



MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 9TH JANUARY 2024 HILLSIDE MEETING ROOM, LILLESHELL, 7PM

Members present Cllrs: Taylor (Chairman), Binnington, Challinor, Harvey and Parker

In attendance: Mr Furnival (Locum Clerk), Cllr A Eade (Telford & Wrekin Council) and five members of the public.

01/24 **Apologies and declarations of Interest**

Apologies from Cllr Hoof due to work commitments and Cllr Shaw due to illness were noted.

02/24 **Public Session**

A resident raised her concerns with relation to planning application TWC/2023/0928 which is a variation to TWC/2020/1087. In the originally approved application, the proposals made by the applicant included moving the property closest to Meadowcroft (Plot 1) to just over 3 meters from the front of the property, and almost 5m at the back. This was confirmed on the plans and the supporting emails submitted by the applicant. The application was approved, and conditions were attached to further protect the amenity of Meadowcroft and local wildlife, which includes the trees/hedges being retained between the boundary and also for protective fencing to be installed to protect the trees/hedging during construction.

This variation of the original application is to incorporate a garage. However, the new plans appear to show that the property closest to Meadowcroft (Plot 1) has been moved closer to the boundary and that the trees/hedges are no longer noted as being retaining on the plans.

Members agreed that they would bring the application for TWC/2023/0928 forward and address this now. Following discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would object to these proposals as this variation contradicts the conditions applied to the original application which placed conditions to protect wildlife and the privacy and screen of the area.

A Resident ask for clarification about Cllr Eade using his fund for left turn sign as referred to in the previous minutes and asked if it was going to be positioned on the A518, Cllr Eade confirmed this to be correct.

Members agreed to bring the item for the Local Plan Review forward to allow members of the public to engage with this.

One resident was concerned that he is having issues accessing the plans online, Cllr Eade agreed to offer support.

A resident noted that the "sustainable extensions" being proposed would suggest that this includes medical, educational etc, however there are no formal details on this until the site allocations are approved and formal plans are brought forward, and this is worrying. The resident also noted that Telford & Wrekin Council could not confirm how those developments will be served by the A518.

Cllr Eade noted that there is an overprovision of 3,000 houses in these allocations which will be removed from the approved site allocations and when he with the MOD they reported that they are keen to retain green spaces for leisure around their sites in The Humbers. In his view the SUE around Muxton is likely to go ahead but the proposals and timelines for delivery of these schemes are currently unclear, however he would encourage all residents and groups to oppose the site allocations in this Local Plan Review.

The Chairman reported that the drop-in session in December was very well attended by residents and Parish Councillors. It was agreed that Cllrs Taylor and Shaw would formalise the Parish Councils response to the Local Plan Review, using residents' views and the Lilleshall Neighbourhood Plan to develop the Parish Councils objections to the proposals surrounding Lilleshall.

03/24 Minutes of the last Council meetings

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 12th December 2023 were **RESOLVED** to be accepted as a true record.

Members agreed that as the minutes of the extraordinary Full Council meeting 24th October 2023 cannot be confirmed by the former Clerk that these minutes would be removed from the Councils records and any resolutions in these minutes cannot be carried as legal decisions.

04/24 Matters arising, for information, from the minutes

Cllr Parker raised her concerns with regards to the tree guards which were purchased for the Jubilee trees and feels that these guards do need to be used for these trees. Send details of costs for tree guards to Cllr Eade who will support the funding for these trees. Cllr Taylor will speak with contractors to arrange the tree guards to be erected around the Jubilee trees.

05/24 Correspondence

None.

06/24 Reports from West Mercia Police

The Locum Clerk noted that the local SNT had attended the offices before the meeting and provided some feedback on the Police Community Charter priorities and asked if the Parish Council could confirm their updated priorities.

Members to respond to the Charter priorities via email.

07/24 Reports from Parish Councillors and Ward Member present

Cllr Challinor asked for clarity regarding the proposed speeding restrictions in the Humbers. Cllr Eade noted that plans have been drafted and costed and are awaiting approval, he will share these plans with Cllr Challinor.

08/24 Clerks Report

The Locum Clerk thanked members for their support over the last few months while he has been helping the Council. It would not be appropriate nor possible to list all of the matters that he and the Admin Assistant have been working on since November 2023, but it has been a challenging and productive few month.

