

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHAWBURY PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE
VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY JULY 14th. 2015 at 7.00pm.**

Public Session:

There were seven members of the public present and the following issues were raised and discussed.

1. Mr. Affleck raised concerns over:

(a) The Anaerobic Digester located at Park House:

He said that there had been many complaints made to the Environment Agency about the smell and questioned why the Parish Council had not taken any action. He further questioned, that in view of all the complaints, whether the owner – Mr. Pinches – should be allowed to be a Councillor.

He was advised that the digester had been erected legally and that Mr. Pinches had not been involved in the Parish Council's discussions about the planning application and had every right to be a Councillor. To date the Council had only received one complaint but in view of his comments, the Clerk would seek further information from the Environment Agency and the matter would be considered at the next Council meeting.

(b) Dog Orders:

He stated that he had been told by Councillor Mrs. Matthews to put his dogs on leads whilst he was exercising them on Shawbury playing field. This was contrary to Shropshire Council's Dog Order regulations, as she was not an authorized person and the part of the field he was using was not covered by the current orders. He agreed that Mrs. Matthews was supervising a group of young children and that his approach had been quite forceful.

It was pointed out that this would be discussed under Item 11 on the agenda.

2. Grove Farm:

Three members of the public complained about the noise from an event held at Grove Farm on July 5th. which had disturbed them and many other people. They felt that it was completely unacceptable and was not the first time this had happened.

Chairman stated that he had sent a personal complaint to the Licensing Department at Shropshire Council.

It was decided to consider this under Item 8 on the agenda.

3. Possible Youth Club:

Three ladies had attended to offer their help as volunteers if the Youth Club was started again in the Village.

Present:

Mr. D. Roberts (Chairman).

Ms. S. McIntosh

Mrs. J. Manley

Mrs. M. Clark

Mr. J. Kennedy

Mrs. G. Matthews

Mrs T. Howells

In Attendance:

Shropshire Councillor S. Jones.

The Parish Clerk.

Lt. M. McArdle R.N. (RAF Shawbury) for part of the meeting.

One member of the public for the full meeting.

Three members of the public for part of the meeting.

Apologies:

Apologies were presented and accepted from Councillors Mrs. F. Medley; Mr. R. Pinches; Miss R. Wall; Mr. A. G. Foster and Mr. P. Sharp.

15/48 Minutes of Meeting held on June 9th. 2015:

The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

15/49 Report from RAF Shawbury:

Lt. McArdle had informed the Chairman that he had another engagement and needed to leave early, so this item was brought forward on the agenda:

In his report, Lt. McArdle reminded Members that Families Day was taking place on July 24th. (12.30-16.00hrs) and that the base was still seeking community projects for training course groups.

He had been asked to find out what progress had been made with the planned development of the football pitches/stadium and he was advised that there had been no further information about the application.

Finally he stated that since the extension of the 30mph speed limit on the Wem road and the introduction of speed cushions, motorists were using Dawsons Rough as an alternative route.

15/50 Matters Arising:(a) Highways (15/35(a)):

Numerous items had been reported at the previous meeting but there was little evidence that any of them had been addressed.

Shropshire Councillor Simon Jones gave a detailed response to the complaints that had been received about the placement of speed cushions on the Wem Road, stating that the extension of the 30mph limit had been introduced following consultation with RAF Shawbury and was part of the 'Safer Route to School' policy. The police had insisted that if the extension was to be introduced, there would need to be some form of engineering work carried out to ensure vehicles observed the new limit and this was the reason for the cushions.

He also stated that these cushions could not be used in White Lodge Park as there needed to be overnight lighting where they were used.

(b) Litter Collection (15/35(b)):

The Chairman reported that he spoken to the Management Team at Veolia and he thought that the problem had been resolved. However it appeared that Mr. Creber had been told by an operative that they would only collect from his house every two weeks. Chairman to investigate.

(c) Fun Day (15/35(c)):

Mrs. Howells reported that in spite of the dreadful weather it had been a successful and well attended event and over £1,000.00 had been raised for various charities. She was thanked and asked to congratulate and thank all those who had been involved.

(d) Bus Shelters (15/37(a)):

Clerk reported that he had asked Mr. Luke Wilson if he was interested in doing the necessary work but he had felt unable to do it. No other suggestions had been made.

(e) Fishing Stands (15/37):

Richard Bailey had been approached by three people who were interested in helping to develop the stands but first there was a need to flail cut the grass by the river side. Clerk had agreed to him approaching Mr. Pinches to do this and also to advise the volunteers that there was money in the budget for the purchase of any necessary materials.

(f) Youth Club and use of Village Hall (15/45(2)):

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow the three ladies who were interested in becoming volunteers to participate in the discussion.

