Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council

[www.bedstoneandbucknell.org](http://www.bedstoneandbucknell.org)

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th September 2018**

**in St Mary’s Church, Bucknell at 7.30pm.**

**PRESENT**

Cllr J Kemp (Chairman), Cllr I Owen (Vice Chairman), Cllr C Davies, Cllr W Davies, Cllr C Savery, Cllr S Jones,

Cllr N Edwards.

Shropshire Cllr N Hartin.

Mr P Nutting, Leader of Shropshire Council.

Mr N Laurens, Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth & Jobs, Shropshire Council.

46 members of the public.

Ms N Adams (Parish Clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the members of the public and introduced Mr Nutting and Mr Laurens.

**1 PRESENTATION BY SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL**

**Mr P Nutting** said there were 320,000 people resident in Shropshire and the main financial commitments were adult social care and children’s services. It was expected these would increase substantially year on year into the future. The Council’s Revenue Budget was therefore under considerable pressure. The Council had purchased two shopping centres in Shrewsbury which had created an income stream.

It was planned to set up a housing company to build both commercial and affordable housing on land which the Council already owned and it was hoped that two bedroom semi-detached houses could be sold for £120,000.

Review of the Local Plan. The Council was under considerable pressure from Central Government to build 25,000 houses over the next 20 years. Around 2,000 houses per year had been built over the past two years, mainly in Shrewsbury and Shifnal, which was on the M54 corridor. Also jobs were needed to keep young people in the area.

Council Tax. Mr Nutting said that his had to be increased by the maximum allowable amount every year into the foreseeable future as the Council needed the money. Efforts were being made to convince the Government that Shropshire needed increased funding.

Bucknell as a Community Hub. Mr Nutting said this was a very sensible decision in view of the proposed development of the station yard/wood yard into a housing and industrial site.

**Mr Nic Laurens** said that the creation of jobs was critical for keeping young people in the county. Many jobs in Shrewsbury and rural areas were low paid. However with more people working from home and the availability of broadband it was hoped this would change with increased growth.

Mr Nutting asked about broadband speeds and was informed that fibre optic supply was available in the parish.

Mr Nutting and Mr Laurens offered to return to speak to Parish Council meetings in the future if required.

**Questions from the floor:**

Ms Lynda Kean referred to several towns and villages in Shropshire which had been subjected to considerable house building and had lost their character. Mr Nutting said the Council was determined that this should not happen in Shropshire.

Miss Stone was concerned that the extra houses required by the extension to the SAMDev plan would involve development on green field sites, which was rejected by parishioners in the Parish Plan. Mr Nutting said that windfall sites would probably accommodate the extra houses within the village envelope; he supported brown field development.

Mr Griffiths questioned whether the infrastructure in rural area was adequate to support industries, specifically from the A49 corridor. Mr Nutting said the roads in South Shropshire were in relatively good condition at present.

Mrs Henderson asked about Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Mr Nutting said that the calculations were complicated but were being reviewed. The system should provide income for both the Parish Council and Shropshire Council.

Cllr Hartin mentioned that Network Rail wanted to close Parson’s crossing, but there was no safe access for pedestrians at the level crossing. This problem would be exacerbated when there were houses on the woodyard. Mr Nutting said that a full survey of the area should be undertaken to ensure in the first instance that Shropshire Council owned the land to enable any remedial work to be undertaken. Action: Cllr Hartin

Mr Bates said he had been reassured by the presentation given but stressed that house building should be on the brown field site and that provision of infrastructure was vital.

Following further questions, the Chairman thanked Mr Nutting and Mr Laurens, who then left the meeting.

**2 OPEN DISCUSSION**

Miss Stone was concerned about the “Confidential” nature of a recent meeting between the Parish Council and Mr Liam Cowden at the Shirehall. The Chairman said the meeting was merely providing facts for input into the draft Local Plan, which would be subject to consultation.

The Chairman then closed the Open Meeting.

**3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr D Cullimore.

**4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

As and when required.

**5 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGHELD 10.7.18**

Approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

**6 TO RECEIVE REPORTS:**

**(a) Shropshire Cllr N Hartin.** None; the Shropshire picture had been covered in the earlier discussion.

**(b) South West Shropshire LJC and Shropshire Town & Parish Council Forum.** The Chairman reported that no LJC meeting had been held. The STPCF meeting had included discussion on CIL policy development as mentioned earlier by Cllr Nutting: calculations were based on £80 per sqm of new development.

**(c) Daffodil Lane Development.**  Cllr Edwards reported that work to complete the changing rooms was well under way, various tradesmen were due to come in. Should be completed by October. The building was used during a football match in August and also for the Bucknell Show. There were suggestions that the football club could be revived. The facilities would also be available for the school. The gate needed some attention. There was still some grant money to come in.

**(d) School report.** Cllr C Davies readout a report from Mrs Hartin detailing current and future plans for the children (see Annexe A to these Minutes).

**7 ROADS:**

**(a) Road conditions. (i) potholes.** Being reported and dealt with. **(ii) level crossing – improving safety.** There was no safe crossing for pedestrians and a full survey of the area was needed. Cllr Cullimore was in touch with Shropshire Council officers. Cllr Owen said that much of the problem was caused by positioning of the barrier mechanism.

**(b) Signage. White lines to be painted. (i) end of the Causeway. (ii) junction at railway crossing. (iii) Three “Slow” signs in Bedstone.** Not yet done.

