

**MYDDLE, BROUGHTON AND HARMER HILL PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN HARMER HILL VILLAGE HALL ON  
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>. 2016 AT 7.30 PM.**

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**Public Session:**

Mr. J. Maxwell was in attendance and stated that he understood that the Council had received a complaint about him parking his caravan at the front of his house. He wished to point out that the deeds of his property indicated that he, together with two of his neighbours, owned this land and was responsible for the maintenance of a strip of land 10 feet wide by 160 feet long.

His comments were noted and Councillor Brian Williams confirmed that even if he did not own the land he would be able to park on that area, providing he was not obstructing the highway.

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**Present:**

Mr. R. Jeffrey (Chairman)

Mrs. E. Hodge

Mr. G. Harding

Mr. R. Jones

Mr. J. Heath

Mr. P. Keyse

Mr. S. Parker

**In Attendance:**

The Parish Clerk.

Mr. B. Williams. (Shropshire Councillor).

One member of the public.

**16/56 Apologies:**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Mr. C. Ruck, Mr. R. Tiernan and Mr. R. Purslow.

**16/57 Disclosure of Personal or Prejudicial Interests:**

None declared

**16/58 Minutes of the meeting held on September 7<sup>th</sup>. 2016:**

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

**16/59 Matters Arising:**

(a)CIL Projects and public meeting (16/41(a)).

It was noted that there had been a unanimous decision at the public meeting held on September 14<sup>th</sup>. that CIL money could be used towards funding the following projects:

*Improved road safety measures for children attending Myddle School (priority).*

*Footpath from the Bridgewater Arms to Pimhill Junction.*

*Improvements to the Ellesmere Road/The Hollow junction.*

*Reduced speed limits and traffic calming on roads in Harmer Hill.*

*Improved pathway to Myddle Children's Play Area.*

*Play Area development in Harmer Hill.*

*Bus shelter by Myddle School.*

It was also agreed that some CIL Neighbourhood Fund money could be used for the improvement of road safety measures for children attending Myddle School.

1. Safer Route to Myddle School:

The Clerk reported that following discussions with Ms. Sue Thomas (Community Enablement Officer), she had had completed and submitted the necessary application form asking for CIL money to be used for the school road safety project and pointed out that it had been agreed to use 50% of the Neighbourhood Fund. The application had been considered by Shropshire Council's Internal Infrastructure Committee, who had approved the project in principle but had passed it to the Road Safety Committee to consider the revenue implications for Shropshire Council. A decision should be made at the November meeting.

Clerk asked Councillors to note the exceptional help that Sue had given in supporting this project.

2. Up-grading pathway to Myddle Play Area:

It was noted that Councillor Ruck wanted to proceed with the plan to improve the pathway to the children's play area and various companies had been approached for quotations. It was agreed that CIL Neighbourhood funding could be used for this and that in consultation with the Chairman and Clerk, Councillor Ruck could proceed with the project and select the most appropriate contractor.

(b) Highways (16/41(b)).

(1) Speed Controls:

Clerk reported that he had been in contact with the Safer Road Partnership with regard to the speed checks they were carrying out in the Parish. However, they would not give details of the results of the checks until a six month programme had been undertaken.

(2) Footpath Maintenance:

Chairman indicated that there had been no action to clear the footpath between Harmer Hill Village Hall and the Ellesmere Road/Newton on the Hill junction. Clerk confirmed that it had been reported to the Highways Department and Councillor Williams stated that he had raised the issue with Chris Fisher. Clerk was asked to write again, asking the Highways Department to get the land owner to carry out maintenance work on the hedge and for the highways team to clean the path.

(c) War Memorial Project (16/41(c)).

The Chairman was delighted to report that the financial target for the project had been reached and there was now in excess of £4,000 in the bank account. The latest project was a concert run in conjunction with the Church and the £692.00 raised had been split between the

Church Yard and the Memorial funds. The last planned event would be a coffee morning being held at Jubilee Cottage.

