

SELATTYN and GOBOWEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10th September 2008 at the Pavilion, Gobowen commencing at 7.00pm

In the Chair – Councillor Mrs E Morgan

Present:

Councillors: I. W. Bennett, J. R. Bowyer, Rev D. Cassidy, P. Cherrington, P. Clare, Mrs S. R. Crow, P. Drury, Mrs P. A. Evans, L. Hearne, R. T. Jones, D. Lloyd MBE, Mrs E. Morgan and J. Thorpe

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Peter Drury to his first meeting and he then signed his Declaration of Office and joined the meeting.

1) Public Participation

None

2) Apologies

T. R. Kirk (Holidays), County Councillor T Davies (nothing to report).

3) Declaration of Interest

Councillor Drury declared an interest in items 16(xx) due to his membership of the Gobowen WMC and item 16(xxi) due to his involvement in Gobowen Youth FC.

4) Resignation of the Clerk – Verbal report from the Chairman

The Chairman reported on the circumstances surrounding the resignation of the Clerk, Anne Jones.

She detailed to the meeting the sequence of events that had led the Executive to invite the Clerk to an Annual Appraisal meeting, which had been overdue due to her illness and that she had not attended that planned meeting and had instead tendered resignation.

As previously mentioned the Clerk had asked for more paid hours but the Executive felt that as she had a) not yet registered or begun the CILCA course, b) had continued to have some problems with the work, combined with the unknown of whether there may or may not be more work for the Parish when Unitary is fully up and running, that we could not justify paying for more hours at the present time.

The Council noted that the Executive Committee had written and acknowledged the resignation and formally accepted the Clerk's resignation.

a) Appointment of Locum Clerk.

It was agreed that John Ward be appointed as Locum Clerk until the appointment of a new Clerk.

Chairman

8th October 2008

b) Appointment of Responsible Finance Officer

It was agreed, that in the circumstances that John Ward be appointed as the RFO until the appointment of a new RFO.

5) Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th July 2008

The minutes of were agreed and signed.

6) Matters Arising from the Minutes

A number of matters were raised including:

- a. The erection of the new notice board for Pant Glas. The Chairman confirmed that arrangements were in hand with JDM contractors to erect the notice board and this is expected shortly.
- b. The removal of the hedge at the Pavilion was now completed and remedial works to the verge had taken place, however there were still some to complete..
- c. Councillor Clare reported that the alteration to the definitive footpath map for Hengoed had not yet taken place and was awaiting County Council Committee approval.
- d. The Football Clubs using the Field had been informed about the moving of the goal posts in readiness for the construction of the MUGA.

7) Minutes of the Pavilion and Playing Fields Meeting held on 31st July 2008

The minutes of were agreed and signed.

8) Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Pavilion and Playing Fields Meeting held on 31st July 2008

None

9) Police Report, PC Simon Clarke

PC Clarke reported on the recent crime in the parish area including ten incidents in all with burglaries in Selattyn and Hengoed being a problem in out buildings and garden sheds. He stated that an operation was under way working closely with Crime Reduction Partnership. He issued information leaflets for distribution.

In Gobowen there had been incidents including damage to the Pavilion and two caravans.

He requested the Council to consider removing a further section of the roadside hedge to allow observation down the side of the Pavilion.

Members considered this matter and it was agreed that this should be done as a matter of urgency.

The Chairman thanked the Officer for his report.

10) County Councillor's Report-Councillor Trevor Davies

Chairman

8th October 2008

Councillor Davies had tendered his apologies and said there was nothing to report.

11) Borough Councillors' Reports

Councillor David Lloyd gave a report to including a massive exercise in informing and consulting with staff on the transitional arrangements to unitary governance. Over 8000 letters had been sent to staff involved with the consultation period ending on September 30th. There is still no clear information on where staff will be employed.

There were concerns about the high level of debtors to the Council with rents and rates amounting to £1 million the Auditor had however praised the Council for its efforts to recoup these losses. Two new members have been elected to the new Standards Panel where at least 20 will be chosen from across Shropshire. A small group have been selected to consider honorary freemen/aldermen for the Borough will be considered on 18th November. It was agreed that this matter would be included in the agenda for the next meeting.

Councillor Jones reported that Rhydygroesau design statement had been accepted including the Racecourse and a printed copy would be forthcoming shortly.

The Chairman thanked the councillors for their reports.

12) Provision of Allotments

Councillor Jones reported that the Borough Council would not pass on the land at Almond Avenue for allotments as it is earmarked for social housing. He had spoken to a County Council's Officer concerning a zebra crossing but at present, it was not seen as a priority.

On the allotment issue, he explained that the agents for the land in question wanted a formal agreement with the ground rent being £100/annum. Some urgency was necessary as the Borough Council are now considering bids for community projects and he detailed which had recently been agreed.

Following consideration, it was agreed Councillor Jones should pass all information onto the Clerk and that the Clerk should liaise with the agents over this matter and report back to the council.

