

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN MYDDLE VILLAGE HALL ON  
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>. 2015 AT 7.30 PM.**

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**Public Session:**

Two members of the public were present and raised issues relating to Lower Road, Harmer Hill. They were delighted with the re-surfacing of the road but raised items that still needed to be addressed, although some of these had been discussed with the site contractors. The Chairman stated that discussions were on-going with the Highways Department and that a response would be sent to Steve Oakley after the project had been considered under Item 5(a) on the agenda.

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**Present:**

Mr. R. Jeffrey (Chairman)

Mrs. E. Hodge

Mr. G. Harding

Mr. R. Jones

Mr. R. Tiernan

Mr. R. Purslow

Mr. P. Keyse

Mr. S. Parker

**In Attendance:**

Parish Clerk.

**14/75 Apologies:**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Mr. J. Heath and Mr. C. Ruck and Shropshire Councillor Mr. B. Williams.

**14/76 Disclosure of Personal or Prejudicial Interests:**

None declared.

**14/77 Police Report:**

Reported offences:

October: Sleep Airfield Theft – 1.

November: Harmer Hill – Burglary 1 (Wem Road) and Anti – Social behaviour 1 (opposite Village Hall).

Myddle: Theft 2 (Welcroft area).

**14/78 Minutes of the meeting held on October 29<sup>th</sup>. 2014.**

The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

**14/79 Matters arising from the meeting:**

**(a) Lower Road, Harmer Hill (14/63(b)):**

It was noted that a start had been made on the project just before Christmas but discussions with Steve Oakley had identified that the contractors ran out of time and must now apply for

a new licence to close the road, whilst the work is completed. Steve had asked that any outstanding issues should be reported to him. It was agreed to pass on the following: drainage problems with the large ditch opposite the housing development; large stones placed on the edge of the highway by the bungalows; change in levels by some properties which could lead to a 'trip hazard'; owner of No. 6 Lower Road could not fully open his gate; three cars were regularly parked on the grass verge opposite the lane and there was still a need for additional signage.

(b) Highway Issues (14/63(c) :

Mr. Gradwell had made responses to the range of issues raised after the last meeting but it was noted that to date none of these had been actioned.

The Chairman suggested that Steve Oakley and David Gradwell should be asked to meet with him and Ray Tiernan to discuss all the issues related to Lower Road and the others which were still outstanding.

Clerk to action.

(c) Budget, precept and the Rate Support Grant.

Following the decision by Shropshire Council not to pay Parish Councils the local element of the Rate Support Grant, Members were asked to decide whether to:

(a) Increase the precept by £700.00 which, because of changes in calculating the payment, would not lead to an increase in resident's Council Tax or

(b) Carry out the necessary adjustments to the budget to cover the loss.

It was unanimously agreed to increase the precept by £700.00 to £19,700.00

(d) Meeting area for elderly people (14/63 (e) and 14/68)

It was decided to investigate this in more detail and a committee was formed comprising Councillors Mrs Hodge, Mr. Keyse and Mr. Parker. A report would be presented at the next meeting.

(e) Broadband Connection (14/73)

Letters expressing concern at the delay in connecting Myddle had been sent to B.T., Shropshire Council and Owen Paterson M.P. A similar response had been received from each party expressing regret, pointing out the problems faced with making a connection and stating that it was planned to complete the connection in spring 2015. It was noted that work was already underway to clear the problem.

(f) Community Speed Watch (14/61)

Clerk reported that a request had been forwarded to the police for the Parish to be included in the Speed Watch Programme. The request had been noted but there had been a high response from the whole area and the introduction of the scheme would depend on the availability of staff to carry out the training and money for financing the equipment.

It was noted that in Wem there were a number of notices stating that certain roads were 'Speed Watch Areas'. Clerk was asked to check if they were already running a programme or if this was an 'unofficial local project'.

(g) Parish Place Plan:

Clerk thanked Members for their responses and stated that the report had been sent to Shropshire Council.

**14/80 Accounts for Payment:**

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Mr. J. Wilson	Salary (Dec/Jan + back pay)	£400.27
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (Nov/Dec.)	£98.00
Inland Revenue	Income Tax (Dec/Jan)	£760.60
Nobridge	Ground maintenance (23/8-13/10)	£457.92
Paper Write	Photocopier Toner	£94.80
Eon	Maintenance contract (2 <sup>nd</sup> . half year)	£279.86

**14/81 Financial Statement:**

A financial statement was tabled and approved.

**14/82 Planning Applications:**

A. The following applications had been received and responded to with no objections raised:

1. Pump House, North of Jubilee Tree Cottages, Yorton – replacement electricity pole
2. Land adjacent to Orchard House – reserved matters for residential development of six houses.
3. High Cottage, 10, Lower Road, Harmer Hill – erection of single storey extension to rear of the property.
4. Land north of Robin Hill, Myddle – proposed residential development of five houses
5. The Hayloft, Myddle – 1<sup>st</sup>. floor extension + associated alterations.
6. Well House Farm, Weston Lullingfield – change of use from agricultural to residential.
7. Marton House, Marton – construction of an annexe after demolition of current building.

