

SELATTYN and GOBOWEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12th April 2006 at the Pavilion, Gobowen, commencing at 6.30pm

In the Chair – Councillor D G Lloyd MBE

Present: - Councillors: - I Bennett, R Bowyer, Mrs S Crow, Mrs PA Evans, R T Jones, D Lloyd MBE, T R Kirk, Mrs E Morgan, N J Stokes and J Thorpe.

Councillor D J Lloyd and PC Simon Clarke

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Neil Arthan, Chairman of St. Martins Parish Council, to the meeting as an observer.

1) Public Participation

None

2) Apologies

Councillors: S Westwood-Bate (working), J Manetti (working), S Jones (bereavement)

3) Declaration of Interests

None

4) Mrs Pauline James, Post Office Rural Transfer Advisor -The Post Office

Mrs James detailed to the meeting the circumstances of the proposed closure of the Gobowen Post Office and explained the alternatives which were being considered. She requested any assistance the Council could provide but stressed that the closing dates for applications for the vacant position was 22nd April.

Members raised a number of questions concerning the closure and the apparent stripping of post office business and revenue with Mrs James and discussed ways in which assistance could be provided.

Following this discussion it was agreed to write to the responsible Government Minister and Owen Paterson MP expressing the Council's concerns over the apparent loss of services from Post Offices and the lack of support particularly for Rural Post Offices.

The Chairman thanked Mrs James for her presentation and she then left the meeting

5) Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th March 2006

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th March 2006 were approved and signed.

6) Matters Arising from the Minutes

a) A progress report was issued and considered.

This was noted.

- b) The Clerk reported on a response from Oswestry Rural Parish Council and its fight to achieve an improvement of a junction on the A435. It was agreed to support the Parish Council in its efforts.
- c) The Clerk reported on his meeting with the County Council Officers regarding the Council's involvement in the 'Partnership', where it had been agreed that in future he would be invited to Partnership Standing Conference meetings and that the Regional Government Office were to arrange bi-annual meetings with representatives of all 'Quality' Parish Councils.

7) County Councillor's Report

Councillor DJ Lloyd reported on the possible re-organisation of the Shropshire Councils into a 'unitary' system and the positions being adopted by the individual authorities.

He also reported on the proposal by Shropshire County Council to purchase the rail link between Gobowen and Oswestry and the proposal to select a preferred operator for the line.

The Chairman re-iterated the position regarding the possible re-organisation and reported that two of the current District Councils had requested a detailed study of the 'unitary' case before proceeding, however, more information would be forthcoming after the publication of a white paper in June 2006.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Lloyd for his report and he then left the meeting.

8) Borough Councillors' Reports

The Chairman reported on the decision of the Council in selecting a Housing Trust to manage the Council's housing stock. He paid tribute to Councillor Mrs Crow who had assisted the Council's Working Party in determining its decision.

9) Parish Matters

a) Parish Plan

Councillor Stokes and the Clerk reported on the last meeting of the Steering Committee and, in particular, the completion and printing of the questionnaire and the agreed plans for its delivery.

b) Local Play Partnership

The Clerk reported on the last meeting of the Partnership when the constitution had been agreed. The Parish Councils were required to submit the names of their agreed representatives and substitutes by mid-May and the Annual Meeting was planned for June.

c) Report of the Pavilion and Playing Fields Committee Meeting

Members considered the minutes of the meeting and approved the recommendations in Paragraph 4 (a) (b) & (c).

d) **Parish Family Day – 18th June 2006**

The Chairman reported on the last meeting of the Working Party and some of the work which had taken place since.

e) **Members' Reports**

- i) Councillor Mrs Crow commented on the need to further publicise the availability of Bus Passes in view of the temporary closure of the Post Office. This was agreed.
- ii) Councillor Kirk informed the meeting of the recent appointment of a new head teacher at the Selattyn School.
- iii) Councillor Kirk requested that replacement 30mph signs be erected on the entry road from Weston Rhyn into Selattyn Village. It was agreed to request the County Council that the signs be replaced.
- iv) Councillor RT Jones requested that the Speed Camera Partnership remove the redundant speeding signs as promised. It was agreed to write and request that the signs be removed.
- v) Councillor RT Jones reported to Members on a 'surgery' he had held to receive reports about vandalism and harassment in Gobowen. He described some of the reports that he had received and he requested that the Police taken urgent measures to deal with the youths involved.
- vi) Councillor Mrs Crow commented on the press statements made about this issue and the effect it had upon local people in the village.
- vii) The Clerk reported that a swan had been killed in an incident on land off Hennle Lane and the RSPCA had reported that the bird had been shot.

10) Police Report – PC Simon Clarke

PC Clarke reported on the vandalism and harassment claims and on the action he and other officers were taking to combat these issues.

He also reported on recent crime statistics for the area and, in particular, a burglary in Selattyn, the theft and burning of a coach; a burglary at the Rhewl; the theft of a van; an attempted break-in at the Co-op, damage at the All Saints Church and damage to a window in the village.

The Chairman thanked the Officer for his report and he then left the meeting.

