



Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Monday 6th November 2023 at 6.30pm in the Cleobury Country Centre, Cleobury Mortimer.

Present:

Cllr John Greaves (Chair), Cllr Neil Tysall, Cllr Patrick Buck, Cllr Guy James, Cllr Geoff Hainsworth, Cllr Martin Winward, Town Clerk Mrs D McBride and Deputy Town Clerk Miss S Dolphin.

The Chair, Cllr John Greaves welcomed everyone to the November meeting.

11.01.23 Apologies for absence.

Cllr Phil Clarke – work

Cllr Ken Walsh – unwell

Unitary Cllrs Gwilym Butler and Simon Harris.

11.02.23 Declaration of interests.

Cllr Buck declared an interest in all Agenda items under 11.07.23 relating to the Food Bank.

11.03.23 Public Participation Session.

There were eight members of public present. Points raised from the public session:

- Residents from Pinkham raised concerns about flooding of their properties during Storm Babet and asked for Council support with Shropshire Council, the Environment Agency and Severn Trent. There was flooding from the river but also from the ground above the houses which washed out the footpath as well as surface water from the access road. There was also a sewage breach upstream. Residents asked if the river could be widened to reduce water levels. The Town Council will contact the authorities and ask for them to liaise with the residents and look at solutions to reduce the impact of heavy rainfall. Residents are encouraged to keep reporting issues with the roads to Shropshire Council via Fix My Street. It is recognised that Storm Babet has made existing issues worse and that blocked drains through the town do not direct water away from properties. Many drains have still not been cleaned out since the flooding issues in the summer despite assurances from Shropshire Council that they will all be cleared. Local streams flooded minor roads and there is concern that any new development needs a much larger-capacity surface water management system. Most surface water currently goes into the sewerage treatment plant which will not be permitted with any new developments. Severn Trent will be asked how their proposed new treatment plant will cope with such storms in the future and for assurances that there will be no further similar breaches.
- Other residents raised concerns about the road drains not working correctly and the amount of debris and trees which came down the river in the recent storm causing damage to bridges and river banks.
- There is a damaged sign at Pinkham – a replacement has been ordered.
- The boundary hedge to the rear of the Nursing Home site has still not been attended to. The Clerk will write to the landowner and request the hedge is cut back and preferably pleached.
- Mr Smith, Tree Warden is aware of the Neighbourhood Development Plan Referendum and asked where people can find more information about it. Information is available in the Library and online.
- Mr Smith raised concerns that planning applications are being validated without the full information required. A current application for tree works has no sketch map provided which makes it difficult to assess the proposals in the application.

11.04.23 Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd October 2023.

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd October 2023, duly signed by the Chair.

11.05.23 Matters arising from the Minutes / Update since last Council meeting.

- a) Council noted receipt of the Town Clerk/Deputy Clerk's Office Report.
- b) Council noted receipt of the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes and draft budget for 2024/25.
- c) Councillors' Reports:
 - Cllr Hainsworth said it was unacceptable that the vehicle activated sign at Newbridge is still not working at this accident blackspot. Correspondence from Shropshire Council stating that all drains had been cleared on Tenbury Road is incorrect and will be challenged. A resident has offered to fund an expert to help provide water for the Wells and will be invited to join a Working Group for the Wells Refurbishment.

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- Cllr Tysall appreciated Shropshire Council's recognition of the issue with dogs and the Public Space Protection Order Consultation, also Philip Dunne MP's ongoing support for a 24-hour ATM in town.
- Cllr Winward has been in touch with Mrs Jones at the Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust with regards to engaging more with young people. Cllr Winward will report back on progress.

11.06.23 Unitary Councillors' Report.

The Unitary Councillors had sent their monthly report but were unfortunately unable to attend this meeting so no items could be raised with them. The Chairman noted that the Public Space Protection Order Consultation will be discussed at the Town Council's December meeting.

11.07.23 Financial Matters.

a) Council RESOLVED to approve the following invoices for payment:

SMYP – Thriving Communities Grant - £9,000.00
SSYF – Thriving Communities Grant - £8,010.00
Glasdon – Outdoor bin and bin bags - £721.78
Cleobury Mortimer FoodBank – Transfer of ear-marked funds - £22,687.24
Signtech (Midlands) Ltd – Signs for QEII Park and Cemetery - £270.00
SLCC – Training Conference - £30.00
Alan Guest – grass cutting (October) - £788.56
R Price – grass cutting (October) - £1,170.00
Market Hall Trust – Room Hire (October) - £135.00
A Wakeman Electrical Services – Installation of electric supply to Memorial Garden - £1,128.00

Cheques signed since last meeting:

Bill White Nurseries – Plants and Compost - £235.00
Mrs D McBride – Reimbursement web hosting (£366.83) and gravel (£114.78) - £481.61
Andrea Pellegram – Neighbourhood Development Plan work - £739.78

Payments for invoices received after the Agenda was published:

N J Plumbing & Heating – Outside tap for Market Hall - £156.00

b) Council RESOLVED to approve the following S.137 payments:

Royal British Legion – Remembrance Wreath - £20.00
Royal British Legion Cleobury Mortimer - Community Support - £30.00
Dr M Baldwin - Flag Raising - £50.00

c) Council noted receipt of the following income:

Food Bank Donations - £80.00
Parish Hall – court costs instalment - £100.00
Bank Interest - £212.73
Cemetery Receipts - £1,200.00
Neighbourhood Development Plan Grant - £1,716.00

d) Council RESOLVED to approve the following Debit Card payments made:

Bromfield Sand & Gravel – Topsoil for Planters - £151.08
Cleobury Freezer Centre - Food Bank Vouchers - £55.00
Coop - Food Bank Vouchers - £10.00
Office Petty Cash - £200.00
Stitches – Workwear - £477.60
Amazon – Weed Suppressant – 26.99
Signomatic – Decals for road signs - £16.87
Viking – Maintenance and Office Supplies - £107.34

e) Quotations for the recommended tree safety work.

Council reviewed the quote schedule for the tree safety work and RESOLVED to approve the supplier of quote four, subject to references being verified. A contingency of 15% would be allocated to the project and a reserve list of contractors was noted should they be required.

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11.08.23 Planning Matters.

a) New Planning Applications:

1. Reference: 23/04271/LBC (validated: 02/10/2023)
Address: Mawley Hall, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8PN
Proposal: Installation of replacement gates and gate piers to the North Drive, and adjacent drystone walling and associated works affecting a Grade I Listed Building.
Applicant: Mawley Hall LLP (C/o Agent)
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to have no objection to the proposals.
2. Reference: 23/04346/FUL (validated: 05/10/2023)
Address: 5 Mortimer Hill, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8QQ
Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to side elevation.
Applicant: Mr And Mrs J Sheffield
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to have no objection to the proposals.
3. Reference: 23/04426/TCA (validated: 11/10/2023)
Address: Ronville, Childe Road, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8EG
Proposal: Reduce by 30% 5no Conifers within Cleobury Mortimer Conservation Area.
Applicant: Mr Tom Morris (Burford Mill, Burford, Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire , WR158HH)
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to object to the proposals due to insufficient information being supplied with the application.
4. Reference: 23/04437/LBC (validated: 24/10/2023)
Address: The Coach House, Mawley Hall, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8PN
Proposal: Installation of a new fireplace surround in the drawing room affecting a Grade II Listed Building.
Applicant: Mawley Hall LLP (C/o Agent)
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to have no objection to the proposals.
5. Reference: 23/04195/LBC (validated: 25/10/2023)
Address: Radnor Cottage, 3A Lower Street, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8BN
Proposal: Works to install a wood burner on the ground floor and flue to bracket on to the exterior of an existing chimney affecting a Grade II Listed Building.
Applicant: Ms Melissa Hunt
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to have no objection to the proposals.
6. Reference: 23/04573/FUL (validated: 26/10/2023)
Address: Mawley Hall, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8PN
Proposal: Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for building to house electrical equipment
Applicant: Mawley Hall LLP (C/o Agent)
Outcome: Council RESOLVED to have no objection to the proposals.

b) Planning Decisions (For Information Only):

1. Reference: 23/03581/FUL (validated: 15/08/2023)
Address: 1 Curdale Close, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8DZ
Proposal: Erection of a front porch (retrospective), erection of a two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.
Decision: Grant Permission.
2. Reference: 23/03264/PA3MA (validated: 17/08/2023)
Address: 7-9 Talbot Square, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8BQ
Proposal: Application to determine if prior approval is required for the proposed change of use of the ground floor from Commercial, Business and Service (Use Class E) to Dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) to provide 3 flats, under Schedule 2, Part 3, Class MA of The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended).
Decision: Prior Approval Required and Refused.

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3. Reference: 23/03056/FUL (validated: 25/07/2023)
Address: Cleobury Hills , High Street, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8DN
Proposal: Proposed 75 bedroom residential care accommodation, access, amenity space and associated works.
Decision: Refuse.
4. Reference: 23/03453/FUL (validated: 05/09/2023)
Address: Barnsland Cottage, Tenbury Road, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8RE.
Proposal: Demolition of existing porch and replacement with single storey extension.
Decision: Grant Permission.
5. Reference: 23/03816/LBC (validated: 01/09/2023)
Address: The Coach House, Mawley Hall, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8PN
Proposal: Internal alterations to the Coach House, including installation of new interior panelling surface finishes to six rooms and associated internal works.
Decision: Grant Permission.
6. Reference: 23/04006/FUL (validated: 19/09/2023)
Address: The Glen Caravan Park, Catherton Road, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY14 8EL
Proposal: Proposed extension and alterations to existing reception building.
Decision: Grant Permission.

11.09.23 Health and Wellbeing Policy and the Safeguarding Policy.

Council RESOLVED to adopt the updated Health and Wellbeing Policy and the Safeguarding Policy with a review date of two years.

11.10.23 Council Committees, Working Groups and Terms of Reference for each committee.

Cllr Greaves explained the new Committee and Working Group structure and that going forward there would be Committee reports at Council meetings rather than individual councillor comments. Council was satisfied with the new structure and noted that this will be reviewed on a regular basis. Councillors need to put themselves forward for the various roles. Council RESOLVED to adopt the Terms of Reference for each committee.

11.11.23 Action Log Review

The Action Log has been shared with all members and a detailed review was not required.

11.12.23 Date of the next Town Council meeting.

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday 4th December 2023. It was agreed to continue with the new start time of 6.30pm.

At 8.34pm there was a short break for members of the public to leave the meeting.

Meeting reconvened at 8.35pm.

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 S1(2)

The public and press shall be excluded from the following item on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted under item 13.

11.13.23 Contractor Performance Review – Cllr Greaves.

There was a discussion on the current performance of our contractors and the future of working with them and Shropshire Council with particular regard to Highways and Environmental Maintenance.

Meeting closed at 9.01pm.

J Greaves

4th December 2023

Signed:.....Chair

Date.....