**(c) Usage. (i) Bedstone Road.** Hedges/speed of heavy vehicles. **(ii) advisory 20mph limit in parts of the village.** Nothing to report at present. Cllr Cullimore was in touch with Shropshire Council officers.

Cllr Hartin said that all road problems should be reported to Shropshire Council and copied to him as he was holding ongoing bimonthly meetings with the Divisional Surveyor. Action: All

**8 STREETSCENE:**

**(a) Pathways. (i) Parson’s crossing.** Enquiries being made re: Modification Order. Chairman said this would be a lengthy process; perhaps a volunteer would help assemble ‘evidence’ etc from residents? Mrs Cummings had received confirmation that there were no plans to close the crossing until the level crossing could be made safe.

Action: Clerk

**(b) Open Spaces. (i) Common land at Chapel Lawn Road: (1) new notice board.** Letter of thanks and receipt had been sent to Hornsey Steels. **(2) recycling sign.** Chairman to complete painting this.

Action: Chairman

**(c) Street lights. (i) failed lights/repairs.** Cllr C Davies said that three failed lights had been reported and repaired.

**(d) Causeway. (i) tree stumps (Causeway and Chapel Lawn Road).** Some work had been done, another site needed attention. **(ii) fouling.** Cllr Edwards said that in addition to the usual dog fouling, there had recently been horse droppings deposited in this area. Clerk to check status of the Causeway and report to Chairman. **(iii) replacement notice board.** It was agreed this would be a good idea and would be borne in mind when the Precept is decided shortly. Action: Clerk

**9 POLICING**

**(a) Neighbourhood Watch.** Cllr C Davies had arranged two speakers for the October meeting.

**10 PLANNING:**

**(a) Application No. 18/03388/FUL.** Two ground floor extensions at Pool Cottage, Bedstone had been received between meetings, but subsequently withdrawn by the applicant.

**(b)** There were no decisions to be reported by planning authority.

**11 PARISH COUNCIL MANAGEMENT:**

**(a) General Data Protection Regulations: (All documents previously circulated to Councillors)**

**(i) To formally adopt the following policies:**

(1) Privacy Policy

(2) Subject Access Policy

(3) Personal Data Management Policy and Audit Log April 2018

(4) Security Incident Response Policy.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Savery and agreed unanimously on a show of hands to formally adopt the above policies.

**(ii) Councillors’ Consent Forms.** Preferred contact details for the website. Some Councillors still to provide these.

**(iii) GDPR – 25 page extract.** Being circulated by Councillors.

**(b) Website.** Cllr Jones said there had been a soft launch of the new website and news items and updated were welcome. Chairman signed off the Contract.

**(c) FaceBook page.** Cllr Edwards explained that this was a closed forum and those wishing to join had to say why they wanted to be a contributor. To be removed from the Agenda as the forum was not linked to the Parish Council.

**12 COUNCIL FINANCE:**

**(a) Account balances were reported as:**

Community (current) account £15,969.82

Business Savings account £10,974.61

Of which: Parish Plan account £78.14

Transparency Grant Fund £1,352.53

Parish Council account £9,543.94.

**(b) It was agreed unanimously to pay the following:**

Chris Trantor (mowing at Daffodil Lane) £170.00

Bucknell Nurseries (mowing, tree trimming, etc) £261.00

(includes £43.50 recoverable VAT)

Ray Davies (grounds maintenance – August) £334.90

Highline Electrical (street light repairs) £489.90

(includes £81.65 recoverable VAT)

RoSPA Playsafety Ltd (play area inspections) £159.60

(includes £26.60 recoverable VAT)

N Adams (salary – August) ) £350.50

HMRCE (PAYE – August) ) £47.20

R Mullard-Davies (payroll services y/e 5.4.18) £60.00

C Savery (refund for repairs to Bedstone notice board) £26.85.

**The following were paid between meetings:**

N Adams (salary – July) ) £350.50

HMRC (PAYE – July) ) £47.20

Ray Davies (grounds maintenance – July) £236.40.

These payments were unanimously approved.

**It was further agreed to pay the following:** (Cllr Jones declared an interest and did not vote)

S J & Co Creative (balance for website design £300 + £10.32 domain renewal) £310.32.

**(c) Forward budget plan.** Cllr Savery submitted a 3-Monthly Internal Systems Check List and reported that the finances were on schedule. Chairman drew attention to a Budget Setting course at Shirehall on 19th October.

**(d) Mandate change.** In progress. Chairman wondered if we should change our account from Barclays to the Post Office. Action: Chairman/Clerk

**13 CORRESPONDENCE:**

Spotlight leaflets for September and HOWLTA Newsletter distributed to those present.

**14 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**(a) War Memorial.** Chairman reported that further work on the memorial would mean a shortfall of about £215, which he would propose at the next meeting the PC should meet. Clerk to establish how much the Parish Council had agreed to support this project. Action: Clerk

**(b) Cllr Jones’ resignation.** Cllr Jones said she and her partner had to move from the village because there was no affordable housing (as highlighted earlier in the meeting). Clerk suggested that her official resignation should be delayed until a firm moving date was established. Chairman said that at that time we would be two Councillors short and the decision should be made on declaring casual vacancies.

**15 DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th October 2018 in Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.16pm.

JK/NEA

12.9.18