13) Parish Matters

a. Pavilion Repairs

It was reported that there are now three windows broken and following discussion it was agreed that David Davis should be asked to loom at replacing sealed units with 'Georgian wired glass' in future.

b. MUGA – Update

The Chairman reported on the current situation and that a further contract had been prepared ready for signature. It was agreed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman sign the latest contract and that the Clerk act as a liaison with the Borough Council with Councillors Jones and Hearne keeping a watching brief and reporting to the Clerk.

Chairman

8th October 2008

The Chairman also reported that a further petition had been received and it was agreed that the Clerk send a formal reply.

c. Youth Club Use – Progress Report

The Chairman reported on the six-week trial period of the Club currently being run in conjunction with Shropshire Youth Service for 15-16 year olds. On their use of the Pavilion, it was reported that there were some problems with equipment storage, litter, paint marks, damage to a door and notice removals.

Following consideration, it was agreed that the conditions of use agreement for the Pavilion required re-drafting and presenting to a future meeting for approval before issue.

d. Members' Reports

- i. Councillor Lloyd asked that the streetlights in Pant Glas be examined, as it appeared that some were overgrown with tree branches. It was agreed to report this to the Council's contractor.
- ii. Councillor Bennett reported the condition of the road gullies on Baths Bank, Selattyn. It was agreed to report this matter to the County Highways Department.
- iii. Councillor Hearne enquired about the recently damaged light on Peny-cae Avenue. The meeting was informed that due to the installation of the recently installed County lights this light would not be replaced. He further enquired about the development at the old Perry Garage site and was informed that the planning permission was valid for five years.
- iv. Councillor Cherrington reported the concerns over dog use on the Playing Field. Following consideration, it was agreed to request the Dog Warden to attend.
- v. Councillor Jones reported a faulty streetlight in Ferndale Crescent. It was agreed to refer this matter to the Council's contractor.
- vi. Councillor Mrs Evans reported the lighting in Fairfield Close. It was agreed to report this matter to the County Council to request the installation of a security light on the Library building.
- vii. The Chairman report the rights of way at Brogyntyn 0310/271/1, 2, & 3. It was agreed to report his matter to the Rights of Way Officer.

14) SILO Update – Verbal report of the Executive Committee

The Chairman gave an update on the current situation. Following discussion, it was agreed to:

- a) Cancel the £1000 cheque issued.
- b) Hold an extra-ordinary meeting to meet with representatives of the SILO
- c) Check the Parish Councils position regarding past representation.

Chairman

8th October 2008

15) Financial Matters

a) Outstanding payments for agreement

		£Net	£ VAT	£Gross
August				
3004	Sodexo – Grounds Maintenance – July	342.00	59.85	401.85
3005	Rhydygroesau Village Hall Ass.- Marquee Hire	250.00	Nil	250.00
3006	Zurich Insurance – Insurance cover for Fun Day	36.75	Nil	36.75
3007	Shropshire County Council – Room Hire	20.00	Nil	20.00
3008	Information Commissioners Office – Data Fee	35.00	Nil	35.00
3009	Councillor. Morgan – Travel expenses	91.00	Nil	91.00
3010	Councillor Hearne – Telephone allowance	50.00	Nil	50.00
3011	Anne Jones – Miscellaneous Expenses	663.08	Nil	663.08
3012	Anne Jones – Travel Expenses	318.50	Nil	318.50
September				
3013	Sodexo – Grounds Maintenance – August	342.00	59.85	401.85
3014	V & W Electrics-Repairs July– Outside of contract period			
	i. Replaced SOX Lamp	20.90		
	ii. Refitted inspection door and labour	80.64		
	Total	101.54	17.77	119.31
3015	John Hicks – Playing Field Safety Inspection Fee	51.30	8.98	60.28
3016	SCRU Association membership fee	10.00	Nil	10.00
3017	Mazars – External Audit Fee	400.00	70.00	470.00
3018	BT – Parish Line charges	148.71	25.23	173.94
3019	AREVA – Transfer Lamp Column power	450.00	78.75	528.75
3020	Severn Trent Water – Pavilion supply	435.60	Nil	435.60
3021	D Brewer (August)			
	- Hengoed Cemetery	140.00		
	- Selattyn	45.00		
	- Roundabout (cutting)	50.00		
	- Extra cut to Roundabout	25.00		
	- Roundabout (weeding)	20.00		
	-Cut hedge at Playing Field	20.00		
	-Clear Fencing area at Pavilion	30.00		
	- Total	330.00	Nil	330.00
3022	Locum Clerk/Cemetery Manager- September salary	686.82	Nil	686.82
3023	Caretaker - September salary	130.02	Nil	130.02
3024	CANCELLED			
3025	CANCELLED			
3026	Veolia Container Exchange-	25.74	4.50	30.24
3027	P. Williams- Pavilion Repairs	495.00	Nil	495.00
3028	HMR&C – Tax and NI	297.93	Nil	297.93

