

Lydbury North Parish Council

Meeting of the Parish Council

Held Tuesday 17 November 2015 - 7.30pm at Lydbury North Village Hall

MINUTES

		ACTION
16.074	Members present: Cllrs Plowden (Chair), Beaumont, Bowen, Ellis, Evans and May, Also present: Andy Boak (Clerk), Mathew Mead (Community Enablement Officer)	
16.075	Members absent: Cllrs Woosnam Roberts, Unitary Cllr Barnes	
16.076	Apologies for absence: Cllrs Woosnam Roberts, Unitary Cllr Barnes	
16.077	Declarations of interest: Cllr Evans re item 16.079/1	
16.078	Minutes of last meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 15 th September 2015 and 20 th October 2015 were accepted as a true record.	
16.079	Matters arising Regarding item 16.054/4 unsheeted chicken waste being driven through the village. The offending tractor /trailer had been identified and reported as requested.	
16.080	Councillor Vacancies: Nothing to report	
16.081	Planning and Housing Matters <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mathew Mead provided an update on the progress of SAMDev. The policy has now been approved by the inspector and is due for adoption by the full council in December 2015. MM noted that recent planning applications have taken account of the policy and that SAMDev itself would be subject to central government policy decisions over the next 4 years. In response to a question from Cllr Evans regarding the impact of the Freshwater Pearl Mussel and status of the River Clun catchment on planning applications MM commented that the Environment Agency is seeking upgrading of sewage works particularly in Bucknell and Bishop's Castle due to be completed by 2018 2. A local resident seeking social housing in Lydbury North has been in contact re allocation. Cllrs sought clarification regarding apparent differences in allocation of housing on South View compared to Habershon Close. Clerk to investigate. 	AB
16.082	Reports Dorothy Hunt Investment Trust With reference to additional information received from SNR Brunt, Cllr Plowden sought a more user friendly report. Investment income for November £375.66 Unitary Councillor Unitary Cllr Barnes and Mathew Mead reported that the Department for Communities and Local Government had agreed to a reduction of 30% in the current spending round that would mean, for Shropshire Council a need for at least a further £77m savings by 2020/21. With a significant proportion of the budget being ring fenced to Children's Services and Adult Social Care this leaves a diminishing budget for non statutory services. Shropshire Council are starting a 'Big Conversation' to ensure the public have say on what the priorities should be for Shropshire in this situation. Locally, whilst the library at Bishop's Castle will continue, sports and leisure facilities are under threat and schools may suffer where numbers fall. The announcement by the Government that local Councils can keep income from business rates this will have a minimal impact for Shropshire Council due to the large proportion of small businesses that do not pay such rates. 700 signatures have been collected in support of SPARC. Cllr May commented that young people appeared to be more concerned about the swimming pool than the other facilities due to the provision at the school. Cllr Barnes said that the greatest cost of SPARC was the heating of the pool and energy efficiency measures were currently being investigated. Future Fit will be on the agenda of the next LJC meeting to be held on the 25 th	

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	<p>November 2015. Future Fit programme is currently in special measures and on hold.</p> <p>School Cllr Bowen reported on behalf of the Lydbury North Education and Welfare Fund that some £1300 had been allocated to Lydbury North School to support the after school club, a bench for the playground and extracurricular music. Clerk reported on behalf of Cllr Woosnam Roberts that the school will be holding the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an open morning at the school on Friday 20th November with an exotic zoo especially for any children looking to start nursery in the next few terms • an Xmas fair on Thursday 3rd December at the school 6pm. • a school fundraiser, Christmas quiz on Saturday 12th December at the Inn on the Green, Wentnor. Contact Jackie Llewelyn if interested. 	
16.083	<p>Highways - The following reports on highway maintenance were received</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clerk reported a problem with surface water on the Acton to Bryn road and A488 from blocked gully and that Lagden Lane was also bad. 2. Clerk reminded Cllrs of the invitation to a meeting being hosted by Ruyton XI to be held on 3rd March 2016 regarding an alternative approach to road safety. 	
16.084	<p>Hare Coursing and other illegal activity: The Police were unable to attend this meeting and Cllr Plowden was seeking an alternative date at which to discuss this problem. It would appear that initiatives being implemented elsewhere could be driving this illegal activity into the local area. Cllr Evans reported that field gates left open had allowed cattle to stray onto roads, but evidence suggested that this may have been the work of animal activists rather than those involved in hare coursing. It was reported that there has been an increase in burglary locally. It was agreed that awareness to this should be raised in the Community newsletter and on the website. MM to send Clerk information on available deterrents.</p>	<p>AB MM</p>
16.085	<p>At this point Cllr Ellis gave her apologies and left the meeting</p>	
16.086	<p>Defibrillator: Clerk reported that no one else had volunteered and the training would therefore be organised for those who had put their names forward.</p>	<p>AB</p>
16.087	<p>Finance and Bills to pay</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The following payments from Community Account were approved <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Wages for A Boak £357.07 (b) Mazars for completion of external audit - £120 (c) Enterprise South West Shropshire - £46.80 less overpayment of £13.40 = £33.40 (d) SALC membership fee reissue of cheque not cashed - £231.28 2. The following payments from New Hall Account were approved <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) LNVH maintenance account - £375.66 3. The Clerk presented a half yearly finance report. Expenditure to the 1st October 2015 was £4200 out of a precept of £10584. After wages the highest expenditure is on street lighting then rental of the hall. The latter will fall as a result of reducing the Clerk's attendance on Mondays. With the reduction in spending on insurance, street lighting which has trebled in cost over the last two years, is the key expenditure stream for which there is scope for reduction. As the PC allowed £2000 as an in year contingency this increase will not impact on the overall budget. There is approximately £14500 in reserve. 4. The Clerk presented a draft budget for 2016/17. Additional funds have been allocated to street lighting pending investigation of cost savings. With reduced costs to insurance and hall hire the budget for 2016/17 exceeds current precept by ~£120. Cllr Evans proposed that the precept should not be raised for 2016/17, seconded Cllr May and all agreed. 	
16.088	<p>Confirmation of next meeting 12th January 2016 (amended to 19th January 2016)</p>	

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Signed

Chairman

Date