



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2018, 7.00PM**

PRESENT: Cllr. Arrowsmith, Cllr. Shaw, Cllr. Miss Gray, Cllr. Bolar, Cllr. Powell, and Cllr. Mrs Bestwick
ALSO PRESENT: Nigel Williamson Maintenance, Cllr. Mrs Sherrey, Cllr. Mrs May and Clerk
 There were 18 members of public in attendance

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Cllr. Tilt and Cllr. Allen-Jones.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

2.1 Chairman asked all members present to declare any personal or prejudicial interest on any items on the Agenda.
 Other Disclosable Interest – Cllr. Arrowsmith – St Kenelms Primary School PTA
 Cllr. Bolar and Cllr. Shaw - member of the Severn Trent Residents Working Party.
 Cllr. Mrs Bestwick – Son is member of Romsley Beavers
 Cllr. Tilt – Allotment Holder
 Cllr. Bolar - planning application 17/00482

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes be signed as a correct record.

4. FINANCE

4.1 Quarterly Bank Reconciliation Statement approved by all Councillors.

4.2 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to ratify payments made in December 2017

Accounts for Payment

HMRC	Payroll Taxes Due	£390.77
Viking Direct	Stationery	£19.69
4 Seasons	Pitch Marking	£30.00
Harlequin Media	Signs	£180.00
N Williamson	Maintenance	£1242.94
S Tromans	Grass Cutting	£1440.00
J Harper	Gatekeeper	£60.00

4.3 **Accounts for Payment**

J Harper	Gate Keeper	£60.00
HMRC	Payroll taxes due	£390.97
Worcestershire CALC	Training	£30.00
GJH Electrical	Christmas Tree	£246.00
Elmcroft Pines	Christmas Tree	£120.00
Npower	Feeder Pillar	£101.04
CPRE	Subscription	£36.00
E Sheppard	Lengthsman	£186.00
Worcestershire CALC	Hire of hall	£250.00

4.4 **PRECEPT** – it was **RESOLVED** that the Council would Precept upon the District Council the sum of £50,560.00 for the year 2018/19.

4.5 To confirm receipt of £420.75 Lengthsman Grant from Worcestershire CC.

4.6 To confirm receipt of £538.50 Lengthsman Grant from Worcestershire CC.

4.7 To confirm receipt of £250.00 from The Learning Journey Day Nursery towards the defibrillator.

5. **PLANNING MATTERS**

District Council Decisions

14/0486 – Backlane Farm, St Kenelms Road – a two bay – add on to existing buildings - **Refused**

Planning Applications for Parish Council Comments

17/01377/OUT – Yew Tree Farm, St Kenelms Road – proposed eight number homes and associated garages - **Withdrawn**

Appeals

None

6. **PLAYING FIELDS/RECREATION AREA**

6.1 Cllr. Shaw has now received the new signs for the gate displaying the closing times and these have been passed to Nigel for him to install.

6.2 Clerk to speak to Sidemoor Chip Shop to see if they have a date to start the mobile chip van.

7. **ROADS/FOOTPATHS**

7.1 The Chairman, together with the Clerk had a meeting before Christmas at County Hall with Alan Amos, Cabinet Member for Highways and Executive Officers of Worcestershire County Council to discuss the speeding issue on Bromsgrove Road. It was agreed that the County Council would formulate a plan to be forwarded to the Parish Council and a follow-up meeting would be arranged for February 2018.

8. WINWOOD HEATH ALLOTMENTS

8.1 Nothing to report.

9. PARISH LENGTHSMAN/MAINTEANCE

9.1 Maintenance Report

- Fit bus shelter and part fill with concrete
- Fill dog glove dispensers
- Finish concreting bus shelter
- Fit banners
- Litter picking
- Tidy allotment plots 7, 19 and 21
- Remove and repair spring seat from play area
- Fit new dog glove dispenser
- Clear gullies through St Kenelms Road
- Replace damaged dog sign
- Clear gullies leading to Dark Lane
- Clear road signs/salt bins and benches
- Repair bench
- Cut back vegetation

10. OUTSIDE MEETINGS

10.1 Velo Debriefing to be held at Worcestershire County council on Wednesday 10th January 2018. Cllr. Shaw to attend.

11. COMMUNICATION

11.1 It was agreed for a newsletter for be produced April 2018. The Chairman asked Councillors for help in producing this newsletter.

