

## Minutes of Woore Annual Parish Council Meeting

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024, 7.30pm, The Victory Hall, Woore



### **PRESENT:**

Cllr M. Cowey (Chairman), Cllr M. Carter, Cllr C Hamilton, Cllr C. Gath and Cllr A. Gath.

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Ms C Burnard (Clerk to the Council), Cllr Roy Aldcroft (Shropshire Council Representative)

### **PUBLIC:**

There were three members of the public present.

### **24037 Welcome / Present, Apologies and/or absent**

Apologies were received on behalf of Cllr M. Blake due to illness.

Apologies were also received for Cllr J. Higgin and Cllr R. Goodman due to holidays.

It was unanimously **resolved** to accept all apologies

### **24038 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or any other Interests**

Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting and which is not included in the register of interests. Members are reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer. Members are reminded to declare any gifts and/or hospitality. (LGA 1972 s94).

No declarations were received.

**24039 Requests for Dispensations of DPIs** None received.

### **24040 Open Forum: to last no longer than 15 minutes**

The Chair opened up the meeting and briefly explained open forum to the first-time attendees informing that five minutes is allocated to each item people wish to raise.

An attendee spoke regarding their wish to submit planning permission for a small development and handed out two photographs for councillors to review (Appendix One.)

The land in question, south of Woore on London Road, is currently used as agricultural land and extends to just over 3 hectares, however the owners wish to submit planning permission for a small number of houses. This land is part of the sensitive gap between Woore and Pipe Gate so the owners wish to ensure councillors are consulted throughout the process.

As part of the development, only half the land will be built on, in order to ensure the gap is maintained. The half not to be built on will be owned by a Co-Operative/Management Company type of set up by the new homeowners and it will be stated in the deeds that this land is never to be built on.

The landowners feel that their proposal is the best way to ensure this gap is maintained and hope that residents and councillors can support them on this venture.

The Chair added that the number of new houses in the Parish already exceeds plans set out in the neighbourhood plan which stated 31 new homes by 2036, so this would need to be considered however the Parish Council strongly supports any plans that will maintain the sensitive gap as this is important to the community. The Chair informed the landowners that the Parish would benefit from more affordable housing should they wish to explore that.

Cllr R. Aldcroft pointed out that Shropshire Council currently has a back log of planning applications so he advised the landowners to get their application in promptly should they wish to progress quickly. The Parish Council now await further updates.

The Chair moved on to some other Open Forum points. He thanked the volunteer who painted the parish notice board. It is looking a lot better.

He congratulated all involved in organising the Woore School Fete. It was very well attended. The CPR training that councillors attended in May was a great event and he thanked the Village Hall for organising.

**24041 Approval of the Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024 (Local Government Act 1972, s12p41(1)).

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the amended minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

**24042 Matters arising:** to cover any matters arising from Minutes referred to in 24041.

The Chair updated Councillors that the Firbe Optic Broadband Upgrade Scheme is now at 94% with only 11 more pledges required to reach 100%. Work has started and the Chair has emailed Robert Rowan at Openreach for a schedule of work so the residents can be updated.

The Chair has again written to the officer at Shropshire Council dealing with the flooding on Dorrington Lane. He is yet to receive a response.

The HS2 notices that a resident discussed in June have been confirmed as old notices and are no longer of importance.

Regarding the gym equipment recently moved from behind the Victory Hall to St Leonard's playground, the Chair pointed out that this project was discussed multiple times and residents had plenty of opportunity to comment.

No updates from Outdoor Partnerships and the Chair is still awaiting feedback from his last email regarding what actions have been taken recently.

The Chair informed Councillors that he had once again reminded landowners of their responsibilities to maintain hedges and public footpaths on their land. If no action of taken, enforcement officers may be called upon, so he encouraged any Parish landowners to please take action.

**24043 Shropshire Council Representative Report:** for Cllr R. Aldcroft to provide reports/updates on any relevant matters.

Cllr R. Aldcroft informed Councillors that due to the election, not a lot of note has happened.

Shropshire Council needs to save £62.5million in the financial year 2024/25. The County Council is still in talks trying to decide where best to make these savings. These savings will not come from social care.

Cllr R. Aldcroft informed all that the green waste bin charge will come into effect, payable from October 2024 at £56 per year per bin.

The six main libraries within the county after safe for now however Cllr R. Aldcroft is unsure about the portable libraries.

Shropshire Council is looking at shutting the recycling centres on Wednesdays to save costs. They will remain open at the weekends.

Just over £3million has been allocated to fixing the potholes within the county. Cllr R. Aldcroft reminded the parish that Shropshire is the second biggest rural county in the country so fixing holes is more logistically challenging than in others.

The Chair asked Cllr R. Aldcroft to find out about the required upgrade to the Pelican crossing for outside the School.

