

Shrewley Parish Council

CLERK: MRS E CHOUDRY
CROSSWAYS, SHREWLEY COMMON
NR WARWICK
CV35 7AU

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Shrewley Parish Council held at Shrewley Village Hall on Monday 8th January 2024 at 7pm

Present at the Meeting:

Cllr R Wesbury
Cllr H Darwen
Cllr D Lawrie
Cllr E Forty
Cllr S Lowe

Chairman

Clerk Eleanor Choudry
Members of the Public: 1

81/23 APOLOGIES Cllr R Hinton, Cllr S Underwood, Cllr J Cleary, WCC Cllr J Matecki, WDC Cllr K Aizlewood, WDC Cllr D Armstrong, WDC Cllr R Hales.

82/23 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY / Sally Lowe co-option – Resident Sally Lowe was unanimously co-opted and welcomed as a councillor.

83/23 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS - None declared.

84/23 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:- Parish Council Meeting – Monday 6th November 2023 - approved and signed as a true record.

85/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – None.

86/23 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM – No comments.

87/23 PLANNING

W/23/1032 The Cottage, Croft Lane, Shrewley, Warwick, CV35 7HL WITHDRAWN 20/11/23.
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W/23/1648 Glenthorne, Five Ways Road, Shrewley, Warwick, CV35 7HZ SPC OBJECTS 28/12/23.

APPEALS

APP/T3725/W/23/3324807 Land at Ward Hill , Warwick Road , Norton Lindsey, Warwick , CV35 8JD
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88/23 WCC REPORT – C Cllr Jan Matecki, apologies received.

89/23 WDC REPORT – WDC Cllr Richard Hales sent report via email.

Green Homes Grants available for low-income properties in 2024

Residents in private properties in Warwick District that do not currently heat their home using mains gas central heating, can apply for funding to improve the energy efficiency of their home.

Funded by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and delivered by the Council's delivery partner E.ON with support from Act On Energy, the Green Homes Grants scheme aims to help improve the energy efficiency of low income private households in the District with free improvements to their home including:

- solar PV panels

- insulation
- smart heating controls
- air source heat pumps

To be eligible, residents must:

- Own and live in their home; **and**
- Have a gross household income of less than £31,000 per year **OR** properties within certain eligible postcodes; **and**
- Currently heat their home with alternative fuels other than gas such as oil, liquid petroleum gas (LPG), coal, solid fuels, or electricity; **and**
- Have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of D, E, F or G; if the home doesn't have an EPC rating then E.ON will arrange this for you if they think that your property is energy inefficient

For the list of eligible postcodes please use this link - [Green Homes Grants - Energy efficiency at home - Warwick District Council \(warwickdc.gov.uk\)](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/green-homes-grants)

In an extra boost for households, the government has deemed that certain postcodes will now automatically meet the income eligibility criteria. This means that properties within these eligible postcodes that don't currently heat their home using a gas boiler and have an EPC rating of D-G are automatically eligible for the Home Upgrade Grant.

Flooding

We have been working with partner agencies with the recent flooding and if residents do have any issues please get in contact with one of us and we will pass onto the relevant partners, or use the link to report - [Current flooding situation - Warwick District Council \(warwickdc.gov.uk\)](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/current-flooding).

Castle Farm Leisure Centre

Castle Farm Leisure Centre replaces the old recreation centre with larger much improved facilities encompassing an 80-station gym, two fitness studios, dedicated group cycling studio, a six-court sports hall and new pétanque terrain. As well as both indoor and outdoor changing rooms the centre has a fully equipped 'Changing Places' facility, with a hoist and bed to meet the needs of the profoundly disabled which can be used by any visitor to the adjacent park or town.

The centre also incorporates a new HQ for Kenilworth Scout and Guides, predicted to be recognised as amongst the best in the country and demonstrating the Council's support to the movement within the local community.

Data Breach

On Monday 20 November, Stratford-on-Avon District Council started a full internal investigation following a data breach.

This investigation has found that the breach extended to a database of email addresses of Warwick District Council residents held by Stratford on Avon District Council, as part of the joint working between the two Councils.

Both District Councils believe that the data breach is restricted to a database of email addresses which have been supplied to the Councils by residents from Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District, and that no further personal data is affected.