Clerk reported that he had received a response from the Village Hall Committee Chairman indicating that he and the Vice Chair would be willing to see a Youth Club using the Hall, providing it was managed and controlled by responsible and trained people. This would be discussed at the full Committee meeting being held in August to see if there was support from the full committee.

Councillor Jones confirmed that a consortium comprising Wem Youth Club, Energize and Shropshire Youth Association, had put in an application to run the Wem Area Youth Service for the LJC and if they were successful, they would have the task of creating a Youth Club in Shawbury.

He assured the three ladies that the group would need volunteer helpers and would be responsible for their training and for obtaining the necessary police clearance. The plan would be to provide financial support for the first eighteen months, after which the club would be expected to be self-financing.

The official meeting was re-started.

(h) Fitness Area (15/37(b)):

Chairman and Clerk reported that they would be meeting with a representative from Proludic regarding the provision and siting of possible equipment. However, responses from varying sources indicated limited use of the equipment other than by organised groups and it was agreed to give careful consideration of the implications and carry out further research before proceeding with the project.

(i) Shawbury Library:

It was noted that the consultation process regarding the future of the library was underway and that there would be a public meeting in the Village Hall on July 27th. (2.00 – 4.00pm.). Clerk reported that he had asked for the time to be adjusted to allow working people a chance to attend but to date he had not received a reply.

Chairman reported that there was a petition circulating, objecting to the planned change and had apparently been signed by nearly a thousand people. It was noted that in the past year less than 300 people had actually used the library.

(j) White Lodge Park – Pedestrian Access from A53:

Councillor Jones stated that he had discussed this with the street lighting team but had been unable to arrange for a light to be left on overnight. He would however explore an alternative solution.

15/51 Correspondence:

Members considered the following correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting, most of which had already been sent to them:

Dianne Dorrell – Health and Well Being News.

Geoff Brough – changes to speed limits in Shawbury.

Sue Thomas – Day in the life at RAF Shawbury.

Dianne Dorrell – Information Bulletin (June 15th).

Richard Ayton – Wem Road speed enforcement.

Richard Ayton – Wem Road/White Lodge Park.

Dianne Dorrell – Armed Forces Day.

RAF Shawbury – ‘A day in life at RAF Shawbury.’

Shropshire Council – ‘Connecting Shropshire’ update.

Unknown – Damaged streetlight in Millbrook.

Sue Thomas – Youth provision proposals.

Police Commissioner - Newsletter June 22nd.

David Gradwell – Highways (Sites of Community Concern).

NALC – Bulletin June 29th.

Gail Power – Sustainable Communities Act Workshop.

Sue Thomas – LJC Youth Provision and new provider.

Dianne Dorrell – Training event on pensions.

Mr. K. Paul – request for a copy of Dog Control Orders and info. re access by wheelchairs to paths.

Mr. R. Darnell – complaint re. noise from Grove Farm.

Mr. & Mrs. Cook – complain re. noise from Grove Farm.

Mr. D. Gregory – complaint re. noise from Grove Farm.

Gail Power – NALC Newsletter July 8th.

Gail Power – SALC Newsletter July 9th.
 Richard Bailey – problems with waste bins.
 West Mercia Police – Crime Statistics for May.

15/52 Accounts for Payment:

It was resolved to pay the following invoices:

Mr. J. Wilson	Salary (July)	£550.70
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (June)	£76.40
Inland Revenue	Tax (July)	£137.80
	N.I. (July)	£1.72
Mr. R. Bailey	Maintenance (June)	£448.00
	Floral Gateways	£51.00
	Parish Paths	£50.00
Mr. T. Creber	Village work (June)	£300.00
Graphic Office	Photocopier Maintenance Contract (2015/2016)	£180.00
EON	Annual Maintenance Contract (6 months)	£786.19
Paperwrite	Photocopier cartridge	£93.60
SLCC	Annual Membership Fee	£100.00
Scottish Power	Electricity supply (March 31 st – June 30 th .)	£727.33

15/53 Financial Statement:

A financial statement was tabled and approved.

15/54 Exchange of Information:

(a) Agenda Items for the next meeting:

1. Anaerobic Digester.
2. Invite for Dog Warden to attend and discuss the situation regarding dogs on the playing field.

(b) The following items were reported:

(i) Highways:

Drains blocked by traffic lights.

Footpath from Carradine Flats to the RAF Base completely overgrown.

Road surfaces in Millbrook Estate in poor state of repair.

Culvert under Wytheford Road near the Old Smithy appears to be breaking up, with the adjacent field flooding and the road sinking in places.

Articulated lorries leaving the chicken farm on Wytheford Road are breaking up the road surface.

Clerk to report issues to the Highways Department.

(ii) Street Lighting:

Clerk reported that a vehicle had struck a street light in Beech Grove and caused structural damage to the concrete below the door entry. Unfortunately there was a need to remove the old column and replace it with a new galvanised steel one. There had been no reported road traffic accident and the cost of the work would be £980.57. Chairman had approved the estimate for the work and this was confirmed.

