

The Minutes of the Meeting of Quatt Malvern Parish Council held on Thursday 28th September 2023 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT:

Cllr L.E.Chitty (Chairman)
Cllr R.Law
Cllr Mrs J.Yates

ALSO PRESENT

Mr W.S. Griffiths (Clerk)
Councillor Ms. Lezley Picton Shropshire
Council

3 members of the Public

23.24.042.00 OPEN FORUM

Members of the public commented on the poor road surface approaching the ford at Wootton Lane. They felt that more of the surface should be finished in concrete which would wear better than tar.

23.24.043 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence was received from Cllr Ms. S.Hunter who was unwell, Councillor Mrs C.Hulland who was attending a funeral and by the National Trust who were unable to provide a representative to attend the meeting.

23.24.044.00 MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting of Quatt Malvern Parish Council held on Thursday 27th July 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

23.24.045.00 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

23.24.046.00 POLICE REPORT

There was no representative from the Police present at the meeting.

23.24.47.00 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Lezley Picton from Shropshire Council confirmed that an election would be held on 19th October to elect a new councillor for the Alveley and Claverley Division of the Unitary Council, following the

resignation of Elliott Lynch.

23.24.48.00 NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

There was no representative of the Trust available to attend the meeting but the following written report was provided:

“ Mose Farm, Dudmaston:

We have been working with Martyn Bebb to bring in material from sites across the county to create heathland habitats within his agreement area. This has mostly been seed from traditional hay meadows and specialist acid grassland sites. These species will form the foundation for the heathland with the early stages of heather and bilberry establishment that is to follow later in October.

We're arranging to cut tones (in excess of 50T) of heather brush from the Long Mynd as part of their fire management and bring that to Mose to help establish a seed bank of heather plants alongside brush harvested heather seed and 8,000 (*Calluna vulgaris*) heather plugs which will be hand planted across the area.

We have identified three historic ponds across the area which are going to be restored this autumn in partnership with Shropshire Wildlife Trust, they are either 'ghost ponds' – so lost/filled in entirely or are on the verge of being lost and hold little water when compared to their former glory. These should provide fantastic habitats for a variety of species and complement the habitat creation at Mose, putting back a little bit of our lost historic landscape and is something we hope to continue over the coming years with other tenants across the estate.

This activity will be followed by broadleaf tree planting during the winter months in two areas of wood pasture creation and a further 5,000 heather and bilberry plugs which are due to be planted toward the end of March 25.

Sandscapes:

The overarching project which looks to achieve habitat connectivity for heath/ acid grassland and wood pasture across the region is in its early stages, but we have held several meetings with public sector and private individuals who are interested in collaborating and we will look to firm up those discussions over the autumn and winter months.

Dudmaston Hall Update

The Hall has enjoyed a busy summer season despite the poorer weather. The new children's playground has proved very popular as has our exhibition of fans collected by Lady Labouchere. Comer Woods continues to grow in appeal and enjoyed a very successful summer of play for families.

Over the summer an archaeological survey has been undertaken on the historic garden feature known as the Ladies Bath which has revealed much more about its history and development which will inform its future management. As part of this project which has been funded by supporter contributions, we are undertaking a significant replanting which

will not only enhance that area but also adapt our planting to respond to the change in climate.

Although the Hall is now closed for the season the Galleries will remain open until the end of November and we will be hosting the final Made In Shropshire fair for the year on this Sunday. We are also planning further improvements in Comer Woods to improve accessibility and enhance the experience for visitors.

We will once again be working with the local community and schools to sustainably decorate trees in Comer Woods for Christmas. There will also be special days with choirs and stories around the fire.”

23.24.49.00 MEMORIAL GARDEN TO QUEEN ELIZABETH 2ND

Following a site visit with the National Trust, members of the Council discussed the possibility of creating a memorial garden to the late Queen and/or a community orchard on the old allotments site adjoining the Church.

It was noted that the Trust had also had discussions with other parties in the Community about the future of the land now that the allotments had been vacated.

Resolved that before proceeding any further, the Council seek further information from the National Trust about the proposals being discussed with certain residents in the village and councillors visit other community orchards in the area.

23.24.050.00 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Resolved:

a) Income

There was no income to report.

b) Payments made under delegated powers since the Last Meeting

i) Clerk’s salary and PAYE

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

ii) Hire of Quatt Village Hall for meeting of 27.07.2023 £25.00 (no VAT)

The payslips, invoices and bank statements were examined and approved by Cllrs R.Law and Mrs J. Yates.

