

**CHURCH PULVERBATCH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Clerk:**

**Email : church.pulverbatch@hotmail.co.uk**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CHURCH PULVERBATCH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2023 IN PULBERBATCH VILLAGE HALL.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr. W. Higgins  
Cllr. L. Clarkson  
Cllr. L. Leong  
Cllr. D. Taylor  
Cllr. P. Taylor  
Cllr. P. Whitley

**Also Present:** Anne Wilson Parish Clerk

The new Parish Clerk introduced herself to the Parish Council and each Councillor also introduced themselves.

**1/2023 APOLOGIES**

**RESOLVED** to receive apologies and reasons for absence from:

- Cllr. J. Conde – personal commitment
- Cllr. Dan Morris, Shropshire CC – family commitment

**2/2023 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

**RESOLVED** to note that there were no declarations of interest

**3/2023 PUBLIC TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

**4/2023 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the following meetings:

- Thursday 25 May 2023
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**5/2023 REPORTS**

**RESOLVED:**

- to receive Clerks report – there was no report at this meeting from the new Parish Clerk

- to receive Shropshire Councillors report from Cllr. Dan Morris
- (a) A very warm welcome to Anne who takes up the reins the new Clerk for Church Pulverbatch Parish Council - I look forward to working closely with you Anne. I would also like to put on record my thanks to Sandra Ryan who has done a fantastic job for years now and whom we will all miss.
  - (b) The official Shropshire Council position for the Local Government Boundary Review has been submitted, with a very strong case being put forward for Church Pulverbatch to remain with Burnell and not to go over to Bishops Castle. The report can be found here <https://newsroom.shropshire.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/Shropshire-Councils-response-to-the-LGBCE-consultation.pdf>
  - (c) Shropshire residents are being warned not to lose their voice on decisions that affect them by making sure their electoral registration details are up-to-date. The annual canvass – which started on Monday 31 July 2023 – ensures that the electoral register is kept up-to-date, and identifies any residents who are not yet registered, so that they can be encouraged to do so. They would then be able take part in any future elections. Voters are being encouraged to complete their online registration process by Tuesday 15 August but may, if they do not have online access, contact the council’s Customer Services Team on 0345 678 9015, who can assist them with their registration over the telephone. If someone is not currently registered, their name will not appear in the messages the council sends. If anyone needs to register to vote, the easiest way is online at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote). People who have moved recently are particularly encouraged to look out for the voter communications and check the details.
  - (d) There is a by-election coming up in Shropshire on 7th September for the ward of Worfield. The seat became vacant by the resignation of Richard Marshall who was also Portfolio Holder for Highways and regulatory services
  - (e) The resignation also led to a reshuffle in the Shropshire Council Cabinet, with Chris Schofield taking up the post of planning, Mark Jones taking up the post of economic development and I have been appointed to the role of Highways and Infrastructure. Not sure if that is good news for me or not 😊 but I will give it my best.
  - (f) Plans for the partial demolition of Riverside shopping centre in Shrewsbury town centre were approved by Shropshire Council’s Northern Planning Committee on 28th July. The approved proposals will see the partial demolition of units 2 and units 44-48 in the Riverside, along with the former police station and the pedestrian walkway canopy. The work, which will be undertaken later this year, will enable essential ground investigation works – helping to inform and shape the design of Shropshire Council’s Smithfield Riverside regeneration masterplan.
  - (g) Energy experts at Shropshire Council have secured over £11 million in funding for its Sustainable Warmth Programme to assist local people to improve their homes and reduce harm caused by fuel poverty. The total funding award of £11,073,500 from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero forms part of the Government’s Phase 2 of its ‘Home Upgrade Grant’ scheme. The council’s affordable warmth and energy efficiency team will use the funding to help retrofit the homes of residents living off-gas. Fully funded works will include insulation, heat pumps, first-time double glazing, and solar panels. This new funding will allow the council to support more than 500 households over the next two years, and the affordable warmth and energy efficiency team is currently negotiating additional funding to increase the number of households who will benefit from the scheme. There are a number of ways residents can qualify: for more information and to check their eligibility, they can visit our website [www.shropshire.gov.uk/sws](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/sws) where they can also apply. If residents require support with their application, they can contact our free and impartial energy advice service, Keep Shropshire Warm, on 0800 112 3743.
  - (h) In the first two months of the new financial year, Shropshire Council is set to achieve £19m of the £51m spending reductions it must find this year. This is equivalent to 37% of the spending reductions the council must find by April 2024, and is the most significant figure the council has ever achieved so early in a financial year. The council says that steps it has taken mean that by the end of May 2023 it has very high confidence that it has made £19m in spending reductions it must find to stay within budget. It has also boosted the council’s reserves by £20m, an issue highlighted by a recent peer review of the council by the Local Government Association.
  - (i) Among the measures that have contributed to the £19m spending reductions so far include, 1) A new discharge model with our partners to better plan support for people receiving care so that we improve outcomes and reduce time in care, 2) Use of digital devices to reduce care needs and support independence. For example, Shropshire will start a trial of a digital social care check-in service called Genie

