



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2018, 7.00PM**

PRESENT: Cllr. Arrowsmith, Cllr. Shaw, Cllr. Miss Gray, Cllr. Tilt, Cllr. Powell, and Cllr. Mrs Bestwick

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk

There were 9 members of public in attendance

1. APOLOGIES

- 1.1 Cllr. Bolar, Nigel Williamson Maintenance, Cllr. Mrs May, Cllr. Mrs Sherrey 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 and member of Hunnington and Romsley Show Committee

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 make a grant of £250.00 to Hunnington and Romsley Show.

4.3 Accounts for Payment

J Harper	Gate Keeper	£60.00
HMRC	Payroll taxes due	£390.77
Worcestershire CALC	Training	£30.00
GJH Electrical	Christmas Tree	£126.00
Nigel Williamson	Maintenance	£649.53
The Community Heartbeat Trust	De-fib	£2710.00

JRB	Dog poo gloves	£257.94
C Whitmore	Leaflet Distribution	£60.00
4 Seasons	Pitch Marking	£30.00
CPRE	Subscription	£36.00
E Sheppard	Lengthsman	£360.50
Npower	Feeder Pillar	£28.52
Hunnington and Romsley Show	Grant	£250.00

5. **PLANNING MATTERS**

District Council Decisions

17/00856 – Backlane Farm, St Kenelms Road – conversion of existing buildings to create tearoom which will be ancillary to Romsley Stores –
 17/00342 – Land between 15 and 25 Dark Lane, Romsley – proposed erection of 5 detached dwellings – **Refused**

It was discussed that the Friends of Romsley, together with the Parish Council would like to register this land as a village green/community asset. Cllr. Miss Gray agreed to look into the process.

Approval

17/00482/OUT – 9 Bromgrove Road, Romsley – outline permission for demolition of existing workshops, offices and other related buildings.

Erection of new single dwelling house and garage – **Refused**

17/01252/FUL – Romsley Manor Farm, Bromsgrove Road – demolition of farmhouse and erection of replacement dwelling - **Approved**

Planning Applications for Parish Council Comments

17/01425 – The Chalet, Dayhouse Bank – demolition of existing garage and replacement with 2 storey side extension. Proposed render finish to existing and new walls – **No objections**

Appeals

None

6. **PLAYING FIELDS/RECREATION AREA**

6.1 Nigel has cleared all the planters ready for the poppies.

6.2 Bromsgrove District County drove into the playing field gate when they came to empty the bins. Graham Cutler, Place Team Manager has agreed to pay for the replacement gate once Nigel has installed it.

6.3 It was pleasing to report that Sidemoor Fish and Chip Van is on the car park Fridays 5.00 till 8.00pm and Mondays 5.15pm to 7.15pm. There has been some teething problems but it has been a huge success with residents.

7. **ROADS/FOOTPATHS**

7.1 Following a request from a resident it was agreed to install another dog poo glove dispenser at the corner of Winston Drive.

8. WINWOOD HEATH ALLOTMENTS

8.1 It was asked for Nigel to remove the grape vines on plot number 8.

9. PARISH LENGTHSMAN/MAINTEANCE

9.1 Nigel and Ed Sheppard were praised for the clearing the footpath back at top of the village.

9.2 Maintenance Report

- Litter picking
- Removal of signage
- Cut down of damaged branches and dispose
- Fill glove dispensers
- Fit new signs to playing fields entrance gate
- Break out hinged gate post
- Collect materials
- Remove and resite fence
- Open up pavement

10. OUTSIDE MEETINGS

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

Comments below in no particular order of importance:-

- *General consensus being, approximately 70% of attendees were vehemently against any further Velo cycle events.*
- *Cancel five year contract with CSM Active Limited forthwith. All participants advised to write to their representative County Councillor.*
- *Richard Levett, Worcestershire CALC recommended each councillor undertake responsibility to make written contact with appropriate members of the WCC Cabinet.*
- *Parish Councils in the A442 corridor were extremely critical of all aspects of the occasion.*
- *Dramatic effect on businesses, travelling, care for the elderly etc.*
- *Livestock in rural areas – feeding and caring badly affected.*
- *Belbroughton and Clent made positive comments, benefit to community, irrespective of the postponement of the Scarecrow Weekend.*
- *Complete lack of diversion signs on all arterial roads leading into the respective parishes – drivers became frustrated, rude and ended up driving in circles.*
- *Lack of detail from organisers prior to the event, who was contacted and what information was provided?*
- *CSM were not being factual regarding sponsorship and which organisations benefited.*
- *Why did not Worcester County Council in light of the foreseeable problems and objections not cancel the event as did Herefordshire?*

