St Martins Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the St Martins Parish Council held on Thursday 11th February 2016 at 7.00 p.m. in St Martins Community Centre, St Martins.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr’s I. Constable, G. Fryer, N. Graham, M. Hayball, B. Herbert, J. Hoos,

D. Laing, B. Latham, G. Pennington, L. A. Roberts, J. Sands, S. Schofield

and J. Stevens.

**Also in attendance: Shropshire Councillor Steve Davenport, one Member of the public and the Parish Clerk.**

**In the Chair: Cllr S. Schofield**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman also welcomed our new Member, Irene Constable to the meeting. Irene signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and her Register of Interests.

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| **048/02/16.C** | **Public Participation**  The one member of the public present did not wish to raise any questions.  Therefore the Chairman used this slot to update Members on a recent Town/Parish Council meeting she attended at Shropshire Council (SC) with their Chief Executive Clive Wright and Leader Malcolm Pate. She felt this had been a very open and honest meeting. It was established that SC legally only have to provide the following three services, Adult Care, Children Services and Waste Collection which takes up more than half their budget. With further savings required they are now looking at what services Town/Parish Councils might consider taking on, such as grass cutting, library services and swimming pools as these may disappear in the next round of cuts. This might be achieved by Town/Parish Councils clustering together to provide these services. SC would be unable to raise their Council Tax by more than 2% without a referendum. Shropshire Councillor Steve Davenport said he would raise this issue at the next Local Joint Council (LJC) meeting when Clive Wright would be in attendance. He added that these changes would be from 2017/18 onwards so we still have time to consider this. Agreed to put this as an agenda item at the March Meeting. | **Action**  **Parish Clerk** |
| **049/02/16.C** | **Apologies for Absence**  There were no apologies given. |  |
| **050/02/16.C** | **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**  Cllr’s S. Schofield and J. Stevens declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 057/02/16.C Precept 2016/2017 reference Village Life.  **Resolved:** to note that no other Disclosable Pecuniary interests were received on any item included on the agenda in accordance with Sections 50-52, Local Government Act 2000 and The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (England) Act 2001 and no applications for dispensations. | **Action** |
| **051/02/16.C** | **Minutes**  **Proposed: Cllr B. Herbert**  **Seconded: Cllr L. Anne Roberts**  **Resolved: with two abstentions, that the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on Thursday 14th January 2016, having been previously circulated be confirmed as a correct record, signed by the Chairman and adopted.** | **Chairman** |
| **052/02/16.C** | **Finance Committee**  **Proposed: Cllr J. Stevens**  **Seconded: Cllr G. Fryer**  **Resolved: with two abstentions, to note and adopt the minutes of the Finance Committee held on the 21st January 2016.** |  |
| **053/02/16.C** | **Recreation Services Committee**  **Proposed: Cllr M. Hayball**  **Seconded: Cllr G. Pennington**  **Resolved: with two abstentions, to note and adopt the minutes of the Recreation Services Committee held on the 4th February 2016.** |  |
| **054/02/16.C** | **Executive Committee**  **Proposed: Cllr G. Pennington**  **Seconded: Cllr J. Stevens**  **Resolved: with three abstentions, to note and adopt the minutes of the Executive Committee held on the 4th February 2016.** |  |
| **055/02/16.C** | **Progress Report**  The Parish Clerk gave the following verbal report;  **Finance: -** Accounts for payment  E Davies Salary & Expenses February £943.40  Nigel Thomas Play Area Inspections £24.00  Daren Brewer Cleaning Play Areas/Planting £130.00  Highline Electrical Repairs £276.55  Agritel Paper & Cartridges £230.88    **Report/update from Divisional Surveyor**  I received the following email from Chris Fisher at Highways on the 5th February 2016  Apologies for the late reply, Our System has been down for the past 9 days – no internet, confirm or telephones, I’ll get these inspected ASAP. In future best contact for us is: -emoswestry@shropshire.gov.uk, by using this email everything gets logged on the system & allocated to the correct officer straight away.  