Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council

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

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd March 2021**

**By Zoom conferencing at 7.30pm.**

**PRESENT**

Cllr J Kemp (Chairman), Cllr D Cullimore (Vice Chairman), Cllr I Owen, Cllr N Edwards, Cllr W Davies,

Cllr C Davies, Cllr C Savery.

Shropshire Cllr N Hartin.

No members of the public

Ms N Adams (Parish Clerk).

**1 OPEN DISCUSSION**

Cllr Edwards enquired whether the one-way system on Old Bedstone Road was going to be closed. The two-way system was not very good. Cllr Hartin to pursue this, also signage. Action: Cllr Hartin

Cllr W Davies said that some hardcore and spoil from the capital drainage works had been dumped on the layby near the Lingen Bridge and asked whether this would be made good. Cllr Hartin to find out. Action: Cllr Hartin

**2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

As and when required.

**4 TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 2.2.21**

Approved unanimously and will be signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record and forwarded to the Clerk.

 Action: Chairman

**5 TO RECEIVE REPORTS:**

1. **Shropshire Cllr Hartin.** A meeting was held remotely on 25.2.21 and one item for discussion was the proposal to move the Council offices to another site in Shrewsbury, possibly the Pride Hill Centre, which was one of the shopping centres recently purchased by the Council. The Shirehall was now too big for the reduced number of staff, and the site could be sold for demolition and development.

Council Tax was due to be increased by 3.99%, rather than the maximum of 4.99%.

1. **SALC South Shropshire Area Committee.** Next meeting scheduled to be held remotely on 14.2.21.
2. **SALC Executive Committee.** Chairman had circulated extracts from the last meeting held 8.2.21. An informative but disturbing presentation on the exploitation of children by drug dealers had been given by Sonya Jones from the National Charity “We are with You”. Sonya was also the Service and Safeguarding Lead for the Charity in Shropshire.
3. **SALC/Shropshire Council Liaison Meeting.** Chairman had also circulated extracts from these Minutes. Items discussed included: Library transformation, Community Governance Reviews, River Severn Partnership, Highways maintenance, Communications, and Update on Place Plans.

**6 COUNCIL FINANCE:**

1. **Account balances were reported as:**

Community (current) account £22,266.36

 (includes £500 donation from Bucknell Café Committee and

 £5 rent for Daffodil Lane)

Business Savings account £11,016.09

 Of which: Parish Plan account £78.14

 Transparency Grant fund £544.91

 Parish Council account £10,393.87.

1. **It was agreed unanimously to pay the following:**

N Adams (salary February) ) £372.11

HMRC (PAYE February) ) £53.60

R Davies (grounds maintenance February) £108.50

Shropshire Council (energy charge Jan – March 2021) £249.84

 (includes £41.64 recoverable VAT).

1. **Forward budget plan – condition of mower.** The mower had recently been serviced and it was reported that the bearing on the cutters was wearing out. Cllr Owen to establish whether it was economical to have it repaired or better to buy a new mower, and would obtain quotes. If a new one was purchased it should be more of a commercial model. Action: Cllr Owen
2. **Quotes for mowing recreation ground.** Cllr Edwards had obtained the following quotes:

Countrywide £100 per cut + VAT

Bucknell Nurseries £95 “ “ “ “

Chris Trantor £85 “ “

It was agreed to award the contract to Chris Trantor, with the usual 50% grant from the Parish Council to the Memorial Hall Committee. Action: Clerk

**7 ROADS/STREETSCENE:
(a) Letter to Highways dated 11.1.21.** Nothing to report at present.

**(b) Flooding in the parish.** Nothing to report at present, although a meeting of the Flood Action Group had been held on 24th February with the Environment Agency and the National Flood Forum.

**(c) Street Lamp failures.** All working perfectly.
 **Replacement light in Redlake Place.** Cllr C Davies reported that the new street light was in place and waiting for the power supply to be connected. This should be coordinated with the Redlake Place resurfacing.
 Action: Chair

**(d) Replacement white posts on the Causeway.** Cllr Owen was getting quotes.
 Action: Cllr Owen

**(e) Chairman’s letter to the police requesting official monitoring of traffic speed.** Chairman reported that he was liaising with PCSO Shaun Culliss on this.

**(f) Kissing gate at The Hales.** Clerk had reported this to Mike Starr, who had passed this on to David Hardwick at Shropshire Council.

**(h) Resurfacing of Redlake Place.** Nothing to report at present although as noted previously the work must be
coordinated with the other works ongoing. Action: Cllr Hartin

**8 ONGOING PARISH MATTERS:**

**(a) Bucknell churchyard wall.** Work was hoped to be started in second week of April.

**(b) Café Committee donation – additional AED for Bucknell.** Cllr Owen declared an interest and said there were difficulties in obtaining the AED and cabinet as they had to be purchased separately. Site for this AED to be decided, also running costs, electricity supply, etc, total estimated costs = £1,700. Chairman proposed that this sum be covered by the Parish Council as previously agreed, seconded by Cllr C Davies and approved unanimously on a show of hands. Cheque to be written immediately in the sum of £1,500, payable to “Clun

Valley AED Scheme”. The grant of £500 was again gratefully acknowledged.
 Action: Cllr Owen

**9 PARISH COUNCIL MANAGEMENT:**

**(a) Review of website.** Cllr Cullimore had done some work on the website and suggested that further work be deferred until the next Parish Council takes office. Agreed. Cllr Edwards offered to help with the website in due course, reviewing it against the SALC recommended content. Action: Cllrs Cullimore/Edwards

**(b) Local Elections 6th May.** Clerk to request sufficient paper nomination packs to hopefully ensure that an election will take place. Cllr Edwards said that village halls were not allowed to open until 17th May, however many polling stations were in village halls. Cllr Hartin to make enquiries. Action: Clerk/Cllr Hartin

**(c) Community Governance Review.** Chairman said that Bedstone got very little out of being grouped with Bucknell, and this was reflected in the fact that parishioners there had no interest in joining the Parish Council. Perhaps a teacher from the college would be interested. Alternatively, Bedstone could be grouped with Hopton Castle, or hold its own Parish Meeting, as previously. Cllr Savery used to run the Parish Meeting in past years.

**10 PLANNING:**

1. **There were no applications for consideration.** An application was expected from Hornsey Steel for the coal yard.

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

**(c) Shropshire Draft Local Plan 2016-2038.**

**11 CORRESPONDENCE:**
Letter had been received from a parishioner concerned about possible use of the Riverlea site after Hornsey Steel had transferred to the coal yard. This letter had been circulated to all Parish Councillors.

**12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. **Road approaching Lingen bridge.** Cllr W Davies said the road had collapsed at its edge. Cllr Hartin to check this and report it to the relevant authority. Action: Cllr Hartin
2. **Bar in fence by Knowlend.** This was sticking out dangerously into the road. Cllr W Davies to investigate and wire it back out of the way. Action: Cllr W Davies

**13 DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING:**The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th April 2021 by Zoom conferencing.
The following meeting will be held on Tuesday 4th May 2021 by Zoom conferencing (TBA).

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

 Jonathan Kemp
 13th April 2021

JK/NEA
9.3.21