

**MINUTES OF THE SHERIFFHALES PARISH MEETING HELD ON THE 6<sup>th</sup>  
SEPTEMBER 2022 AT SHERIFFHALES VILLAGE HALL**

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**Present:** Councillors: Mr J Horne (Chairman); Mr Gordon Tonkinson; Mr Neil Pulker; Mr A Edwards; Mr D Himsworth, and Mr K Turley.

In attendance Clerk to the Council – Miss Jennifer Cree, Mr P Bonsall and Mrs Himsworth, Mrs Horne.

75/22. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr Mrs A Robinson sent her apologies for the meeting.

76/22. Declaration of Councillors' Pecuniary Interests.

Cllr Mr N Pulker declared a pecuniary interest in the Sheriffhales Solar Farm.

It was agreed to move the item below up the agenda.

77/22. To discuss the solar farm funding

Mr Bonsall reported that they are currently going through a refinancing of the debt of the farm and also purchase the remaining 51% that is owned by another company. Tried to raise £565000 and they are virtually at that target and using this they can get a bank loan and then bring the ownership of the farm into the Parish full ownership.

The funds raised can then be handled at a local level for projects, they would like to work with the Council more closely in the future. The solar farm is benefiting from the high energy costs from other companies and has on increased the revenue of the company. By the end of the year they believe that the company will be worth a £1 million.

The Chairman asked if there are any conditions for the use of the income, at present has to be environmental based. At the moment there are no fixed and firm requirements.

77/22. To receive for confirmation and adoption and agree the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July and 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

The minutes of the meeting held on the above date, was agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Cllr N Pulker proposed and Cllr A Edwards seconded the proposal to accept the minutes and on a vote these were carried with 1 abstention.

78/22. Public Participation

Members thanked Mrs Horne for making the refreshments.

79/22. Unitary Councillor feedback and questions.

Councillor K Turley reported on the following items:-

- Following Mrs Lezley Pictons presentation, it was noted that care funding is still very high. Domiciliary care is increasing and Shropshire Council are struggling to recruit staff.
- Graham Downs came to the village and looked round at the problem areas. Drainage works are proposed for Church Lane, and they also looked at signs being obscured.
- The new tarmacing system with larger patches is being used now by Shropshire Council and the new larger patches are lasting/
- The road edge by the Church also needs to have proper kerbs, Highways are looking at this as a capital works program.
- West Midlands energy – Shropshire, Hereford, Worcester and Telford supply energy for schools etc but they are a non-profit making organisation, and they have been asked to look at selling to the public directly, but this may not be possible to do this due to the billing systems.
- Urban Council funding compared to Rural councils is dramatically different.
- The changes to the lights on the A5 at Crckley Bank, is the program of works.
- Countess Arms – update from the Officer at Shropshire Council - I'm emailing to update regarding the temporary closure of the PROW at the above. I've been in contact with colleagues in the PROW Team, they've been in contact with the owners of the pub and we're awaiting information from the owners as to the current situation which we expect an update in early September. When there's further information, we'll update you.
- Black Smiths Yard update – There is little action that Shropshire Council can take and they are dealing with the owners on this matter.
- Kettlemore Lane - Drainage - Just want to let you know that from 26-30 September we'll be working on Kettlemore Lane, to improve drainage. There road will stay open.

80/22. Planning applications received, Decisions and Enforcement matters made by Shropshire Council (inc solar farm information)

### Planning Applications

22/03179/FUL      84 Heath Hill, Sheriffhales  
Erection of four bedroom dwelling and garage following removal of existing dwelling, garages and outbuildings and siting of temporary caravan for temporary living accommodation whilst work being undertaken - No objection

22/03597/SCR      Proposed Solar Farm To The South Of Lilyhurst Road Lilyhurst  
EIA Screening Opinion for a proposed ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) development of circa 39 Megawatts and accompanying Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of 9MW

It was proposed by Cllr N Pulker and seconded by Cllr A Edwards that we have no objection – the land must not be farmable arable land, the method of construction needs to be considered whilst construction takes place, the land must be decommissioned and returned to its previous state at the end of

its life and must have a community benefit. Also what percentage of land is in Sheriffhales.

To note a new TPO order details are for the Brick Kiln Plantation, Lilyhurst, TPO 2022 (Ref: SC/00495/22), which was created today on the 04 August 2022.

### **Planning Decisions**

22/02413/FUL (validated: 21/06/2022)

Address: Sutherland Barn, Burlington Court, Burlington, Sheriffhales, Shifnal

Proposal: Installation of a log burner and external flue

Decision: Grant Permission

### **Planning Enforcement**

CASE REFERENCE 22/08496/ENF

PLANNING ENQUIRY: Alleged breach of Planning Control in relation to untidy land and the running of a new business at Hunger Hill Farm, Sheriffhales, Shifnal.

No update on the A5 for the forklift truck company.

### **Other Planning issues**

Correspondence from developer for Lillishall solar farm.

81/22. To discuss a grant for the village hall.

No application has been received.

Correspondence from Shropshire Council relating to £15000 for community group funding – this has been sent to the Village Hall Committee

81/22. To discuss progress on the EMG Grant and any new areas to be discussed for consideration.

The contractor has been contacted and supplied with maps and a list of areas. Cllr Mr A Edwards has also made contact with them as our on site point of contact. He has met with the contractor and looked at all the areas of concern and to date nothing has been done to date.

82/22. Clerks report.

Correspondence received:-

- Complaint relating to the former Blacksmiths property and rodent infestation – referred to Shropshire Council discussed under Unitary Councillor item.
- Complaint re flooding at Kettlemore Lane – referred to Shropshire Council
- Police information on Neighbourhood watch (circulated)
- 2 response to the Smart water leaflet drop directly to PC and from Francis Bridgewater - We have just received the figures for last week and you now

appear to have registered 50.25% of your kits so you have now got a target of a further 79 kits to get you to the 70%.

- Correspondence from Shropshire Council relating to a free tree scheme
- To discuss a date for installing the plaque for former Cllr N Edwards a weekend in October is best for Mrs Edwards. The Clerk to organise the date of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2022, write to the school and invite any parents that would like to attend at 11.30 to unveil the plaque and the contractor to install the sign on the morning. The Clerk to also book the village hall, members thanked Mrs Horne for helping with the refreshments.

83/22. To receive the accounts for payment

|            |         |    |    |                     |
|------------|---------|----|----|---------------------|
| 01/07/2022 | 416.84  | 18 | dd | Administration      |
| 04/07/2022 | 500.00  | 20 | dd | Chairmans Allowance |
| 01/07/2022 | 104.20  | 19 | dd | HMRC                |
| 14/07/2022 | 18.04   | 21 | dd | IONOS               |
| 01/08/2022 | 416.84  | 23 | dd | Administration      |
| 15/07/2022 | 346.14  | 22 | dd | Brunel Eng.         |
| 18/07/2022 | 162.00  | 26 | dd | Ditton's            |
| 25/07/2022 | 100.80  | 27 | dd | Play Safety         |
| 11/07/2022 | 35.00   | 28 | dd | ICO                 |
| 01/08/2022 | 104.20  | 24 | dd | HMRC                |
| 18/07/2022 | 162.00  | 25 | dd | Dittons             |
| 30/07/2022 | 339.25  | 29 | dd | Administration      |
|            | 2765.31 |    |    | Total               |

84/22. Future Agenda items

Budget, Christmas light switch on, Chairman's Charity for a future meeting, invite Highways to a future meeting.

85/22. Dates and Times of future meetings. .

11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7.00pm – workshop at the Beasley room

15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 8.35pm.