(iii) Other:

Noise Pollution:

Clerk reported that as well as the complaints received in the public session, he had received written complaints about the noise emanating from the function held at Grove Farm on July 4th. which had continued until mid-night. He had discussed this with Sue Thomas (Shropshire Council's Enablement Officer) and had been advised that the owners had a licence to run ten events in the year but each event had to be applied for separately. On this occasion the licence granted had stated that the music had to cease at 12.30am, so they had adhered to the licence condition.

It was agreed that the level of noise was unacceptable and the Clerk was asked to forward a complaint from the Parish Council and outline Members concerns about plans for future events.

(iv) Local Council Award Scheme:

It was agreed that the Council should work towards renewing the Foundation Award from January 2016 and the Clerk stated that he would commence the process of up-dating all the Council's documents and would be asking Members to check them in due course.

(v) Waste Bins:

Mr. Richard Bailey had reported that the bin on the car park was regularly overflowing and jackdaws were removing debris and spreading it over the area. He suggested the current bin should be replaced by a metal one with a lid or the bin should be emptied more frequently. The Clerk had contacted Victoria Doran at Shropshire Council, who had stated that if the bin was replaced the Parish Council would have to pay for it but she was prepared to arrange for it to be emptied more frequently, which was agreed by Members to be the best solution.

15/55 Reports from:

(a) Police:

The following crime statistics had been recorded on the web site for:

April:

Violent Behaviour: Poynton Road -2; Church Close -1 Mytton Lane -1

Anti-Social Behaviour: McKinley Way -1 Poynton Road -1 Mytton Lane -1

Burglary: Church Close -1

Criminal Damage: Car Park -1

May:

Violent Behaviour – 5 (Beech Grove; Mytton Lane; Church Close; Leasowes; Poynton Road)

Criminal Damage – 2 (Oak Drive).

Anti-Social Behaviour – 3 (Hazeldine; Near A53 (2)).

Theft – 1 (near A53).

Burglary – 1 (Carradine Close).

Miscellaneous – 1 (McKinley Drive).

(b) RAF Shawbury:

See Item 15/49

(c) Shropshire Council:

Councillor Jones commented that he had already covered most of the issues he had planned to report but agreed that he would look closely at what action could be taken regarding speeding traffic in White Lodge Park, which could include clearer white lining and 20mph signs. He would also arrange for a speed survey to be carried out to identify the extent of the problem.

He also promised to look into the other highways issues which had been raised by the Council.

15/56 Planning:

A. The following application had been received:

Jayroc Stables – change of use of existing parking to permit parking of 3 HGVs and 2 trailers.

There was a 'No Comment' response.

15/57 Dog Control Orders and Litter:

In response to the complaint that had been raised in the public session, Mrs. Matthews agreed that she had asked dog owners to put their dogs on leads whilst she was using the playing field with a group of young children. However she had not done this under her role as a Parish Councillor but as a Youth Leader, with concerns for the safety of the children and Members supported her belief that anyone had the right to ask for this to be done. She objected strongly to the aggressive attitude that had been taken towards her, which had upset and frightened the children and she had reported the incident to the police. However it was accepted that this incident had brought into question the whole aspect of the Dog Orders issued by Shropshire Council.

It was noted that during Shropshire Council's consultation process in setting up the orders, the Parish Council had asked for the playing field to be identified as a designated area with dogs needing to be on leads at all times. However, it transpired that the field was not covered by the order and that the football pitch could not be identified as a designated area because it was not marked out.

It was further noted that in any case, dog owners could only be instructed to put their dogs on leads by the registered Dog Warden, an employee of West Mercia Police or a representative of the Parish Council, authorised in writing for the purpose of giving directions under the Order.

In respect of this the Clerk was asked to:

- (a) Invite the Dog Warden or a representative from Shropshire Council to attend the next meeting to discuss the issues.
- (b) Seek advice from an appropriate Shropshire Council employee over what action was needed to get the playing field registered as a designated area.
- (c) Get the football pitch marked out.

It would then be necessary to seek volunteers who would be willing to be trained and registered to give directions under the Order.

15/58 Committee Reports:

Local Joint Committee:

Mr. Kennedy reported that the planned LJC meeting had been postponed until September.

United Charities:

Mrs. Clarke reported that the committee had met and various awards had been made to deserving cases. It had been stated at the meeting that the Vicar was retiring and there would be a need to elect a new Chairman.

Mrs. Clarke also requested clearer details of the role of Councillors on the Committee.

15/59 Press Matters:

No issues to report.

15/60 Date and Time of next meeting:

The next meeting will be on August 11th. 2015 at 7.00pm in Shawbury Village Hall.

Approved as a true record of the Meeting.

Signed: D. Roberts (Chairman) **Date:** August 11th. 2015