

# RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL

## 14 APRIL 2020 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

An ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held online at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

Parish Councillors in attendance: Mr S Denyer, Mr S Gittins (Chairman), Mrs A Hall, Mr R Harrison, Mrs A Lister, Mrs A Sanders Royle, Mr D Shearan, Mr D Spicer (Vice Chairman).

Also in attendance: Nick Bardsley (Shropshire County Councillor), Ed Potter (Shropshire Council Portfolio Holder for Children's Services), Lydia Bardsley (Clerk), Public: None.

164.19	<b>WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN</b> – The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present to the meeting.
165.19	<b>APOLOGIES</b> - The Chairman reported that apologies for absence had been received from the following councillors: Mr I Pinner, Mr B Edwards. These were accepted by the Council. Cllr T Allison would be telephoning to join the meeting to discuss item 171.19c (The Cliffe).
166.19	<b>DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND DISPENSATION</b> No declarations received.
167.19	<b>PUBLIC SESSION</b> No members of the public present.
168.19	<b>MINUTES:</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to confirm that the draft minutes of the council meeting held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020 were accurate and would be signed at a future date.
169.19	<b>CORONAVIRUS</b> – Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to ratify the following decisions made between formal meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Set up a freephone number with Numbers Plus to allow those in need to reach community volunteers.</li><li>b) Resolve to use power of s.137 of Local Government Act, 1972 to approve expenditure for the above freephone number at a cost of £4.75+VAT/month, plus 5p/minute charge. This expenditure will come out the contingency budget header. Cllr Shearan can see call data in order to monitor costs.</li><li>c) Consider and adopt a Scheme of Delegation (see appendix A).</li><li>d) Resolve to use power of s. 137 of Local Government Act, 1972 to approve expenditure up to £2000 total to be donated to the Basnett, Mathews and Minton Charity. This would be released in tranches of up to £500 depending on need.</li><li>e) Propose that decisions on distributions of funds for coronavirus support should be made by the Basnett, Mathews, and Minton trustees and Cllrs Gittins and Shearan.</li><li>f) Resolve to postpone the rollout of SmartWater kits until further notice.</li></ul>
170.19	<b>REPORTS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Clerk's update report – See Appendix B. <b>RESOLVED</b> to note.</li></ul>

	<p>b) Shropshire Councillor Nick Bardsley – <b><i>Cllr Bardsley read out a report which is available as an appendix to these minutes.</i></b> Local Plan Review: Further decisions have been postponed until July, with adoption expected to be around March 2022. Yardley: In addition to the points in Cllr Bardsley’s report, it was <b>NOTED</b> that Karen Bradshaw (Acting Interim Chief Executive of SC) recognised that there had been misinterpretations and if her officers had done wrong, she apologised on their behalf. She had also agreed to respond in writing to the Parish Council’s letter of complaint in accordance with SC’s complaints procedure. If SC agreed to extra resources/funding for traffic calming measures and/or extending the 20mph along the whole of Brownhill, this would be a welcome solution to concerns about safe access and egress from the site. It was <b>NOTED</b> that St John the Baptist primary school should receive additional funding for ‘looked after’ children anyway. The Parish Council <b>AGREED</b> that the proposal for a liaison group would be a very good idea moving forward. The proposed liaison group would involve 2 x parish cllrs, 2 x SC officers from Children’s Services, the Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services (Ed Potter), and the Local SC Cllr (Nick Bardsley).</p> <p>Cllr Ed Potter noted that he had recently gone through the process of purchasing a property for ‘looked after’ children in the Nesses area, and that the consultation process had gone quite smoothly there. He hoped that, despite the poor communication initially, the same could eventually be achieved for Ruyton XI Towns moving forward. The outline plan for Yardley was for 3 younger children, and 2 young people aged 16-18. Once the home is set up and approved by Ofsted then children would be identified who could be particularly well-suited to the home. None of SC’s residential homes provide transitional housing for older individuals over 18, although that model could potentially be developed much further down the line, but in other properties initially. Concerns were raised about the suitability of Ruyton XI Towns for older children, given the lack of amenities and poor transport links, and the risks of isolation and boredom. Cllr Ed Potter replied that all of SC’s residential homes were in rural locations, with good access to countryside and fresh air, and that other privately-owned residential homes in similar settings had experienced no major problems. He explained that often larger properties are needed for such homes, which are by their nature harder to find and more expensive in more urban environments, but he did agree that transport links were not ideal in rural areas. He spoke about the positive impact a rural setting can have for ‘looked after’ children, and gave the example of an individual who had grown up in a very troubling environment in a town, but who was thriving since being placed in a rural residential home. There being no further questions for Cllr Potter, the chair thanked him for his time and input, and he left the remote meeting at 18:57.</p> <p>c) Local Police Report - <b>RESOLVED</b> to note.</p>
171.19	<p><b>PARISH MATTERS</b> – Council to discuss and agree actions</p> <p>a) Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Shearan gave a brief update. There had been a further Steering group meeting to discuss options and a document had been put together and was being checked with other members of the steering group who had not been able to meet last time. They were also looking at the latest version of the Place Plan to see if</p>

