

# Culmington Parish Council

## Draft Minutes of the ordinary meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Present:** Councillors Mr A Pike (Chair), Mr Ian Alderson, Mrs C Byng, Mrs M Holland, Mrs J Mear. **In Attendance:** Cllr C Motley (Shropshire Council) and H Coonick (Clerk/RFO)

1. **Receive Apologies for Absence:** Mr M Seabrook, Mr I Steele, Mr J Turley and Ms J Watts.
2. **Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting:** None
3. **Public Involvement Session:** One member of the public was in attendance but made no comment.
4. **Minutes:** To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024.  
**RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> October as an accurate record and they were signed by the chair.
5. **Reports**
  - 5.1. Shropshire Council – Cllr Motley reported that the candidate for the Conservative Party for the Corvedale for Shropshire Council was selected as Dr Colin Stanford. It is not clear which other parties will stand in the Corvedale at next May's election. Shropshire Council has now moved out of Shirehall and will eventually move into the Guild Hall. Inspectors have suspended hearings into SC's Local Plan but have not yet informed the Council of the reason for the suspension.
  - 5.2. Village Hall Committee– Cllr Mear reported that the Tractor Run had been successful, supported by residents and the police. There is a joint Race Night at Westhope Village Hall. The committee continue to work on raising funds for the extension.
  - 5.3. Flood Action Group – Cllr Byng reported that there had not been a FAG meeting since the last Parish Council meeting.
  - 5.4. Emergency Officer – Mr Hugh Disley – Review the Draft Emergency Plan: Mr Disley went through the draft plan. He stressed the importance of community involvement in the plan and will ensure that it is compliant with General Data Protection Regulations. There will be a team of coordinators to ensure that if one person is not available that others can carry out the plan in an emergency. It will eventually be publicised on notice boards, website and Ripples. A log of activity during an emergency will be kept keeping everyone safe and to assist with learning after the event. Mr Disley will bring the final version of the plan and costs for equipment etc to the January Parish Council meeting for inclusion in the budget for 2025-26. The Emergency Plan will be placed on the agenda annually in November. The council was supportive of the plan and the Chair thanked Mr Disley.
  - 5.5. South Shropshire Area Committee – H Coonick (Clerk) reported she had not attended the meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> September due to other commitments. The minutes recorded a presentation by the new MP Stuart Anderson – he now has his constituency office in Ludlow and Bridgnorth and has stepped back from the Opposition Front Bench in order to devote his time to constituency matters. He encourages parishes to raise concerns with him. He believes the current formula for funding local government disadvantages rural areas and does not feel that funding is being allocated across Shropshire equitably. He wants to see better service provision in rural areas with a shift towards local medical centres/community hospitals. He also thinks there is a resource management issue in terms of the distribution of policing across the area.
6. **Flooding:**

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- 6.1. **Update on the Natural Flood Management Landowners Event:** A landowner engagement event at 6.45pm on 19th November is aimed at identifying and engaging with landowners who may be interested in NFM features on their land as part of Phase 2 of the Slow the Flow project.
- 6.2. **Consider Action to Alleviate Flood Risk in Seifton Lane and Culmington:** Seifton Lane experienced severe flooding again recently when the water was 3ft deep and only passable in a tractor. Cllr Mear asked for a joint meeting with the Flood Action Group to look at what action could be taken to alleviate the problem.
7. **Planning:**
  - 7.1. [24/03834/TCA](#) Home James, 6 Culmington, SY8 2DB. Fell 1no Silver Birch, crown reduce by 30% 1no Beech & reduce in height by 10ft 1no Leylandii hedge within Culmington Conservation Area. Applicant: Mr Mark Littlejohns:  
**RESOLVED:** to make no comment.
  - 7.2. [24/03914/FUL](#) Nos. 1-6 Corve View, Culmington, SY8 2DD Removal of chimneys, extension of roof planes and installation of external wall insulation to Nos. 1-6 Corve View. Applicant: Connexus Housing Ltd  
**RESOLVED:** to support this application.
8. **Consider Making a Complaint to Shropshire Council re: Cuts to Services and Expenditure on a Sports Village and Swimming Pool at Sundorne:** Cllr Motley explained that the budget used for infrastructure such as the Sports Village come from a different source than the revenue budget. The Capital Budget allows the council to apply for loans and grants to fund infrastructure.
9. **Agree the Policing Priorities:**  
**RESOLVED:** to request that the priorities for the Neighbourhood Team should be a. Thefts (farm) b. speeding c. wildlife crime (which includes sheep worrying).
10. **Update on the Request to Land Registry to Change the Entry for the Village Hall:** the Land Registry will complete this application by 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026.
11. **Correspondence: Tree & Urban Forest Apprentice at Shropshire Council:** the Clerk will refer her to Caring for Gods Acre and the National Landscapes Team.
12. **Consider Transferring the Website Domain and Emails to .gov.uk:**  
**RESOLVED:** to transfer to a .gov.uk domain as it will be a free addition to the website service provided by Hugo Fox. A grant will be applied for if appropriate. The .gov.uk email service is not mandatory at present and will not be taken up due to the cost. All councillors will be encouraged to have designated email for council emails.
13. **Finance:**
  - 13.1. Consider a Reserves Policy:  
**RESOLVED:** to adopt the Reserves Policy.
  - 13.2. Consider the Draft Budget for 2025-2026: the draft budget was considered and will be adopted at the January 2025 meeting when the precept will be set.
  - 13.3. Authorise Payments: D Lewis (Environmental Maintenance), H Coonick (Clerk), (Salary Oct-Dec) including pay award  
**RESOLVED:** a. to make a payment of £139.50 to D Lewis b. £959.15 (including pay award backpay) to H Coonick and HMRC c. £8.55 travel expenses to H Coonick
  - 13.4. Agree the Internal Auditor for 2025-2026:  
**RESOLVED:** to appoint Mrs Jayne Disley as the Internal Auditor.
14. **Items for the Next Parish Council Meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025:**
  - a. Budget b. Emergency Plan c. Tree Preservation Order

Signed:

Date: