

ASTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Kate Lloyd
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MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held at 7.00pm on 17 January 2024 at Astley Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors K Lloyd (Chair), E Bedell, H Mardell (Vice-Chair), S Robinson, D Williams and Shropshire County Councillor L Picton

Also present: 1 member of the public

Clerk: Lisa Harris

73.23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Sumner and Flight Lieutenant S Mason

74.23 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- a) Councillor Robinson declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 80.23 and would therefore leave the meeting temporarily whilst the item was considered.
- b) There were no applications for a dispensation regarding disclosable pecuniary interests

75.23 Public Participation Session

The one member of the public present did not wish to speak.

It was agreed that in accordance with Astley Parish Council's Standing Orders (based on NALC's Model Standing Orders), members of the public may speak on matters appearing on the agenda. However, if a matter does not appear on the agenda, a written request should be submitted to the Clerk no later than 2 working days before the meeting. The Standing Orders could be amended at a later date if it was felt that NALC's guidance does not suit the needs of the community.

76.23 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 November 2023

The minutes of the previous meetings had been circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Lloyd and seconded by Councillor Mardell and

resolved (without opposition)

that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 November 2023 be accepted as a true record.

The minutes were signed accordingly.

77.23 Clerk's report on matters arising since the Parish Council Meeting on 15 November 2023

- Following confirmation of the NJC pay award, backpay and accompanying PAYE payments

were made to former clerk.

- Reported missing weight limit sign at the Astley/Upton Magna crossroads to Shropshire Council's Highways Maintenance Manager and awaiting a response.
- Investigated applying for Shropshire Council's Environmental Maintenance Grant but didn't have sufficient information to proceed further.

ACTION: Clerk to ascertain what verge maintenance, hedgerow trimming, gully cleaning and road sweeping is currently carried out by, or on behalf of, Shropshire Council to determine whether it is worth applying for the grant and employing a contractor to do this and other work in the parish.

- Shropshire Council's Flood Management Team approached with a request to carry out a further review of the flooding situation at Bings Heath. Awaiting a response.

78.23 To receive reports from

a) Shropshire Councillor

Councillor Picton presented a report which covered:

- Budget Update – making good progress towards the required savings. Will probably achieve a saving of 94% of the £51M target. So far the people of Shropshire will not really have noticed the savings which have been made but as there is an increased demand currently of around £23M for social care the next round of savings will be noticeable such as a charge for green waste. If the demand continues to grow for social care, the entire net budget of Shropshire Council will be taken by it, which is not sustainable.
- Car Parking Charges – the increase is nothing to do with the budget. The service currently does not have enough money to repair and maintain the car parks so it needs the increase in charges to do this.
- In discussion with SALC to get a hotline set up for clerks. A working group is being set up by SALC to discuss how it would best work. There will be a dedicated email address and a dedicated telephone number for when clerks are unable to get answers from Shropshire Council. It will be possible for Shropshire Council to monitor how many times requests are made.
- Shrewsbury Movement and Public Space Strategy – It aims to deliver on the commitment to provide an integrated transport system as well as providing a reduction in vehicular emissions and improvements to air quality across the town, contributing to a cleaner, safer environment. It will be subject to public consultation for a period of eight weeks, commencing on Friday 26 January 2024, with the final terms of the consultation being approved by the Executive Director of Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Climate Change, Environment and Transport.

Councillor Picton left the meeting after giving her update.

b) RAF Shawbury

Flight Lieutenant Mason was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a report in advance:

Change of Command

As with most RAF Stations, the command structures have changed subtly. At RAF Shawbury the Station Commander is now Wing Commander Alan Jones, whereas the main Station output from No. 1 Flying Training School and the Defence College of Air and Space

Operations is under the Commandant Group Captain Andy Baron.

Night Flying

The next night flying period is due to commence on Monday 15 January and continue until Thursday 29 February. Night flying periods are usually for seven weeks with three weeks in between periods. There will be posts on the RAF Shawbury Facebook/Twitter advising on the night flying periods and we are grateful for the tolerance of this essential training. There is also information on the RAF Shawbury webpage with contact details for complaints.

Hi-Viz for Horse Riders

We had advertised stock of hi-viz items on our social media but have been inundated with orders. We have therefore paused further new orders and expect our next delivery of stock in May.

Drones

If anyone flies a drone/model aircraft locally it is a good idea to view and understand the Drone Code, available on the CAA website. There are restrictions near all airfields civil and military, regarding the flying of drones and model aircraft.

Aries Magazine

The Winter edition (2023 Edition 4) is now available online at <http://www.rafmags.co.uk/>

Course Community Projects

We always welcome new ideas for Course Projects. Typically our trainees are available for a day. Please be flexible with dates as time for course projects is timetabled and we cannot easily change dates.

