

**MINUTES OF  
ALL STRETTON, SMETHCOTT AND WOOLSTASTON PARISH COUNCIL  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
held at Picklescott Village  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021  
at 7.30pm**

**Present**

C'lr Dale; C'lr J Burton; C'lr C Ecob; C'lr Phillips; C'lr P Starnes; C'lr Morris;  
C'lr Hibbott-Morris  
Two member of the public attended  
Clerk : Mrs J Griffiths

**Apologies**

C'lr D Morris sent his apologies and provided a report to the Clerk.  
Clerk : Mrs J Griffiths

**1. Newly Elected Councillors to sign Acceptance of Office and Clerk to circulate Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Forms.**

All Councillors signed the the acceptance of office. They also completed the Disclosable Pecuniary Interest forms which they handed to the Clerk for the Clerk to send to the Monitoring Officer,

**2. Election of Chairman**

It was proposed by C'lr Morris, seconded by C'lr Burton and unanimously agreed that C'lr Dale be elected as Chairman to serve until the 2022 AGM.

The chairman then welcomed the new Councillor (C'lr A Hibbott-Morris) to the meeting.

**3. Election of Vice-Chairman**

It was proposed by C'lr Morris, seconded by C'lr Starns and unanimously agreed that C'lr Phillips be elected as Vice Chairman to serve until the 2022 AGM.

**4. Election of Parish Council Representatives to the Henry Fletcher Charity**

C'lr Morris and Mr Mike Sillence are the current representatives. Mr Sillence is moving from the area. It was proposed by C'lr Burton, seconded by C'lr Dale and unanimously agreed that C'lr Morris and C'lr Phillips be elected to serve as the Parish Council representatives on the Henry Fletcher Charity.

**5. Election of Footpath Warden**

It was proposed by C'lr Dale, seconded by C'lr Phillips and unanimously agreed that C'lr Burton would serve as Footpath Warden until the 2022 AGM.

**6. Election of Tree Warden**

It was proposed by C'lr Burton, seconded by C'lr Dale and unanimously agreed that C'lr Phillips would serve as Tree Warden until the 2022 AGM.

**7. Declaration of Interests**

C'lr Morris and C'lr Starns told the meeting that they had made comments to Shropshire Council concerning the planning application on the agenda (Ref 21/01999/AGR but did nit consider that they had a pecuniary interest.

## **8. Public Comments**

The Clerk told the meeting that she had received an e mail from a member of the public concerning the planning application reference 21/01999/AGR which she had copied to all Councillors.

## **9. Minutes of Zoom Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March**

It was proposed by C'Ilr Burton, seconded by C'Ilr Dale and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Zoom meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March provided a true and accurate record of the meeting.

## **10. Matters Arising from the Minutes – not shown on Agenda**

The Clerk told the meeting that the availability of Smartwater kits to those households who had not received a kit had not been included in the Church magazine. The Clerk would ask for this to go in the next edition. It was also agreed that it would be included in the local Whatsap Group.

## **11. Finance**

### **(a) Accounts due for payment**

- L Pardoe Internal Audit Report £50 Cheque No. 000412
- HMRC Tax due on Clerk's salary £110 Cheque No. 000413
- Clerk Salary April/May plus postage , Payroll charges of £60 as agreed in precept and stationery £545.20 Cheque No. 000414
- Came and Co. Insurance for the period 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021 - 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022.£288.55 Cheque No 000415
- SALC Annual Membership fee 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. £198.51 Cheque No 000416

It was proposed by C'Ilr Phillips, seconded by C'Ilr Dale and unanimously agreed that the above accounts be paid.

### **(b) Balance held at Bank**

The Clerk circulated a bank reconciliation. After payment of the above accounts the balance at is £4,881.59. .

### **(c) Annual Governance Statement**

The Clerk had circulated copies of the AGAR and all financial records for the year prior to the meeting. The Internal Audit had been carried out and the Internal Auditor concluded that *“the internal audit for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 had been carried out sufficient to give reasonable assurance the the Council's affairs are properly conducted are are free from mis-statement”* It was proposed by C'Ilr Phillips, seconded by C'Ilr Dale and agreed that the content of the AGAR was a true record. The Chairman and Clerk then signed the AGAR, which will be posted on the Parish Council web site and the Certificate of Exemption for smaller authorities who wish to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review would be forwarded to the external auditor.

## **12. Planning**

### **(a) Clerk to report decisions on applications previously discussed:**

South of Hollyhurst, Leebotwood 202569/FUL

Erection of a local needs dwelling and detached garage.

The Clerk told the meeting that this application was shown on the web site as awaiting a decision.

