

Munslow Parish Council



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Minutes of the Meeting of Munslow Parish Council held on Thursday 7th March 2024

Present: Cllrs Barbara Archer (chair), Antonia Bury, Nigel Dobson, Andy Johnson, David Marston, Chris Meeson and Graham Williams.

1. **Receive and Accept Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Val Fotheringham and Edward Povey. Cllr Cecila Motley (Shropshire Council)
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Bury (Item 8.1). This item will be considered at the end of the meeting.
3. **Public Forum:** No members of the public in attendance.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st February, 2024.**
RESOLVED: the minutes were signed by the chair as a correct record.
5. **Reports**

5.1. Chairs Report – Cllr Archer reported that Aston Munslow now has a WhatsApp group which is proving very successful so far. There were concerns about the possible closure of one of the council recycling centres with concerns that fly-tipping would increase. There has been a considerable amount of flooding on the B4368 with jetting needed. Members of the public can report issues on Fix My Street. Shropshire Council were consulting about dogs in public places. Councillors could report to the Clerk who would make a response on behalf of the Council.

5.2. Shropshire Council – Cllr Motley had sent a report: *'Shropshire Council finances have been seriously stretched by the ever-increasing cost of providing statutory services to local populations. Rocketing costs in service delivery are forcing many local authorities to consider deep service cuts to manage their budgets. In Shropshire, a whopping 80% of the disposable budget is sucked into the demand for adults and children's social care services and special education needs transport. Currently we have over 700 children in the care system. Unlike the NHS the council cannot carry forward a deficit budget. The budget decisions are likely to include library and leisure provision, reviewing the number of recycling centres, charging for green waste collections (households can opt out if they wish), reducing the number of council buildings and assets and accelerating the move from Shire Hall to alternative offices and reorganising special needs transport. Significant changes will go through further consultation involving the public and council staff but some redundancies will be inevitable. The challenge would be much greater without the savings of £41.3 million that have already been made in this financial year including £13m from my own portfolio of adult social care. Throughout all of this and alongside our Local Government colleagues we have been lobbying government for funding reform that takes into account the challenges faced by local government. I will keep the Corvedale residents updated on the budget situation. We are determined to continue to provide the best quality services possible to our residents, but the road ahead is likely to be bumpy.'*

5.3. Beambridge Club Room – Cllr Dobson reported that the back door to the hall is now operational. There was a record attendance at the last coffee morning.

5.4. South Shropshire Area Committee – Heather Coonick (Clerk) reported that the new planning enforcement protocol was discussed. Whilst investigations by planning enforcement are mandatory the powers are discretionary and they will consider enforcement action in the public interest, having regard to the risk and planning harm arising from the breach. They will focus on those cases where the impacts or planning harm arising is significant.

6. Highways

- 6.1. Update on the B4368 Actions: The clerk has emailed the Traffic Engineer, Traffic Engineer Manager and Cllr Motley with the priorities identified at the last meeting. She has not had a response. The priorities were also uploaded to the Place Plan but this needs to be agreed by the Traffic Engineers before it can be entered onto the Place Plan.
- 6.2. Review of the Vehicle Activated Signs: both mobile signs are operation and proving to be effective according to local residents. The police have handed out several speeding fines recently in the parish.
- 6.3. Update on the Application to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for a Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign: The Clerk reported that she has emailed the PCC as there had been no response to the application for a further Vehicle Activated Sign. There has been no response so far. She will request that the application is pushed forward to the next financial year.
- 6.4. Review of Environmental Maintenance and New Tasks: Work on the drains and ditches in Aston Munslow, Rowe Lane and the Rushbury Road has been carried out. The drains need jetting in Upper Munslow.
- 6.5. Agree the Environmental Maintenance Application for 2024-25:
RESOLVED: to apply to Shropshire Council for matched funding of £600.
- 6.6. Agree the Updated Environmental Maintenance Contract and Agree the Hourly Rate:
RESOLVED: to provide the new contract for Environmental Maintenance which includes a statement that no pesticides will be used by the contractor. The contractor will be paid £18 per hour from 1/4/2024

7. Planning:

- 7.1. [24/00643/TCA](#), Primrose Cottage, Aston Munslow, SY7 9ER Proposal: Crown reduction by 30 percent of 1no. Silver Birch within Aston Munslow Conservation Area
RESOLVED: to support the application.
- 7.2. [24/00704/FUL](#), 6 Greenyard Cottages, Munslow, SY7 9EX. Proposed front entrance porch and replacement of existing lean-to conservatory.
RESOLVED: to support the application.

8. Correspondence:

- 8.1. Email from Mr Lindsay Bury, Millichope Foundation re the Beambridge Village Hall Lease. (Considered at the end of the meeting, Cllr Bury left the meeting during this item).
RESOLVED: Cllr Dobson will provide a report on activities carried out by the Parish Council during the negotiations regarding the lease and send that to Mr Lindsay Bury.

9. Munslow Churchyard Maintenance Contract and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Sign Application
RESOLVED: To sign the contract, to continue to pay for maintenance of the Churchyard and to apply for a free sign for the entrance to the Churchyard.

10. Consider .gov Domain Names and Parish Council Email Addresses: Councillors who wish to have a specific Parish Council email address should inform the clerk.
RESOLVED: to not have a .gov domain due to the high cost.

11. Accounts

- 11.1. Authorise Payments: Cllr Archer (Corvedale News) £8, H Coonick, Clerks Salary and Travel (Jan – March) £740.15, HMRC £178.40, D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance) Inv 468 and 458 £123.25.

12. Items for the Next Meeting at 7.30pm Thursday 4th April 2024 at Beambridge Village Hall: a. Robberies

Noted: Cllr Bury raised concerns about the code for the defibrillator not being available when emergency services were contacted. The Clerk agreed to investigate why this had happened. Since the meeting it has become clear that the parishioner was not referring to the Munslow defibrillator. Emergency services should give callers the site and code for their nearest defibrillator if it is needed.

Signed by the Chair:

Date: