



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 23RD JANUARY 2023, 7.00PM AT ST KENELMS CHURCH HALL**

PRESENT: Cllr. Bolar, Cllr. Carr, Cllr. Gray, Cllr. Shaw, and Cllr. Strain

ALSO, PRESENT: Ruth Mullett, Clerk

1. APOLOGIES

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr. Swift and Cllr. Weston and reasons for absence were agreed by all councillors present.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 Chairman asked all members present to declare any personal or prejudicial interest on any items on the agenda.

Other Disclosable Interest

Cllr. Bolar, Cllr. Swift and Cllr. Shaw – member of the Severn Trent Residents Working Party

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 3.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November 2022 be signed as a correct record.

4. FINANCE

- 4.1 **Accounts for payment** - it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments. Two councillors scrutinised invoices.

HMRC	Payroll Taxes Due x 2	£639.22
Gallagher Insurance	Insurance Renewal	£1716.43
Ruth Mullett	Carol service refreshments	£24.53
E-On	Feeder pillar	£109.84(DD)
Npower	Street light in the Alders	£96.37(DD)
WALC	Councillor training x 3	£108.00
Candoo	Website content accessibility	£850.00
Viking Direct	Printer ink and stationery	£183.36
GJH Electrical Ltd	Christmas lights installation	£300.00
Eventbrite	Councillor training	£51.71
JRB Enterprises	Dog dispenser gloves	£592.80
Ed Sheppard	Lengthsman	£420.50

- 4.2 **Bank Reconciliation Statement** – approved by all Councillors.

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January 2023

Signature

- 4.3 **Budget 23/24** – it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the budget and precept on Bromsgrove District Council the sum of £55,675.00. This was no increase on last year's precept.
- 4.4 To confirm receipt of £1,350.00 from County Cllr. May from her Divisional Fund for the new noticeboard.
- 4.5 To confirm receipt of £544.00 Lengthsman Grant from Worcestershire County Council.

5. PLANNING MATTERS

5.1 District Council Decisions

Application Type:	Full Application
Planning Reference:	22/00907/FUL
Proposal:	Removal of existing caravan and wooden sheds and erection of a replacement building
Location:	Plot One, Land off Chapel Lane, Romsley
Decision:	Granted

Application Type:	Full Application
Planning Reference:	22/01443/FUL
Proposal:	Conversion of existing carport to form garage, hall, and wet room with conversion of existing garage to bedroom
Location:	20 Dark Lane, Romsley
Decision:	Granted

5.2 Planning Applications for Parish Council Comments

Application Type:	Full Application
Planning Reference:	22/01501/FUL
Proposal:	Upward extension, single storey rear extension and alternations to front elevations and materials
Location:	Windyridge, Farley Lane, Romsley
Decision:	Objections

Application Type:	Full Application
Planning Reference:	22/01633/FUL
Proposal:	Retrospective planning application for a new stable block on land at Naylor's Barn
Location:	Naylor's Barn, Holt Farm, Romsley
Decision:	No objections

Application Type:	Full Application
Planning Reference:	22/01403/FUL
Proposal:	First floor side extension
Location:	5 Waverley Crescent, Romsley
Decision:	No objections

Application Type:	Full Application
Planning Reference:	22/01360/FUL
Proposal:	Demolition of garage and single storey extension at the rear
Location:	7 Waverley Crescent, Romsley
Decision:	No objections

5.3 Appeals

Nothing to report.

6. PLAYING FIELD/COMMUNITY AREAS/MARLHOLE

6.1 **Blossom Trees** – Cllr. Gray confirmed the trees have all now been planted and memorial plaques fitted.

6.2 **Play area upgrade and grants** – this item was deferred.

7. ROADS/FOOTPATHS/TRAFFIC/HIGHWAYS

7.1 **To receive update on noticeboards** – Clerk confirmed that the new noticeboard has been ordered and we are awaiting delivery.

7.2 **Public footpath adjacent to the Scout Centre** – the original plan was for the Parish Council to agree to fund the purchase of hardcore to be laid on the path. Cllr. Carr has since liaised with Worcestershire County Council and the proposal is for them to carry out an enhanced upgrade to the footpath subject to the landowners approval, which County will seek. Clerk to place on the next agenda to agree to grant Worcestershire County Council £500.00 towards the upgrade.

8. PARISH LENGTHSMAN/MAINTENANCE

8.1 Lengthsman's report – no report

8.2 Maintenance – apologies given.

9. COMMUNICATION

9.1 **To receive update from Communication Working Party** – this item was deferred.

9.2 **Website** – Cllr. Strain has produced a mock-up of the proposed enhanced website which was forwarded to all councillors. It was agreed that council look at the new design and submit comments/amendments to Cllr. Strain before the next council meeting.

9.3 **Newsletter** – Cllr. Gray is to produce a newsletter to be sent out by the end of February. It was also suggested that we would hold a coffee morning on

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Saturday 11st March 2023 to meet parishioners and discuss what joining the parish council entails.

10. EVENTS PLANNING

- 10.1 **Romstock** – A Romstock Working Party consisting of Cllr. Bolar, Cllr. Carr, Cllr. Gray, Cllr. Shaw has been arranged for Monday 30th January 2023, 2.00pm.
- 10.2 **St Kenelms Day** – This will be discussed at the Romstock Working Party.
- 10.3 **Carol Service** – It was mooted that we would not hold a Carol Service this year due to the lack of attendance and the funds could be used towards holding a Kings Coronation event. The decision was deferred until next month when all councillors would be present.
- 10.4 **Kings Coronation** – Cllr. Ray is to set up a Working Party consisting of the Parish Council and community groups and arrange a meeting to discuss taking the event further. Ideas mooted were a Picnic in the Park type event.

11. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

11.1 Cllr. May

- The County Council budget is now out for consultation, and it is pleasing to note that after a £67.9m deficit it is now a balanced budget with a proposed 2.94% council tax increase.
- District Council will be a 2% increase which is an extra £5.00 on a band D property. The increase has been kept to a minimal to take into account the cost of living crisis.
- All refuse bins have now been fixed and are all working.
- Cllr. Shaw asked whether the gullies could be unblocked on Dayhouse Bank as when Highways visited they only unblocked one. County Cllr. May to chase with Highways.
- Cllr. Carr asked why the brown bin collection had risen to £50.00. Cllr. May confirmed that sadly this is how much it costs to run the scheme.
- Cllr. May is always working with Highways to install another gully on St Kenelms Road due to excess flooding.
- Cllr. Gray reported a drainage/flooding issue the bottom of Dark Lane leading onto St Kenelms Road. Cllr. May is to organise a visit with Richard Cenci the new Highways Officer.
- Cllr. May to organise a future visit to the re-cycling centre for Parish Councillors.
- Cllr. May to visit fire damaged property in dangerous condition namely The Bungalow, Old House Lane. Large bags of accumulated rubbish, overfilled skip and possible vermin infestation.

12. TO RECEIVE CLERK'S REPORT

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** for Clerk to purchase latest edition of Charles Arnold Baker.

13. TO RECEIVE REPORT OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Cllr. Carr – To place on the next agenda opening a Savings Account with Unity Trust Bank to work alongside our current account.

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 21st February 2023, 7.00pm at St Kenelms Church Hall.

Meeting closed at 20.40.

Trustee Winwood Allotments Meeting

It was agreed that the rent for 2023-24 would remain at £20.00 per plot. Clerk to send out invoices before year end.

DRAFT