

Lydbury North Parish Council

Meeting of the Parish Council
Held Tuesday 08 March 2016 - 7.30pm at Lydbury North Village Hall

MINUTES

		ACTION
	Cllrs welcomed Ann Furness who attended the meeting as an interested party	
16.104	Members present: Cllrs Plowden (Chair), Beaumont, Bowen, Ellis, Evans, May, and Also present: Andy Boak (Clerk)	
16.105	Members absent: Cllr Woosnam Roberts, Unitary Cllr Barnes	
16.106	Apologies for absence: Mathew Mead (Community Enablement Officer)	
16.107	Declarations of interest: None	
16.108	Minutes of last meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 19 th January 2016 were accepted as a true record with the addition of the need for signage and white line painting at Five Turnings junction.	
16.109	Matters arising <p>(a) Cllr Plowden reported on attending a further meeting relating to the Big Conversation and priorities for Shropshire Council given reductions in funding from £80m to £25m over the next 4 years having originally been some £200m. All non-statutory activity under threat. Statutory activity covers Adult Social Care and Children's Services. The highways budget will fall from £20m to £8m. Shropshire Council is to raise Council Tax to the maximum allowed without a referendum which equates to a 3.99% increase. There was a recognition the Town and Parish Councils had the potential to do more as their precepts are not capped and that Shropshire Association of Local Councils had a communications role between these Councils and the Unitary Authority.</p> <p>(b) Community Enablement Officer Mathew Mead sent further information relating to cuts to the Shropshire Council budget and the impact on services including leisure centres, youth provision, libraries, Countryside Access and Rights of Way budgets and support services to schools.</p> <p>(c) Cllrs expressed concern over infrastructure maintenance in rural areas.</p>	
16.110	Councillor Vacancies: Cllr Bowen reported that Mrs S Petch had expressed an interest in one of the vacancies	
16.111	Planning and Housing Matters <p>(d) Cllrs noted that Shropshire Council has adopted the SAMDev policy details of which have been posted on the website</p> <p>(e) Cllrs noted that planning approval has been given for the extension at Grasvenor House</p>	
16.112	Reports <p>Dorothy Hunt Investment Trust Cllrs noted that the Dorothy Hunt Investment Trust. Investment income for February = £139.20. Half yearly report expected in March.</p> <p>School Cllr Woosnam Roberts sent information about membership of the South West Shropshire Learning Trust for you to take to the meeting. Cllr Bowen proposed that the Parish Council should register in support of the school. Cllr Ellis seconded all agreed.</p> <p>LJC Cllr May reported from the LJC meeting held on 18th February 2016 that two organisations had sought support from the Local Grant Scheme and there was still funding in the Youth Community budget which cannot be carried forward.</p> <p>VHMC The Clerk reported on his attendance at the VHMC meeting. Cllrs agreed that future attendance should not be dependent on becoming a trustee. Clerk to communicate</p>	AB

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	<p>with Chair of VHMC. Clerk also asked to request copy of annual accounts when they become available.</p> <p>Assets and Services event – Clerk reported on a workshop attended looking at the transfer of assets/services from Shropshire Council to local communities via Town/Parish councils or the vol/comm sector in order to address reduced budgets and impacts on services.</p>	AB
16.113	<p>Highways - The following reports on highway maintenance were received</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The lane to Choulton Farm as you travel west towards Lydham has become narrowed due to ditch erosion. 2. A reminder that signage and line painting is required at Five Turnings. 3. Gulley and trap needed for land drain near Folly Farm at GR363865 due to theft of drain slab. 	AB
16.114	<p>Flooding</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllrs noted the content of an email from Alan Meyrick to Cllr Woosnam Roberts regarding Brockton Bridge – and that he was under the assumption that Shropshire Council's drainage section had submitted an application, and promised to follow this up and that a site meeting between himself, his manager Andrew Keyland and a bridge engineer has been arranged for next week to go through the works required to remove the stone / silt from underneath the bridge. 	
16.115	<p>Hare Coursing and other illegal activity: Police noted the potential for a rise in hare coursing once the shooting season is over and will actively patrol known hare coursing areas once shooting season ends.</p> <p>Since September 2015 there have been 18 burglary dwellings, 14 burglary non dwellings, 21 thefts with the majority of offending occurring around Clun, Bucknell and Lydbury North. Police intend to target known local nominals and disrupt offending. Actively target travelling criminals, conduct stop checks of vans in rural areas. Social media and local newsletter campaign to urge residents to report suspicious vehicles at the time they are seen and to come forward with any information. The neighbourhood team will visit every outbuilding burglary and offer potentially vulnerable premises the 'Stop Thief' initiative.</p>	
16.116	<p>Defibrillator</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As WMAS has not been forthcoming with a date for training the Clerk intends pursuing alternative options. 2. Regarding signage Cllrs agreed to allocate £50 towards a sign. Cllr May offered to supply and erect a post. 	AB/GM
16.117	<p>In respect of the Queens 90th birthday celebrations Cllrs agreed that in the current climate it would be inappropriate to allocate funds for any activity.</p>	
16.118	<p>Clerk reported on progress following the award of a grant to support implementation of the Transparency Code. Laptop and scanner purchased. Clerk sought approval for purchase of Microsoft Office Professional or subscription to Office 365 Cllr May proposed that the latter offered better value for money, Cllr Bowen seconded all agreed.</p> <p>New website under development. Training received from Enterprise House and start made. Cllrs agreed that the key purpose of the website should be to ensure the transparency code is met and the public kept informed about the work of the and where possible support the parish as an entity. Cllrs agreed with the suggestion from Mike Ashwell of Enterprise House that the Council maintains the current site for an additional year to ensure a smooth transition.</p>	
16.119	<p>Finance and Bills to pay</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllrs approved the following payments from the Community Account <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Wages for A Boak (Clerk) £357.07 ii. Payment to A Boak (Clerk) for purchase of laptop, scanner, domain name and web pack from transparency code grant - 	

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	<p>£414.99+£89.99+£1.19+£9.58 = £515.75. NB expected cost for these items £577.54</p> <p>iii. Donation to LJC - £100</p> <p>iv. HMRC £202.92</p> <p>(b) Cllrs approved the following payments from the New Hall Account</p> <p>i. VHMC M/A interest on investment for February/March = £139.20+ £350.89</p> <p>ii. VHMC interest on deposit account = £40.70</p> <p>iii. T Weaver on behalf of the VHMC for purchase of equipment = £577.16</p> <p>iv. G F & M Astley for landscaping = £1002.00</p> <p>2. Cllrs approved to be part of the external audit scheme proposed to replace current arrangements.</p>	
16.120	<p>Correspondence – Cllrs noted:</p> <p>1. The registration office to remain located within Enterprise House, Station Street, Bishops Castle SY9 5AO. From 1 April 2016 the registrar will attend by appointment only on Tuesday mornings between 10am and 12.30pm.</p> <p>2. Content of email regarding 'People encouraged to report child abuse suspicions'.</p> <p>3. Future Fit digest – No comment other than positive response to ShropDoc</p>	
16.121	<p>AGM – Suggestions for the content of the next meeting were discussed. Clerk to pursue.</p>	
16.122	<p>Date of next meeting was confirmed as 12th April 2016.</p>	

Signed

Chairman

Date