

MYNDTOWN COMBINED PARISH COUNCIL
Grouping: MYNDTOWN, NORBURY, RATLINGHOPE & WENTNOR PARISHES.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF 12th MARCH 2024

Present: Mr S Edwards, Mr P Owen, Mr P Rogers-Coltman, Mr N Pritchard, Mr T Jones, Mrs L Thomas - Clerk/RFO

In Attendance: Cllr Rep RH (left at 7.30pm)

1. Apologies: Mr M Unwin (working late) Mr T Betton (prior engagement) Mr R Lancaster (holiday) Apologies Accepted by SOHAIF **Resolved**

2. Minutes of: Ordinary Meeting of 9th JAN 2023. SOHAIF Agreed & Signed **Resolved**

3. Declarations of Interest:

- PR-C under 6i

4. Matters Arising:

- Warning Lights at Norbury School repaired 6.2.24
- NCPS Carpark – An Application for funding for works required on the school site was submitted to The Safer Roads Fund on 30.1.24. The Application was unsuccessful. LT was thanked for completing the application. SE has contacted The Brow to chase up the Lease Agreement. **Action:** LT will contact Mat Mead to submit an application of interest for CIL funding.
- 2024/25 Precept Requested 11.1.24, £4,859. There is NO CIL Payment due for this area.
- The Shropshire Hills AONB has been renamed The Shropshire Hills National Landscape

5. Finance:

1.2.24 - NALC Update on Banking Issues: Possible causes of issues for clerks/RFO's to discharge statutory financial duties under The Local Govt Act 1972 are the inability of Banks to understand what local councils are, how they work and what sector they fit in to. Issues are changes of signatory, mandate changes, repeatedly being threatened with account closure and for clerks to produce financial evidence that their councillors were not or had been bankrupt. This may be as a result of transition to on line banking, post Brexit money laundering regulations, bank closures and mis-categorisation of local councils as clubs or charities and the off shoring of call centres to Asia or the USA. NALC has consulted with UK Finance to highlight issues and Guidance Notes for banks on how to categorise and understand how local councils function, has now been produced. Barclays has now changed categorisation of local councils and supplied direct contact data assistance. **(N)**

Draft Budget Analysis for 2024/25. Discussed.

Statement of Funds as at 9/2/24: Community Acc-£12,239.59 B/P Acc-£2,699.38 (+ 9.37 Int)

Allocated out of this: £1000 PM Budget, De-Fib Maintenance Budget £1,318.16 (-286.20), NF Available: £4,099.77. **Yearly Honorary Payments:** Village Hall Premises Licence £70 & Toddlers PL Insurance £100 payable in May each year. SpArC Funding: Variable. £5k+ allocated for parking improvements at Norbury CP School.

(a) Donation/NF Grant Requests:

- None

(b) Payments, Standing Orders & D/D:

- L.Thomas-£180, 1.2.24 SO
- L.Thomas-£180, 1.3.24 SO
- SC/JES-£163.54, 17.3.24 DD (Vat memo £27.26)

(c) Cheques for Approval/Payment:

- None

6. Housing & Building Control: **Bold** Type to be read as Updates. Newest applications listed first.

24.1.24 – SC Updated Planning Enforcement Protocol: Due to possible breaching of data protection legislation, future Planning Enforcement Investigations including producing of confidential details/documents or publishing the property address in a public meeting should not be disclosed as an Agenda Item. If a breach of planning legislation has occurred this should be an end of agenda item in a closed session discussion once the public has left and live streaming ceased. Details can be published only when a formal notice is served. There is now a dedicated Enforcement team supported by wider planning & technical specialists to investigate potential planning breaches. This has resulted in swifter determinations. Compliance with planning legislation is on the property owners resulting in submitting a retrospective application or to alter or change the development to meet planning consent or a permitted development right. Concerns have been raised that councils are notified of cases opening but no closure of case alert. If there are cases of particular interest to a council, then on receipt of details the Enforcement team can be contacted. A council can be added to the case as an interested party and notified of any progress or action to be taken.

CPRE- Following campaigning, from summer 2024 Planning Permission will be required for future short term lets with a national register to ensure all accommodation is safe. A Govt Consultation includes a CPRE proposal that any future new build homes will have mandatory rooftop solar panels.

