

SHAWBURY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY JANUARY 14TH. 2025 at 7.00pm.

Public Session:

There were no members of the public present.

Present:

Mr. P. Sharp (Chairman)

Mr. M. Roberts

Mr. A. Foster

Mr. K. Pickering

Mr. J. Vernon

Mrs. Jill Manley

Mr. C. Forshaw

In Attendance:

Shropshire Councillor Mr. S. Jones.

Flt. Lt. J. Jones and Flt. Lt. D. Hewitt (RAF Shawbury).

The Parish Clerk.

Before the meeting began the Chairman congratulated Flt. Lt. Jones on his promotion, which meant that he would no longer attending meetings as he had been posted from RAF Shawbury and then welcomed Flt. Lt. Hewitt who was replacing him.

24/113 Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillor Mr. A. Brown, Mrs. J. Herbert and Mr. T. Davies-Moss.

24/114 Disclosure of Personal or Prejudicial Interests.

No interests were declared.

24/115 Minutes of Meeting held on December 10th. at 7.00pm.

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

24/116 Matters Arising.

(a) Burial Ground (24/102(a)).

The proposals outlined previously by Councillor K. Pickering were approved and Councillor J. Vernon indicated that he had been able to secure more favourable costs for the materials and identified a local person who was willing and able to do the necessary work. The Chairman proposed that he should discuss it in detail with the contractor and obtain a quote for the overall project. This was unanimously supported by Members.

(b) A53 Signage (24/102(b)).

Shropshire Councillor S. Jones reported that modifications had been carried out to some of the signs but Shropshire Council did not have sufficient resources to provide new ones. The Chairman asked him to secure a written statement from the Highways Department indicating that all the signs met the legal requirements. Councillor A. Foster pointed out that no action had been taken to replace the signage on the roads, parts of which were covered by new tarmac.

(c) Purchase and Planting of Trees 24/102(d)).

Thanks and congratulations were expressed regarding the work carried out by Oakgate Nursery in providing and planting twenty excellent trees at a discounted price. The Chairman stated that he would arrange for a suitable notice showing that the trees had been donated by a local resident and purchased from and planted by Oakgate.

24/117 Correspondence.

Members considered the attached list of correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting and forwarded to Members, noting that where necessary appropriate actions had or were being taken and responses made.

Special note was made and action taken regarding concerns raised by members of the public regarding:

(a) Flooding in Moreton Mill and delays in repairing the local bridge.

(b) Concerns about damage to trees alongside Wem road – the responsibility of RAF Shawbury.

24/118 Accounts and Financial Statement:

(a) Payment of the following accounts was approved:

Mr. J. Wilson	Salary (January)	£715.17
Inland Revenue	PAYE & NI (Jan.)	£197.56
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (Dec.)	£50.05
Mr. M. Varndell	Litter collection and disposal (January)	£500.00
Highline Electrical	Streetlight Maintenance.	£1,109.60
Oakgate Nursery	Provision and planting of trees	£800.00
Highline Electrical	Streetlight Maintenance	£512.40
Access2Trees	Tree clearance (Moat)	£1,680.00

(b) Financial Statement.

The financial statement was tabled and approved.

24/119 Section 137 Grants:

Clerk reminded Members that applications from deserving groups for a small grant needed to be sent to him in time for it to be considered at the next meeting.

24/120 Community Awards:

Details of the annual awards had already been published in the Newsletter, Shawbury Facebook and the web site and to date there had been one response. He would include the details again in this month's news report.

24/121 Exchange of Information.

(a) Additional Items for inclusion on the next Agenda.

Excessive Scrambling Events.

Identifying methods of publicising the forthcoming Council elections and the processes involved.

(b) Urgent issues regarding the following:

State of the kerbs, verges and footpaths in Church Close.

(ii) Streetlights:

Concerns regarding the direction of the light at the Mini Market.

(iii) Other:

No issues raised.

24/122 Reports from:

(a) Police:

The following incidents were recorded in November:

Violence/ Sexual - 5 Glebelands -2; Church Close - 2; Church Street – 1)

Criminal Damage/Arson -2 (Wem Road -1; Glebelands -1)

Public Order -2 (A53 -1; Aries Drive -1).