Committee members felt justified in taking the approach to raise money locally rather than seeking a grant to cover the work. Councillor Keyse praised the efforts of the Committee and this gained unanimous support.

The Chairman went on to say that the Stonemason had been contracted for the work and the Diocese had been approached to give their consent and it was likely that the renovation work would begin in late March 2017. He also stated that 2017 would be the 'Year of the Book' as the obituaries and full details of those who had died serving their Country would form the local Book of Remembrance. Based on research of regimental records and War Diaries the book will also describe events and the context in which these very brave men fought. Once it was complete, copies would be on sale and this would make the project self-financing.

(d) Parking on Access to Myddle Recreation Ground (16/41(d)):

It was noted that a letter had been received from the Housing Association claiming that the access path formed part of the property they owned. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk met with representatives from the Association and showed them a copy of the deeds owned by the Council, which clearly showed that was not the case. After viewing the document they agreed that the Council were correct and stated that they would take a more positive approach to solve the problem of the parked car.

If the problem had not been resolved by November 10<sup>th</sup>, the Clerk was asked to make further contact with the Housing Association.

(e) Harmer Hill Play Area (16/41(g)).

The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk met the owners of the Harmer Hill play area who were very supportive and had agreed to renew the lease and extend it to twenty years. This would enable the Council to apply for grants to purchase play area equipment for the site.

(f) Play Area Repairs (16/51).

Clerk reported that Mr. Parry had reviewed the RoSPA report but as there was nothing urgent in it he had agreed to meet him on site to discuss possible repairs. The meeting was planned for November 10<sup>th</sup>.

(g) Review of Documents (16/54).

Clerk reported that he had completed the review of all the Council documents and Councillor Ruck had upgraded them on the Web site.

(h) Road naming (16/50)

Clerk reported that he had responded to Mr. Chapman pointing out that the name he had suggested for the Cul-de sac where he lived was already in use and asked him to suggest alternative names. He had received a response from Mr. Chapman stating that he was consulting with his neighbours.

(i) Possible BMX Track (16/48)

Clerk reported that he had informed Mr. Duffner of the decision made at the last meeting and had kept him up-to-date but had not received any further response.

(j) Council Communications:

Chairman reported that he and Councillor Ruck had discussed ways of developing new methods of informing residents of Council activity and Councillor Ruck would be bringing some proposals to the next meeting.

**16/60 Accounts for Payment:**

It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Mr. J. Wilson	Salary (Oct/Nov.)	£862.84
Mr. J. Wilson	Expenses (Sept/Oct.)	£130.07
Public Works	Loan re-payment	£1,587.98
EON	Light repair (Opposite Red Castle P.H.)	£90.14
Mazars	External audit	£240.00
Mr. C. Ruck	IT support (01/08/16 -31/07/17) + website updates	£150.00
Scottish Power	Electricity supply (30/06 -30/09)	£171.36

**16/61 Financial Statement:**

A financial statement was tabled and approved.

**16/62 External auditors report:**

No concerns had been raised over the administration of the Council or the accounts.

**16/63 Correspondence:**

Members considered the correspondence received since the last meeting.

**16/64 Planning Applications:**

A. The following planning application had been received:

1. Fresh Winds, Wem Road, Harmer Hill – various extensions.

*The application was supported but concerns were raised about the height and structure of the garage roof.*

2. Well House Farm – field entrance. *Application supported.*

3. 7, Bridgewater Place, Harmer Hill – erection of a detached garage. *Application supported.*

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

Harmer Hill Village Hall – creation of a porch.

The Buildings, Myddlewood – approval of reserved matters.

Mount Pleasant, Myddlewood – two storey extension.

**16/65 Community Led Plan:**

(a) Traffic and Transport:

i. Chairman reported that he and Councillor Tiernan were still working on a possible plan to provide a voluntary car service in the Parish to support the service which was already available.

ii. Councillor Heath wished it to be recorded that he had serious concerns about the speed of traffic on Wem Road through Harmer Hill and the likely event of a serious accident. This was supported by all Members.