Applications recently Received/Approved:

- 24/00606/F-Installation of earth banked slurry lagoon + associated works @ Myndtown Cot. **N/O submitted 4.3.24**
- 23/05424/VAR-Variation of Condition 2 attached to permission 23/03322/F to allow for installation of x6 additional solar panels instead of 12. **N/O comments submitted 11.1.24. LPA: 1.2.24**
- 23/0542/F-Erection of timber structure for serving refreshments & selling items produced at property on seasonal basis, and for storage of produce & tubers during winter months @ Quarry Lodge, Ny **N/O comments submitted 11.1.24. LPA: 19.1.24**
- 23/04612/VAR- Retrospective Removal of Condition 9 (COU of Annex from equine workers occupancy to holiday let) @ Penhaligon Stud, Ny. Comments submitted 13.11.23 **Decision Pending**
- Appeal APP/L3245/C/23/3320664 to Planning Inspectorate to Enforcement Notice 20/07075 re-issue 23/03143 on Land to SE of Stitt Cottage. R'hope. Objection Comments submitted 9.6.23. **Decision Date: 1.2.24 The Planning Inspectorate appointed by the Secretary of State, has upheld the Enforcement Notice and Dismissed the Appeal.** The owner has to vacate the use of the land as a caravan site for residential purposes within 3 mths. He has 6 mths to remove x2 static caravans and the touring caravan along with the associated paraphernalia brought on to the land in connection with using the land as a caravan site for residential purposes. However the Notice does not include the x3 lorry backs storage units which are exempt on the grounds that their intended use could continue for agricultural purposes and therefore can remain on site. **Update:** The owner has still to vacate the site and told a councillor on 10.3.24 that he has received planning consent. **Agreed:** To continue to monitor the site.

7. Village Hall:

- Martyn's Law - Proposed Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill requirements for those responsible for smaller capacity premises (100 – 799 persons) There have been changes to remove the need for specific terrorist training and the need to complete a Terrorism Evaluation prior to each event, that now reasonable and practical procedures can be followed.
- The VH committee are looking for another Trustee. AGM 21.3.24, 7pm. SE will attend

8. Parish Plan & Environment:

- Starlink WiFi Update: PR-C met with the company. A Business plan cost is £1000 for equipment & £75 p/m fee. A Home plan costs £300 for equipment & £75 p/m fee. Speeds are instant.
- Analogue telephones are to be phased out by end 2025. This will be concerning for elderly residents.
- SWS Fibre-optic installation in Norbury: Despite electricity poles having been removed under the Conservation scheme, poles will need to be re-instated to provide the fibre-optic overground.

9. Roads: Reports for problems can be made on SC fix my street website

- Road closure from Plowden to Horderley for Ash die back pruning.
- Road closure for Carriageway Repairs @ Walkmill Bridge (both sides) between 28.5.24 – 31.5.24, Tues – Fri, 9.30 - 4pm
- Advance Notice: Road closure: Newton Junction to Bridges Junction 3.6.24 – 28.6.24 to instal gabion baskets to stabilise verge. This is not on the main road but the track leading from R'hope church over the hill to the Stitt.
- Road closure: Lydham's Heath junction to end Linley Drive 10.4.24 – 26.4.24, M- F 9.30am – 4pm. Multiple work zones for carriageway repairs.
- Advanced Notice: PCRT Hillclimb, 15.8.24. 6-8pm, Pole Cottage – Asterton.

10. Communication:

- SC £62m funding gap causing a review of all services. Cost Saving Proposals include; Library provision, support for leisure provision, reducing number of household recycling centres possibly at Craven Arms, charging for green waste collections, reducing number of council buildings & assets and moving from Shirehall to alternate offices, and changing the transport needs of children/youths with special education needs and disabilities. £800K reduction on road budget.
- SALC – There has been an alarming rise in cold calling by companies offering free council energy efficiency improvements. If you are in doubt about a letter or call, to check if the company is authentic contact Keep Shropshire Warm on 0800 112 3743 or email ksw@mea.org.uk To check if you are eligible for grants visit the Sustainable Warmth Shropshire website www.shropshire.gov.uk/sws

11. Correspondence/Shropshire Councillor Representative Report:

- Last recruitment day for Stone House Hospital. There will be a meeting on 4.4.24 to make a final decision. **N**

- SpArC Funding progressing well. A few teething issues since the takeover from Shropshire Council Leisure Trust.

12. Other Items/Public Session:

- **Myndtown Parish Meeting:** Bank Balances at 19/2/24. Community Acc: £2,000.06 (- £16 Charges) BMM Acc: £1,109.37 (+ £5.32 Int). WaterPlus monthly DD payments: 13.1.24-£7.56 (E), 17.2.24-£4.54 (E) & 2.3.24-£7.81 (E)
 1. PR-C had a difficulty in finding good quality bales. **Agreed:** To reimburse R Davies £300 instead for 100 bales lost at harvest.
 2. S & M Mellor Proposal: To apply for FIPL 100% Grants for work needed on the parish lands. **Action:** SE will look in to. As no scheme payments are claimed by the parish meeting, it may be advisable for the tenants to apply directly.

Closed 8.10pm

Meeting Dates for 2024

16th April – APM, 14th May – Annual Meeting, 2nd July, 3rd Sept & 12th Nov.