HIGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL

An **ordinary meeting of Highley Parish Council** was held on Tuesday 1st October 2024 at 7pm at the Severn Centre, Highley.

**Present:** Cllrs T. Quinn (Chair), J Marshall, A Rodgers, D Schnelting, D Thakrar, J Law, E Aspin, A Hancox, S Bunn, P Vinall, L Hodnett, C Stanley, A Edwards

Shropshire Councillor – Mark Williams arrival 20:30hrs

**RFO/Acting Clerk:** Alison Palmer

**00. Parishioners Time**

There were 9 members of the public, three representatives of Stonebond properties who presented their plans for a development proposal opposite Clee View. Three teenagers who wanted to request better services and provision for their age group within the village. And Mr W and his sister asking for advice on a planning proposal for a property on Station Road. The final member of the public was Mrs Helen Hancox applying for the vacancy of councillor.

**01.Apologies for Absence** Cllr Pinches

It was **RESOLVED to ACCEPT** these apologies

**02.Minutes of last meeting Tuesday 3rd September 2024** It was **RESOLVED to ACCEPT** these minutes as an accurate statement.

**03. Councillor Vacancy-** CouncillorHancox declared a pecuniary interest. Mrs Hancox was co-opted to the Parish Council.

**04. Clerk’s Update** sent separately

**05. Thanks to:**

**Cllr Rodgers** for persevering with the refund from Npower for electricity charges plus £200 compensation at a total refund of £1878.09. All street lighting/CCTV charges for electricity supply is now with Shropshire Council and Npower accounts are finally closed.

**Cllr Pinches** for her in-depth research and official complaint following the decision on the HMO at The Castle pub and speaking to Ms Bennet, landlady of the Bache Arms regarding the Parish Council position.

Also, thanks to **Cllr Vinall** for his work chasing the now completed Donkey Bridge repairs.

**06.Correspondence**

1. Road Closure B4194 Kinlet Button Bridge 2nd-18th September

2. Road Closure St Leonards Steps Bridgnorth 7th-9th October

3. 0-5yrs drop-in clinic 27th September

4. Road Closure extended – Bynd Lane

5. Felling of trees New Road, Bridgnorth 29th September

6. SALC AGM invitation and Agenda

7. Road Closure – Dowles/Button Bridge 27th and 28th October.

**07. Reports**

1. **Shropshire Councillor Mark Williams** – received and shared with council
2. **Policing report** –received and shared with council

Additional thanks sent to PC Nolan for his in-depth report**.**

A query relating to Cllr Williams report and the minutes from last month’s meeting arose as it was stated that he would put forward a question regarding post 16 transport at the next county meeting – this was later addressed by Clerk and Cllr Williams will respond following his meeting on 14th October.

**08. Reports from SALC Area Committee meeting 9/9/24, Chairs Network meeting 18/9/24 and informal meeting with Stuart Anderson MP 13/9/24  (Cllr Quinn)**

Cllr Quinn spoke about the housing needs survey and finding the demand for housing within the area and how Highley can be supported further for this to be carried out. He also referenced the ‘nature recovery’ conference on Friday 6th December being held in Church Stretton which will be attended by Cllr Pinches (or Clerk) representing Highley Parish Council. Cllr Quinn offered to share the slideshow from the Streetscene team amongst councillors and raised issues regarding the planned HMO to local MP Stuart Anderson.

**The Future of Neighbourhood Planning 25/9/24 (Cllr Edwards)** Added to SharePoint

**Police Working Group 24/9/24/ (Cllr Rodgers)** Full report on SharePoint

**09. Clerks’ contracts** **-** It was **RESOLVED to ACCEPT** Holly Bowkett’s resignation from the role of Clerk and for Alison Palmer to take on the role permanently.

A formal thanks to Holly on behalf of the Parish Council was made.

**10. Resolve cycling issues along Smoke Alley**

It was **RESOLVED to ACCEPT** the proposal to send details to Highways dept with our intentions to purchase and add a worded sign to the erected NO Cycling sign. Councillor Schnelting to send photos and costings to Clerk.

**11. Diversion of footpaths Redstone Drive** Councillors were in full support of this application, without reservation.

**12. Final vote for Christmas raffle recipient and lights switch-on**- It was **RESOLVED to ACCEPT** the Gunner Lewis-Vale trust to be the recipient of funds raised on the day.

It was **RESOLVED to ACCEPT** to ask to invite representatives from the trust to switch the Christmas Lights on.

It was **RESOLVED to OBJECT** to any formal invitations being made to any other persons.

**13. Planning applications received**

24/03603/TPO Oak Tree 2-3m deadwood crown reduction Blything Court (Cockshutt Lane)

It was **RESOLVED to SUPPORT** this application.

24/03631/TPO felling of Oak and Ash trees 31 Sycamore Way – It was **RESOLVED to SUPPORT with REPRESENTATION** to this application.

Chair proposed to extend the meeting by 3 minutes (standing order)

**14. Finance:**

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| EE  | Mobile Phone  | 41.47 inc. |
| Holly Bowkett | Salary | As agreed |
| Alison Palmer | Salary | As agreed |
| HMRC  | Tax & Ni | £480.26 |
| RJM Contracts | Final watering and Baskets Collected | £400.00 |
| SLCC  | Clerk Training | £144.00 |
| Bridgnorth Cobblers | Door Key (office) | £6.00 |
| F H Maiden & Sons | Hedge Cutting | £800+VAT |
| Amazon | Cable ties, magnets, key fobs | £27.88 |
| Amazon | Compost  | £18.08 |
| Specialised Canvas Services Ltd | Union Flag and Parade Pole | £345.98 inc VAT |
| PKF LittleJohn | External Audit | £504 inc VAT |

**It was RESOLVED to ACCEPT these invoices**

Signed………………………………………………………………. date………………………………………………