Warwick District Council has now made a referral to the Information Commissioner's Office regarding this matter and will continue to keep residents updated with any further developments.

Your councillors for Abbey and Arden are:

Kyn Aizlewood – Kyn.aizlewood@warwickdc.gov.uk
David Armstrong – David.armstrong@warwickdc.gov.uk
Richard Hales – Richard.hales@warwickdc.gov.uk

Please feel free to contact us with any issues.

90/23 OTHER PARISH BUSINESS

- Community Emergency Plan / Workshops – The Clerk and Cllr Forty to attend the workshops on 24th and 31st January from 6-7.30pm. The Clerk to book. Cllr Forty to add the location of defibrillators in the parish to the Plan.
- Parish Council website and email addresses – The Clerk had circulated 3 quotes for the design of a new parish council/community website. Discussion took place regarding the options. Cllr Wesbury asked councillors to look at the websites/details and provide feedback prior to the next parish council meeting. Cllr Wesbury was impressed by Ilmington PC's website, Cllrs were asked to specifically look at this and provide feedback. Cllr Lawrie to investigate whether a Village Hall Committee member could maintain the community pages. The Clerk to request photos from residents/organisations for the new website via the newsletter.
- Climate Action Plan/SWEAT – Martin Wood

Report on SWEAT* meeting 6th December 2023 at Shrewley Village Hall

*Shrewley and Wroxall Environment Action Team (including Beausale, Haseley and Honiley)

The aim of the meeting (follow up to SWEAT launch on 14th October at Wren Hall, Wroxall) was to provide an opportunity for residents of Shrewley Parish to engage with the SWEAT initiative and share their ideas for activities during 2024.

Shrewley Parish residents were joined by Claudine Pearson (climate action engagement officer for WALC) and Zoe Leventhal (Kenilworth Climate Group).

A popular idea from the previous meeting is to establish a community orchard in Wroxall together with further cooking demonstrations along the lines of the one at the SWEAT launch. Further discussion is underway on this.

Already in the SWEAT calendar for 2024 is a family-friendly activity to create a wildflower bank at Wren Hall which will take place at 10 am on Sunday 11th February. This activity is a follow up to a planting session last March, and is kindly supported by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust.

The view of this meeting was that we should focus initially on creating Bee-Friendly areas within our two parishes, something that would appeal to all ages and is relatively simple to implement (for example by distributing flower seeds to local households).

Following the meeting Martin had a conversation with Kyn Aizlewood (Burton Green Parish Council) who is keen to do something similar to SWEAT in Burton Green. Building on the idea of Bee-Friendly areas we wondered if these might be considered in the context of creating a Bee-Friendly corridor across adjoining parishes from Shrewley to Burton Green via Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall, and Kenilworth (Kenilworth is already recognised as a Bee-Friendly Town)? This would be ambitious and would require further thought and discussion.

Next event: Sunday 10 am on 11th February 2024 at Wren Hall.

Contact: martinwood.fiveways@gmail.com

Cllr Darwen to contact Martin Wood about the potential purchase/hire of a heat loss camera to be

made available to residents.

- Biodiversity Policy requirement – The Clerk had circulated details about the legal requirement. Cllrs agreed to discuss a Biodiversity Policy at the March meeting.
- Shrewley Common village green maintenance contract Mar – Nov Review – Cllrs were satisfied with the frequency and tidiness of mowing. Item to be on the March agenda for feedback from Cllr Underwood. Also discuss potential area of the crossroads which could be left unmown for wildflowers to grow.
- TPO's north side Shaws Lane. All trees on Shaws Lane now have TPO's. All oak trees on Five Ways Road have TPO's.

91/23 ONGOING ACTION ITEM

- Shrewley website update/ Statutory publication of documents on website – No updates.

92/23 HIGHWAY AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH/TOWPATH MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

- WCC Fault Reporting System: Register to track and report highway problems
- Highway fault reports
 - Faulty VAS – No update. Cllr Forty to chase.
 - Broken cross-roads sign Five Ways Road/Stoney Lane. Work completed.
 - Blocked drains Croft Lane/Mill Lane junction, Little Shrewley. Work completed.
 - Broken sign on B4430 near Barn Close lay-by. Cllr Forty to chase.
- Footpath fault report
 - Broken step when walking from the railway bridge down to the canal. Cllr Darwen to chase.

