**CLUNGUNFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Clungunford Parish Council - May 2021**

Clungunford Parish Council met at Clungunford Village Hall on **Wednesday 26th May 2021 at 6pm**.

**Present:** Cllr Keith Arbery; Cllr Mary Bason; Cllr Elizabeth Lyster; Cllr Rob Rees; Cllr Jonathan Roberts; Cllr Christine Tinker; Cllr Mike Tucker.

**Attending**: County Cllr Nigel Hartin

**Clerk**: Mr Max Maxwell

**Business of the meeting**

**1. Election of Chair and deputy**

Cllr Roberts was elected as chair and Cllr Tucker was elected as deputy.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Anne Gledhill.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

These were agreed and will be signed by the chair.

**4. Matters arising from the last minutes**

There were none.

**5. Annual Financial Report**

This was adopted unanimously and will be signed by the chair and clerk.

**6. Annual Governance and Assurance Report (AGAR)**

The council confirmed that it meets the criteria for external audit self-certification and approved the completion of the AGAR documents. These will be signed by the chair and clerk.

**7. Councillor vacancy**

The council paid tribute to former Cllr Rollason who did not seek re-election. They asked the clerk to write thanks to him on their behalf. The council resolved to advertise a casual vacancy to fill this role.

**8. To consider Shropshire’s Outstanding Community Competition**

Following discussion of the principles behind this competition the council agreed not to apply at this time.

**9. Planning matters**

A. The council noted the listed planning application decisions.

B. The council noted reports from the *ad hoc* planning committees.

**10. Finances**

The council authorised the following annual costs:

* BHIB council insurance premium - £267.43
* Clerk’s annual stipend 2021/22 – 12 x £125 = £1500
* Website hosting costs – 12 x £14.42 = £173.04

The council agreed to cancel the existing Zoom video-conference subscription.

**11. Correspondence**

**A. Emails regarding path connection between Clungunford and Aston on Clun**

There was some discussion by the council of the route that the original path took between Clungunford and Aston-on-Clun. This was agreed to start from the stile at the back of the path from Chapel Road, running north to join the current right-of-way in Hopesay Parish at the river next to the property ‘Clunbrae’. The path is clearly marked on maps up until recently, parishioners use this route, and there is good evidence that it was missed from the definitive map of rights-of-way when the map was first created.

The council discussed options to allow access to this path and, in the first instance, agreed to contact the landowners to explore if permissive access could be gained. The council will return to the issue again at the next meeting after landowners have been consulted. The clerk will write to the correspondent to update him along these lines.

**B. Email from the chair of Childs Ercall Parish Council regarding Shropshire rural roads**

Following discussion, the council agreed that the clerk should write to Shropshire council reinforcing the message from parish councils about the state of the roads, and to highlight the need for rural roads to be given appropriate priority.

**12. Parish matters**

Cllr Lyster asked why the council has not been consulted on any application to build the argricultural building north of Abcott that is under construction. A planning application was made on 3rd December 2020 but there is no record of the parish council being consulted. County Cllr Hartin agreed to look into this.

The clerk raised further concerns made by a parishioner regarding drainage from the ‘Bird on the Rock’ Tearoom to Clungunford Bridge. Several historic drains appear to have been covered over and neglected and these can no longer discharge into the river because of silt collecting under the bridge.

Cllr Lyster explained the previous response that was received from the Environment Agency and Shropshire council on this matter. Neither had any work to improve drainage around the bridge planned.

The council asked the clerk to contact the Environment Agency and Shropshire council again and seek a meeting on site with interested parties to look at the problem.

**13. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 14th July at 7pm at Clungunford village hall.

**Max Maxwell**

**Clerk to Clungunford Parish Council**

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