 HIGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the Highley Parish Council Meeting held in the library of The Severn Centre on Tuesday 4th March 2025 at 7pm**

**Present:** Cllr T. Quinn (Chair) T. Pinches (Vice-Chair), L. Hodnett, D. Thakrar, A. Edwards, P. Vinall, S. Bunn, J. Marshall, A. Hancox, H. Hancox.

**Clerk:** Alison Palmer

**County Councillor:** Mark Williams

**Members of the Public:** Mrs Selina Graham (Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire) PC Nolan, PSCO Fletcher and PCSO Miller

**01.Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs C. Stanley, J. Law, E. Aspin, D. Schnelting.

It was **RESOLVED to ACCEPT** these apologies.

**02.Declarations of Interest**

No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared.

**03. Parishioners Question Time**

PC Nolan talked through the report issued earlier. Having CCTV through the police Wi-Fi needs a license and may result in nationwide ANPR access for all policing units. PC Nolan will look further into this.

**04. Minutes**

To approve the minutes of the meeting of Highley Parish Council held on **Tuesday 4th February 2025**

**05. Clerks Update**

Members are asked to consider the attached report sent separately.

Thanks to Cllr Hodnett for her support at the community drop-in each month.

**06. Deputy Lieutenant Selina Graham to address council regarding her work for SCF**

Community foundation is an international, movement started in Canada and then brought to Shropshire in the 90s to essentially build an endowment for giving people who knows what is going on in the county. Shropshire didn’t have a community foundation; they bring money together and spend it where it is needed. Flood relief/Covid funding went through community foundations with support from Staffordshire. Shropshire set up their own and became a registered charity in July 2022, bringing all money together to channel it in the right areas. 2yrs spent bringing income in. Need accreditation by CF to build their own endowment to gain flow through funding from government. Currently hold £800K and by easter 25 will have put out first £100K in grants – linked in. Shropshire Community Foundation website has more details. There are 47 other CFs across the UK for advice and support. Cllr H Hancox requested clarification for the separation of the monies between Staffordshire and Shropshire.

**07. Breakdown of pool seating area report**

Following request from last month’s meeting, the works has been received for approval at tonight’s meeting.

Cllr Hodnett wants to ask why the toddler pool has been closed since Halo took over.

Cllr Thakrar says swimming pool must be provided as was agreed in the initial takeover.

Cllr Pinches asks for the issue to be put onto the Severn Centre agenda for next month.

Cllr Edwards proposes to go ahead rather than delay the pool season.

Cllr H Hancox wants to explore a third option – to know the facts.

It was **PROPOSED to DEFER** the spending and to explore the possibility of recommissioning the toddler pool.

**08.Correspondence -plus any further correspondence after issue of Agenda**

1. Road Closure Ludlow Road 23rd April
2. Avian Flu Zone poster
3. Letter from pharmacy Manager to Chair regarding CFRs – responded to by Chair
4. CCLA banking welcome letter – confidential accounting information shared with R&R
5. Banking letter – Lloyds notifying closure of Bridgnorth branch
6. Banking letter – Lloyds changes to interest rates from April 2025
7. Clothing donation scheme for hospital (emailed)
8. Email from Mrs Betteridge thanking Clerk for support and praising community drop-in
9. Wavenet Price Increase (shared with R&R committee)
10. Thankyou card from Highley Girlguiding

Item 3: Cllr Quinn to respond to the letter received.

Item 8: “Thanks to Clerk for resolving my long-standing issue, not being able to log on to NHS Site, you fixed it!  I would like it minuted what a wonderful facility you are offering our community, on a monthly basis. Well impressed, may it flourish.”

**09. Gov.co.uk website**

Members **PROPOSED to ACCEPT** the costs and to proceed with the migration towards a gov.uk domain name and emails for the website transfer after the May elections. The domain name to be highleyparish.gov.uk

**10. Lotteries license**

Members **PROPOSED to ACCEPT** to fund the £40 for Clerk to hold lotteries license allowing raffle ticket sales ahead of events.

**11. Grant Application**

Members discussed the issue of the application being within the same financial year as the previous grant awarded, the location reasons for the visit, plus approval would take the council over budget. Grant guidance was referred to for the final decision.

It was **PROPOSED to OBJECT** to the application at this stage and if it were submitted in the new financial year, we would expect 50/50 match funding for any future grants.

**12.Brief Reports from working groups/committees**

Cllr Quinn gave a report from the Chairs Network meeting inc. election costs, his meeting with Cllr Ian Nellins and an update on the 125-bus service, and the meeting with The Bache Arms Public House developers.

Police Working Group report – Councillor Bunn

**13. Planning applications received- with recommendations from the planning committee.**

25/00412/FUL Proposed development west of Bridgnorth Road, Highley. Opposite and above Clee View. Mr Alistair Russell.

It was **PROPOSED to SUPPORT** the application.

25/00541/FUL Mr & Mrs Welch, Prestwood, Netherton lane, Highley WV16 6NJ Single story side extension

It was **PROPOSED to SUPPORT** the application.

**14. External Reports**

Members were asked to consider the following reports:

1. **Shropshire Councillor Mark Williams** – shared on the table
2. **Policing report** – as item 3

**It was PROPOSED TO EXTEND the meeting for another 10 minutes for Councillor Williams to answer questions from the members.**

**15. Finance**

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| HMRC |  | Nothing to Pay | 0 |
| Best Kept Village | 175 | Entry Charge Approved Feb minute 7 | £35 |
| Shropshire Council | 176 | Electricity final quarter | £3,037.01 |
| Severn Centre | 177 | Planning Meeting outstanding Aug 24 | £89.28 |
| SALC  | 178 | Chairmanship Skills TP Oct 24 | 87.50 |
| SYA | 179 | Youth leader | 2,835.00 |
| MJR Property Solutions | 180 | Bus stops and benches approved Dec 24 minute 14 | £3,000 |
| Lotteries License | 181 | Approved March minute 10 | £40 |
| Amazon | 182/183/184 | Councillors guide and accessories | 58.61 |
| Amazon | 185 | A4 copier paper | 17.69 |
| Amazon | 186 | A4  | 16.98 |
|  |  |  |  |
| SLCC  | 187 | Membership/subscription | 255.00 |
| SLCC | 188 | Clerks Manual | 52.90 |
| Amazon | 189 | A4 card | 9.76 |
| Amazon | 190 | Printer ink cartridges | 50.72 |
| Lebara sim | 191 | Mobile Phone | £5 |
| Amazon | 192 | Identity Cards for council | 170.52 |
| Clerks Salary | 193 | End of month | As agreed |
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**For approval but awaiting invoice or works before payment:**

Rialtas Close-down £180 – approved by R&R Feb 25

It was **PROPOSED to ACCEPT** to make these payments.