

MORETON SAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Moreton Say Parish Council held at Moreton Say Village Hall on Thursday 26th September 2024 which commenced at 7.30 pm.

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

Apologies: Councillors G Turner, P Smith, and P Duffy

1. **Welcome / Present / Apologises** – As stated above.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – None
3. **Public Session** – There was one member of the public present who expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council following the designation of Cllr Hughes. The Clerk confirmed that the statutory notices had been published and Shropshire Council had confirmed that it was in order for the Parish Council to co-opt to fill this casual vacancy. As there was only one person interested in the role of Parish Councillor, and no other members of the public or press present at the meeting, the Parish Council unanimously agreed to bring forward agenda item 19 so that Judith James could be co-opted to the Parish Council, sign necessary paperwork, and take a full and active part in the meeting. Cllr Dutton formally welcomed Cllr James to Moreton Say Parish Council.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st August 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 she had now received a response from Shropshire Council's CIL team but this had raised a lot of questions regarding the land between the Village Hall and the school. It was agreed that a discussion needs to happen between a representative of the Parish Council and the land owner to move this forward and the Clerk will liaise with Cllr Dutton about this.
 - The Clerk advised that there had been a few problems with the 'gov.uk' emails but this seems to have been sorted now. She went on to advise that she had recently seen a webinar from Parish On about the 'gov.uk' and will forward a recording of this to all Councillors so that they can get more for this service.
 - A response is still awaited from Shropshire Council's Place Plan team clarifying the situation regarding the work needed at Smythmoor.
 - Cllr Wellon advised the meeting that there had been no further problems with the peacock at Bletchley.
6. **Report from the Unitary Councillor** – Cllr Wynn reported:
 - Shropshire Council still has a short fall of £38 million in the budget and must make some drastic cuts, meaning certain non-statutory services may be cut. This is still being worked on, redundancies at the Council are ongoing.
 - Shropshire Council are planning to move from Shirehall to the Guildhall in Shrewsbury as the Council downsizes, we hope to move in at the new year.
 - Recycling centres are to stay open six days a week with no closures.
 - Shropshire Councillors are putting forward a motion to write to Rachel Reeves regarding the winter fuel allowance withdrawal for the 82 thousand pensioners in Shropshire. It asks her to reverse this decision and if the Chancellor is not minded to reverse this decision, we ask that the income level at which pension tax credit can be obtained should be increased significantly to protect those less well off.
7. **Report from other Committees by Moreton Say Parish Council Representatives** – Cllr Wickett reported on a North SALC meeting at which there were presentations on Planning Enforcement and Nature Recovery. The Shropshire Council Planning Enforcement Officer explained how planning enforcement: was primarily about protecting the environment; how it can be a legal minefield; how they ensured that the section 106s were

written correctly; and explained that their departments response time was 12 weeks. The second presentation highlighted the Nature Recovery Strategy in Shropshire, explained how all wildlife groups need to work together and promoted the Nature Recovery Conference being held later this year.

8. Planning – The following planning applications were considered and **comments agreed**:

24/03232/FUL – Single storey rear garden room extension – Fordhall Villa, Shrewsbury Road, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 3PR - **Support**

Determination of Planning

24/025543/FUL – Proposed dog exercise field including provision of access, parking, and fencing – Land South Styche Grange, Longford, Market Drayton, Shropshire TF9 3FQ – **Permission Granted**

9. Finance

a. Expenses

| Payee | Expense | | Net Amount | Vat Amount | Authority |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Shropshire Council | Street light energy | Int Bk | £135.37 | £27.07 | PCA 1957 ss 3 (1) & 7 |
| Boyses | New lap top, set-up & data transfer | Int Bk | £594.38 | £118.88 | LGA 1972 s 111 |
| A R Richards | Car Park improvements | Int Bk | £14,920.00 | £2,984.00 | Localism Act |
| A R Richards | Silt removal from pool | Int Bk | £1,607.50 | £321.50 | Localism Act |
| Chris Jordan | Grass cutting | | | | LGA 1972 s 124 (1) |
| Jane Evans | Clerk's Salary - September 2024 | SO | £292.16 | - | LGA 1972 s 112 (2) |
| Jane Evans | Clerk's Salary - October 2024 | SO | £292.16 | - | LGA 1972 s 112 (2) |
| | Total | | £17,9841.57 | £3,235.95 | |