in the next few weeks, and 3) Investing in Early Help and early intervention to prevent children becoming looked-after.

- (j) Concerns remain locally over the introduction of the on-demand bus service that will replace the 546 Pulverbatch to Shrewsbury. As Cllr Taylor knows I have been pressing hard for more information regarding the transition to this service, and I do recognise that more reassurance and detail needs to be given out. I have though found out that the DRT and incumbent service will run in tandem for a month to help people get used to the change, and that publicity leaflets will be put in the incumbent service to publicise. I am also told that the key times of day for students and work will also run as before on a timetable basis. I will further any further information that I get to the PC as soon as I get it.

Cllr. Morris was as frustrated as the Parish Council with the proposed changes to the 546 bus service which would have a detrimental effect on the lives of many parishioners, for whom many this service is their only mode of transport. Following lengthy discussion it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Paul Taylor would draft a letter on behalf of the Parish Council and circulate it to all Members for comment before the Parish Clerk send it to Cllr. Picton, Leader of Shropshire Council, Cllr. Dan Morris, Longden Parish Council and Daniel; Kawczynski, the MP expressing the serious concerns of the Parish Council and offering to work with Shropshire Council on the delivery of literature to every house in the parish to ensure everyone is aware of the proposed changes to the service, giving them the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to a bus service.

- to note any meetings or training attended by Parish Councillors – there was no reports needed.
- to receive Village Hall Committee Chairmans Annual Report

**RESOLVED** that the Chairman be asked to produce a report for the next Parish Council meeting.

#### **6/2023 PARISH MATTERS**

- (a) Margaret Perkins Charity – donation to consider.

**RESOLVED** that a comprehensive update on the work of the charity be presented to the Parish Council to enable discussion with all the facts to take place. It was noted that their biggest expenditure annually was insurance but they needed to clarify how the charity would benefit from a grant and what it would be spent on.

- (b) Noticeboard update

**RESOLVED** that a vote of thanks be given to Kew Leong for the repairs he carried out on the noticeboards as a volunteer.

#### **7/2023 HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

A report was given on the parish Speed watch and Members noted that 4 people had been recorded speeding on the day before the meeting and of the five recorded on the day of the meeting one was the same as the day before. There was concerned about the lack of feedback from the Police on the action taken after drivers had been caught speeding.

**RESOLVED** that the Police be contacted for an updated and that the Parish Council have the opportunity to understand what is done with the data recorded when drivers speed.

#### **8/2023 FINANCE**

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) to approve Q1 budget monitor and reconciliation

(b) to approve payments:

- Clerk salary July and August – payments to be completed the day after the meeting
- Kew Leong - £34.09

### **9/2023 PLANNING MATTERS**

**RESOLVED** to note that following:

#### ***(A) PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS – for information only***

- Reference: 23/01158/FUL (validated: 16/03/2023). Address: 2 Hollygrove Cottage, Church Pulverbatch, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 8DD. Proposal: Erection of two storey extension to northeast elevation and single storey extension to southeast elevation, alterations to dwelling  
**Decision: Grant Permission**
- Reference: 23/00391/FUL (validated: 03/02/2023). Address: Proposed Barn Conversion At Upper Cothercott, Pulverbatch, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. Proposal: Conversion of traditional farm building into a single residential dwelling, together with alterations to adjacent building to create an associated garage and store and installation of package treatment plant. **Decision: Grant Permission**

