

MORETON SAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Moreton Say Parish Council held at Moreton Say Village Hall on Thursday 23rd May 2024 commencing immediately after the Annual Meeting of Moreton Say Parish Council

Present: Councillors C Dutton, C Wellon, G Turner, and A Wickett, and Unitary Councillor P Wynn also, present Mrs J Evans (Clerk).

Apologies: Councillors P Smith, R Hughes, and P Duffy

1. **Welcome / Present / Apologises** – As stated above
2. **Declarations of Interest** – None
3. **Public Session** – This was dealt with at the Annual Parish Meeting.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th March 2024** - Prior to the meeting the Councillors had received copies of these minutes and it was resolved that they were a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
5. **Clerk's update regarding on-going matters** – The Council was updated regarding the following:
 - The Clerk advised that Cllr Turner and Cllr Smith were now using their 'gov.uk' emails and Cllrs Wickett and Wellon confirmed that they would be sorting theirs out shortly.
 - A reply had been received from the Shropshire Highways Officer for this area who advised that she had instructed the County's Tree Officer to inspect the trees from Moreton Say Village Hall to Pinfold Cottages.
6. **Report from the Unitary Councillor** – Cllr Wynn advised that it looked likely that the County's Waste Centre would all stay open although they would be closing on certain days so that the necessary savings could be made. He went on to advised that the Shropshire Highway's Manager for this area, Victoria Doren, was moving on and replacement was currently being sought.
7. **Report from other Committees by Moreton Say Parish Council Representatives** – On-one had attended a meeting since the last Parish Council meeting.
8. **Planning** – The following planning applications were considered and *comments agreed*:
None received

Determination of Planning

None received
9. **General Power of Competency** - The Clerk explained the criteria for this and the Council agreed that these conditions still applied to Moreton Say Parish Council.

10. Finance

a. Expenses

Payee	Expense	Chq No	Net Amount	Vat Amount	Authority
Chris Jordan	Grass cutting	Int Bk		-	LGA 1972 s 124 (1)
Shropshire Council	Street light energy	Int Bk			PCA 1957 ss 3 (1) & 7
S D H Accounting	Internal Audit Fee	Int Bk	£175.00	-	LGA 1972 s 111
SALC	Annual Membership Fee	Int Bk	£280.76	-	LGA 1972 s 143
Insurance	Annual Premium	Int Bk	£300.00	-	LGA 1972 s 111
JE re McAfee	Lap top renewal fee	Int Bk	£109.99	-	LGA 1972 s 111
JE re SLCC	Reimbursement of 50% annual prof fees	Int Bk	£74.00		LG(FP)A 1963 s 5

Jane Evans	Clerk's Salary - May 2024	SO	£292.16	-	LGA 1972 s 112 (2)
Jane Evans	Clerk's Salary - June 2024	SO	£292.16	-	LGA 1972 s 112 (2)
	Total		£1,524.07		

The Clerk explained that she was expecting to have received the grass cutting invoice and the invoice relating to the street lights before the meeting but these had not yet been received. The Council resolved that as both these expenses had been agreed in the budget they could be paid when received and agreed to all the other expenses in the schedule.

The Clerk went on to advise the Council that since 30th April 2024 they had received the VAT reimbursement of £278.67 and CIL money totalling £17,756.46 so the balance, before the above expenditure was paid, was over £48,000. Cllr Dutton asked if CIL money could be used to purchase land and the Clerk will investigate this and report to the next meeting.

b. Bank Reconciliation:

Balance brought forward as at 1st April 2024	£17,085.74
Add: Receipts to date	£13,516.00
Less: Payments to date	£292.16
Closing Balance	£30,309.58

Bank Balances as at 30th April 2024:

Current Account	£1,275.48
Interest Bearing Account	£29,034.10
Less: payments awaiting authorisation	£0.00