there were any updates needed for infrastructure priorities which could potentially impact the Neighbourhood Plan.

- b) Safer Roads Group – As mentioned earlier, it was **NOTED** that SC could help alleviate some traffic concerns near Yardley by funding additional traffic calming measures and/or extending the 20mph speed limit along Brownhill. Further discussions between SC and the Safer Roads Group would be required. Cllr Shearan spoke about recent data from the VAS signs and the difference since lockdown rules came into effect, e.g. traffic going through the village from Oswestry has reduced 90%.
- c) The Cliffe – It was **RESOLVED** to defer a decision on renewing the Management contract for the time being, and the clerk would contact Shaun Burkey to let him know. It was **NOTED** that mountain bike trails had been spotted on The Cliffe and this had been reported to Shaun Burkey. Cllr Allison joined the meeting via phone and spoke about the two MTB tracks on the east side of Cliffe, which need to be monitored. He also made the council aware that some people seemed to be taking their exercise outside for longer than currently allowed under the lockdown rules. The chair thanked Cllr Allison and he left the meeting at 19.08.
- d) War Memorial names – It was **NOTED** that this had been put on hold due to coronavirus.
- e) VE 75 Day 8.05.2020 – Following official advice from the pageantmaster Bruno Peek, it was **RESOLVED** that commemorations for VE Day 75 would be postponed and hopefully re-scheduled for the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> August as a joint commemoration for VJ Day.
- f) Yardley – This had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

172.19

#### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1. Reference: 20/01016/FUL (validated: 09.03.2020)  
Proposal: Erection of two storey rear extension and internal alterations including relocation of staircase.  
Address: Park Cottage, The Rough, Ruyton Xi Towns, SY4 1JB  
<https://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=Q6SCW9TDLBT00>  
It was **RESOLVED** to make representation with no comments.
2. Reference: 20/01268/FUL (validated: 24.03.2020)  
Proposal: The erection of ground mounted solar panel array  
Address: The Wheelhouse, Shotatton Court, Shotatton, Ruyton Xi Towns, Shrewsbury Shropshire, SY4 1JG  
<https://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=Q7NU6HTDLO200>  
It was **RESOLVED** to make representation with no comments.

#### **PLANNING DECISIONS BY SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL – RESOLVED** to note the following.

1. **Reference:** 18/02858/REM (validated: 10.07.2019)  
**Proposal:** Approval of reserved matters (appearance, layout, landscaping, scale) pursuant to 14/04168/OUT - for residential development of two detached houses; formation of vehicular access with visibility splay; to include removal of trees  
**Address:** Proposed Residential Development West Of Darlee Cottage Brownhill Ruyton XI Towns Shropshire  
**Decision: Pending consideration**
2. **Reference:** 20/00391/REM (validated 06/02/2020)