Since then I have received the following;  Once again I apologise for the delay – we’re back on line now. The two potholes (St Martins Service Station & Clerks lane junction) have been filled, there are other smaller ones which will be attended to ASAP. We will have to do a formal site inspection / risk assessment in line with our winter maintenance policy of Laburnum Close - I’ll get this organised ASAP. Our Street works team deal with all the issues regarding utility work, we have passed them the email regarding SP Energy/O’Connell Utilities working on Cottage Lane, and our Street works team will sort this. We have also sorted the area near Cross Lanes Farm.  Most outstanding issues have been dealt with including a second report of a large pot hole at Escob Bridge. Members expressed concern that there was still water flowing near Cross Lanes Farm, nothing done in Cottage Lane and the quality of repair at Escob bridge was very poor, now has a step around the repair plus water seeping from the other side of the bridge.  The Parish Clerk said he had just received the following email prior to the meeting from Chris Fisher regarding our request for a grit bin in Laburnum Close. We’ve done a salt bin assessment of Laburnam Close, St Martins. This site does not justify siting a bin at this location. Cllr G. Pennington requested a copy of this report and suggested in the meantime a pile of salt is left on the grass verge in this area.  **Report/update from Police by Kate Le'Clere**  Reports issued for January  **Street Lighting:-**  All reported faults have been repaired by either Highline Electrical or Shropshire Council.  **Skate Park Repairs**  Still waiting for the fitter to come back and rivet the top edges in more places. Now scheduled for this week.  **Play Areas**  New sign for disclaimer notice now installed. Fixing bolts and tools now supplied by Wicksteed for Basketball hoop.  **Next Meeting(s):-** Thursday 10th March 2016 - Full Council | **Action**  **Parish Clerk**  **Action** |
| **056/02/16.C** | **Police Report**  The police had given their apologies for this meeting.  Referring to the crime figures for the parish during the month of January, there had only been I incident. Cllr L. A. Roberts still expressed concern over the speed of HGV's through the village. It was also reported that there had been 3 accidents during January on the mini island opposite Stans. Cllr J. Stevens asked for an update on the progress of speed guns for the village. | **Parish Clerk** |
| **057/02/16.C** | **Precept 2016/2017**  Members were asked to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee to set a precept for the financial year 2016/2017 of £49,189.  Cllr J. Stevens explained the background to these recommendations including details of this year’s underspend and the projected balances at the end of the financial year on reserves and general reserves. The Parish Clerk thanked Cllr J. Stevens for all the assistance he had received from hime during the budget process.  **Proposed: Cllr G. Pennington**  **Seconded: Cllr G. Fryer**  **Resolved: to set a precept for the financial year 2016/2017 of £49,189.** |  |
| **058/02/16.C** | **Financial Matters**  **058/02/16.1 Accounts for payment;**  2061 E Davies Salary & Expenses February £943.40  2062 Nigel Thomas Play Area Inspections £24.00  2063 Daren Brewer Cleaning Play Areas/Planting £130.00  2064 Highline Electrical Repairs £276.55  2065 Agritel Paper & Cartridges £230.88  **Proposed: Cllr D. Laing**  **Seconded: Cllr L.** A. Roberts  **Resolved: that the above payments be authorized.**  **058/02/16.2 Income**  There had been no income since the last meeting.  **058/02/16.3 Bank Statements**  These were on file and noted.  The Parish Clerk then reported on a Quotes, Contracts and Tendering course run by the Society of Local Council Clerks that he felt he should attend. Cost was £145.  **Proposed: Cllr N. Graham**  **Seconded: Cllr D. Laing**  **Resolved: that the parish clerk should attend this course.** | **Action**  **Parish Clerk**  **Parish Clerk** |