Shropshire Council, along with all the councils are awaiting to see if the newly elected Labour majority plan to implement any unexpected changes.

Cllr M. Carter raised the recent roadworks that have been completed just south of Grove Crescent and wanted to remind residents that if they choose to drive past a 'Road Closed' sign, their insurance is not valid should they have an accident on the road.

The Chair added that while the completed roadworks mentioned above was a good job, the road requires further work and asked Cllr R. Aldcroft to follow up on when the next stage will commence.

The Chair will then push for the A525 (both directions) work to be completed, especially towards Audlem.

One final note from the Chair was to inform Cllr R. Aldcroft of the proposed road closure of London Road between Irelands Cross and Market Drayton for three weeks for the new housing development. The Chair

informed Cllr R. Aldcroft that the closure time was unacceptable especially as it is believed that all utilities are on the same side as the development and requested that Woore Parish Council be invited to all discussions on this with Shropshire Council.

The Chair added that the section 106 agreement states that there should be a 40mph limit on the main road past the development however the contacts within Shropshire Council have been non-committal regarding this. Cllr R. Aldcroft will chase up and enquire as to if the developer will be liable for the costs of the speed limit consultation and implementation.

#### **23044 Planning:**

- a) Applications: to adopt comments submitted via delegated powers in response to the following applications and as approved by Councillors prior to the meeting; i) Reference: 24/02495/FUL  
Address: Woore Cricket Club, London Road, Woore, CW3 9SK  
Proposal: Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension. ii)  
Reference: 24/02523/FUL  
Address: Budleigh Cottage, Gravenhunger Lane, Woore, Crewe, Shropshire.  
Proposal: Installation of all-weather equestrian arena for private use only with post and rail timber fencing with timber entrance gate

Cllr M. Cowey will prepare comments for both applications and send to Councillors for comments.

- b) **Decisions:** to acknowledge all planning decisions made between 11<sup>th</sup> June and 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024.  
i) Reference: 24/01510/FUL  
Address: Long Meadow Farm, Pipe Gate, Shropshire TF9 4HD  
Proposal: Demolition of dwellinghouse and garage, and erection of a replacement farmhouse, garage, and associated works.  
Decision: **Permission Granted**

- c) Street Name Consultation: Parish Councillors to agree on name proposed to be submitted for the Street Name Consultation for Development at Ireland's Cross.

Councillors were informed prior to the meeting that the name for the new development at Irelands Cross is currently being consulted on and the suggestion is 'Windsor Close'. The Chair has asked many local residents for their suggestions and the below have been suggested –

- Shropshire Folly
- Cross Straight
- Ireland's Corner
- Racecourse Close

Upon further research it was discovered that the parish currently has no roads named after veterans. A resident researched and attained information on a local resident who fought in WWI and is buried in St Leonard's Church (further information found in Appendix two.)

It was unanimously **resolved** to put forward 'William Weston Way' or 'Weston Way' as the name of the new development.

**24045 Committee and Representatives Reports:** for Councillors/representatives to provide reports/updates on any relevant matters.

- a) All reports as required;

Cllr M. Carter circulated the minutes from the recent SALC meeting.

The main point of note was regarding 'Shropshire Community Foundation' which is a push for more affordable housing in the county. Shropshire are wanting Parish and Town Councils to put forward any pockets of land suitable to new affordable housing. Woore Parish Council support this and await further updates especially the definition of 'affordable'.

Cllr C. Hamiton provided the following Community Speed Watch Report –

An additional volunteer has been successfully vetted and is now waiting for training. The Safer Roads team train people in groups of three minimum so it was suggested that the new volunteer travel to another parish that has more volunteers in need of training to speed the process along.

When out conducting community speed watch, on average a speeder is still being caught every 2 minutes.

The Chair is still trying to get new speed indicator device systems for the Parish. Funding is in place; the locations have been approved. So once the specification of the devices are signed off, they will be purchased.

Cllr J. Higgin will have the winter planting proposal ready for the September 2024 meeting.

The Chair received notification that footpath 0236261, Pipe Gate to Dorrington, has been blocked as maize has been planted across the footpath and the border hedges have become overgrown. The Chair has written to the landowner reminding them of their responsibilities to keep public footpaths on their land clear. The Right of Way Officer has also been informed.

Outdoor Partnerships have replied regarding the resurfacing of the footpath along the Bowling Club however the Chair is unsure if the solution will provide safe passage for all accessibility needs. The Chair is to consult with the Bowling Club.

The Chair will attend the next Chairmans meeting will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

#### **24046 Woore Victory Hall CIL Funding Project Governance 1316 to be discussed**

The Chair informed Councillors that within the bank balances presented each month is a pot of money named CIL (as shown on the reconciliation below).

