



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018, 7.00PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Arrowsmith, Cllr. Shaw, Cllr. Miss Gray, Cllr. Tilt, Cllr. Powell, and Cllr. Mrs Bestwick  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Nigel Williamson, Cllr. Mrs Sherrey and Clerk  
 There were 9 members of public in attendance

**1. APOLOGIES**

1.1 Cllr. Bolar, Cllr. Mrs May 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 To confirm receipt of £186.00 Lengthsman Grant from Worcestershire County Council.

**4.2 Accounts for Payment**

J Harper	Gate Keeper	£60.00
HMRC	Payroll taxes due	£390.77
Viking Direct	Stationery and Ink	£130.43
JRB Enterprise	Dog poo gloves and dispenser	£227.94
NALC	Subscriptions	£17.00
South Staffs Water	Allotments	£69.44
Ruth Mullett	Play safety inspection	£350.00
McVeigh Parker & Co	Gate Post	£145.33

## 5. **PLANNING MATTERS**

### **District Council Decisions**

17/00342 – Land between 15 and 25 Dark Lane, Romsley – proposed erection of 3 detached dwellings – **Refused**

We have applied to Bromsgrove District Council to register this land as a community asset.

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 - **Granted**

### **Planning Applications for Parish Council Comments**

None

### **Appeals**

None

## 6. **PLAYING FIELDS/RECREATION AREA**

6.1 The ground is exceptionally wet and sodden at the moment.

## 7. **ROADS/FOOTPATHS**

7.1 There is serious damage to the wildflower area in front of St Kenelms Church by 4 x 4 drivers. This is an important part of the parish's heritage, and a safe, effective but aesthetically appropriate solution is required to prevent this damage reoccurring in the future. Given that the historical accident record is low at this location the parish council is proposing the installation of suitable timber posts at 1.5m to 1.8m centres set at least one metre back from the road. The parish council is awaiting approval from Highways to install these posts.

7.2 The condition of the footpath on the brow of Romsley Hill was discussed. Vegetation overgrowth, fence posts and weather have caused significant damage to the pedestrian footpath that sits alongside the B4551. There are now multiple trip and uneven surface hazards over an extended section. The parish council is awaiting agreement from Highways to resurface this section of footpath as a matter of urgency.

## 8. **WINWOOD HEATH ALLOTMENTS**

8.1 There is only one allotment plot left vacant but we are meeting somebody Saturday and they should all then be filled.

## 9. **PARISH LENGTHSMAN/MAINTEANCE**

### 9.1 **Maintenance Report**

- litter picking
- Open up pavement on Bromsgrove Road
- Dark Lane – repair barrier by footpath
- Reposition and tidy planters in the playing fields
- Collect and fix new entrance gate

- refit new gate signs
- fill dog glove dispensers
- playing fields – repair barrier
- fit new dog glove dispenser
- Putney Lane – repair road sign and paint

## 10. **OUTSIDE MEETINGS**

- 10.1 Cllr. Arrowsmith meet with residents affected by the fatal accident on the Bromsgrove Road. He confirmed he had written three times to County since January and as yet has had no reply. If no reply is forthcoming within the next few weeks he has confirmed he will go to the media.

## 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.

## 12. **EVENTS PLANNING**

- 12.1 A Romstock meeting has been arranged for April. Sadly Wyre Forest Marquees are no longer going to be trading so we need to obtain quotations as a matter of urgency for Romstock. Clerk to try and obtain quotations.

## 13. **TRAINING**

- 13.1 Nothing to report

## 14. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S**

- 14.1 Cllr. Mrs Sherrey has obtained the depot as part of her portfolio. She also confirmed she would be able to help on the Smartwater roll-out.

## 15. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

### ***Open for Business***

*Construction is about to start at the new Worcestershire Parkway Station. The area for the 500 space car park is now cleared and groundworks are complete, paving the way for construction to begin. The foundations are being laid now for construction of the main station building. The steel frame building will begin to take shape over the coming months as well as the footbridge over the railway line from Woodbury Lane. To support easy access to the station, a new roundabout is to be built and the road widened near the station site on the B4084. Work will continue until the end of September and temporary traffic lights will be in place.*

### ***Children and Families***

*To support the move to an Alternative Delivery Model (ADM) for our Children's Social Care Services, a full business case will be presented*

to Council Cabinet on 29<sup>th</sup> March. Following cabinet and subject to ministerial approval, work will then commence in April 2018 to plan the move to the new ADM, with the target of implementing the new model by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.

### **Health and Wellbeing**

The new interim Director for Adult Services, Avril Wilson has been appointed into the position and joined the council on 19<sup>th</sup> February. She has previously worked as both a Director of Adult Services and a Director of Children's Services and brings a wealth of experience to the leadership team. Avril lead on the roll out of the three conversations model in her previous role of Executive Director of West Sussex County Council.

### **The Environment**

Work continues on two major flood alleviation projects around the County. At New Road, Worcester, Severn Trent are completing the diversion of a water main which is currently in the way of a planned new drainage culvert, and progress is being made on the installation of new drainage kerbage.

At Upton upon Severn, phase 1 of the road raising scheme is in full swing by the entrance to Upton Marina. The road and footway will be widening, straightened and raised, and a new right-turn lane provided into the Marina entrance. Traffic management will be reduced in spring and summer during the Upton and Three Counties shows and festivals.

Meanwhile on Worcester Southern Link Road, works are continuing in the vicinity of Battenhall Bridge, ready for the major widening when the railway line closes for five days in May.

### **Council News Update**

Council leaders across Worcestershire have agreed to relocate more Syrian refugees across the county. Worcestershire Leaders have agreed to host up to 50 Syrian refugees in Worcestershire. The aim is to resettle refugee families in different areas of the County. 50 refugees were resettled across Redditch, Wyre Forest and Worcester in 2016/17. This new commitment will bring the total number of refugees resettled under the Government's Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme in Worcestershire up to 100.

It follows a decision by the leaders of Worcestershire County, Bromsgrove District, Malvern Hills District, Redditch Borough, Worcester City, Wychavon District and Wyre Forest District Councils at a recent meeting.

Finally, and sadly, you are probably already aware that our interim Chief Executive, Steve Stewart passed away last week. Steve joined the Council in May of last year and has made a big contention during his time with us. Steve had a career lasting more than 40 years in local government and was the Chief Executive at three different

*councils, York, Northumberland and here at Worcestershire. Our thoughts are with his family at this very sad time.*

- 16. TO RECEIVE CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT**
- 16.1 **Commemoration of the First World War and Beacon** – Cllr. Shaw had obtained a quotation of £975.00 from David Ogilvie. It was agreed to finalise height and location before the quotation was accepted. Cllrs. Mrs Gray is still trying to arrange a meeting with Suzanne Shackleton, Head at St Kenelms Primary School to discuss the plastic poppies.
- 16.2 **Parish/Neighbourhood Plan** – nothing to report
- 16.3 **Installing a Defibrillator** – the de-fib has been installed and we are awaiting it going live by the Ambulance Service. Clerk will then organise training for the parish.
- 16.4 **Neighbourhood Watch** – nothing to report
- 16.5 **Smartwater** – Smartwater roll-out is on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March at the Scout Centre. Cllr. Mrs Bestwick will send out the rota.
- 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 Nothing to report
- 18. CORRESPONDENCE**  
Nothing to report
- 19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018, at 7.00pm to be held at St Kenelms Primary School