| **059/02/16.C** | **Planning**  The following schedule of planning application(s) was considered;  New Planning Applications published on 19/01/2016 relating to parish of: St Martins   **Reference:** 16/00062/FUL (validated: 19/01/2016)  **Address:** Gledrid A5 Services, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 3EN  **Proposal:** Redevelopment of Petrol Filling Station  **Applicant:** BP Oil (UK) Ltd (C/o Agent)  **Resolved: St Martins Parish Council makes no comment on the application but stress that it does not address the issue and concerns that vehicles should not turn right out of this car park as presently HGV's doing this are incurring costs on Shropshire Council on repairing the adjacent road surface.**  -----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------  **Schedule of additional planning application(s)**  **To consider** any planning applications not listed above that are received after the date of publication of this agenda due to response time frames set by Shropshire Council. There were none.  -----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------  Members **noted** the following planning decisions and recommendations of the planning authority listed in the schedule below.  Planning Decisions published on 25/01/2016 relating to parish of: St Martins   **Reference:** 15/05089/FUL (validated: 25/11/2015)  **Address:** Chapel House, Overton Road, St Martins, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 3DG  **Proposal:** Erection of extensions and alterations  **Decision:** Refuse | **Parish Clerk**  **Action** |
| **060/02/16.C** | **Website**  The Parish Clerk reported that work is progressing on the design of our new website Vision ICT. Members agreed that the original parish logo should be added to the website. | **Parish Clerk** |
| **061/02/16.C** | **Shropshire Council**  Members noted items of correspondence received from Shropshire Council.  Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport reported that Shropshire Council had now secured an extra £15m from the government following a visit to No. 10. The RT Hon Greg Clarke MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government will visit Shropshire in the next two weeks to see the problems first hand. All officers are having to look at the waste situation while Members are looking at ways of encouraging people to come into the area to work.  Cllr J. Stevens asked if Members were looking at what happens when the business rates change.  Cllr N. Graham said some businesses in the parish are not addressed as being in St Martins.  Cllr N. Graham said he was also concerned over the Ifton Meadows area. Shropshire Cllr S. Davenport agreed to follow this up through Meres & Mosses.  The Chairman said that although the Oli & Gas Authority had no licenses in the area at present, we must monitor the situation in case they tried to getting fracking approved through the back door. Again Shropshire  Cllr S. Davenport agreed to monitor the situation. |  |
| **062/02/16.C** | **Shropshire Association of Parish/Town Councils (SALC)**  Members **noted** correspondence received from the County Secretary. | **Action** |
| **063/02/16.C** | **War Memorial**  Members discussed the current condition of the War Memorial and what can be done to preserve the names on it. Parish Clerk to investigate. | **Parish Clerk** |
| **064/02/16.C** | **Correspondence**  All items of correspondence had been circulated to all Members at the meeting, which included;   * Police Report – January 2016 - noted * Oswestry Area Committee – noted * CIL Monies – noted * Exploration and Development of Oil and Gas Resources in Shropshire - noted   **Correspondence forwarded by email since the last meeting included;**   * Various SALC Information Bulletins * NALC Newsletter |  |
| **065/02/16.C** | **Members Reports**  Cllr D. Laing reported a pot hole in Ellesmere Road.  Cllr G. Fryer expressed concern over the hedge at the junction of Cottage Lane.  Cllr L. A. Roberts reported rubbish and cooking Oil Cans in car park around Take-Away just past the school.  Cllr B. Latham reported rubbish dumped over the fence at the Gledrid Roundabout adjacent the nursing home.  Cllr B. Latham also reported Water flooding in Church Lane opposite September Cottage.  As regards a litter bin for Cottage Lane, Cllr D. Laing said there was a redundant one in the garden of the old post office. | **Parish Clerk**  **Parish Clerk**  **Parish Clerk**  **Parish Clerk**  **Parish Clerk**  **Parish Clerk** |
| **066/02/16.C** | **Next Meeting**  Members **noted** that the next meeting of the parish council will be;  Thursday 10th March 2016 - Full Council | **Action** |
| **067/02/16.C** | **Parish Council Vacancy**  The Parish Clerk reported that there had been no call for an election to fill the vacancy following the resignation of Daniel Anderton.  This vacancy would now be advertised as a casual vacancy | **Parish Clerk** |
|  | There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting  closed at 20.32 p.m.  Signed ……………………………… Date ………………. | **Chairman** |