	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Approval of reserved matters (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to outline permission 19/00560/OUT for the erection of 5No. dwellings  <b>Address:</b> Development Land to The South Of, Aldersley Way, Ruyton Xi Towns  <b>Decision: Grant permission</b></p> <p>3. <b>Reference:</b> 20/00673/FUL (validated: 24.02.2020)  <b>Proposal:</b> The erection of an agricultural building for storage of machinery, produce and housing of livestock  <b>Address:</b> Shelvock Coppice Ruyton-xi-towns Shropshire  <b>Decision: Pending consideration</b></p>																														
173.19	<p><b>SHREWSBURY NORTH WEST RELIEF ROAD CONSULTATION (deadline 30.04.2020)</b>  It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr Spicer would respond to the consultation questionnaire on behalf of the Parish Council. If any councillors have specific points that they wish to be raised these should be passed onto Cllr Spicer or the clerk in good time before the consultation deadline.</p>																														
174.19	<p><b>PAYMENTS</b></p> <p>a) Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the following invoices/reimbursements to be authorised. Hardcopies of invoices and paperwork would be signed by signatories retrospectively once the council was able to meet in person. As no invoice had been received from Scottish Power this would have to be retrospectively approved in May.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Description</th> <th>NET</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Clerk</td> <td>April salary</td> <td>540.65</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>540.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk</td> <td>April expenses</td> <td>18.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>18.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NEST (DD)</td> <td>April pension contributions</td> <td>40.21</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>40.21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scottish Power DD</td> <td>4<sup>th</sup> quarter energy bill (streetlights)</td> <td>TBC</td> <td>TBC</td> <td>TBC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Numbers Plus</td> <td>Invoice 37462</td> <td>7.24</td> <td>1.45</td> <td>8.69</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>It was <b>NOTED</b> that there had been less than one call/per day to the Coronavirus helpline so far, and there were more volunteers than people in need across the parish. Cllr Lister updated the council on funding applications for the Basnett, Mathews, and Minton Trust, and <b>NOTED</b> that funding from the parish council was not currently needed.</p> <p>b) Any urgent invoices received after the date of issue of the agenda. None received.</p>	Payee	Description	NET	VAT	TOTAL	Clerk	April salary	540.65	0.00	540.65	Clerk	April expenses	18.00	0.00	18.00	NEST (DD)	April pension contributions	40.21	0.00	40.21	Scottish Power DD	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter energy bill (streetlights)	TBC	TBC	TBC	Numbers Plus	Invoice 37462	7.24	1.45	8.69
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175.19	<p><b>FINANCE</b></p> <p>a) Year-end Receipts &amp; payments – Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to note year end receipts: £36,957.32 (excluding transfer from Bank of Ireland closure), and payments: £60,147.61.</p> <p>b) Year-end budget monitoring report and VAT reclaim – Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to note the Budget monitoring report. The clerk had submitted a VAT reclaim for £4719.41.</p> <p>c) Year-end bank reconciliations – Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the reconciliations. Hard copies and bank statements would be signed as soon as possible once the council could meet in person again. The closing balance for 2019-20 was <b>NOTED</b> to be £26,601.13.</p> <p>d) Year-end asset register (updated) – Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to include the bench at Fiveways on the asset register. This would bring the total insurance value of assets up to £83,197. The clerk would update the register.</p> <p>e) Neighbourhood Fund monitoring form – It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to confirm that £231.29 had been received from CIL Neighbourhood Fund in 2019-20, and that there had been no</p>																														

	<p>projects or expenditure from this reserve. The clerk, chairman, and Shropshire Cllr Bardsley would arrange to sign the form and return to SC as soon as possible.</p> <p>f) Insurance – Estimates had been received from Norris &amp; Fisher, CAS, and Zurich Municipal, but quotes were still outstanding from BHIB and the current insurer Came &amp; Co. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to defer a decision on insurance until the next meeting.</p> <p>g) Training requests – The clerk had attended an SLCC training webinar for helping communities during COVID-19 and was due to attend another webinar for making accessible documents in May. As these would be paid by Clive Parish Council (total cost £45.00+VAT), it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that Ruyton XI Towns would cover the bill for the next training events of a similar amount in order to split the cost between the two councils.</p>
176.19	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b> - It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to note the following.</p> <p>a) Road closures (Baschurch, and Grimpo)</p> <p>b) SALC bulletins</p> <p>c) Coronavirus bulletins</p> <p>d) Precept confirmation</p> <p>e) Highways Improvement Plan and Capital Programme 2010-21</p> <p>f) Yardley Briefing note</p> <p>g) Community Reassurance Team info</p> <p>h) Oswestry Health Group</p> <p>i) Local Plan Review update.</p>
177.19	<p><b>FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS</b></p> <p>Councillor are requested to use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas.</p> <p><b>Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.</b></p> <p>a) Remote meetings protocol</p>
178.19	<p><b>NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:</b> Tues 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020, at 6.30 pm. This will be an ordinary meeting of the council and not the annual meeting of the council. It was <b>NOTED</b> that Cllrs Gittins and Spicer were happy to continue in their respective roles of chairman and vice chairman.</p>

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 19.29 pm and thanked everyone for attending.

Confirmed as accurate..... Chairman, Cllr Simon Gittins Date .....

Appendix A: Scheme of Delegation; Appendix B: Clerk's report; Appendix C: Yardley briefing note and letter to Shropshire Council; Appendix D: Year-end accounts