Total Bank Balance **£30,309.58**

- c. Internal Auditor's Report** – A copy of this report had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting and, having been reviewed, the Council agreed to approve this report.
- d. Annual Governance Statement** – The Council reviewed all the comments within this document and unanimously agreed to adopt this statement.
- e. Year End Statement of Accounts** – The Council reviewed and unanimously agreed to approve these accounts.
- f. Insurance Renewal** – The Clerk advised the Council that the renewal premium with the current insurer, Clear Councils (formally BHIB) would be £491.38 but she had obtained an alternative quote from Zurich who had an online policy for Councils who had a precept of less than £30,000 and did not own property, which this Council qualified for, and that would cost £300 for the year. This on-line policy still had all the Public Liability, Employers Liability amounts as the existing policy did and so the Council agreed to change the insurance to Zurich.
- g. Grants Application** – The Council had received the following requested for grants of support and agreed these amounts:
- Moreton Say PCC – Support towards the maintenance of the churchyard - **£1,000**
 - Moreton Say Village Hall – Support towards the insurance of the Village Hall - **£750**
 - Moreton Say Millennium Green Trust – support towards the additional bark for the pathways – **leave for the time being**

11. Policy Documents – Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated the following policy documents:

- a. Standing Orders
- b. Financial Regulations
- c. Risk Assessment Schedule
- d. Shropshire Code of Conduct
- e. Publication Scheme, including ICO Model Publication Scheme
- f. Press & Media Policy

- g. Grants Policy
- h. Complaints Policy
- i. Councillor & Clerk Protocol
- j. Defibrillator Policy

The Clerk explained that the Grants Policy would have to be amended considering the £1,000 grant agreed above, but notwithstanding this, it was proposed by Cllr Dutton and seconded by Cllr Turner that these policies be adopted by the Council en bloc, all agreed.

12. Highways & Environmental – The Council discussed the following issues:

- a. Potholes by Pinfold Cottages - Clerk will report these to Shropshire Highways.
- b. A41 (north of Tern Hill roundabout) to Longford – This road was recently closed for work to be done but it does not appear that this has happen so the Clerk will contact Shropshire Highways.
- c. Chicken Manure – It had been reported that three heaps had been dumped but them due to the heavy rain had been moved, possibly by contractors, and caused a lot of mud on the A41 which in turn was believed to be a contributing factor in a traffic accident. The accident involved a minibus but thankfully no-one was injured. Last weekend, when it was warmer, the manure had been spread on fields near residential properties and residents had reported the resultant smell to the Environmental Agency.
- d. Peacocks - A family of peacocks has been rehomed at a cottage in Bletchley but unfortunately the adult male keeps trying to return to his previous home on the A41 south of Tern Hill roundabout this has meant that it has been on the A41 and the Council were concerned that this may cause an accident. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the new owners about this matter, suggesting that the bird be kept in for a while to readjust to its new home, and warning that it may cause an accident if it continues to get onto this busy A road, the Clerk to that forward.

13. Glebe Land – Moreton Say Car Park and Tennis Court - The Clerk advised the Council of an email that had been received from Mr Watney of Balfours, on behalf of the Dioses, which the Council lease this land from. In his email Mr Watney had questioned the work the Council had undertaken on the land and the Clerk read through a response that herself and Cllr Dutton had compiled to explain the various points raised. The Clerk went on to advise the Council that she had received supporting letters from Moreton Say Millennium Green Trust and a local businessman and once the supporting letter from Moreton Say School was received, she proposed sending the response to Mr Watney, this was unanimously agreed by the Council.

14. Street Lighting / Maintenance & Repairs – There were no issues reported at present.

15. Three Parishes Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Turner reported that the next step was the Neighbourhood Plan being formally agreed by Shropshire Council and this had been expected to happen in June although this may be affected by the General Election that has been called, the Clerk will get an update from Shropshire Council.

16. Local Policy Community Charter – Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated information about this scheme. The Council agreed to join this police/community initiative and agreed that their three priorities for this parish were: theft – farms; speeding; and antisocial driving. The Clerk will complete the application form.

17. Shropshire Council Consultations– The Council discussed the following current consultations and decided that they would not comment on either as a Parish Council be leave it up to individuals to comment as they wished:

- The future of School Library Service
- Draft Shropshire Local Plan, additional material

18. Correspondence - SALC and Shropshire Council emails have been forwarded to the Councillors when received.

19. Parish Matters – Cllr Dutton advised the Council that he had been to a meeting regarding removal of the weir on the River Duko at Shavington. He was expecting some further information about this matter and, if this was received, he would report to the next meeting. The Clerk also promoted the Village Produce Show which would be taking place on Sunday 7th July.

20. Agenda Items – There were no further issues raised for inclusion in the agenda for the next meeting on 25th July 2024.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Approval of the Minutes held on 23rd May 2024

Minutes accepted and approved by Moreton Say Parish Council at a meeting held on 25th July 2024

Signed by the Chairman 