

**MINUTES of the ORDINARY MEETING of LOPPINGTON PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024 at 7.30pm in Loppington Village Hall**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs. Mrs. T. Barton, R. Bearne, S. Connon, Mrs. D Hume-Miller, Mrs. T. Sharpe and J. Street, N. Taylor and Mrs. G. Wilkins  
Clerk - Mrs L McCormack  
Shropshire Councillor: Brian Williams  
Public – One

**1/24 Apologies for absence - None**

**2/24 Public Participation**

Concerns were raised regarding the state of the side roads around the Parish. Roads identified by residents and members are Salters Lane and Commonwood. There is an excessive amount of mud on these roads exacerbated by the recent heavy rains.

Salters Lane is an ongoing problem, during heavy rainfall soil and silt is washed down from the higher land and verges either side onto the road.

At Commonwood concerns were raised with regard to slurry content which can carry the clostridium bacteria creating a health hazard to young people and walkers who regularly use the lanes.

**3/24 Declarations of Interest**

- a) None
- b) Applications for Dispensation – None

**4/24 Approval of Minutes of the last Meeting**

The Minutes of the extra ordinary meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman

Cllr. Wilkins clarified minute no.91/23 h. should refer to cars not motorcycles

**5/24 Financial matters:**

- a) The Bank reconciliation/financial report was received and accepted
- b) The Chairman signed the accounts as reconciled
- c) Budget  
Following discussions members noted the increasing disparity between statutory costs and the precept resulting in an increasing deficit in contingency reserves. To recover the deficit due to rapidly rising prices of the previous two years, members considered a 3-year plan to balance the reserves by increasing the precept by 20%, 15% and 10% but subject to annual review.  
RESOLVED: it was proposed, seconded and members agreed unanimously to increase the precept by 20% on last year's payment.
- d) Review of Clerk's salary  
Members received the NJC Pay Award for Clerks from NALC. The pay award is a flat rate effectively increasing salaries by £1 hourly.  
RESOLVED:
  - (i) Members approved the back pay on clerks' salary from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 at SCP15, and
  - (ii) Members approved the clerks' salary from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 at SCP16
- e) Appointment of Internal Auditor  
RESOLVED: Members agreed the appointment of D. Edge to carry out the internal audit report.

- f) Payments were approved:
- Audit £18.00;
  - ICO registration fee £35.00 (DD);
  - Xmas trees £450.00;
  - RBL wreath £20.00 (Ref:Min.No.63/23),
  - Hire of Village Hall for council meetings in 2024 - £120.00

#### **6/24 Planning Matters**

- a) Applications for consideration – None
- b) Applications received after 2<sup>nd</sup> January – None
- c) Determined since December meeting

Reference: 23/04891/FUL (validated: 24/11/2023)  
Address: Weavers Loft, Common Wood, Wem, Shrewsbury, SY4 5SJ  
Proposal: Erection of extension to existing agricultural outbuilding  
Decision: Grant Permission

*Loppington Parish Council operates a scheme of delegation on planning matters and links to planning applications in the Parish are published on receipt on [loppingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/environment/planning](http://loppingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/environment/planning)*

#### **7/24 Highways**

- a. Requests under SC Road Safety Policy - None
- b. Members discussed the road issues raised by residents. Clerk to contact Shropshire Council.

#### **8/24 Inspections of Council Property or property maintained by the Parish Council**

- a) War Memorial and fencing  
Clerk to pursue the offer of free desktop assessment by the War Memorial Conservation based in Cardiff.
- b) Burlton bus shelter – OK
- c) Burlton Notice Board – OK
- d) Pump and fencing - OK
- e) Tan Pit and fencing  
Pond clearance did not take place in December due to adverse weather conditions.  
The Chairman reported that any clearance needs to be done by mid-February. There is considerable degree of silting by the exit pipe which drains road runoff into the pond, this may be more than a volunteer working party can deal with. Due to road runoff the silt will contain heavy metals so any disposal offsite needs to be carried out by a licenced operator and likely to be costly, circa £30,000.  
Chairman to get quotes during the summer with a view to the work being carried out next winter if possible. Research a list of contractors.
- f) Notice boards, Loppington - OK

**9/24 Current Consultations – for information**

**a) West Mercia**

<https://www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk/budget2024/>

West Mercia PCC December newsletter circulated 27/12/23  
<https://mailchi.mp/westmercia/pcc-newsletter-december-6163420>

Wem Neighbourhood Matters Newsletter circulated 7/12/23  
<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/a/your-area/>

**b) Shropshire Council Consultations:**

Town and Parish Boundary Review update – circulated from SALC 18/12/23  
<https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/elections-and-electoral-registration/parish-council-boundary-review-consultation/>

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/school-admission-arrangements-202526/>  
Open until 19/1/24

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/parish-council-boundary-review-consultation/>  
Open until 26/1/24

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/budget-consultation-202425/>  
Open until 28/1/24

**10/24 Information Matters and Correspondence – to note**

a) Correspondence:  
SALC Bulletins circulated via e-mail 18/12/2023 & 27/12/23

Correspondence from Helen Morgan explaining that she has taken on the role of Liberal Democrat spokesperson for the Levelling Up Department; Circulated 7/12/23

- b) Other matters for the next agenda
- Proposal for wifi in the Village Hall
  - LPC website registrar & hosting

**11/24 Next LPC meeting and dates for the diary**

Next LPC meeting –Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 @ 7:30 in Loppington Village Hall  
Cllr. Barton apologies, she is unable to attend in March.

Annual Parish Meeting - 9<sup>th</sup> April  
Clerk to invite Janet Cobb from RSVP to speak

SALC area meeting – Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 @ 7:00 pm via Zoom

Meeting closed at 20: 55 pm

Signed ...*(by the Chairman)* .....  
(Chairman)

Date: .....12<sup>th</sup> March 2024.....