



KETLEY PARISH COUNCIL

TELFORD, SHROPSHIRE

MINUTES of the Meeting of Ketley Parish Council held on Wednesday 29 September 2021 at Ketley Community Centre at 7:00pm

Present:

Councillor Sam Millward Thomas (Chairman)
Councillor Eileen Callear (Vice Chairman)
Councillor David Elliot
Councillor Maggie Evans
Councillor Joy Francis

Councillor Nicholas Heath
Councillor Amrik Jhawar
Councillor Andrew Morris
Councillor Hilda Rhodes
Councillor Sukh Thiara

Locum Clerk Chris Maclean

Assistant to the Clerk Elisabeth Bamford

In attendance: Four members of the public.

C21/098 WELCOME

As the Chairman was running a few minutes late the Vice Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

C21/099 PUBLIC SESSION

Three members of the public shared concerns relating to the planning application for the land adjacent/rear of 51 Holyhead Road, Ketley. Whilst the principle of the application was agreeable, concerns relate to the siting of 3 of the bungalows; tightness of the proposed parking arrangements; access to and from the site onto Holyhead Road and the impact of people using the path to be linked from Red Lees to the site and it being used as a short cut to Holyhead Road.

On the arrival of the Chairman at 7:09pm, he thanked the Vice Chairman for opening the meeting and assumed the Chair.

The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that he had referred to the planning officer the question of wheelchair accessibility and had been met with the response that this would be expected of such a development but that any further checks would require to be undertaken of the company running the facility.

Cllr H Rhodes advised the resident who had previously raised concerns over the footpath on Holyhead Road near Travis Perkins that the matter had been investigated by Telford & Wrekin Council. Feedback received was that implementing a solution would be a bigger job than previously understood. The resident would be advised as the matter progressed.

C21/100 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr K Sahota (Conference). Apology accepted.



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C21/101 DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

None declared.

C21/102 COUNCIL MINUTES

(i) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 28 JULY 2021

Cllr J Francis proposed, and Cllr A Morris seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2021 be adopted and it was resolved that the Chairman sign these as a true record.

Cllr D Elliott noted that further interest in the provision of Christmas food vouchers had been received.

(ii) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 SEPTEMBER 2021

Cllr H Rhodes proposed, and Cllr E Callear seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2021 be adopted and it was resolved that the Chairman sign these as a true record.

C21/103 PLANNING

Councillors considered planning application TWC/2021/0877 relating to the land adjacent/rear of 51 Holyhead Road, Ketley. Councillors noted that previous applications relating to this site had been rejected. Councillors noted and shared the concerns expressed by residents over the proposal. Specific concerns were raised over the position of the site's access and exit and proximity to the adjoining bus stop and shelter.

Councillors noted that the area of Red Lees adjoining the site has been subject to flooding and views were expressed that this could be alleviated by installation of drainage into the site's own drainage systems.

Councillors shared residents' views that the proposal was agreeable and served the needs of the community but that an objection should be raised on the basis of (i) siting of plots 1, 2 and 10 and their impact on adjoining properties outside the development; (ii) perception of overdevelopment of site (iii) access through the rear off Red Lees and impact on residents; (iv) restricted access for ambulances, general parking and vehicle turning; (v) access/exit from site onto a busy Holyhead Road and proximity to bus stop and shelter; and (vi) flooding risk from Red Lees. Councillors also agreed that the Parish Council reserve the right to call the application before Telford & Wrekin Council Planning Committee.

Councillors noted that the site contained Japanese Knotweed but that dealing with this was not a Planning related matter.

At 7:27pm one member of the public thanked Councillors and left the meeting.



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- C21/104 COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT**
Councillors considered the Code of Conduct document and terms which had been agreed by Councillors of Telford & Wrekin Council. It was noted that this was based on the Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020.
Councillors resolved to adopt the Councillor Code of Conduct.
- C21/105 THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT**
Councillors considered the terms of the Covenant.
Councillors resolved to sign up to and honour the Armed Forces Covenant and the Chairman was authorised to sign on behalf of the Parish Council.
- C21/106 PARISH STREET CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**
Councillors noted the confirmation provided to the Locum Clerk to enter a three-year arrangement for the rental of Christmas lights on Holyhead Road. Costs for the first year currently stand at £9,100.
Councillors resolved to ratify the decision to enter into a three-year hire agreement with Blachere Illumination UK Ltd for the provision the Christmas lights.
- C21/107 PARISH NEWSLETTER**
Councillors noted the preparations being made for the provision of the Newsletter. The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that contributions were welcome to be received within the following two weeks.
- C21/108 EVENTS**
Councillors noted the report that had been provided by the Centre manager.
Councillors noted the timing of the Halloween party on 30 October.
Councillors considered the merits of allowing a longer period for the party.
The dates for the children's Christmas party on 18 December and the Christmas lunches for the over 65's on 20, 21 and 22 December were noted.
- C21/109 FINANCE - ORDERS FOR PAYMENT**
The Orders for Payment were reviewed.
Cllr S Thiara proposed, and Cllr N Heath seconded and it was resolved that the payments be made by the Locum Clerk.
- C21/110 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**
(i) Projects and major spend items for 2022/2023.
(ii) Boundary Signs.
(iii) Report from Enforcement Team on Parish activities.
(iv) TACT.
(v) Recycling Centre
(vi) To advise Locum Clerk of items to be considered for inclusion in the agenda.



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At 7:50pm, two members of the public thanked Councillors and left the meeting.

C21/111 PLANNED DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Full Council: Wednesday 13 October 2021 @ 7:00pm

Full Council: Wednesday 10 November 2021 @ 7:00pm

Cllr A Morris gave his apologies for absence from the meeting on 13 October as he would be on vacation.

The Chairman declared the public session of the meeting closed at 7:54 pm.

Notification of Private Session under Schedule 12a, Local Government Act 1972, the following items are likely to disclose exempt information in relation to establishment and contractual matters and that pursuant to provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.

C21/112 STAFFING

- (i) Councillors noted that enquiries would be made of Telford & Wrekin Council's Facilities Team to identify opportunities to support the Parish Council during the absence of the Facilities officer.
- (ii) Councillors noted the departure of one of the Centre's assistants and the effort to secure a replacement.
- (iii) The Chairman updated Councillors on the status in relation to securing a new Clerk. Councillors considered the options of seeking assistance from Telford & Wrekin Council's HR team and noted the costs involved. **It was agreed that a further round of advertising via SALC be undertaken.**

PARISH MATTERS

- (i) Cllr D Elliott noted the current condition of the Garden of Rest and Councillors expressed their appreciation of the grounds team's efforts
- (ii) Cllr H Rhodes noted the current state of the corner plot at the traffic lights. Councillors considered the merits of seeking assistance from Littlefords Garden Centre with support from borough councillors ward funding.
- (iii) Councillors noted that Japanese Knotweed persists in the area around Ketley Brook Underpass. The Locum Clerk would refer this to the grounds team.
- (iv) The proposal to consider a Ketley in Bloom gardening competition would be incorporated into the Parish Newsletter.

The Chairman declared the meeting formally closed at 8:16 pm.

Signed:

Chairman of Ketley Parish Council

Date: 13 October 2021