

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN HARMER HILL VILLAGE HALL ON  
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 29<sup>TH</sup>. 2014 AT 7.30 PM.**

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**Public Session:**

There were four members of the public present but no issues were raised beyond those that had been discussed at the earlier public meeting.

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**Present:**

Mr. R. Jeffrey (Chairman)

Mrs. E. Hodge

Mr. G. Harding

Mr. R. Jones

Mr. C. Ruck.

Mr. R. Tiernan

**In Attendance:**

Parish Clerk.

Mr. S. Parker – applicant for co-option on to the Council.

Four members of the public.

**14/57 Apologies:**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors: Mr. J. Heath, Mr. R. Purslow and Mr. P. Keyse and Shropshire Councillor Mr. B. Williams.

**14/58 Co-option of new Councillor:**

The Chairman reminded Members that Mrs. Evans had resigned at the end of the last Council meeting. The vacancy on the Council had been advertised and as there had been no call for an election, authority had been given to co-opt a new Member and this had been widely publicised. He then welcomed and introduced Mr. Stan Parker to the meeting, who was the only applicant for the vacant seat.

Mr. Parker gave an outline of his working life and stated that he had moved into Harmer Hill about a year ago and had previously lived in Grinshill for two years. He had previous experience of public service, serving as a school Governor and a Samaritan volunteer.

After due consideration by Members, there was a unanimous decision to co-opt him on to the Council.

Having signed the necessary documents, Mr. Parker was invited to participate in the remainder of the meeting.

The Clerk stated that he would inform the Elections Officer at Shirehall of the decision.

**14/59 Clerk's salary and conditions of service.**

As this was a private matter, the members of the public were asked to vacate the hall with the Clerk whilst this item was discussed.

On his return the Clerk was advised that decisions had been made regarding his salary and increased hours of work and that the Chairman would confirm these in writing.

**14/60 Disclosure of Personal or Prejudicial Interests:**

None declared.

**4/61 Police Report:**

1. The Clerk reported that the police web site indicated that the following crime had been reported for August:  
Harmer Hill - theft of or from a motor vehicle.

2. Community Speed Watch – Volunteers.

Clerk explained that the Police Commissioner had decided to re-introduce the Speed Watch Scheme in selected Parishes. This involved volunteers being trained in how to use radar guns to record and report excessive traffic speed in restricted areas. The owners of the recorded vehicles were then sent warning letters.

There needed to be a number of people trained and willing to commit to the scheme and details of this had been published in the last edition of the Messenger. The following Members offered to be involved – Councillors: Mr. R. Jones; Mr. R. Tiernan; Mr. P. Keyse; Mr G. Harding and Mr. S. Parker. The Clerk reported that one member of the public had volunteered to help.

The Clerk stated that he would advise the police of the situation and ask for the Parish to be included in the scheme.

**14/62 Minutes of the meeting held on September 25<sup>th</sup>. 2014.**

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

**14/63 Matters arising from the meeting:**

(a) Street lighting up-grade (14/43(g))

The Clerk confirmed that the low interest Government loan had been secured and that EON would be carrying out the work over the next few weeks.

(b) Lower Road, Harmer Hill (14/43(a))

Members noted the complaints that had been raised in the public meeting and shared the concerns of the residents. Despite holding a site meeting and being promised action, no progress had been made in dealing with the many and varied problems.

Clerk was asked to contact Mr. Steve Oakley to see when any action was likely to be taken to deal with the outstanding issues.

(c) Highway Issues (14/43(e))

It was noted that no action had been taken over the various issues that had been raised with regard to road safety.

Clerk was asked to contact Mr. Davis Gradwell to see when there would be some developments.

(c) Hedge Cutting alongside Myddle Recreation Ground (14/55(5)).

Clerk confirmed that he had been approached by residents regarding an overgrown hedge between their property and the recreation ground. Mr. Tiernan had cut back the hedge and removed the clippings.

It was agreed that no further action should be taken over the extended hedge.

(d) Children's Play Area (14/43(c)).

Mr. Tiernan stated that he would be carrying out the repairs in the spring but in the meantime wished to speak to RoSPA about one of the repairs that had been suggested.

(e) Meeting area for elderly people (14/51).

Mr. Keys had offered to discuss this with Mr. Highfield but as he was not present, no report was tabled.

**14/64 Accounts for Payment:**

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Mr. J. Wilson	Salary (October/Nov.)	£446.82
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (Sept./Oct.)	£119.62
Inland Revenue	Income Tax (Oct./Nov.)	£111.60
Interactive Information	Safesyne auto back up	£48.00
Mr. C. Ruck	Parish paths expenses	£42.00
Richmond Building Supplies	Hedge Cutting (Myddle Recreation Ground)	£50.00
Information Commissioner	Data protection renewal (Direct Debit)	£35.00
SALC	Training fees (R. Jeffrey; R. Purslow)	£40.00
Access 2 Trees	Tree felling etc.	£930.00
Scottish Power	Electricity supply (30/06-30/09)	£171.86

**14/65 Financial Statement:**

A financial statement was tabled and approved.