The Clerk explained that this schedule of expenditure was different from that on the agenda as the invoices from A R Richards Ltd had been received after the agenda had been published and the invoice for the car park work was slightly less than the estimate. The silt removal invoice had also been sent to the Parish Council so the Clerk suggested that the Parish Council pay this invoice, claim the vat back, and then Moreton Say Millennium Green Trust can pay £407.50 to the Parish Council so that the Parish Council had only paid £1,200 which it had previously agreed to do. The Council agreed to this suggestion and to also pay all the expenses in the schedule. The Clerk explained that she had expected to have receive a further grass cutting invoice but these had not yet arrived.

The Clerk confirmed that she would be completing the six-monthly vat claim at the end of September.

b. Bank Reconciliation:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Balance brought forward as at 1st April 2024 | £17,085.74 |
| Add: Receipts to date | £31,766.28 |
| Less: Payments to date | £4,958.04 |
| Closing Balance | £43,893.94 |

Bank Balances as at 31st August 2024:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Current Account | £ 893.94 |
| Interest Bearing Account | £43,700.00 |
| Less: payments awaiting authorisation | £ 0.00 |

Total Bank Balance **£43,893.94**

c. Defib at Longford – The Clerk explained about the battery requirement for the Defib at Longford, which was previously purchased by the residents who lived there, and was an older, discontinued Defib model. After discussing all the options, the Parish Council unanimously agreed to buy a new Defib for the Longford cabinet which was the same as the one on the side of Moreton Say Village Hall.

d. North Salop Wheelers – This volunteer group provide transport for residents and had asked the Parish

Council for a grant. The Clerk advised the Council that there were twice weekly routes which travelled through the parish at Bletchley and the Council agreed to give a grant of £200 to this group.

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

- a. Pothole outside Vantage Farm – This has been marked several times but not yet dealt with, the Clerk will report again.
- b. Manhole cover on the corner of Bletchley Road – The Clerk advised the meeting that she had received correspondence from Shropshire Highways that this manhole cover is due to be dealt with, although it was unclear as to what would be done to it.
- c. Interactive Road Signs – There was a discussion about whether the Council should buy a road sign to encourage drivers to reduce their speed. The Clerk explained that unfortunately the whole parish was the national speed limit with no speed reduction areas, even through the villages. The Council discussed the impact of this on the safety of residents and other road users. The Clerk suggested that she investigate the different types of signs and the relative costs. Cllr Dutton suggested that this matter could then be discussed further when they had more information and more Councillors present., all agreed.

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

12. Three Parishes Neighbourhood Plan – The Clerk advised that the next stage was that the result of the referendum had to be agreed at a full Shropshire Council meeting and Cllr Wynn confirmed that this had happened at a meeting that he attended earlier that day.

13. Moreton Say Car Park – Cllr Dutton advised the meeting that he had received a complaint that there were no bays drawn on the car park and he also highlighted the need to have two allocated disabled spaces. There was a general discussion about parking on the car park after which Cllr Dutton suggested that the Council get a professional to quote for completing a detailed plan of the maximum number of bays that could be accommodated in the car park, all agreed.

14. Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) – The Council discussed the initiative of nominating someone to be authorised to issue fixed penalty notices but decided not take this forward at this time.

15. Local Nature Recovery Strategy – Cllr Wickett advised the meeting that she had already completed this survey personally and the Council agreed to delegate the completion of this survey on behalf of the Council to her.

16. Police and Crime Plan Consultation – The Council decided not to take part in this consultation but agreed that farm theft appeared to be reducing.

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

18. Parish Matters – None

19. Co-option of Parish Council – Dealt with earlier

20. Agenda Items – No further items were suggested for the next Parish Council meeting on 28th November 2024.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Approval of the Minutes held on 26th September 2024

Minutes accepted and approved by Moreton Say Parish Council at a meeting held on 28th November 2024

Signed by the Chairman 