

WHEATHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held in Cleobury North Village Hall on Tuesday 3 April 2018 commencing at 7.00 pm

Present	Parish Councillors	Isabel Barnard Kerry Godfrey Joe Watton Stephen Howells Lucy Howells	Chair Vice Chair
	Clerk to the Council	Derick Bromley	
	Unitary Councillor	Madge Shineton	
	Parishioners	Ken and Lee Partridge	

1 **Apologies**

No apologies were received.

2 **Pecuniary Interests**

Councillors were reminded of their obligation to declare a pecuniary interest they may have with regard to **any** item on the Agenda

3 **Public Open Session**

Lee Partridge advised the meeting a further application to store an additional 34 caravans, in addition to the existing permission for storing 30 caravans, would be submitted soon to the Planning Department. He stated spoil from other projects on site would be used to 'hide' the caravans.

4 **Approval of Minutes of last meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 November 2017 were approved.

5 **Local News**

There was nothing of significance to report.

6 **Future Social Events**

The transfer of The Millennium Fund to the Parish Council was on the strict promise that the fund would only be used for Parish Social Events. It was proposed to set up a sub-committee to explore ideas for future events. Commemorating the end of WW1 will happen in November this year.

13 **Property Conference in February held in Cannes on the French Riviera and attended by representatives from Shropshire Council (costing £19,600)**

This item was moved forward on the Agenda. This conference was the headline in the Daily Mail dated 17 March 2018 and headlined "A champagne jolly on the Riviera for officials pushing up Council Tax bills". Needless to say given Shropshire had just imposed the maximum Council Tax increase (before a referendum 'kicks in') and furthermore the appalling state of our pot-hole plagued highways this did not go down too well with tax payers. Madge Shingleton defended the Councils need to attract rate paying businesses to the County. The matter was debated at some length.

7 **Report by Unitary Councillor(s)**

Madge Shingleton reported as follows;

- i) Central Government has promised some £312m to resolve the hospital 'problem'-Shrewsbury and Telford and Wrekin Hospitals.
- ii) The Ringway contract has now ended and a new contractor, Kier, appointed with effect from 1 April 2018. The pot-hole situation is being addressed as a matter of urgency. Phil James is our senior Highways technician based in Craven Arms.

Having completed her report Madge retired from the Meeting

8 **Update on Speeding Campaign**

Isabel has made enquiries regarding 'gates' at both entrances to the village. We want them both sides of the road at each entrance

9 **Lengthsman Scheme**

The Lengthsman was not present at the Meeting. The money available for grants has been reduced from £110k last year to £75k this year. A wider bidding process and a stringent monitoring of work done will add to difficulties with funding this year. Isabel will approach the Lengthsman for his latest invoice for work done. Steve Howells will ask Steve Jones, Councillor for Farlow, about the procedure for obtaining tubs of tarmac (for pot-hole repairs).

10 **Parish Clerk-update of his Health**

The Clerk informed the Meeting of his health issues following his emergency operation and subsequent heart monitoring. It all depends on the results of tests he has undergone whether he is fit to continue in office.

11 **Code of Conduct Parish Council Clerk**

This will be debated at a future meeting. The matter is not urgent.

12 **Data Protection-New EU Legislation**

This matter was deferred to a future meeting. The Act will have little impact on a small Parish Council like us.

14 **Maps of Councillors areas of responsibilities**

The meeting adopted the areas each Parish Councillor was responsible for and to whom problems are to be reported. Isabel will make arrange for copies of map.

15 **Correspondence**

Evolis Radar Sign offer

16 **Planning**

There were no Planning Applications to consider this month.

17 **Finance**

The Meeting discussed the following;

- 1) The Bank Balance as at 5 January 2018 £11,705.56
 - 2) The Accounts year to date were considered.
 - 3) The Letter from the Internal Auditor was considered.
 - 4) The Clerks Salary and disbursements for the 6 Months to 31 March 2018 were sanctioned in the sum of £423.63 (net of income tax)
 - 5) Cheque payment to HMRC for income tax due (£105) was authorised
- Kerry Godfrey was nominated as our LJC representative and she accepted.

18 **Items to be put on Agenda for next Meeting**

- Speeding through Village
- Social Events
- Lengthsman

19 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next Meeting is on Tuesday 29 May 2018 commencing at 7.00pm in Cleobury North Village Hall followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm

The Meeting closed c8.37 pm.