lead first litter picking event, and can report and promote in subsequent issue of Village Life to encourage more volunteers to join in. 2. NHS HealthWatch – Social Prescribing – noted. 3. My Money Matters service, extended for further 12 months – noted. 	Cllrs Returning clerk
295/02/20.C	<p>Members Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suggestion of councillors having ID badges and lanyards was raised again. These would be used for public activities e.g. site visits, litter picking, etc. Returning clerk to look into this. • Hedge by Bowling Green – it now covers over ¾ of footpath. Cllr Davenport will share contact details with chair to ask for it to be cut back as soon as possible. • Ifton Meadows cattle queries – to be passed to Shaun Burkey and cc. Cllr 	Returning clerk SD/Chair Chair

	<p>Davenport.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Laing – Several nasty pot holes on bend by Orchard, beyond Cottage Lane. Hedge banks have been eroded by tractors Cottage Lane to Cross Lanes Farm. • Cllr J Hodgson – blocked gullies in Pistyll Lane by bridge and on road after Ifton Meadows towards Pistyll Lane. • Cllr L Roberts – police speed camera van in Dudleston Heath. Nowhere suitable for siting van in St Martins (need straight line of certain distance, parking for van etc.). The sooner VAS signs are installed the better. 	
296/02/20.C	<p>Next Meeting(s)</p> <p>Members noted that the next meeting(s) of the parish council will be; Full Council: 7pm, 12th March 2020 at St Martins Centre</p>	
	<p>There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.40 pm.</p> <p>- Signed Date</p>	Chairman