11) Planning Applications

The following recommendations were agreed:

- a) 14271/FUL Gobowen Kebab & Pizza House, Gobowen
Removal of Condition 6 of planning permission

Objection on the grounds that the current use of the premises suggests that the extension of the opening hours would be problematic to the peace of the village.

It was agreed that matter concerning the use of gaming machines by those under 18 years should be reported to the Licensing Officer for his investigation.

- b) 14288/FUL Robert Jones And Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen
Erection of modular building to provide office and clinical accommodation

No Objection.
- c) 14290/FUL Gobowen Post Office , The Square, Gobowen
Change of use of post office and retail shop to café

No Objection.
- d) 14283/FUL Ty Chwarel, Pant Glas
Stationing of caravan for a temporary period of 18 months

No Objection.
- e) 14315/FUL Endoon
City Lane
Hengoed
Alterations and extensions to dwelling

No Objection.
- f) 14305/FUL 2 The Terrace, Glyn Road, Selattyn
Brick single storey extension to the rear

No Objection to building aspects of the application, but an objection to the access and egress arrangements.
- g) 14325/FUL Land Opposite Meadowfields
Hengoed
Erection of stable block

No Objection.

13) NALC Annual Conference – Selection of Delegates

Following consideration it was agreed that the Council be represented by Councillor Mrs Morgan as a full delegate and Councillors Mrs Evans, NJ Stokes, I Bennett and the Clerk as day delegates.

14) Financial Matters

a) Outstanding payments for agreement

		£Net	£ VAT	£Gross
2584	British Gas – Pavilion gas (March 2006)	120.83	6.04	126.87
2585	V&W Electrics Ltd. –Street Lighting & Repairs	349.13	61.10	410.23
2586	Sodexho – Grounds Maintenance	307.01	53.73	360.74
2587	Association of Burial Authorities – Membership	82.00	Nil	82.00
2588	Edge Designs – Technical Support Fee	80.00	14.00	94.00

2589	NALC – Local Council Review Subscription	224.00	Nil	224.00
2590	SALC – Badges and Training Fee	21.00	Nil	21.00
2591	Daren Brewer (March)			
	- Hengoed Cemetery	135.00		
	- Selattyn	<u>41.66</u>		
	- Bulb – purchase	5.00		
	- War memorial planting	5.00		
		<u>186.66</u>	Nil	186.66
2592	Clerk - Mileage Claim for March	95.50	Nil	95.50
2593	Mrs Hodge – April Salary	126.05	Nil	126.05
2594	Clerk - April Salary	714.86	Nil	714.86

b) Income since the last meeting

	£
Oswestry PCCG – Admin Fee	75.00
Hengoed Cemetery Plots	53.00
Pavilion rental	176.00

c) Draft Annual Accounts

The Clerk presented a ‘Draft’ Annual Statement of Accounts and explained that the final bank statements had not yet been received but once they had the accounts would be submitted to the Internal Auditor before the due date of the external audit in July.

He also reported that the Council’s Annual Return for Tax and National Insurance purposes had been made electronically and for the second year the Council would be credited with £250 by the Inland Revenue.

15) Correspondence

i) Matters Requiring attention

<i>Description</i>	<i>Agreed Action</i>
i) Owen Paterson MP – Wrexham to London Rail Link	Noted
ii) Oswestry Rural Parish Council – A483 Junction	Support
iii) The Post Office – Gobowen Post Office Closure	Refer to minute
iv) Shropshire Partnership – Standing Conference	Clerk to attend
v) Shropshire County Council –Rights of Way Order	Noted
vi) Oswestry Borough Council – Planning Matters	Noted
vii) Oswestry Borough Council – Election costs	Refer to May meeting
viii)Oswestry Borough Council – Non-domestic rates	Noted
ix) NALC – Community Empowerment Awards	Noted
x) DEFRA – Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005	Clerk to report

xi) SALC – Miscellaneous matters	Noted
xii) V &W Electrics Ltd – Street lighting Survey	Received
xiii)SCRUA – Notice of AGM	Noted
xiv)Gobowen residents – response to consultation exercise	Refer to May Meeting
xv) Bus Shelters Ltd- Quotations for Bus Shelters	Agree to Orthopaedic site Refer remainder to next meeting
xvi)Mrs Raistrick – Condition of play area on the field	Clerk to investigate
xvii)Letter from organisations (15) – thanking the Council for its donation	Noted

Matters for Information

Description

- i) Oswestry Borough Council - Planning Permits (5)
Proposed double garage, 10 Meadow Way, Gobowen, rear extension; Daywell Farm, Daywell, conversion of redundant barn; Victoria Stables, Gobowen, erection of barn and ménage; Woodbine Cottage, Hengoed, extension; Balliniuig, Hengoed, extension.
- ii) Shropshire Union Canal – Cuttings newsletter
- iii) Shropshire News magazine
- iv) Regional Action West Midlands – Newsletter
- v) Shropshire County Council – Countryside News
- vi) Shropshire County Council – Transport News

15) Date and time of the next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 10th May 2006.