



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 5TH MARCH 2024, 7.00PM AT ST KENELMS CHURCH HALL

PRESENT: Cllr. Shaw, Cllr. Strain, Cllr. Swift, Cllr. Powell and Cllr. Weston

ALSO, PRESENT: Ruth Mullett, Clerk, and five members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 None.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Other Disclosable Interest

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

CHAIR ADJOURNED THE MEETING FOR AN 'OPEN SURGERY' TO ENABLE RESIDENTS TO DISCUSS ANY ISSUES WITH THEIR COUNCILLORS AND IDENTIFY MATTERS OF CONCERN RELATING TO THE AGENDA, THIS DOES NOT FORM PART OF THE FORMAL MEETING

3. DISPENSATIONS

3.1 To consider any requests for a dispensation from a member who may have a DPI or ODI to allow them to stay/speak in the meeting during the consideration of the item.

None

4. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

4.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to co-opt Mrs Antal and Mr Macaulay onto the parish council. Mrs Antal duly signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office, and it was **RESOLVED** that due to his absence Mr Macaulay to sign his Declaration at a later date witnessed by the clerk.

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2024 be signed as a correct record, the Chair duly signed.

6. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

March 2024

Signature

6.1 **Cllr. May: –**

- There have been parking issues around Hagley Wood Lane and the District are looking at more traffic enforcement around the whole district with more regular Enforcement Officers outside St Kenelms Primary School providing enhanced safety for children and parents.
- Had discussions with the Police and Crime Commission for covert cameras to deal with fly-tipping and it was agreed for a more enhanced police presence around fly-tipping sights.

6.2 **Cllr. Nock: -**

- Attended the Planning Committee and the redevelopment of the former market site for housing has been passed. This was from funds received from the Levelling Up Fund.
- Full Council have approved the budget for 24/25 and was pleased to note it was a balanced budget with a medium financial plan for the next two years and reserves of £5.7m.
- District councillors will be allocated an allowance of £2,000 per member to spend in the district ward on community incentives.

7. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**7.1 **Cllr. May: -**

- County are in a different financial position to District with a £7m deficit on the budget which will have to be taken from reserves.
- There are also issues with County Hall building which urgently need addressing.
- Clerk confirmed there had been some negative comments from Worcestershire Clerks with regards the digitalisation of Lengthsman invoices and the additional workload this will create.

8. **FINANCE**8.1 **Accounts for payment - it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the following payments.**

HMRC	Payroll Taxes Due	£391.39
Betonia IT	PC Back Up and Cloud	£174.00
SLCC	Publications	£47.50
Pentalver Transport Ltd	Storage container	£3132.00
GJH Electrical	Removal of Christmas lights	£180.00
E Sheppard	Lengthsman	£440.75
Andyloos	Deposit for St Kenelms Day	£129.36
Corporate Card	Various	£40.48

Cllr. Swift and Cllr. Strain to approve the online payments.

8.2 **Bank Reconciliation Statement – scrutinised and agreed by all Councillors.**8.3 **Grant to Romsley and Hunnington Show – this item was deferred.**9. **PLANNING MATTERS**9.1 **District Council Decisions**

None

9.2 **Planning Applications for Parish Council Comments**

ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Planning Type:	Full Application
Planning Reference:	23/01039/FUL
Proposal:	Single storey rear extension to provide a larger kitchen area and a bedroom with ensuite
Location:	63 Hillcrest Road, Romsley
Decision:	No objections

9.3 **Appeals**
None

10. **PLAYING FIELD/COMMUNITY AREAS**

10.1 **Play area upgrade**

- Weather has sadly halted the commencement date for the two main contractors, Heritage and Miracle and a meeting has been arranged for tomorrow to discuss a new proposed commencement date.
- Wickstead will begin onsite Monday 11th March 2024 to commence repainting and replacement bearings to the swings.

10.2 **Memorial for Nigel Williamson** – the family have now approved the wording for the memorial sign which will be erected once the play area upgrade has completed. Chair to obtain quotations for a suitable sign.

11. **WINWOOD HEATH ALLOTMENTS**

11.1 Sadly a skip is not possible for the allotments due to the entrance size so working with maintenance to find an alternative way to move rubbish from the site. Liaison is still taking place with Severn Trent Volunteer Group which we hope can work in conjunction with Friends of Romsley and Hunnington.

12. **ROADS/FOOTPATHS/TRAFFIC/HIGHWAYS**

12.1 **Puffin Crossing outside St Kenelms School, Bromsgrove Road** – it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve Worcestershire County Council Section 278 – A4551 Bromsgrove Road, Romsley – new signalised crossing opposite St Kenelms Primary School.

13. **PARISH LENGTHSMAN/MAINTENANCE**

13.1 **Lengthsman** – it was agreed to arrange a meeting with the Lengthsman to discuss Contract renewal for 2024/25.

13.2 **Maintenance** –

- Container has been ordered and currently working the level the location site.
- Hedges have been cut behind the houses backing onto the playing fields.
- Consulting with someone to remove the old sheds from the allotments.
- Drainage needs investigating in the playing fields and will work with Heritage to try and find the issue.
- Wooden fencing needs replacing at the playing fields carpark – Working Group to look tomorrow.

ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

March 2024

Signature

- A Contract Renewal meeting to be arranged with maintenance.

14. **COMMUNICATION**

- 14.1 **Newsletter** – the final draft of the newsletter will be ready for approval tomorrow.

15. **EVENTS PLANNING**

15.1 **Romstock**

- A meeting with Mark Moran has been arranged to discuss the line-up for the bands.
- It was agreed to use a contact from Mark to MC who has agreed to do free of charge with a saving of £300.00.
- It was agreed to stay with Avion for the stage this year but ask if they would be willing to reconsider their quotation.
- It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to agree the advertisement of Notice of VAT Cultural Exemption 701/47.

15.2 **St Kenelm's Day**

- The usual 1940's singers are not available, and we are currently in the process of finding an alternative.
- It was agreed to continue with a firework display at a budget of £1,250.00.

- 15.3 **Travelling Music Box** - it was agreed that this could be a promising idea and Cllr. May agreed she would be happy to support from her Divisional Fund working in conjunction with the school. Clerk to forward details to Cllr. Antal and Cllr. May for further investigation.

16. **TO RECEIVE CLERK'S REPORT**

- 16.1 Nothing to report.

17. **TO RECEIVE REPORT OF PARISH COUNCILLORS –**

Cllr. Shaw – to organise another Sunday morning litter pick at Putney Lane. Clerk to put on next agenda.

Cllr. Swift – Worcestershire CALC have asked if we would be interested in taking part in a Health and Wellbeing Incentive which sounds like a good project for the parish and Clerk to put on the agenda once more information is received.

Cllr. Swift – a Communications Working Party Group meeting needs to be arranged. Chair to organise.

Cllr. Antal – There is an Eco Committee in school which would be good for us to work in partnership with.

18. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 2nd April 2024, 7.00pm at St Kenelm's Church Hall, 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 20.52.