*To avoid any ambiguity it was agreed that each Member would respond to the Clerk or the Chairman on every application sent by email, which would allow the Chairman to decide if a site meeting was necessary.*

B. The following applications had been approved by Shropshire Council:

1. Land, Harmer Hill - erection of one dwelling with new vehicular access.
2. Pump House, Yorton - replacement electricity pole.
3. Harmer Hill Reservoir – conversion to holiday let accommodation.

**14/83 Community Led Plan:**(a)Traffic and Transport:

Chairman and Councillor R. Tiernan had prepared a detailed statement which was considered and approved by Members. Details attached.

No reports were tabled with regard to:

(b) Community Spirit and Amenities:

(c) Housing:

(d) Business and Farming:

**14/84 Correspondence:**

Members considered the following correspondence received by the Clerk, most of which had already been circulated to them.

Mr. Owen Paterson MP re. broadband connection.

B.T. – re. broadband connection.

Connecting Shropshire – re problems connecting Myddle to the system.

Julia Kear – Corbet News.

Alison Tudor – Rural Hub Newsletter.

Patrick Cosgrove – Rural Broadband (November).

David Smith – speeding traffic in Myddle.

Marinke Fontein – invite to CAS AGM.

SALC – Code of Conduct - training event.

Citizens Advice Bureau - Annual report.

Shropshire Council – Health and well-being.

Sue Thomas – removal of BT ‘phone box in Myddle.

*It had been agreed to object to the removal of this ‘phone box, especially as the mobile ‘phone connection in the Village was very poor.*

SALC – Newsletter November 24<sup>th</sup>.

Shropshire and Telford Hospitals – Women and Children’s Services.

Wem Judo Club – membership.

SALC – Information Bulletin December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ian Connolly – Speed Watch Programme.

Patrick Cosgrove – Broadband up-date (December).

Police Commissioner – precept details.

*Clerk was asked to respond, pointing out that there were concerns about a substantial increase in the proposed precept without any clear indication as to how that additional money was to be spent.*

SALC – Newsletter (December 23<sup>rd</sup>).

Lois Dale – BT Telephones.

Lesley Bead – Canal and River Trust.

**14/85 Committee Reports:****1. Local Joint Committee:**

Mr. Purslow reported that the concept of the LJC was changing and currently there was no concrete decisions on how they would operate in the future. They had been told that the Youth Service was being closed and the staff made redundant. A sum of £12,000.00 was being made available with caveats as to how that could be used and it had been decided to set up a committee to make recommendations.

**2. Harmer Hill Village Hall:**

The Committee had arranged for the Village Hall web site to be upgraded and it was proving to be a very successful and positive move. It was agreed that an approach should be made to ask that the details of the Parish Council should be included on the site.

**3. Myddle Village Hall:**

The Committee had decided to review the way in which organisations were to be charged for using the Hall.

**14/86 Youth Projects:**

Mr. Harding reported that there were genuine concerns about the affect the withdrawal of the service would have on the very successful local Youth Club, which relied on grants to subsidise various activities. The Clerk had produced a paper suggesting a way forward for Parish Councils to seek grant aid and it was suggested that Mr. Harding should meet with Sue Thomas to put forward a case for the youth club. Mr. Purslow felt that the LJC's hands would be tied and that money would not be allocated in this way.

Clerk to discuss the situation with Sue Thomas prior to any further action.

**14/87 Unresolved Issues:**

The Clerk provided Members with a list of issues which had been raised by the Council and were awaiting completion. Most of those listed related to improvements to road safety.

**14/88 War Memorial Committee:**

The Chairman reported that he had been asked to Chair a small committee looking at how the local War Memorial could be cleaned and repaired and be linked to other memorability from the world wars. It had been decided that this should be financed by local subscription rather than seeking grant aid and it was proposed to organise local events and collections.

To date there had been no response from the public to the article published in the Messenger.

**14/89 Exchange of Additional Information:****1. Wem Road Accident;**

Chairman reported details of an accident which had occurred at No 4, The Whym which appears to be an accident black spot. He had reported this to Mr. David Gradwell and asked to see if remedial action could be taken to protect the properties. He had responded pointing out that measures had been taken after the last accident but would visit the site and discuss this with the police to see if further measures could be put in place.

2. Red Castle Public House:

It was reported that an A Board was being placed on the triangular grass verge at the junction on the Ellesmere and Wem Roads and this was obstructing drivers' view of the road.

Clerk to report to Highways/Street Scene Manager and ask for action.

3. Shotton Lane:

Mr. Purslow reported that there was a loose telephone cable lying in the grass verge alongside Shotton Lane.

Clerk to advise BT of the problem.

**14/90 Date of Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. At 7.30pm in Harmer Hill Village Hall.

**Minutes approved as a true record:**

**Signed: *E. Hodge*      **Chairman****

**Date: *March 4<sup>th</sup>.***