**14/66 Budget and precept setting 2015 - 2016:**

The Clerk reported that he had met the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to discuss the proposed budget for 2015 – 2016, details of which had been sent to Members with the agenda.

After detailed consideration the document was approved with the inclusion of a £1,000.00 budget head for possible projects.

Because of the decision to seek a Government loan to pay for the new street lights, payable over five years and prudent expenditure in the current year, there was no need to increase the precept.

It was unanimously resolved to set the precept at £19,000.00 + the Rate Support Grant.

Copy of agreed budget attached.

**14/67 Planning Applications:**A. The following application had been received:

Land at Brewallen Farm, Marton – erection of single storey dwelling + detached garage.

The Chairman reported that he had visited the site and after discussions with the Clerk and Mr. Ruck, who had raised concerns about the location, it had been decided to make a ‘No Comment’ response.

B. The following applications had been approved by Shropshire Council:

Land off B4397 – development of a solar farm.

Land north of Jubilee Cottage – erection of six dwellings including one affordable.

Red Lion, Myddle – conversion of outbuilding to a two bedroom holiday let.

C. The following application had been refused by Shropshire Council:

Land east of The Gables, Lower Road - erection of one dwelling.

**4/68 Community Led Plan:**

A review of developments was undertaken.

1. Mrs. Hodge agreed to liaise with Mr. Keyse over a possible meeting place for elderly people.

2. Mr. Ruck stated that at a later date there would be a need to address problems related to accessing some public footpaths.
3. Mr. Ruck said that there were issues related to Broadband provision but these would be dealt with later in the meeting.
4. With regard to affordable housing, no action could be taken until Shropshire Council had made a decision on the planning application for development adjacent to Harmer Hill Village Hall.
5. The Chairman and Mr. Tiernan stated that they were still awaiting a response from Mr. Gradwell over the issues they has discussed with him.

#### **14/69 Correspondence:**

Members considered the following correspondence received by the Clerk, most of which had already been circulated to them.

ALC – Shropshire Schools Sustainability.

ALC – Oswestry and Bridgnorth Councils – grants.

Alison Tudor – Rural Hub newsletter.

Roger Jones – report of a possible dangerous lime tree in Harmer Hill.

Shropshire Council – Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles Licensing.

Bill Longmore – police newsletter, including community speed watch project.

SALC – September newsletter.

Ian Connolly – Speed watch.

Shropshire Council – DEFRA consultation on SuDS.

Claire Hackett – Shropshire Sacrifice.

SALC Bulletin – October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Helen White – Community Spaces Conference.

Patrick Cosgrove – Rural Broadband information.

Shropshire Rural Transport Questionnaire.

Alison Tudor – Rural Hub newsletter.

Chris Taylor – broadband information.

Patrick Cosgrove – winding up of broadband committee.

Ian Kilby/Mal Price – planning report.

CSO Liam Heathcote – Speed Watch.

#### **14/70 Committee Reports:**

##### Helicopter Noise Liaison Committee:

In the absence of Mr. Keyse, the Clerk reported that there had been a short meeting when it had been confirmed that the number of flights and resulting complaints were lower than normal and there had been no major issues raised.

#### **14/71 Place Plans:**

Members carried out a thorough review of the current Parish Place Plan and made a range of amendments and additions to the statements. These were based on issues that had been raised during the year and suggestions brought forward at the earlier public meeting.

The Clerk would carry out the alterations to the current document and either send a copy to Members or bring it to the next meeting for approval.

**14/72 Exchange of Additional Information:**

1. The time table of meetings for 2015 which had been sent to Members was approved.
2. The Clerk suggested that in view of the number of issues that were continually raised and not addressed there should be an agenda item at Council meetings headed 'Unresolved Issues'. This was agreed.
3. The Chairman gave a brief and positive report on two meetings he had attended:
  - (a) Human Rights Conference run by Fresh.
  - (b) Shropshire Housing Alliance.

This meeting had included reports on the provision of housing; training of and assistance given to tenants and information about Revive

**14/73 Broadband Provision:**

Mr. Ruck stated that faster broadband was now available in Harmer Hill but outlined the problems facing BT with providing the service in Myddle. The start had now been delayed until late spring 2015, whilst they were pressing ahead with connections to areas which already had a relatively good service, which he felt was unacceptable.

It was agreed that a strong letter of complaint regarding the delay should be sent to BT and Shropshire Council, with a copy to Mr. O. Patterson M.P. seeking his support.

**14/74 Date of Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. At 7.30pm in Myddle Village Hall.

**Minutes approved as a true record:**

**Signed:** R. Jeffrey      **Chairman**

**Date:** January 7<sup>th</sup>.2015