#### ***(B) PLANNING MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION***

Members considered the following applications:

- Reference: 23/02419/FUL (validated 05/06/2023) Dingleside Church Pulverbatch  
Erection of single storey rear extension and chimney removed

**RESOLVED** that there were no comments made on this application.

- Reference: 23/02413/FUL (validated 19/07/2023) Proposed Eco dwelling to the North of Ratlinghope  
Erection of 1 No. eco dwelling and installation of package treatment plant

**RESOLVED** that there were no comments made on this application.

- Reference: 23/03231/TCA (validated 19/07/2023) Yew Tree Cottage Church Pulverbatch  
Work to 3no. Yews (T1-3) and removal of 1no. Juniper (T4) within Church Pulverbatch Conservation Area

**RESOLVED** that Members supported this application.

#### ***(C) PLANNING APPLICATIONS/NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE AGENDA WAS SENT OUT***

There were no applications to consider.

### **10/2023 SHROPSHIRE HEALTHIER WEIGHT STRATEGY 2023 – 2028**

Members had the information sent to them by e mail and will be asked to consider the strategy consultation noting that the closing date was 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

It was pointed out that there were some alarming statistics in this strategy and Members agreed that they supported the need for a more active lifestyle. Safety measures were needed in some areas to encourage walking. It was noted that a lot of local Church Pulverbatch residents do walk through the village walking group and that there was yoga in the village each Friday morning. Members agreed that people should be encouraged to walk and that the Parish Paths Partnership helped this in the area.

**11/2023 THE SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL(BRIDLEWAY 28 AND BRIDLEWAY 29 (PART) DELETION AND ADDITION, PARISH OF CHURCH PULVERBATCH) MODIFICATION**

Members were asked to consider the information circulated by e mail and make comments in terms of a response to Shropshire Council.

Members considered the concerns that the map was difficult to interpret and what were actually bridleways on some areas of the parish as there was a mistake on the local map. The footpath 0444/UNI/3 link between that footpath and the proposed diverted one shows a footpath going nowhere at present – confirmation is needed that the footpath will remain so there is of a footpath going nowhere. There is no apparent link between the existing footpath and the local footpath map.

**12/2023 OPCC TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL SURVEY 2023**

Members were asked to consider the information circulated by e mail giving the Parish Council to opportunity to help shape policing priorities and raise issues that matter to them. The Police are asking the council to have their say on police visibility, accessibility and crime and disorder in their area.

**RESOLVED** that Cllr. D. Taylor reply on behalf of Church Pulverbatch Parish Council.

**13/2023 WESTCOTT HILL JUNCTION TO HOME FARM JUNCTION, PULVERBATCH**

Members noted the Temporary Road Closure from 4<sup>th</sup> September to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The road closure is due to Severn Trent Water – installation of a 25m network pump and associated pipework to improve pressure in the area – open cut with the installation of connection backfill and reinstate. Road plates will be utilized during the works.

Members noted that Severn Trent had been spoken to as they could not automatically assume that they can use the Knapp for parking their work vehicles.

Members asked that it is put on record their thanks and gratitude to the precious Parish Clerk, Sandra Ryan for all her hard work and interest in the work of Church Pulverbatch Parish Council. The Parish Clerk was asked to write to Sandra expressing their thanks.

**14/2023 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Members asked for the following items to be included on the agenda:

- Margaret Perkins Charity – comprehensive information to be given to the Parish Council before any decision be made on a grant being given
- 546 Bus Service
- Village Hall – report from the Chairman

**15/2023 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** to note that the next meeting of Church Pulverbatch Parish Council will be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in Pulverbatch Village Hall at 7.30pm

**RESOLVED** that the meetings for the next year be as follows and the Village Hall be booked for the following dates:

- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024
- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**16/2023 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw, due to the nature of the business about to be transacted which is considered to be prejudicial to the public interest.

**COUNCIL IN PRIVATE SESSION**

**17/2023 ENFORCEMENT ACTION IN CHURCH PULVERBATCH**

Signed .....

Date .....

Chairman