

Melverley Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Meverley Parish Council held at The Village Hall, Meverley on Wednesday 4th March 2020 at 8.00 pm.

Present: Cllrs Mark Edwards, Rosy Harding, Sally Herbert-Jones (Chairman), Cath Jones, Robert Jones

In attendance: Ian Cruise-Taylor – Parish Clerk

- 19.74 The Chairman welcomed everyone, and it was noted that there were no apologies
- 19.75 Public session: No members of the public were present
- 19.76 Cllrs signed the Declarations of Interest register – indicating no declarations of interest
- 19.77 The minutes of the meeting on 8th January 2020 were unanimously approved
- 19.78 Reports on ongoing items not on the agenda
- a. The Clerk drew attention to a response by email from Shropshire Council regarding the Crew Green/Melverley Bridge maintenance which indicated that there were no plans to carry out any maintenance on the bridge unless and until any major defects were identified. It was agreed to write to Shropshire Council pointing out the strategic importance of the bridge to the residents of Meverley as one of only two means of access during flooding and asking for a weight restriction to be imposed.
 - b. The Chairman reported that the notice boards needed to be treated and installed
 - c. The mirror was ready to be installed
 - d. Cllr Harding reported that the defibrillator had been purchased and the cabinet ordered.
- It was resolved that:**
- the defibrillator would be registered with WMAS Circuit
 - to support the establishment of a training plan (2 sessions, one evening, one weekend) – to be held at the village hall (Parish council to fund) and an article would be put in Telescope
- 19.79 Planning: no application received for consideration
- 19.80 To consider the recent flooding, and any associated meetings with reports from Councillors and agree any next steps: Councillors discussed the serious and long lasting impact of recent floods on the community and noted discussion held with the Chairman which resulted in greater awareness of the issues by the Environment agency, Fire and Rescue Service and Shropshire Council. It was **resolved** that the Parish Council should:
- i. Continue to encourage and support the establishment of a local flood forum, with the help of the National Flood Forum organisation (ideas for action were noted, see attached)
 - ii. Formally express concern at the proposal to include a dam in the North-West Relief Road and encourage all residents to make comments on the proposals – letter to be sent to Daniel Kaczynski MP (copy to Owen Patterson MP).
 - iii. Consider what steps the council can take to support residents during flooding.
- 19.81 To consider and determine an approach to selecting the Chairman of the Parish Council. After discussion, it was agreed that there should be limits to each period of Chairmanship, with opportunity for individuals to return to the role. It was **resolved that a two-year period would be implemented from the election of Chairman at the next local elections.**

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- 19.82 To consider and agree any further councillor training needs and associated actions, after discussion it was agreed that a focus on community development was valuable and the clerk was instructed to secure suitable training and it was resolved to:
- review councillor training each year,
 - repeat introduction to Parish Council
 - hold courses locally where possible and work in partnership with other councils to reduce costs
- 19.83 To agree steps for policy, standing orders and financial regulations review and update. The Clerk reported that while there were some policies in need of updating. **It was resolved that a full review should be carried out and all policies re-issued after approval by Council – Clerk to action**
- 19.84 Finance
- a. the Bank Account Reconciliation - £4,819.34 at 10th January 2020, was received and noted
- b. Cheques in payment of the following items were approved for payment
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|--------------|---|-----------------|
| i. | Clerk's salary January 2020: | £132.13 |
| ii. | Clerk's salary February 2020: | £132.13 |
| iii. | Clerk's Training April 2019: | £ 70.00 |
| iv. | Cllr Training 8 th January 2020: | £387.75 |
| iv. | HMRC | £ 88.35 |
| v. | Notice Boards | £264.00 |
| Total | | £1065.36 |
- 19.85 To receive external reports
- a. Shropshire Council – none available
- b. Police – none available
- c. Local Area Committee – the Clerk reported that this meeting had focussed on an item regarding trees and plans for a community forest being developed by Oswestry Town Council. The Clerk reported that he was now also clerk to the LAC, and that the Chairman of Molverley Parish Council had agreed to be a signatory on the LAC bank account
- 19.86 Correspondence
- a. V.E. Day 2020 activities, incl poppies – it was **resolved** to order 30 poppies and noted that the Village Hall committee were working to re-institute the Boundary walk
- 19.87 To confirm the date of next meeting provisionally set for **Wednesday 6th May 2020**. This will be the Annual Parish Meeting commencing at 7 PM, followed by the AGM of the Parish Council (approx. 7.30 PM) and then a regular Parish Council meeting (approx. 8 PM)

Signed as true record

Chairman..... date.....

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Items for consideration by Flood Forum

- Rope alongside footpath
- Store of sandbags and Flood signs
- Clearance of ditches and gullies
- Develop better relationship with Molverley Drainage Board
- Seek more funding for localised flood defences
- Identify properties most at risk of flooding for priority support
- Identify residents most at risk (due to vulnerability)
- Identify volunteers with suitable vehicles
- Maintain a list of car registration (with owners' consent) so that early warning messages could be sent if vehicle at risk

DRAFT