

The Minutes of the Meeting of Quatt Malvern Parish Council held at Quatt Village Hall on Thursday 30th March 2023 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT:

Cllr L.Chitty (Chairman)

Cllr Ms S.Hunter

Cllr Mrs. J. Yates

ALSO PRESENT

Mr W.S. Griffiths (Clerk)

Cllrs R.Marshall and Ms.Lezley Picton, Shropshire Council

Two members of the public

22.23.098 OPEN FORUM

There were no matters raised.

22.23.099 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Caroline Hulland, who was unwell and from Cllr R.Law. Marcus Halliwell from the National Trust sent his apologies also.

22.23.100 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

22.23.101 MINUTES

Resolved

That the minutes of the Meeting of Quatt Malvern Parish Council held on Thursday 26th January 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

22.23.102 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

22.23.103 POLICE REPORT

There were no representatives from the Police present at the meeting.

22.23.104 REPORT OF THE SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Councillors Ms Lezley Picton, leader of the Shropshire Council and Richard Marshall, portfolio holder for Highways and Regulatory Services, attended the meeting.

Councillor Marshall explained that the A442 road, which ran through the Parish, was that it was a short cut between the M6 motorway and the M5 and M40 motorways. Problems with speeding vehicles, particularly HGVs and motorcycles were experienced but assistance from the Police Commissioner and the Road Safety partnership could be obtained, to increase the number of speed detector vans and other deterrents.

Councillor Marshall also explained that 56,000 potholes had been repaired since May 2021 most with permanent repairs. The number of outstanding repairs had been reduced.

Referring to specific items which had been raised by the Parish Council, Mr. Marshall said that a find and fix team would visit the road from Wootton to Kingsnordley within the next two weeks to examine the poor condition of the road surface. He also said that he was keen to see the provision of a pedestrian refuge in Quatt Village progress and a costed scheme would be prepared..

The narrow road through Quatt towards the Church, which presented a danger to pedestrians, was a difficult problem to resolve. The road was too narrow to provide a footpath and speed humps were not suitable for use in a residential area. Nevertheless, the Highways Authority would see if a solution could be found and an engineer would inspect the site within the next month.

Councillor Picton spoke of the financial pressures which the Unitary council were facing. Whilst they were trying to keep facilities such as libraries and leisure centres open, Shropshire had a large population of ageing people and adult social care accounted for 80% of the expenditure of the Council whilst only 3% of the population accessed care provided by the Council. She also explained that it cost an average of £1200.00 per week to keep an adult in residential care and £450.00 to keep them in their own home. Apart from the elderly, the number of looked after children was increasing also.

The Chairman thanked the councillors for attending the meeting and for their reports.

22.23.105 NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

There was no representative from the Trust present at the meeting but the Clerk read out the following written report which he had received:

"Dudmaston Hall is gearing up for the new season with the house opening this weekend as we start the Easter Holidays. There are family activities both there and at Comer Woods. We have also invested in new play equipment both in the Orchard and at Comer Woods. There is a new exhibition detailing the passion for fan collecting that Lady Labouchere and her cousins shared. Sir George's collection of revolutionary Spanish art has been re-hung and reinterpreted and is again attracting visitors attention.

In addition, two paintings from the Inner Hall have returned from the Knole Conservation Studio – these two paintings are attributed to the artist Frans Wouters: [Diana and Callisto 814146 | National Trust Collections](#) and [Mercury, Herse and Aglauros 814147 | National Trust Collections](#). This work was funded by the Royal Oak Foundation.

The elm serving table from 1815 has returned too: [Serving table 813758 | National Trust Collections](#). This work was funded by the Royal Oak Foundation.

The Summerhouse has undergone recent conservation (will be finished in a few weeks) – the softwood timber has been replaced with hardwood, a new roof with tiles and working windows: [Summer house 813801 | National Trust Collections](#). This work was partly funded by the Shropshire National Trust Centre.

We are focussed on delivering great experiences in nature and will be highlighting the fabulous blossom and spring flowering in the gardens whilst looking forward to the spectacular bluebell display in the Long Cover.

We recently met to discuss the siting of a small commemorative orchard in the old allotment area to the rear of the church and how that may work with current allotment use and also a shared space for the community. I'm sure that this can all work together and now that Charlotte has returned from leave she has begun discussions with those involved. (I'm happy to catch up with you on this separately or anything else you would like to discuss.)"