Resolved that the payments be approved.

c) Invoices

Resolved that the following invoice be approved for electronic payment:

Grass cutting £29.21 + Vat £5.85 = £35.06 total.

d) Clerk's and Councillors' Expenses

W.S. Griffiths –

Clerks Travel Expenses - Posting of Notices 16 miles@0.45 per mile = £7.20

Telephone / Internet allowance	£ 20.00
	= <u>£ 27.20</u>

Resolved that the payments be approved.

The invoices and claims were examined and signed by Cllrs R.Law and Mrs J.Yates.

e) Grants and Donations

Resolved

That the following policy be adopted in respect to applications for grant aid from local organizations:

- i) That all local organizations are contacted in early April each year and advised that they must apply for any grant aid by November of the same year, sending all details of estimates, quotes etc., their financial position, purpose of the grant and other resources available to them.
- ii) That the organizations be advised that normally any grant awarded will be of a maximum specified sum.
- iii) That any applications received will be considered at the November meeting of the Parish Council and grants awarded accordingly.
- iv) That the Council determine the normal maximum grant sum and determine a budget allocation for the following year at the January budget meeting.
- v) That no retrospective applications would be considered.
- vi) That the Clerk circulate the existing grant application form to members of the Council for them to review.

f) Financial Progress

The summary of receipts and expenditure and the bank reconciliation for 28th September 2023 were received and approved.

23.24.051.00 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

The report of the Clerk was received and considered and it was Resolved as follows:

01 That the action of the Clerk in subscribing to the Bronze version of the website be confirmed

02 That the Clerk investigate the Parish Online website provider.

23.24.052.00 PLANNING MATTERS

a) New Planning Applications

There were no new applications to consider.

b) Determined Applications

Reference: 23/01254/FUL (validated: 25/04/2023)

Address: Hampton Loade Water Treatment Works, Hampton Loade, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV15 6HD

Proposal: Erection of a filter building a single pac silo and eductor unit, 2No. chemical delivery kiosks with 1No. chemical storage tank, 1No. distribution kiosk and associated works (Revision to 21/01751/FUL)

Decision: Grant Permission

View online at: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RRVWVJTDFMZ00>

The Parish Council raised no objection to this application.

Resolved that the decision be noted.

c) Community Led Plan

Resolved that the Council consider how to start the Community Led Plan process again.

23.24.053.00 ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

a) Matters of Concern

it was noted that the A442 road near to Comer Wood pools was subsiding.

b) The BOAT, pedestrian refuge and danger to pedestrians at Wootton Lane

Resolved that the report be noted. It was also noted that Councillor Lezley Picton had undertaken to arrange some dates when the Council could meet with the relevant highways engineers to discuss the feasibility and cost of providing a pedestrian refuge in Quatt village, which the Parish Council regard to be a very urgent priority.

c) VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign)

Resolved

That Shropshire Council be asked to provide a new VAS sign at the southbound location in Quatt Village.

d) Wootton Lane to the New Barns

Resolved that the Clerk write to the landowner again.

23.24.054.00 PARISH AMENITIES

There were no matters of concern to report.

23.24.055.00 REGISTER OF ELECTORS

It was noted that there were 197 electors on the Register of Electors.

23.24.056.00 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

a) SALC Area Committee

Cllr Mrs J.Yates reported that SALC had received a presentation from Eddy West of the Planning Policy team at Shropshire Council. The presentation concerned the Draft Local Plan and the present difficulty in completing the Plan because of the controversy over how far Shropshire Council had to go in providing housing allocation for the neighbouring urban areas.

Mr West also spoke about Place plans, of which there were 18 areas in Shropshire containing a place plan for each town and parish council. Quatt Malvern Place Plan was in the Bridgnorth area.

b) Local Joint Committee and Cider House/Wootton Group.

There was nothing to report from these bodies.

Resolved that the Cider House Wootton Group be deleted because it was believed that the body was no longer operating.

c) Bridgnorth Town Plan Steering Group

There was nothing further to report concerning this body.

e) Quatt Village Hall Committee

There was no report from the committee because Cllr Hunter was not present at the meeting.

23.24.57.00 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to report.

23.24.058.00 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Quatt Malvern Parish Council was to be held on Thursday 30th November 2023 in Quatt Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The meeting concluded at 8.45 pm

Signed Date