



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29TH MARCH 2023, 7.00PM AT ST KENELMS CHURCH HALL

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

ALSO, PRESENT: Ruth Mullett, Clerk, maintenance, Matt Dunton – Safer Neighbourhood Officer and 4 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr. Weston and reason for absence approved by all councillors.

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

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED TO ALLOW FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME, THIS DOES NOT FORM PART OF THE MINUTES.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st February 2023 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	£319.61
Ed Sheppard	Lengthsman	£341.00
SLCC	Publications	£141.80
Greenbarnes Ltd	Noticeboard	£1949.07
Viking Direct	Stationery	£40.76
G-Force Fireworks	St Kenelms Day Deposit	£250.00
Andyloos	Coronation deposit	£75.60
South Staffs Water	Allotments	£99.06
Jack Strain	Lanyards	£15.42
Jack Strain	Printing	£38.71

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Signature

L Tromans Maintenance £1410.00

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

4.3 To confirm receipt of £420.50 and £341.00 Lengthsman grant from Worcestershire County Council.

4.4 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to set up the Clerk's salary as a standing order.

5. PLANNING MATTERS

5.1 District Council Decisions

Nothing to report.

5.2 Planning Applications for Parish Council Comments

Application Type:	Full Application
Planning Reference:	22/01444/FUL
Proposal:	Replacement porch with larch cladding, part larch cladding to rear and side elevations, render on side elevation and replacement of roof and addition of solar panels
Location:	79 Waverley Crescent, Romsley
Decision:	No objections

Application Type:	Full Application
Planning Reference:	23/00056
Proposal:	Extension to dwelling
Location:	76 Bromsgrove Road, Romsley
Decision:	No objections

Application Type:	Full Application
Planning Reference:	22/01633
Proposal:	Retrospective planning application for new stable block, hardstanding (access and small area east of the stables only), lighting and drainage
Location:	Naylors Barn, Holt Farm, Holt Lane
Decision:	Neutral

5.3 Appeals

Nothing to report.

6. PLAYING FIELD/COMMUNITY AREAS/MARLHOLE

6.1 **Play area upgrade and grants** – Cllr. Swift confirmed that they were making some progress. She has made contact with Bellway the Developer for the Bluebird site and he has provided some useful play contractors. Cllr. Weston will send our plans to them and await quotations. Together with Cllr. Weston

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they met with a professional grant finder, sadly as we are not registered as a Charity and we own the land we would not be looked upon favourably. Advice was maybe we should consider setting up the play area as a Charitable Trust. It was decided that after the May elections we should set up a small working party to progress this further.

- 6.2 **Tree planting at the playing fields** – Complaints had been received from residents with regards the height of the trees that have been planted in the playing fields. Cllr. Gray confirmed she had been to speak to one of the residents and once the trees have been established they will be pruned back and maintained.
- 6.3 The tree outside 79 Waverley Crescent is encroaching the BT overhead cables. Clerk to report.

7. **ROADS/FOOTPATHS/TRAFFIC/HIGHWAYS**

- 7.1 **To discuss road safety issues on Bromsgrove Road** - a concern had been received from a resident about the dangerous driving/speeding on Bromsgrove Road from the Swallows Nest down to the Sun. Matt Dunton, Safer Neighbourhood Officer was in attendance who confirmed that he intended to work with St Kenelms School to do a PCSO scheme over a six-week period, educating the children on safer parking. The Police are also looking at purchasing a Truman Speed Camera which would be a community initiative.
- 7.2 **Tree planting in Hillcrest** – Cllr. Gray had received a request from a resident for two weeping willows to be planted on the green in Hillcrest Road. The Parish Council were in agreement to the planting of the trees on the understanding that the other residents were happy. Cllr. Gray agreed to go and speak to them and report back to the Council.

8. **PARISH LENGTHSMAN/MAINTENANCE**

- 8.1 Lengthsman's report – no report
- 8.2 Maintenance: -
- Maintenance confirmed they had sourced a quote for topsoil for the left hand side of the path in the playing fields at £65 per ton x 10. This area would then have grass seed sown. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** for maintenance to commence these works.
 - Bulbs and bluebells had been donated and these had now been planted.
 - Grass cutting will commence shortly.

9. **COMMUNICATION**

- 9.1 **To receive update on website enhancements** – Cllr. Strain confirmed he is working with Candoo to enhance the website making sure it complies with accessibility standards.
- 9.2 **Communication Plan Activities** – Cllr. Swift acknowledged all the hard work by Cllr. Weston in our social media communications.

10. **EVENTS PLANNING**

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10.1 Romstock

- We are still awaiting the final line-up, but Social Eats are releasing a new band on social media every week.
- It was agreed for an April agenda item to agree all financial information with regards Romstock with a summary of all costs.

10.2 St Kenelms Day

- Brass band is booked.
- Sadly, the Bluebird Belles have had to cancel but have provided Clerk with an alternative option of which we are awaiting confirmation.

10.3 Kings Coronation

- The flyers for this event will go out this week.
- DJ is booked.
- School will provide stalls to raise funds for the HSA.
- Elvis is confirmed.
- Maintenance to cut the grass a week before the event.
- Name the path has gone well on social media and it looks like the name will be Coronation Walk. Cllr. Carr to organise the ordering of the sign.
- It was agreed that we would provide free afternoon teas to some of our volunteers i.e., the gatekeeper.
- The idea of a colouring competition at school was mentioned with the winner unveiling the new Coronation Walk sign.

11. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

11.1 Cllr. May

- Bromsgrove District Council bid for and were awarded £14.5m of levelling up money. The money was awarded for the clean-up of the Windsor Street site which includes the old fire station and prepare the land for a future planning application. A sizeable proportion of the funds is allocated to the redevelopment of the former market hall site near Waitrose. Currently, there is consultation regarding a Community Hub proposal together with an upmarket office building. These sites are defined as brownfield sites and have been awaiting re-development for several years.
- We all love the Artrix and would like to see it brought back to life. I have reached out to the Holding Trust who are the body that has legal control of the building and requested a meeting with them so that I can push for a business plan to come forward. When a business plan is made available then the Council and partners can look at how we can aid this site which is crucial to the creative economy of Bromsgrove.
- Confirmed that Bromsgrove District Council are now in purdah.
- Confirmed that enforcement had gone out to visit the burnt bungalow on Dayhouse Bank and the Building Control Engineer has confirmed that is not unsafe and the matter is with enforcement.
- **Cllr. Shaw** – reported highways issues on 6th January and has had no response. Cllr. May confirmed that the portal should have come back to him and will chase a response.

- **Cllr. Shaw** – confirmed there was fly tipping adjacent to the Break Pressure Tank fence in Putley Lane. Cllr. May together with Cllr. Saw will report.
- **Clerk** – confirmed we had not received the Lengthsman Contracts for 23/24 – Cllr. May will chase.

11.2 **Cllr. Sherrey** – no report received.

12. **TO RECEIVE CLERK'S REPORT**
Nothing to report.

13. **TO RECEIVE REPORT OF PARISH COUNCILLORS**
Cllr. Swift – Concerned about parking in and around the Co-op. It was agreed for this to be an agenda item in May.
Cllr. Swift – asked for the Break Pressure Tank meeting to be placed on social media.

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 26th April 2023, 7.00pm at St Kenelms Church Hall.

Meeting closed at 20.45

Winwood Heath Allotment Trustee Meeting

- Clerk confirmed all rent letters had gone out.
- It was agreed to place the hiring of a skip on the next agenda.