This balance currently stands at £120,000 and this can be spent on community projects, providing all requirements for spending have been complied with. These requirements include being submitted to Shropshire Council via the parish's 'Place Plan' This is referred to as the 'Neighbourhood CIL Fund'.

There is also a 'Strategic CIL Fund' which sits at £54,000 and requires approval from Shropshire Council before spending.

An additional fund is the 'CIL Local Fund' which is for agreed spending on infrastructure which can only be spent in Market Drayton East, Woore and Norton-in-Hales Parishes. This fund comes from all the CIL income to Shropshire Council since 2012 and currently stands at £494,000.

Only the 'CIL Neighbourhood Fund' sits within Woore's bank, the rest sits with Shropshire Council. The Parish Council have received their first application for a grant from the CIL fund.

The application has come from Woore Victory Hall for improvements to the lighting system. The plan is to upgrade the current lights to LED saving money for the hall and emissions. This scheme is on the Place Plan and the cost is £4,776.00.

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the application.

Councillors were very supportive of getting more place plan items funded and the Chair, Vice Chair and the Clerk are to meet with Lucy Roberts at Shropshire Council ASAP to push individual items along.

#### **24047 Parish Notice Board at St Leonard's to be discussed**

The Chair has been approached by a group of residents wishing to use the notice board at the play area for local promotional notices including the Community Speed Watch poster and the Woore Produce Show advertisements.

The Chair's concerns is that the notice board itself is not the easiest to use and he does not want any resident to get injured using it.

The Clerk offered to receive communication from the parish and put them on the notice board herself to mitigate the chances of injuries. The Chair agreed to show her how the board works and if agreed, okayed the notion for the Clerk to act as 'Notice Board Monitor'.

They will meet at the play area in the coming weeks to finalise the plans and to give the board a quick clean.

#### **24048 Finance:**

- a) Invoices/payments & receipts: to resolve to approve the below detailed expenditure: It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the following payments as presented.

Date	Recipient	Reason for Payment	Cheque Number	Net Amount	VAT Amount	Power of Expenditure
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08.07.2024	Chelsea Burnard	Clerk Salary (July): Gross Pay NI deduction Income Tax deduction.	001975	£530.64 -£106.00 £0.00  <u>£548.92</u>	- - -	LGA 1972 s.112 (2) LGA 1972 s.112 (2) LGA 1972 s.112 (2)
08.07.2024	Woore Victory Hall	CIL Funding Project 1316	001976	£4,776.00	£0.00	LG A 1972 s. 137
08.07.2024	Woore Victory Hall	Room Hire Q2 2024	001974	£144.00	£0.00	LGA 1972 s.112
08.07.2024	Shaping Cloud	Microsoft 365 Standard 12 Month Subscription	001977	£535.20	£107.04	LG A 1972 s. 111
08.07.2024	Westholme Nurseries	Planting of 22 planters	001978	£888.33	£177.67	HA 1980 s. 96

b) Bank reconciliation:

i) For the Council to receive end of month bank reconciliation for July 2024 due to no meeting in August 2024.

<b>Closing Bank Balance at 31st July 2024</b>			
Current Account	100.00		
Business Reserve Account	203,859.97	203,959.97	
Less unrepresented Cheques			
<b>Cheque 001959</b>		(200.00)	
<b>Cheque 001972</b>		(270.00)	
<b>Cheque 001978</b>		(1,066.00)	
		<b>202,423.97</b>	
<b>Split as follows</b>			
<b>Closing Balances</b>			
Recreational fund	3,966.75		
CIL Neighbourhood Fund	119,583.35		
General Fund	78,873.87	<b>202,423.97</b>	-

**24049 Clerk's Report and Correspondence:** To receive a summary of Reports and Correspondence for the period from 11<sup>th</sup> June to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

The Clerk has received a request from a local TV production company who wish to film a few scenes for an upcoming TV show within the Parish in August using the playground and the churchyard. A member of the production crew grew up locally and is very fond of the area.

Woore Parish Council welcome the chance to promote the parish and will update all residents nearer the time via social media.

The Clerk informed all Councillors that, while the Environmental Maintenance Grant applied for in June has been successful, due to budget constraints within Shropshire Council, only half the amount is being paid. This is applicable to all parishes. Woore Parish Council are grateful for the £750.

The Clerk updated Councillors that the internal audit has been signed off however the external auditors have an additional request.

It is mandatory to minute that Councillors have discussed the external audit requirements, and the Clerk has stated the period of which Notice of Inspection of the accounts is and confirmed the period that has been set by the Council for the exercise of public rights. The notice will now be published.

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The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

**DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Signed.....(Chair)

**Appendix One -**



**Appendix Two –**

William Weston was born on 20 June 1896 at Rose Cottage, Aston. His father, also William (1855-1923) and his mother, Mercy Meredith (1860- 1908) were married at St Chad's Norton in Hales in 1893.