The Council is in a much better position following a period of instability. The Locum Clerk and new Administrative Assistant have been working on a number of tasks to ensure that the internal processes are being followed, governance is adhered to and at a high standard and a number of outstanding and important matters relating to the business and services of the Council are addressed. Most importantly there have been a number of verbal communications to the Council that have been in a positive light and the team are doing all they can to ensure that the community feel involved with their Council, but there is always more that can be done, and the employment of a permanent Clerk will be a big step to continuing this good work.

09/24 Change of Time for meetings

Members **RESOLVED** to change the meeting times from 7pm start to 6:30pm start from February 2024.

10/24 Safer Roads Fund

There were suggestion to put a vehicle count on the A518 which could supply useful data for a future application to this fund.

Cllr Harvey noted that Cllr Hoof previously mention that a traffic survey was going to be conducted by Telford & Wrekin Council, the Locum Clerk to follow this up with Cllr Hoof.

11/24 Community Governance Review

No further updates at this stage.

12/24 Local Plan Review 2023

This item was addressed under item 02/24.

13/24 Road Safety Schemes and A518

This item was addressed under item 02/24 and 07/24.

14/24 Planning

Members considered the following planning applications and **RESOLVED** to approve the following comments;

Planning Application Number, Location & Proposed Development	LPC Response
TWC/2023/0928 - Site of Fernlea, Barrack Lane, Lilleshall, Newport, Shropshire Variation of condition 11 on planning permission TWC/2020/1087 (conversion of existing bungalow into 2no. bungalows and erection of 2no. new houses) - to facilitate 2no. additional attached garages on new houses	Object
TWC/2023/0791 - Site of The Lodge, Yew Tree Drive, Lilleshall, Newport, Shropshire Erection of 1no. dwelling with detached garage and minor alterations to the existing dwelling **Amended description and amended plans received**	No comment

15/24 Financial Reports

Members reviewed the latest bank reconciliation up to 31st December 2023, bringing the accounts to a balance of £98,832.58 and the payments made since the last meeting and their corresponding invoices/receipts.

Members **RESOLVED** to accept the bank reconciliation as an accurate report and approved the list of payments made:

94	Salary	1,048.71		1,048.71
95	PAYE/NI	54.00		54.00
96	Salary	359.84		359.84
97	Telephone & Broadband	63.29	12.66	75.95
98	Defib pads	48.00		48.00
99	Magazines	60.00		60.00
100	Website Hosting	9.99	2.00	11.99
101	Grounds Maintenance	600.00	120.00	720.00
102	Meeting Room and Office Space	120.00		120.00
103	Locum Services	396.00		396.00
104	PAYE/NI	124.03		124.03
105	Mobile Phone Tariff	6.00	1.20	7.20
		2,889.86	135.86	3,025.72

The Locum Clerk/RFO reported on the budget proposals and the changes made to the report since the meeting in December 2023.

The recommendation would be to maintain the precept at its current rate and utilise underspent funds from this financial year to supplement the budget for 2024/25.

The Parish Council's funds are overall in a healthy position with a projected general reserve of 20k starting the 24/25 financial year, for a Council of this size and taking into account the 6 month average expenditure over the last 3 financial years the Locum Clerk/RFO would consider this to be a suitable safeguarding level.

Members agreed that they would need to include a budget for moving the SID's around, or converting them to solar, given that a quote of 2,280 had been received for moving the SID's and maintaining them it was agreed that a budget for maintaining the SID's at £3,000 would be suitable to address a possible conversion and be able to maintain the battery changes for now while that is being addressed.

The budget also includes changes to ongoing costs where inflation is a factor and the newest NJC salary scales for staffing, with the provision for pensions also.

The budget proposals would include support for grants, supporting the Lilleshall 5k, maintaining rights of way, events and a continuation of the successful arts competition.

It was **RESOLVED** by the Council that the budget be accepted with the inclusion of £3,000 for SID maintenance and a precept of £55,425.00.

16/24 Exclusion of Press and Public

It was **RESOLVED** that in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, and as extended by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

There have been 9 applications to date, with the closing date for applications to be received up to the 12th January 2024.

Applications will be reviewed by the Personnel Committee on the 16th January 2024 and interviews will take place week commencing 22nd January 2024.

This meeting closed at 20:18

These minutes are to be considered as a draft form until signed at the next appropriate meeting, the signed copy will be retained by the Parish Council.

Signed: Dated:/...../.....

Date of future meetings:

Full Council, Tuesday 13th February 2024, 6:30pm at Hillside Meeting Room