**DRAFT Minutes of Clungunford Parish Council meeting**

**January 2019**

The statutory meeting of Clungunford Parish Council was held on **Wednesday 9th January 2019 at 8.00 pm** in the Village Hall.

**Present:**

Chairman: Cllr Jonathan Roberts. Cllr Anne Gledhill; Cllr Maureen Rooney; Cllr John Elliot; Cllr Mary Bason; Cllr Neville Rollason; Cllr Mike Tucker; Cllr Elizabeth Lyster

Clerk: Mr Max Maxwell

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**Business**

**01 – Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**02 – Apologies**

Cllr Keith Arbery sent apologies as he is on vacation.

**03 – Minutes of the last meeting**

These were read, agreed as accurate and signed by the chair.

**04 – Matters arising**

The clerk updated the council on points from the last meeting:

* There is still no access to the HMRC employer’s account. The clerk will continue to contact HMRC to see how this can be resolved.
* Paperwork and files inherited from the previous clerk have been largely archived and stored, and a new filing system implemented.
* The bank mandate has been updated and the clerk now has access to online banking.

**05 – Precept requirements for 2019/20**

The clerk and chair confirmed that the council’s accounts are healthy at present (c. £3,300 in current account and c. £4,800 in savings account). Cllr Elliot raised the question of whether council funds could be used to fund potential legal action regarding poultry shed planning but this was not considered necessary at this time.

The council therefore agreed to keep the precept at the current level in absolute terms: £3,800 for the 2019/20 year.

**Action** - Clerk to complete the precept return to Shropshire Council.

**06 – Shropshire Council ‘Preferred Sites’ Consultation**

Shropshire Council are consulting on their review of ‘Local Plans’ in the county and their preferred sites for encouraging housing and employment development. This will affect planning criteria.

Cllr Roberts provided some history and context to this consultation and clarified that Clungunford is part of a cluster in the Bishops Castle Place Plan - the cluster includes Abcot, Beckjay, Clungunford, Hopton Heath, Shelderton and Twitchen (Three Ashes). The current consultation does not suggest any change to the status of the Clungunford cluster which would retain a criteria-based policy to manage small-scale development.

In discussion the following conclusions emerged: although benefits of being in a cluster have not been obvious there was some flexibility to this position. The council therefore agreed not to seek to change the current status.

**Action** - clerk to reply to the consultation indicating that no change is requested.

**07 – PCC funding available for speed reduction**

A fund of £30K is available from the West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner to support projects that help reduce traffic speed. The council discussed options of bidding for radar-speed signs that show traffic their speed, and the option of purchasing hand-held speed radar. However, the former seemed too expensive and the latter would be unenforceable. The council therefore agreed not to bid in this instance.

**08 – Shropshire Council ‘Bring Recycling Sites’ Consultation**

Shropshire council are consulting on the possible removal of ‘Bring’ recycling sites – eg, local bottle banks and paper recycling bins.

Councillors agreed that the site next to the village hall in Clungunford is well used and that kerb-side recycling was not always sufficient. The council will therefore respond seeking the retention of the ‘Bring’ site.

**Action** – clerk to reply to the consultation.

**09 – Planning Matters**

Cllr Roberts updated the council on preparations to appeal the consent to planning for poultry sheds in Hopton Heath.

**10 – Correspondence**

* The council was invited to recommend a nomination to a Buckingham Palace Garden Party. None was forthcoming.
* Our payment to the Information Commissioner has been cancelled and we are asked to re-register.
* Shropshire Council are updating guidance on applying for the Environmental Maintenance Grant. This will not affect the parish council as there is no county council land in the parish.
* We received guidance on Public Sector Bodies Websites from NALC that we can use to ensure our website is compliant with new accessibility regulations.
* Shropshire Council have provided advance notice of a consultation on the Community Infrastructure Levy planned for this spring.
* West Mercia Police had published the results of their Town & Parish Survey which is available on their website.

**11 – Finances**

No clerk salary can be payed as the HMRC issue is still unresolved.

The council agreed the following payments:

* Shropshire Council invoice for 2017 Elections recharge - £100
* Village website cost reimbursement to the clerk - £86 (Note: payment for this in future will be made directly from the council current account to the web-hosting company)
* Clerk’s stationery and archiving expenses - £53.39

The clerk and Cllr Tucker have confirmed that they will arrange an Internal Audit Committee Review meeting this month.

**12 – Parish Matters**

The following problems on local roads were identified:

* There are still problems with the surface of the road from Shelderton on the lane towards Leintwardine despite some work being done there.
* The road past Abcot towards Twitchen has very bad potholes with surface water from the stream on the road too.
* The give-way sign at Hopton Heath has not been repaired yet. This was reported by Cllr Roberts to the county council on 2nd December.

**Action**: Clerk to take these up with the Shropshire highways department

The council agreed to arrange a community litter pick on Saturday 2nd March.

**13 – Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 13th March 2019

The meeting concluded at 9.00pm

**Max Maxwell**

**Clerk to Clungunford Parish Council**

1 Church Row

Clungunford

Craven Arms

Shropshire

SY7 0PU.

[**clungunfordparishcouncil@gmail.com**](mailto:clungunfordparishcouncil@gmail.com)

[**www.clungunford.com**](http://www.clungunford.com)