Clerk stated that this had already been reported to Shropshire Council but suggested that a proposal should be formulated to use CIL money for the installation of VAS lights on the Wem Road at the entrance to the village from both directions and a possible pedestrian crossing close to the junction with The Hollow. He would place this on next month's agenda for consideration and it would also be discussed at the

(b) Housing:

The Chairman stated that at the next meeting, Councillor Purslow would be making a report on his meeting with the Housing Officer with regard to the provision of affordable housing.

(c) Business and Farming:

Clerk confirmed that a copy of Councillor Keyse letter had been sent out to farmers and business addresses in the Parish but currently no responses had been received.

It was suggested that the Council could consider setting up a programme of computer training for business owners.

**16/66 Police Report:**

The following incidents had been recorded in August:

Harmer Hill

Drugs -2 (Shotton Lane – under investigation).

Myddle

Violence -1 (Alford Gardens – under investigation).

Burlton

Burglary -1 (Hatchetts Close – under investigation).

Theft – 1 (no suspect identified).

**16/67 Committee Reports:**

(a)Shropshire Council's Town & Parish Councils Working Forum.

Chairman reported on the meeting he and the Clerk had attended in Shirehall on September 29<sup>th</sup>. which had been called to discuss the transfer of certain services to Town and Parish Councils. Currently this centred on libraries, the youth service, open space management and sports centres. With the exception of youth service none of these impacted on the Council but discussions were on-going about devolving certain aspects of highway maintenance.

One of the concerns about the transfer of services will be the Government's decision on whether or not to impose a restriction on local councils raising their precepts by more than 2% without holding a referendum.

(b) The Chairman reported that he had attended the following meetings:

SALC Executive Committee:

The meeting had been held in Shirehall where the guest speakers had been the recently appointed Police Commissioner and Mr. Jake Berriman from the Shropshire Housing Group who had given interesting and informative talks.

Future Fit:

Designed to give an up-date on recent developments. The business case was to be considered by Shropshire Council on September 23 and the final proposal will be put forward for public consultation on December 12<sup>th</sup>. 2016

**16/68 Budget.**

Chairman reported that he would be meeting with the Vice Chairman and the Clerk to compile a recommended budget for approval at the January meeting. It was suggested that consideration should be given to creating a budget head for services for young people and a voluntary car service.

**16/69 Village Halls – Sound Systems.**

A proposal that the Council should fund the installation of a sound system in each of the Village Halls was considered but concerns were raised that the projects had not been fully debated by Members. Members also wondered if the proposed system was appropriate and included a loop system for those people with a hearing problem.

It was eventually decided to ask Councillors Ruck and Purslow to meet and make a detailed proposal at the January meeting.

**16/70 Exchange of Additional Information:**(a) Transparency Funding:

Clerk reported that the Government was providing grants for small Councils to purchase electronic equipment to enable them to comply with the new regulations, which required Council information to be available on a dedicated web site. With Councillor Ruck's help, an application to fund a computer, a scanner and the cost of programming the Web Site had been applied for and a grant of £825.00 had been awarded.

(b) Removal of Telephone Boxes:

Clerk reported that Councillor Tiernan had advised him that he had spoken to a number of residents who supported the removal of the telephone box in Harmer Hill. However following consideration, Members objected to a proposal made by B.T. to remove the boxes in Harmer Hill and Myddle. The signal for mobile 'phones in the area was poor and although there was limited use it was felt that it was essential that there was access to a public 'phone, especially in an emergency. It was noted that BT had a legal obligation to provide a service.

**16/71 Date and time of Next meeting.**

Wednesday January 4<sup>th</sup>.at 7.30pm in Myddle Village Hall.

**Minutes approved as a true record:**

Signed: R. Jeffrey Chairman

Date: January 4<sup>th</sup>. 2017