12. EVENTS PLANNING

12.1 It was agreed to hold the carol service on Wednesday 12th December 2018. Clerk to book the church hall and Salvation Army.

12.2 Clerk has arranged the resident's trip to The House of Commons for Monday 26th March 2018 and will send out details shortly.

13. TRAINING

13.1 Nothing to report

14. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S

14.1 Nothing to report

15. COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Open for Business

Worcestershire County Council has signed a new contract with co-funding partner BT Group, which extends the Superfast Worcestershire programme into a third phase, to reach some of the county's more remote communities.

As a result of further investment, the programme has announced a £6.2 million expansion which is expected to expand the superfast broadband roll-out to a further 5,300 Worcestershire homes and businesses.

When work is complete, more than 96 per cent of Worcestershire homes and businesses will be able to access superfast broadband (speeds over 24Mbps). Work on the new phase will begin early this year and upgrades are due to be completed in 2019. It builds on the two earlier stages of the programme.

Network delivery partner Openreach will be using a mixture of technologies, including Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) technology capable of delivering ultrafast download speeds of up to 1 Gigabit per second (Gbps) and upload speeds of up to 220Mbps. The roll-out will focus on increasing speeds to local businesses, in line with Worcestershire County Council's commitment to being 'Open for Business'. Around 90% of structures completed in the third phase will be FTTP.

The Environment

A scheme to reduce flooding and to keep traffic moving in and out of Worcester city during times of flooding will start on January 8th. The scheme will help to keep New Road in Worcester open for longer during times of flooding and help to ensure that flood water recedes much quicker than it currently does. A majority of the funding for this project is coming from the Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership. The scheme will see nearly 200 metres of New Road and its footpaths and cycle paths raised by up to a maximum of nearly 400mm (16 inches). Drainage along the road is also to be improved as part of the scheme and the whole of New Road will be resurfaced. A small number of trees will be removed to allow for the construction work but most of the existing avenue will remain. Thirteen trees are to be planted within Cripplegate Park in Worcester to compensate for those being lost.

Children and Families

The Council employs around 350 Social Workers in Worcestershire. Working with children, families and vulnerable adults, social workers make a difference to people's lives every single day, often in difficult circumstances. This month the Council is dedicating a whole week to celebrate the achievements of Social Work teams and the work that they do. Worcestershire County Council's **Celebrating Social Workers Week** will begin on Monday 15 January. During the week there will be workshops everyday run by guest speakers to help improve skills and build stronger connections across Children and Adult departments. There will also be a Celebration Event when a series of awards will be

presented. The Social Work Academy will be launched during the week. The Academy will help social workers to develop their careers and showcase best practice. It will be a hub for social work training in the county.

Council News:

Paul Robinson is to be Worcestershire County Council's new Chief Executive. Councilors unanimously approved the appointment at an extraordinary meeting of the council last month.

Mr Robinson is currently the Chief Executive of Derby City Council. He has held senior positions at a number of local authorities. He joined Derby City Council in 2008 and became the council's Chief Executive in 2015. Mr Robinson will take up his new post in Worcestershire in the spring.

16. TO RECEIVE CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT

16.1 Commemoration of the First World War and Beacon – still obtaining beacon quotes, Cllr. Shaw has a contact and will arrange to send him the sketches. Cllr. Grey showed us plastic designs of poppies. She is going to meet with the Head at St Kenelms School to discuss the design with her. Then we can look at obtaining grants. It was also agreed for clerk to order two cast iron memorial benches which she will do when she meets the contractor at conference in February. Clerk was asked to ascertain whether Romsley and Hunnington History Society would be interested in becoming involved in this event too.

16.2 Parish/Neighbourhood Plan – nothing to report

16.3 Installing a Defibrillator – it was unanimously agreed to now purchase the defibrillator with Project Assistance from Community Heartbeat Trust.

16.4 Neighbourhood Watch – nothing to report

16.5 Smartwater – It was agreed for the Smartwater roll-out to be on Saturday 17th March at the Scout Centre. Cllr. Powell to produce a leaflet for the whole of the village inviting them to this event.

17. TO RECEIVE REPORT OF PARISH COUNCILLORS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

17.1 Enhanced Christmas Decorations

18. CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing to report

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 12th February 2018, at 7.00pm to be held at St Kenelms Primary School