Chairman

8th October 2008

b) **Income since the last meeting**

	£
Hengoed Cemetery Burial and monumental Fees	1,355.00
Pavilion takings	240.00
Fun Day donations	30.00
Fun Day Sweet sales	50.08

c) **Joint Energy Agreement**

Following consideration of correspondence for Shropshire County Council, it was agreed:

- a) That the Council should continue with its Joint Energy Agreement for the purchase of energy for Street Lighting at a cost of £3076.36/annum plus VAT.
- b) That the Clerk explores the possibility of including Pavilion energy costs in the joint agreement.

d) **Bank Authorisation to Chairman and Locum Clerk**

In the circumstances reported earlier it was agreed that authorisation be given to the Council's Bankers NatWest to send all banking correspondence to the Chairman of the Council and that the Locum Clerk should be given authority to deposit income and receive information on bank account balances on behalf of the Council.

e) **Quotation for printing of Parish Plan**

An estimate had been received for the Printing of the hard copies of the Parish Plan and following consideration it was agreed that the estimate from Jackson Print & Graphics in the sum of £215.00 be accepted.

16) Correspondence

a) Matters Requiring attention

Description	Agreed Action
i) Owen Paterson MP – Copy complaint letters (MUGA)	Receive
ii) Oswestry Borough Council – Copy complaint letters (MUGA)	Receive
iii) Information Commissioner's Office- Registration	Receive
iv) Shropshire County Council – Review of Energy Agreement	Refer to Item 15©
v) Shropshire County Council – LDF – Consultation – Core Strategy Topic Paper	Dead-line passed
vi) Shropshire County Council – Consultation of Hackney Carriage/Private Hire It was agreed that adequate 'off-road' parking is provided for taxis.	
vii) Shropshire County Council – Consultation on Gambling Act 2005	Deadline 26 th September
viii) Shropshire County Council – Housing Strategy Consultation	Deadline -10 th October

Chairman

8th October 2008

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| ix) Shropshire County Council – Bus Fares Proposed Increases- | Members' information |
| x) Shropshire County Council – Local Bus Services – Road shows | Members' information |
| xi) Shropshire County Council –Level Crossing Closure – 4-5 October | Members' information |
| xii) Shropshire County Council –Road Closure- B4579 – 26 th October | Members' information |
| xiii) Shropshire –Waste Partnership – Introduction of Recycling collection | Members' information |
| xiv) Oswestry Borough Council – Land at Almond Avenue – Allotment use | Receive |
| xv) Oswestry Borough Council –Vacancy Notice | |

It was agreed that the Co-option process should commence.

- xvi) Oswestry Borough Council – Alcohol Consumption in Public Places

It was agreed that the Council would now participate in this and would wish to identify the Playing Field and the Village Centre.

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| xvii) Oswestry Borough Council – New Postal Address | Receive |
| xviii)SALC –Parish Pump | Circulated to Members |
| xix) John Hicks- Annual Inspection report | Refer to P&PF Committee |
| xx) Gobowen WMC – Response to complaint | Members' consideration |
| xxi) Gobowen Youth FC – Request for Use of Field 2008/9 | Members' consideration |
| xxii) BT – Selattyn Kiosk – Consultation procedure | Received |
| xxiii) No Panic Charity – Appeal | Refer to March Meeting 09 |
| xxiv) West Mercia Constabulary – Charity Appeal | Members' consideration |
| xxv) Dr Campbell, Letter of Appeal and retraction | Received |
| xxvi) Direct Contact Exhibitions – Edgbaston 30 th September | Received |
| xxvii) Mr P Williams – Pavilion Repairs | Defer to Budget Meeting |
| xxviii) Oswestry Rugby Club – Donation cheque lost | |

It was agreed that the RFO should investigate lost cheque and report further to Council.

Matters for Information

Description

- a) Oswestry Borough Council - Planning Permits (5) 29, Perry Road; Little Bradhouse, Hengoed; Pool Cottage Hengoed; Ael-Bryn, Rhewl Lane and 14 Meadow drive.
- b) Oswestry Borough Council - Planning Refusals(4) Superior Windows, Gobowen; Ellensdale, Chirk Road; Thornfied, Gobowen; Penteclawdd, Gobowen.
- c) Oswestry Racecourse Management Committee – Agenda
- b) CPRE – Fieldwork Newsletter

Chairman

8th October 2008

- c) SCRU Association – Severn – Dee Newsletter
- d) LCR – NALC Newsletter

17) Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved: “That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1992, the Public and Press be excluded for the remainder of the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 5 of part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act”

a. Recovery Statement

The Chairman gave a statement as to the recovery plan put in place to restore the administrative processes of the Council. Following consideration, it was agreed that the plan should be followed and that the appointment of the new Clerk should be delegated to the Executive Committee as previously agreed.

18) Date and time of the next meeting Wednesday 8th October 2008 at 7.00pm at the Pavilion, St Martins Road, Gobowen.

Chairman

8th October 2008