93/23 CORRESPONDENCE – WDC Cllr Armstrong requested the council's opinion on reducing the use of weed killer to once a year and no longer spraying weed killer around the bases of trees. Cllr Darwen replied to strongly support the reduction.

94/23 VILLAGE HALL UPDATE – The Hall's wi-fi connection is up and running, and is available to any hall user who needs the facility. The new sound and vision system is now in service, improving the quality of presentations to the best available current standards. The Hall AGM was held on Wednesday 18th October. Our traditional Craft Fayre was a big success on 25th November, and contributors have booked ahead for next year's event. The Hall's "Retro Band" night on 9th December was a very popular sell-out event and a resounding success. We are considering booking the group for a pre-Christmas event again this year. The movie "Elvis" was screened by the Social Club on 27th October, and the next movie night is Friday 19th January when we will screen "A Man Called Otto". A pre-application for a side extension to the Hall has received a favourable response from WDC.

95/23 MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS

- WDC Reception of Appreciation for Parish Councils - Cllr Forty and Clerk both enjoyed the event.
- WALC AGM 15th November - Cllr Wesbury said the workshops he attended were useful and included Community communication, Budget setting and Website hack.

- SWEAT 6th December - Cllrs Wesbury and Forty attended the event at Shrewley Village Hall (see report agenda item 90/23). There was a very low turnout.

96/23 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE

- 96.1 Review of GDPR Policy - The policy had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Cllrs unanimously agreed to approve the policy.

97/23 FINANCE

- 97.1 Quarterly accounting checks to 31st December to be completed by Cllr Forty.
- 97.2 Bank Reconciliation as at 31st December 2023. Page 4. The report was noted.
- 97.3 Budget to date as at 31st December 2023. Page 5. The report was noted.
- 97.4 2023/2024 Budget and Estimated Final Expenditure and Proposed 2024/25 Budget previously Circulated. The 2024.25 budget was discussed, amended and unanimously agreed. The uncontested election costs are to be paid from reserves and £100 per year transferred back into reserves for the next three years. The precept request for 2024.25 is £9,475. The Clerk to submit the request.
- 97.5 Permission for items listed below to be paid proposed by Cllr Forty, seconded by Cllr Lawrie and unanimously approved.

Date	Payee	Amount £
08/01/24	Clerk December Salary(Net),Postage £0,	279.05
08/01/24	HMRC December Income tax	69.70
08/01/24	Clerk January Salary, Mileage £0, Postage £0	333.40
08/01/24	HMRC January Income Tax	83.30
08/01/24	Back dated pay increase 1/4/23 to 31/12/23	180.00
08/01/24	HMRC Back dated pay increase 1/4/23 to 31/12/23	45.00
08/01/24	Gardening Maintenance James Ltd Inv 4969	35.00
08/01/24	Uncontested election costs WDC	300.00
08/01/24	WALC AGM Fee	12.00
08/01/24	FOHS Grant Application	496.00
Bank a/c TBC	SWEAT Grant Application	75.00
08/01/24	Ferncumbe Youth Club Grant Application	100.00
	Total	2,008.45

98/23. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 4th March 2023 at 7pm.

99/23. CLOSURE OF MEETING – The meeting closed at 9.14pm.

Shrewley Parish Council

Bank Reconciliation as at 31st December 2023

		£
Cash Book Balance b/f		9,716.29
Receipts		
First half precept 28.4.23	3,586.00	
Shaw Lane Rent 26.6.23	52.00	
WDC Kings Coronation Grant	1,250.00	
HMRC VAT Reclaim 17.10.23	335.02	
Second Half Precept 29.9.23	3,586.00	
Total Income		18,525.31
May payments	3,301.98	
July payments	1,031.71	
Sept payments	926.49	
Nov Payments	971.48	
Jan Payments		
March Payments		
Total Payments		6,231.66
A TOTAL CASH BOOK BALANCE		12,293.65
Balance as at 31 st December 2023		6,793.65
Reserve Account as at 31 st December 2023		5,500.00
B TOTAL BANK BALANCE		12,293.65