

# Melverley Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of **Melverley Parish Council** held by Zoom on **3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 at 7.30 pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Rosy Harding, Sally Herbert-Jones (Chairman), Cath Jones, Roger Jones

In attendance: Ian Cruise-Taylor, Parish Clerk

20.41 Apologies – there were no apologies

20.42 To reaffirm Declarations of Interest(s) – there were no declarations of interest

20.43 Public session: There were no members of the public present

20.44 The minutes of the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021- were unanimously confirmed

20.45 To receive updates on:

(a) Flood defence developments to include IDB update – Cllr Sally Herbert-Jones reported that meetings of the local Flood Forum, under the auspices of the National Flood Forum had met. It had been attended by Shropshire Council (SC), The Environment Agency (EA), Melverley Internal Drainage Board (IDB) Natural Resources Wales (NRW), United Utilities (UU) and MPC.

The Chairman also reported on a plan to carry out extensive rebuilding of the argae, and that care will be taken regarding flora and fauna. It will lead to temporary heavy traffic on Crew Green Bridge and surrounding lanes. Contractors will be working 9-12, 5 days a week, bringing significant numbers of heavy vehicles, with suitable warning signs and an undertaking to make good any damage to the roads.

It was also reported that:

- 'modelling' is being carried out regarding the flooding in Melverley over the next 18 months
- the proposal for a dam to be built as part of the North West Relief Road had now been dropped
- NRW has to consult with the Welsh Government over plans to make improvements upstream
- It is hoped that the River Severn Partnership (RSP) will invest upstream of Melverley
- The Save Our Severn group had invited MPC to join the group which gave access to the RSP. Cllr Rosy Harding to be the Council's representative.

(b) Parish-wide Broadband improvements: the Parish Clerk reported that contact had been made with 3 possible providers. BT and Airband were not able to offer service at this time while SWS were keen to explore what could be done. It was agreed that SWS be asked to arrange exploratory meetings and publicity with residents to establish the level of interest.

20.46 To consider and determine a response to proposals to seek funding to upgrade the rescue boat and purchase a second. After discussion it was agreed:

# Melverley Parish Council

- To proceed to obtain quotes for the upgrade of the existing boat, including a new outboard motor, safety equipment and clothing, liaising with the current volunteer
- To explore the issue and seek advice from regarding safety boats and training with the Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS)
- To develop an emergency plan, after taking advice and information from the SFRS and other councils in a similar situation, to include appropriate action/use log, other relevant paperwork, training programmes

20.47 Correspondence and other matters:

- (a) Parish Online – the Parish Clerk reported on an opportunity to subscribe independently or receive PO free as part of an insurance renewal with BHIB, and it was agreed to explore the ability of showing drainage ditches, Rights of Way, and footpaths on a PO map
- (b) Council reviewed and unanimously approved updated Standing Orders and Financial Regulations
- (c) Election update – paper circulated – noted by Council

20.48 Financial

- (a) Council unanimously approved the appointment of Rebecca Turner as internal auditor
- (b) Council unanimously approved the listed bank payments and reconciliation

20.49 Items for discussion at next meeting: (not for debate or decision)

- Defibrillator update
- Prospective Shropshire Council councillors
- RBL Tommy for VE Day 21

20.50 Proposed date of next meeting: 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Chairman..... Date.....