

## **WHEATHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 in Cleobury North Village Hall commencing 7pm**

### **Present:**

Parish Councillors: J Watton (Chair) S Howells J Bosworth J O'Grady

Locum Clerk: C E Williams: Shropshire Councillor: G Butler

Four members of the public were present.

Apologies were received from H Roberts

### **Annual Public Meeting**

#### **1. Chair Annual Report:**

The Chair J Walton presented his annual report in which it had been a relatively quiet year with the Parish Council commenting on planning matters and highway issues. The Parish Council had purchased an additional defibrillator.

During the year the Clerk Mr D Bromley had resigned due to poor health and the Parish Council has had difficulty in finding a permanent replacement clerk.

#### **2. Financial Report:**

The Locum Clerk presented the annual financial report which showed the Council had balances of £11,374 at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

The accounts had been independently verified by the internal auditor.

#### **3. Report by Shropshire Councillor Mr G Butler:**

Councillor G Butler highlighted the budgetary issues faced by Shropshire Council, the current boundary review of the council electoral areas with the current Cleobury Mortimer boundary to be split into two separate areas, a review of the Place Plans and highway issues mainly relating to potholes. Councillor G Butler also referred to the Childe Endowment Trust which provides educational funds to residents.

#### **4. Items from members of the Public:**

Members of the Public raised issues relating to Defibrillators, Notice Board, Parish Plan and Highway Matters.

### **Annual Parish Council Meeting**

#### **1. Resignation:**

Mr J Witton announced that he was resigning from the Parish Council and left the meeting.

The Clerk will issue the Notice of Vacancy which should be placed on the Parish Council Notice Board, Parish Councils Website and Shropshire Council Website.

#### **2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for the year 2023/24:**

This item was deferred until the next Meeting and Mrs J O'Grady chaired the meeting.

#### **3. Pecuniary Interests:**

J Bosworth declared an interest in respect of Planning Application 23/01771/Ful due to having submitted an objection to the application.

J O'Grady declared an interest in Planning Application 23/01610/FULL

#### **4. Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting:**

The Minutes for the meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were approved.

#### **5. Highway Matters:**

Members were encouraged to report highway issues such as potholes directly to Shropshire Council using the Council online reporting facility or through the Fix My Street website.

#### **6. Amenity Items/Amenity Items:**

The Parish Council agreed to the cost of the Notice Board at Silvington at an estimated cost of £100. The Parish Council will need to consider arrangements for the inspection of the Defibrillators on a weekly basis.

#### **7. Planning Matters:**

Planning Application 23/01771/Full – Conversion of redundant farm barn to private garages and residential living accommodation, Barn 1 Coveridge Fields Farm Wheathill – Due to the declaration of Interest by J Bosworth the Parish Council did not have a quorum and was not able to discuss the application.

Planning Application 23/01610/Full – Erection of a temporary agricultural workers dwelling and formation of a new access and Farm Track North of B4364 Wheathill – Due to the declaration of Interest by J O’Grady the Parish Council did not have a quorum and was unable to discuss the application.

The Clerk suggested that Shropshire Councillor G Butler should consider calling in both applications to be determined by the Planning Committee.

#### **8. Financial Items:**

The following payments were approved by the Council:

K Adams - £50 – Internal Audit Fee

Bennett Williams & Co – Resolving PAYE Issues - £222

SALC – Annual Subscription - £138.83

Zurich Insurance – Annual Insurance - £198.46

The Clerk reported that the Financial Accounts for the year ended the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 had been independently verified.

The Clerk had produced an Income and Expenditure Statement for 2022/23 and recommended that the Council simplify the Reserve Funds by creating an Amenity and Recreation Reserve this was agreed by the Parish Council. At the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 therefore held the following balances: Election Reserve £400, Millennium Fund £134.39, Amenity/Recreation Reserve £5,000 and General Fund £5,830.41.

The Clerk had completed the Annual Governance and Accounting Return for 2023/24 and the Parish Council approved Certificate of Exemption from External Audit. The Statements will be published on the Parish Councils website.

The Clerk reported that the Precept of £1,800 had been received and the Council had also received a Neighbourhood Fund Payment of £4418.28 which was for Capital Infrastructure Schemes which the Council will need to consider and be spent over the next five years.

#### **9. Date of Next Meeting:**

Date of Next Meeting confirmed as Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023. at Cleobury North Village Hall commencing at 7.00pm.

**Signed Chair**