

## MORETON SAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Moreton Say Parish Council held at Moreton Say Village Hall on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025 which commenced at 7.30 pm.

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

**Apologies:** None

1. **Welcome / Present / Apologises** – As stated above.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Dutton declared an interest in agenda item 9e.
3. **Public Session** – There were 5 members of the public present who commented on the following issues:
  - The Trailers that have been abandoned in lay-bys – Cllr Wynn advised that he had some information on this in his report.
  - Road closure signs waiting on the A41 – the Clerk will check which stretch of the A41 is being closed and circulate this information.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025** - 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 Clerk advised the Council that her updates would be covered under the various items on the agenda.
6. **Report from the Unitary Councillor** – Cllr Wynn reported:
  - Both the police and the Environment Agency had investigated the trailers parked in lay-bys on A41 and A53 but as the owners either cannot be identified (as is the case for 2 of them) or have not got the money to move them (as is the case for the third one) then the responsibility of removing and disposing of the trailers will fall to Shropshire Council at a cost of £10k each.
  - After 16 years being the Unitary Councillor for this Parish, this was Cllr Wynn's final meeting and he said that he had enjoyed working with this Council. Cllr Dutton thanked Cllr Wynn for his work and support over the years and said it was a pleasure being associated with him.
7. **Report from other Committees by Moreton Say Parish Council Representatives** – The following representatives reported on meetings attended.
  - Cllr Smith reported on the North SALC meeting that she had attended in Wem where the speaker was Lyn Folley, one of the founders of Crane Quality Consulting based in Shrewsbury, who was explaining about the work that they undertake. There was also an update from SALC regarding Devolution and the Government White Paper. SALC will be contacting Parish Councils about this matter after the elections.
  - Cllr Turner reported on the Moreton Say Village Hall meeting and advised that the lease negotiations with the Dioceses are on-going and Cllr Dutton added that he will be meeting the Vicar next week to discuss this matter.
  - Cllr James reported on a steering group meeting for the Market Drayton and Rural Parishes Community and Family Wellbeing Hub that she had attended. She explained that at present the group are information gathering and considering the best way to set up this Community Hub.
8. **Planning** – The following planning applications were considered and **comments agreed**:

None received

**Determination of Planning**

None received

## 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
Balfours	Annual rent for Glebe Land	Int Bk	£250.00		LGA 1972 s 124 (1)
Moreton Say Village Hall	Room Hire - Meetings YE March 2025	Int Bk	£120.00		LGA 1972 s 134 (4)
Peter Richards	Plan for school footpath	Int Bk			Localism Act
Unity Bank	Monthly Bank Charges - March & April		£12.00		LGA 1972 s 111
Jane Evans	Clerk's expenses & reimbursements	Int Bk	£136.61		LG(FP)A 1963 s 5
Jane Evans	Clerk's Salary - March 2025	SO	£278.20		LGA 1972 s 112 (2)
Jane Evans	Clerk's Salary - April 2025	SO	£278.20		LGA 1972 s 112 (2)
	<b>Total</b>		<b>£1,210.38</b>	<b>£27.07</b>	

The Clerk explained that she had hoped to pay the invoice from Peter Richards before the year end but unfortunately this had not been received yet. She asked the Council if they would consider agreeing payment of this expenditure via email so that it could be paid this financial year, all agreed. The Council agreed to all the payments detailed in the above schedule. The Clerk advised the meeting that a payment of £35.07 had been received in respect of the Three Parish Neighbourhood Plan which was a third of the balance left after all expenses had been paid and any unused grants repaid.

### b. Bank Reconciliation:

Balance brought forward as at 1st April 2024	£17,085.74
Add: Receipts to date	£35,737.10
Less: Payments to date	£29,492.58
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>£23,330.26</b>

Bank Balances as at 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025:

Current Account	£ 830.26
Interest Bearing Account	£22,500.00
Add: credits not yet applied	£ 0.00

**Total Bank Balance** **£23,330.26**

c. **Internal Audit Report** – Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated the report from the Internal Auditor and the Council resolved to accept this.

d. **Standing Orders and Direct Debits** – The Clerk explained to the Council that there was one direct debit to ICO for annual data projection fee and one standing order for the Clerk's wages on the Parish Council's bank account, the Council checked and agreed this.

e. **Grant Request** – The Clerk read out the grant request from Market Drayton Swimming Club, which had been sent to all Town and Parish Council whose residents were members, and after considering this request the Parish Council agreed to grant the club £200.

10. **Highways & Environmental** – The Council discussed: the potholes across the Parish and the insufficient quality of the repairs that are carried out; the fact that the highway notices are not removed after work has been completed; and the road markings outside the school which have faded considerably. The Council asked the Clerk to write to Shropshire Highways about all these concerns. The Clerk advised the Council that Shropshire Highways had agreed in principle to siting a wellness bench on the wide verge in Longford but had not replied regarding the suggestion of making Longford a 30-mph area, she will chase again.

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

12. **Pathway from Moreton Say School to Moreton Say Village Hall** – Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated the plan for the pathway that Peter Richards had prepared and Cllr Dutton advised the meeting that he had taken this to show the landowner and discussed the matter with him. The landowner had agreed to the plan but suggested that instead of a bark surface the pathway be either stone or tarmacked. The land owner agreed that the gate on the school boundary should be kept locked but stimulated that the gate on the village hall boundary be left unlocked as he had previously granted residents permission to walk their dogs in this field. He also agreed to the hedge behind the small wall along the pavement being removed. Cllr Dutton asked the Council if they were happy these stimulations, all agreed. Cllr Dutton will contact A R Richards to obtain the first quote and then a second, and if required, third quote can be obtained.
13. **Annual Parish Meeting** – The Clerk clarified that although this meeting is hosted by the Parish Council all Parish groups and organisations are welcome to give an update or report on their activities over the last twelve months. The format of the meeting was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact Moreton Say School, Moreton Say Village Hall, Moreton Say Church and Moreton Say Millennium Green committee to see if they would like to take part.
14. **Correspondence** - SALC and Shropshire Council emails have been forwarded to the Councillors when received.
15. **Parish Matters** – Further to Cllr James’ question regarding why Longford was not in the catchment area for Moreton Say school at the last meeting, Cllr Dutton advised the meeting that he had spoken to one of the School Governors who was looking into how the catchment boundaries might be changed. Cllr Wellon advised that she had seen the plans for the library and she would forward these to the Clerk for her to circulate to Councillors.
16. **Agenda Items** – It was suggested that the Clerk contact the owner of Vantage Farm ahead of the next meeting and ask for an update on the boiler., which is still not working The Clerk reminded Councillors that this next meeting, on **8<sup>th</sup> May 2025**, would be the first of the new Council following the local election, also that evening there would be the Annual Parish Meeting which normally started at **7 pm**.

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

Approval of the Minutes held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Minutes accepted and approved by Moreton Say Parish Council at a meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Signed by the Chairman .....  .....