22.23.106 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Resolved;

a) Income

There was a receipt of £43.20 to correct an overspend on the Clerk's salary.

b) Payments made under delegated powers since the Last Meeting

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
26.02.23	W.S.Griffiths	173.47	0	net salary
26.02.23	HMRC	43.20	0	PAYE
23.03.23	W.S.Griffiths	173.47	0	net salary
23.03.23	HMRC	43.20	0	PAYE

The payslips and bank statements were examined and approved by Cllrs L.Chitty and Mrs J. Yates

Resolved that the payments be approved.

d) Invoices

Resolved

i) That the invoice for the provision of a vehicle activated sign and relocation of existing sign be approved for payment subject to the Clerk checking that the invoice covered only the work which had been completed. £3034.85 plus VAT £606.97 = £3641.82

ii) that the invoice for £170.90 for one year insurance 2023-24 be approved but that the Clerk seek alternative quotations for next year.

e) Clerk's Expenses

W.S. Griffiths – Clerks Travel Expenses

-Posting Notices- £7.20

-Telephone/Internet Allowance = £20.00

TOTAL £27.20

Resolved that the payment be approved.

The invoices and claims were examined and signed by Cllrs L.Chitty and Mrs.J.Yates.

f) Grants and Donations

There were no applications to consider.

g) Financial Progress

The summary of receipts and payments for 30th March 2023 was received and noted and the Bank Reconciliation approved.

22.23.107 PLANNING MATTERS

a) New Planning Applications

PLANNING REFERENCE: 23/00594/FUL DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED: Erection of a hut at the National Trust Comer Woods car park LOCATION: Proposed Storage Hut At Comer Wood Car Park , Dudmaston Hall, Quatt, Bridgnorth, Shropshire. OS REFERENCE: 374217 - 289931 APPLICANT: National Trust

This application was circulated to members of the Council for comments because the deadline fell before this meeting. No objections were received and the Clerk had responded accordingly to the Planning Authority.

b) Determined Applications

Reference: 23/00594/FUL (validated: 14/02/2023)

Address: Proposed Storage Hut At Comer Wood Car Park , Dudmaston Hall, Quatt, Bridgnorth, Shropshire

Proposal: Erection of a hut at the National Trust Comer Woods car park

Decision: Grant Permission

View online at: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RQ18W3TDMCX00>

Resolved that the decision be noted.

c) Community Led Plan

Councillor Ms S. Hunter said that it was difficult to recruit people to serve on the Plan steering Group.

Draft Local Plan

There was nothing further to report on the Draft Local Plan.

22.23.108 LOCAL ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

a) Matters of concern

It was noted that the verges along Holt Lane were breaking up due to large vehicles passing each other.

b) The BOAT and Wootton Lane

There was no further information on these matters other than that discussed at 22.23.104 above.

c) Pedestrian Refuge

The Clerk reported that it was possible that grant aid for this project might be obtainable from Highways England but only if a costed scheme and timetable for implementation could be presented.

Resolved that the report be noted.

d) Provision of additional VAS and relocation of existing VAS on A442 through Quatt Village

Resolved

i) that the situation be noted and the action of the Clerk in requesting an engineer to inspect the relocated sign be approved.

ii) That the Clerk further investigate the provision of data capture being installed on the new sign.

22.23.109 MEMORIAL TO QUEEN ELIZABETH 2ND

Resolved that the situation be noted.

22.23.110 CORONATION OF KING CHARLES 3RD

The Parish Council considered the two suggestions which had been received from the public. It was considered that to invite the whole of the parish to a social event as described would be impracticable because of the potentially large number of persons attending and the difficulty of being able to provide a suitable venue.

Resolved that the Council purchase a memorial coin for each household in the Parish.

22.23.111 PARISH AMENITIES

a) Matters of Concern

No matters were raised.

b) Manure on farmland at Wootton

Resolved that the report be noted.

22.23.112 PARISH MEETING

It was noted that the Quatt Malvern Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Thursday 27th April in Quatt Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Resolved that Councillors Richard Marshall and Lezley Picton from Shropshire Council be invited to speak at the meeting.

22.23.113 REGISTER OF ELECTORS

It was noted that there were 188 electors on the Register of Electors.

22.23.114 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

a) SALC Area Committee

Cllr Mrs J.Yates reported that the problem of potholes on roads in the County had been discussed at the last meeting of SALC and help for household energy costs. The SALC Annual General meeting was to be held in June.

b) Local Joint Committee.

c) Cider House/Wootton Group

d) Bridgnorth Town Plan Steering Group

There was nothing to report from these bodies.

e) Quatt Village Hall Committee

Councillor Ms S.Hunter reported that bookings for the Hall had still not recovered to pre-covid levels.

22.23.115 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to report.

22.23.116. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Quatt Malvern Parish Council would be held on Thursday 25th May 2023 at 7.30pm.

The meeting concluded at 8.50 pm

Signed Date