Shop Lifting -1 (A53).

Anti-Social Behaviour - 1 (Little Wytheford).

(b) RAF Shawbury:

Flt. Lt. Jones reported that:

(a) The trees on Wem Road had been inspected and any necessary action taken and also stated that all the trees were inspected annually.

(b) Night Flying would commence on January 20th, and continue for seven weeks.

(c) The development work was making good progress.

(c) Shropshire Council:

Shropshire Councillor S. Jones reported that:

(a) Public meetings will continue to be held at the Shirehall until at least mid-February. This will allow the necessary preparations to be completed and ensure the new meeting rooms are fully equipped to meet everyone's needs. It is anticipated that the council chamber at The Guildhall will be ready for the Full Council Meeting on Thursday 27 February 2025.

(b) The average increase for local Government has been about 6% however Shropshire's in comparison including the increase in Council Tax is 3.1%.

The extra money allocated to address the increase in National Insurance and the minimum wage in Adult Social Care that is supposed to help both the Council and our Care Providers will not even cover our own increased costs let alone an uplift to the care providers who are now requesting an uplift of between 35% to 50%. This is not a sustainable position. Shropshire sees the third lowest increase out of more than 180 councils.

(c) The removal of a rural services delivery grant worth around £9m is a key pressure for Shropshire, as well as a major reduction in social care funding, effectively representing a 'loss' of £16m. As a large rural county, Shropshire is faced with extra costs for waste collection and disposal, housing, social services, education, transport to school, road maintenance and leisure and library services. When people are spread out over such a large area, it costs more to provide local services.

(d) The inspectors have now found further issues with the key planning strategy and the government is now saying we need to build 1900 properties a year nearly double the 1100 we say we need. Telford by comparison has had their 800pa reduced to 400pa.

(e) I am aware of the petition calling for the reversal of the HRC booking system but the alternative to this that was previously looked into was the full closure of 2 of the 5 HRC's. There has always been absolutely no excuse or justification for fly tipping this is criminal activity to make a fast buck. If residents are paying someone to dispose of their rubbish it then becomes commercial waste and the resident is responsible to ensure that their rubbish is disposed of in the correct commercial manner.

(f) Residents who have received a letter to ask their views on adult social care, are being reminded to complete it. The annual Personal Social Services Adult Social Care Survey England (ASCS) will run until March 2024 with reminders issued in February for anyone who doesn't respond.

24/123 Planning:

(a) Applications:

No applications had been received since the last meeting.

(b) The following application has been refused by Shropshire Council:

The Haven, Wytheford Road, Shawbury – demolition of existing bungalow and replacing it with two bungalows (24/04200/FUL)

24/122 Committee and Other Reports.

The Vice Chairman reported that he would be attending the following meetings:

SALC Area Committee on Monday 20th. January.

Joint Working Group Tuesday 11th. February.

24/123 Press Matters.

The Chairman and Clerk will co-ordinate reports to the Parish Newsletter and the local Facebook page.

24/124 Date of Next Council Meeting:

Tuesday 11th. February 2025 at 7.00pm.

Approved as a true record of the Meeting.

Signed: P. Sharp

(Chairman)

Date: February 11th. 2025

Correspondence received since December Meeting.

Dianne Dorrell – Weekly Briefing.

Chris Mellings – Shropshire Council Budget.

Resident – Complaint about parking on the road side verge

Chris Mellings – Local Nature Recovery.

Dianne Dorrell – Final Briefing for 2024.

Catherine Bailey – Flooding problems.

Claire Crackett – Newsletter.

Rev. Cawthorne – Sewerage overflow problems.

Gail Power – SALC Training Programme.

John Campion - PCC Newsletter.

Resident – Concerns about dangerous trees alongside Wem Road and debris on the footpath.

Resident – River Roden flooding in Moreton Mill area plus delayed repairs to bridge.

Dianne Dorrell – Weekly Bulletin.

Cllr. J. Vernon – Damage to and removal of post box close to the school.

Andy Chatting – National Garden Scheme.

PCSO O. Morris – Community Visit.