79.23 Current financial matters

a) Payments

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
17/01/24	Miss L Harris	Clerk's expenses December 23/January 24	£ 42.75
17/01/24	Miss L Harris	Clerk's salary December	£ 396.30
17/01/24	HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary December	£ 99.00
17/01/24	Miss L Harris	Clerk's salary January	£ 396.10
17/01/24	HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary January	£ 99.20
17/01/24	Mrs D Dorrell	Backdated pay to April 23 (NJC pay award)	£ 102.40
17/01/24	HMRC	Backdated PAYE for former clerk	£ 25.60
17/01/24	ICO	Data Protection fee	£ 40.00
TOTAL			£ 1201.35

It was proposed by Councillor Lloyd and seconded by Councillor Bedell and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the above accounts be approved for payment.

It was agreed (without opposition) that the Clerk's monthly salary of £396.24 and the corresponding PAYE payment of £99.06, will be authorised each month even if no parish council meeting is scheduled to take place.

b) Bank reconciliation to 14 January 2024

The bank was reconciled at £11,996.75, being the online banking balance on the date the meeting agenda was prepared. The bank reconciliation was agreed and signed accordingly.

c) Budget and Precept 2024/25

The Clerk had prepared the proposed budget for 2024/25.

It was proposed by Councillor Lloyd and seconded by Councillor Bedell and

Resolved (without opposition)

that the precept for 2024/25 be set at £8,155

ACTION: Clerk to apply to Shropshire Council for a precept of £8,155 by the 31 January deadline.

80.23 Planning

1. Decisions to note

a. Ref: 23/03768/FUL

Address: Sundorne House Bings Heath Astley Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 4ED

Description: Erection of side extension, new porch, internal reconfiguration, new detached garage and demolition of redundant outhouses

Validated: 08 Sep 2023

Status: Withdrawn

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

b. Ref: 23/04120/FUL

Address: Proposed Development Land North of Greenfields, Bings Heath, Astley, Shropshire

Description: Extension of existing care facility, to include the erection of adult day-centre with activity rooms and supporting welfare and administration facilities, associated parking and amenity space

Validated: 20 Sep 2023

Status: Granted

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

2. Planning applications for consideration

a. Ref: 23/05185/FUL

Address: Sundorne House Bings Heath Astley Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 4ED

Description: Erection of side extension, new porch, internal reconfiguration, new detached garage and demolition of redundant outhouses

Validated: 04 Dec 2023

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

Councillor Robinson left the meeting while this application was considered.

Resolved (without opposition): No comment

Councillor Robinson rejoined the meeting.

b. Ref: 23/05460/FUL

Address: Barn at Norton House Bings Heath Shrewsbury Shropshire

Description: Conversion of traditional barn to a single dwelling and erection of carport

Validated: 19 Dec 2023

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

Resolved (without opposition): No comment

c. Ref: 23/05252/FUL

Address: Firs Farm Astley Shrewsbury Shropshire

Description: Erection of a General Purpose Agricultural Building

Validated: 05 Dec 2023

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

Resolved (without opposition): To object to the application based on a material consideration. The Parish Council has concerns about the effect a new building would have on the watercourse in an area which is known to have previously flooded. Concerns are also raised in relation to whether the land in question has the correct Use Class.

ACTION: Clerk to submit an objection to the Planning Officer on the above stated grounds.

81.23 To receive Councillors' Reports

Councillor Bedell gave an update on the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) situation. Both defibrillators are ready to use as and when required. The AED at the Village Hall location is currently in full working order but the advice, from Chris Phillips of MedUK, is that both the defibrillator and its cabinet will require replacing in the near future.

It was agreed (without opposition) that should a new AED and cabinet be required at a time between parish council meetings, then Councillor Bedell is authorised to order the replacements and the resulting invoice(s) will be approved for payment.

82.23 Highway matters

- Following recent flooding there was mud on Astley Lane near Sunnyside Caravan Park

ACTION: Clerk to contact Shropshire Council’s Street Scene team to ask about a possible sweep.

- Plans have still not been seen for the proposed safety design works on the A53.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Councillor Picton to ask if she can chase the plans.

- Councillors concerned about the build up of rubbish outside a housing association property near the former Dog in the Lane pub.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the housing association to seek assistance in resolving the issue.

83.23 Correspondence

None.

84.23 Future agenda items

- To consider commemorating the 80th anniversary of D-Day on 6 June 2024

ACTION: Clerk to put the item on March’s agenda.

85.23 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 20 March 2024, 7.00pm at Astley Village Hall

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed by Chairman:

Date: 20 March 2024