- *Title of race 'Velo Birmingham' immediately rankled with many participants.*
- *Prior to even the increases in cyclists testing out/training over the Velo route was considerable. Unfortunately not all cyclists showed the level of consideration to other road users that they themselves expect. Cyclist's etiquette was not observed competition/race or day out?*
- *Media advertising newspaper, TV, social media was insufficient to ensure a successful event.*
- *Marshalling zones for groups of cyclists in congested areas could be considered – time lock used so as not to effect overall route time.*
- *Route information on line and printed copy was not in details. A number of councillors were very vociferous regarding the rights of their residents, local business, farming and livestock holders to conduct their daily business without the forced intrusion that occurred,*

Summary – comments made above are my own personal interpretation of the evening's discussions and statements made by participants.

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.
- 11.1 Cllr. Powell is to do another Hop Topics for the website.
- 11.2 He has also done a graphics page to illustrate the results of the questionnaire which he will place on the website and Facebook pages.

12. **EVENTS PLANNING**

- 12.1 A Romstock meeting was held on 30th January to run through how the event was progressing. We are looking at hiring a larger stage but will decide once all quotations have been received. Clerk was asked if the mobile police unit could attend again. It was also agree that there would be no glass allowed at all in any form, including wine bottles.
- 12.2 St Kenelms Day is also taking shape. Mark Moran is going to source a PA system. David has sourced a Beverley Sisters type act call the Bluebird Belles and he is going to get a quotation. Cllr. Arrowsmith was going to ask whether the PTA would be willing to run the bar and obviously receive the profits.

13. **TRAINING**

- 13.1 Completed training by Cllr. Shaw
- Understanding development in Green Belt – Tuesday 3rd October
 - Standards and Codes of Practice – Tuesday 24th October
 - Publication Scheme – Transparency and Codes of Practice – Tuesday 7th November
 - Parish Council Training 5 P's and 3 M's – Tuesday 28th November

Proposed training

- Councillor refresher course – Tuesday 13th March

14. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S**

14.1 Nothing to report

15. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Open for Business

The Worcestershire Skills Show returns on 7th March 2018 at the Chateau Impney, Droitwich between 9.00am and 7.00pm. Entry is free.

The show is Worcestershire's largest careers event, providing young people from 7 – 13 with the ability to interact with Worcestershire's largest employers from a variety of industries including Science, Technology, engineering, math's, hospitality, advertising, marketing professional services and public services.

Young people are given the opportunity to gain an understanding of the career pathways available to them and to find out about the skills and qualifications that employers are really looking for.

Children and Families

A new Social Work Academy has been launched by the Council. It is part of an on-going project to improve the confidence and skill levels of our social workers.

The Academy is a comprehensive information hub that all County Council social workers will have available to them. It will enable social workers at all levels of experience to easily access training and career development opportunities.

The launch of the Social Work Academy will hopefully help us attract the very best social workers to the County.

Health and Wellbeing

A new unit to support individuals to take the next steps of their recovery after they are discharged from hospital has opened in Worcestershire.

The Step Down Unit in Worcester, close to the hospital, is aimed at supporting people from across the county who are being discharged from an acute hospital but need a period of assessment to understand what their future care and support requirements are.

It is one of the council's top priorities to ensure that people live independently for as long as possible. During their stay at the Step down Unit each person will have an individual solution development for them.

Council News:

The Tour Series Cycle Race is to return to Redditch for its 7th year on 10th May 2018. Once again the town will host stages of both the men's and ladies tour.

Last year's event attracted 15,000 spectators and generated 5 million Twitter impressions. It was broadcast to over 60 countries. In other cycling news, the organisers of Velo Birmingham have withdrawn their request to hold an event in September 2018, along the same route as 2017. They have announced that they will stage the event in the spring 2019 along a different route. No approach has been made to the County Council in connection with this new route.

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.
- 16.2 **Parish/Neighbourhood Plan** – nothing to report
- 16.3 **Installing a Defibrillator** – the de-fib is being installed on 22nd February.
- 16.4 **Neighbourhood Watch** – nothing to report
- 16.5 **Smartwater** – Smartwater roll-out is on Saturday 17th March at the Scout Centre. All the village have been leafleted.
- 16.6 **Enhanced Christmas Lights** – it was agreed for Clerk to obtain a quotation for a Christmas tree star.

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 March 2018, at 7.00pm to be held at St Kenelms Primary School