

The Draft Minutes of the Caynham Parish Council held at Knowbury Memorial Hall on Monday 6th June 2011 commencing at 7.00pm.

1. Present:

Mr. G Williams (Chairman)
Mrs. D M Bromley Major A H Coles MBE
Mr. B W Hardy Mrs. B Ashford
Mr. R Brown Mrs. H Jones
Mrs. M M Clent MBE Mrs. S Lowe
Mr. M Galbraith
Mr. C E Williams (Clerk)

Members of the Public were present
Shropshire Councillor Mr. R Huffer

2. Apologies:

Mrs. S Fleetwood

3. Members of the Public/Shropshire Councillor

Members of the public attended the meeting to express their views regarding the Clee Hill toilets the majority of which were in support of the toilets re-opening.

The Clerk presented a report to the Council concerning the cost of the toilets and in which he explained that although Shropshire Council had agreed to take over all the streetlights in the Parish Area the precept for 2012/2013 was likely to increase by a minimum of £5,000 which on an average Band "D" rate represented and annual Parish Council Tax increase of £9.88 equivalent to 19p per week.

Shropshire Council R Huffer gave details of the negotiations that had taken place with Shropshire Council concerning the Toilets and the requests that he had received from local residents for them to be re-opened.

Councillor Huffer had campaigned for Shropshire Council to keep the toilets open but because of the Budget cuts this had become non negotiable and therefore urged the Parish Council despite the cost to take over responsibility.

Councillor R Huffer and the Clerk were thanked by the public for the work they had undertaken in endeavoring to resolve the issue.

4. Declaration of Personal/Prejudicial Interest:

Nil

5. Co-option of Parish Councillors:

Following an earlier meeting of the Parish Council where there were four applications for co-option to the two vacancies of Parish Councillors the Council confirmed the appointment of Mrs. S Lowe and Mr. M Galbraith.

Both the co-opted Parish Councillors signed the appropriate Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

6. Minutes:

The minutes of the meetings held on the 3rd May 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record

7. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

No matters arising

8. Clee Hill Toilets:

The Clerk had prepared a report giving details of the estimated costings of the Clee Hill Toilets the details of which had been provided by Shropshire Council.

As Shropshire Council had agreed to take over the Parish Council street lights it was estimated that the precept would have to increase by a minimum of £5,000 which represented an average band "D" increase of £9.88.

Councillor A H Coles although wishing to keep the toilets open was of the opinion that they should remain the responsibility of Shropshire Council and would therefore not support an increase in the precept which on a band "D" would represent an increase of 54% and a band "F" a percentage increase of 56%.

The Clerk explained that although percentages could be used the increase in real terms to a bad D property was approximately £9.88 which is 19p per week.

Councillor Coles was of the opinion that this was a massive increase for a large number of the electorate who do not use or benefit from the toilets.

The Chairman gave all Councillors the opportunity to speak on this item and concerns were expressed about cost and the future liability of the toilets. However it was recognized that there was a benefit on transferring over the street lights to Shropshire Council.

It was proposed by Mrs. H Jones and seconded by Mr. R Brown and resolved that subject to Shropshire Council taking on the responsibility for the parish streetlights that the Parish Council accepts responsibility for the ownership and management of the Clee Hill Toilets and that the Clerk be given delegated authority to appoint a cleaner.

The recorded vote was nine for and one against.

For: Mr. G Williams Mrs. D M Bromley Mr. B W Hardy Mrs. B Ashford Mr. R Brown Mrs. H Jones Mrs. M M Clent Mrs. S Lowe and Mr. M Galbraith

Against: Major A H Coles

The Council thanked Shropshire Councillor Mr. R Huffer and the Clerk for the work they had undertaken in this matter.

8. Chairman's Communications:

The Chairman reported that he would be attending the pre Local Joint Committee meeting on the 8th June 2011 with the public meeting being held on the 23rd June at Ludlow Assembly Rooms 7.00pm. The Local Joint Committee will have some funding available for grant applications and local organisations were encouraged to submit applications for which they had identified an appropriate project.

9. Highways Items/Amenities

- a) The Clerk to request a No HGV sign at the top of Whitewayhead Lane following recent incidents where vehicles being directed by SATNAV were unable to turn at the bottom of the lane.
- b) The Clerk writes to the highways concerning the poor mowing of the verges along Caynham Road Knowbury
- c) The Clerk writes to Nash parish Council concerning the parking of bus coaches adjacent to Lion lane Tenbury Road Clee Hill which were causing an obstruction to other road users.
- d) The Parish Council gives consideration to the request by Mr. M Shakespeare for the management of the Parish Field Knowbury at the next meeting.
- e) The Clerk had forwarded the footpaths report produced by Mr. P van Duijvenvoodre to the Shropshire Council Access who had invited him to consider taking part in the Parish Paths Partnership (P1) Scheme and they had also noted the outstanding issues which will be priorities and added to the schedule of outstanding works.

10. Planning Items:

The Parish Council had No Objection to the following Planning Application:
11/01682/Ful – Erection of car port to side – 9 Clayton close Knowbury

11. Reports from Outside Organizations:

No items to report

10. Financial Items:

- a) The Parish Council had bank balances of £7,313.30 at the 31st March 2011.
- b) The Parish Council approved the following accounts for payment:
 - K L Adams – internal audit fee - £105.00
 - M J Shakespeare - hedge cutting - £120.00
 - J Radnor – grass cutting - £45.00
 - P van Duijvenvoodre – stationary - £8.76
 - Parish Online – subscription - £24.00
 - Aon – Insurance - £1,419.20
- c) The Parish Council approved annual return to the external auditors.

11. Outstanding Items:

- Notice Board – Knowbury
- Gate Latch – Clee Hill Common

12. Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Monday 4th July 2011 at Knowbury Memorial Hall commencing 7.00pm