**(b) New Applications**

Agricultural Building north of Upper Stitt Farm Ref 21/01999/AGR

This application is in a neighbouring parish. However, this application impact on our Parish and complaints had been received from residents. As shown in Item 7 two Councillors told the meeting that they had lodged an objection as members of the public. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange a site visit before any comments were made. The two Councillors who had objected as members of the public would not attend the site visit. Following the meeting the Clerk was advised by the agent who submitted the application that the application had been withdrawn.

Hall Farm, Picklescott

Ref 20/00801/VAR

Variation of Conditions Numbered 3-8 attached to planning permission 16/05367/LBC. The Clerk told the meeting that the variation of the Conditions had been approved.

**(c) Clerk to report any new applications received after 14<sup>th</sup> July**

No further applications had been received,

**13. Highways**

C'llr Burton and C'llr Ecob had attended a site visit to give Graham Downes, the new head of Highways Central, a tour of all the pot holes etc within the parish. Following this visit some work had been carried out. Graham Downes had agreed that he would revisit the site and inspect the work carried out and to what standard and a remedial order would be raised for works which do not meet the criteria. However, it was unanimously agreed that the work carried out was not to a satisfactory standard with potholes being filled and others in the same vicinity left unattended. The Clerk was asked to write to Graham Down to stress the Parish Council's dissatisfaction.

The Clerk told the meeting that she had not heard if the recent application for the Environmental Maintenance Grant for 2021/22 had been approved. The Clerk agreed to follow up.

The Clerk drew the Parish Council's attention of the Police and Crime Commissioners Community Ambassador's Fund for road safety initiatives.

The Clerk had circulated the notice saying that Starr Lane, All Stretton, would be closed from 21<sup>st</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> June for new gas connection works to be carried out.

**14. Correspondence**

The Clerk circulated all correspondence by email on the day it was received. .

**15. Shropshire Council Report**

C'llr D Morris had provided the following report, which the Clerk read out at the meeting:-

"The new council holds its annual meeting tomorrow where Cllr Lezley Picton from the Tern Division will be formally confirmed as the next Leader of Shropshire Council.

Lezley has 25 years of experience in working with local Government, 15 of those at a senior management level. Lezley was first elected to Council in May 2017 and has been for all that time the Portfolio Holder for Communication, Leisure and Waste Services. Shropshire Council has I believe a very good record when it comes to Waste services, SC is often at the top of the tree when it comes to recycling levels in the West Midlands, so Lezley has a good track record in running departments of local Government.

Lezley will bring an approachable, customer facing focus to the Council I believe, and she will hit the ground running on the following:

- Improving liaison between SC and Parish/Town Councils, we may see a return of a form of community resource teams
- Immediate plans to improve the quality of our roads
- A focus on better engagement between the council and residents, eg making sure people are responded to in a reasonable time
- Following through on the redevelopment of the shopping centres in Shrewsbury
- Delivering the North West Relief Road
- Closing the Shire Hall and relocating to the Charles Darwin centre in Shrewsbury
- The delivery of the local plan review
- Infrastructure development at Mile End Roundabout Oswestry
- The redevelopment of Iron Bridge Power Station
- Delivering a balanced budget for the next 4 years
- Delivering a winter road maintenance program that is both relevant and fit for purpose.

Of course this list is not exhaustive, but the emphasis is very much on communication and delivering a service that listens and responds. Cllr Steve Charmley remains as deputy Leader, and the rest of the Cabinet/Portfolio Holders will be announced tomorrow. The political make-up of the Council is Conservative 43 seats, Liberal democrats 14, Labour 9, Green 4, Independent 4. The Conservative group have a majority of 12. In our ward of Burnell I was elected with 1110 votes (66% of the vote, an increase from 847 in 2017), and an increase in majority from 37 to 717 votes.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Allan for his years of service in the PC, particularly as Chair whilst I have been Councillor. We have worked well together, he has always been supportive, kept me in the loop and always had the best interests of the Parish at heart.

Going forward I will of course help the Parish in its project to deliver Fibre broadband, I will continue to lobby hard for parish road repairs and will remain a point of contact/guide between residents of the Parish and SC. I wish the Parish Council and the new Chair all the best for the next 4 years, and look forward to continuing the last 4 years of close co-operation between us.

#### **16. Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021**

Before the meeting closed the Clerk circulated the following policies for Councillors to read through as these would be on the Agenda for review at the July meeting:-

Financial Risk Assessment  
Privacy Policy

Complaints Procedure  
Disciplinary Procedure  
Personal Data Management and Audit Policy  
Grievance Procedure

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30pm