

Copy to be sent to Philip Dunne.

Mr. and Mrs. McCullen left the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared

MINUTES of the meeting held on 8th December 2014, having been distributed to all councillors, were confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

02/15 Claverley in Bloom

Councillor Parr's report had been forwarded to all the councillors.

Late spring/early summer bulbs had been planted on the grass verge opposite Boundary Close, around the base of the signpost at the Church Street/Digbeth Lane junction and in the verge at the top of High Street at the junction of the track to Two Gates.

CIB will be proceeding to create a planting bed in the grass verge at the entrance to Clover Heath as the response to the flyers outlining CIB's proposal had been very favourable.

Two CIB representatives will be attending the Britain in Bloom finalists' seminar in Sheffield on 30th January to gain further information about what will be involved in the campaign, meet the judges and other finalists from around the country.

Woodland Trust will be supplying free trees for the second tree planting session in February. Trees will be planted by a party of children from Claverley School at Sutton Farm.

CIB will be working with the church to make the most of its project to naturalise part of the upper churchyard to increase the diversity and visual appeal of the area. It is hoped children from Claverley School and possibly the Youth Cub will be involved in helping to plant wildflower plugs which CIB plans to purchase. CIB will fund the involvement of a professional wildlife organisation to support the project which will provide opportunities to study the range of flora and fauna across the site and will play a part in CIB's Britain in Bloom campaign.

The family of the late Sheila Higham had kindly donated half of the funeral collection to CIB and it was proposed to purchase a bench which will be dedicated to her memory. If the Parish Council was in agreement, it will be sited in Aston Lane close to the Parish Council notice board. The design would match the existing bench and made in teak to reduce maintenance.

The Parish Council was in agreement with the proposal. As the bench will be used by the public, it should be purchased from a commercial manufacturer to meet health and safety requirements.

CIB was considering the purchase of its own free standing notice board to display minutes of meetings, advertise future events etc. and would be of a similar design to the Parish Council

notice board. It was felt the most appropriate location would be adjacent to the Parish Council notice board in Aston Lane. Councillor Williams suggested an alternative location at Griffiths Green.

Councillors were reminded that the fund raising quiz was being held on 28th January.

03/15 QEII Jubilee Field

There was nothing to report.

04/15 Parish Plan

Councillor Harris reported that the first draft of the analysis of the questionnaires had been received. The Parish Plan working group will be meeting on 21st January to start work on the draft.

05/15 Place Plan Annual Review

Councillor Harris reported the Parish Plan working group had drawn up the proposed amendments to the current Place Plan. The section relating to improved parish communications had been deleted as the Parish Council website had been set up. The need to seek a solution to the current parking problem was a strategic priority and the notes under Infrastructure Requirement: Local Highway Improvements etc.” had been amended. Under Environment and Climate Change – Improvements to Street scene - the notes relating to street lighting had been amended and also the notes relating to Claverley in Bloom. The amendments were agreed and the Annual Place Plan Review Return was signed by the Chairman and Shropshire Councillor Tina Woodward.

Action: Clerk to forward the Return to Shropshire Council

06/15 Street Lights

The Clerk reported that the balance of the order from Mike Smith Designs had been delivered to E.ON.

07/15 Christmas Lights

Councillor Parr was proposing to take down the Christmas lights on Sunday, 18th January commencing at 8.00 a.m. Volunteers will be required to help.

Action: Clerk to inform the householders who could be disturbed by the work and ask them not to park their vehicles in High Street or the Bull Ring while the lights were being taken down.

The Clerk had received comments that some people did not like the white lights as they looked cold and would prefer coloured lights and one person had objected to the blue lights on the Christmas tree.

The New Year’s Eve festivities had gone smoothly. Fewer people had gathered in the Bull Ring. It had been suggested that in future the Parish Council should make arrangements to clear up the litter the following morning.

08/15 Bonfire and Fireworks Event

Discussion took place about the distribution of the profit of £1001.48 from the event. As it had always been the intention to support local organisations, it was agreed that community organisations in the parish should be asked to bid for the money. Further discussion on this and the wording of the page in 'Halo' was deferred until the next meeting.

09/15 UNITARY REPORT

Councillor Woodward informed the meeting that Shropshire Council was proposing to retain the Council Tax Support Grant for 2015/16.

The mirror at the Hopstone junction, requested by residents, had been installed by Shropshire Council.

10/15 PLANNING

New Application

14/05228/FUL Erection of extensions to rear to include 2 no. balconies (revised scheme)
Three Dwellings, Woundale for Mr. J. Parrock.
The Parish Council did not have any objections.

14/05484/FUL) Installation of solar photo-voltaic panels to existing south facing garage roof,
14/05485/LBC) Roseberry Barn, Powk Hall Barns, Pound Street, Claverley for
Mr. Stephen Atkinson.
The Parish Council did not have any objections.

11/15 DRAFT BUDGET/PRECEPT FOR 2015/2016

Before setting the precept for 2015/2016 discussion took place about the draft budget. E.ON Energy Solutions had identified urgent work to street lights amounting to £473.82. It was agreed to replace a further five street light columns and lanterns with the new Victorian style columns and LED lanterns during 2015/16. Discussion took place as to whether the replacement street lights should be capital or revenue expenditure. If it was resolved to be capital expenditure they would be funded from Reserves. Councillor Cook suggested a replacement programme should be drawn up. The wall brackets for the Christmas lights will need to be tested in 2015 at an estimated cost of £300. Shropshire Council had still to make a decision as to whether two additional dog bins would be supplied. As these were considered to be important, an estimated figure of £300 had been included in case Shropshire Council declines to provide the bins. Claverley Youth Club had requested financial support for the forthcoming financial year amounting to £1032 to cover half the cost of hiring the hall, equipment and projects. After discussion it was decided not to include an amount in the budget for 2015/2016 as the £1500 provided in 2014/2015 was to help with start-up costs and it was felt the Youth Club should become self-financing.

Shropshire Council had advised that it was unlikely to distribute the Council Tax Support Grant to parish and town councils in 2015/16. In order to show a 0% increase in the Band D Council Tax charge on the 2015/16 Council Tax Demand Notices the precept requirement for 2015/16

would need to be £20,037 compared to £19,917 requested in 2014/15. After discussion, it was agreed there should not be an increase in the Band D Council Tax and it was proposed by Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Lawrence and agreed by the Council to precept for £20,037.

12/15 **PARISH MATTERS**

Councillor Williams reported there were potholes near 3 Aston.

Councillors Beaman, Lawrence and Williams left the meeting.

Councillor Whitmore had been asked when the signs indicating low cables would be removed. It was explained they would be removed when the Christmas street lights were taken down.

Councillor Parr reported that when work had been carried out to Watery Lane the surface had been raised but drain covers had not been raised.

Action: Clerk to inform Shropshire Highways

Councillor Parr had noticed Mr. Timmins had not removed the rubble on the grass verge outside his property despite being asked to do so. He had also received comments about the unsightly pile of tarmac at the new tradesman's entrance to Ludstone Hall.

Action: Clerk to contact Mr. Timmins and Mr. Smith

The Lych Gate stone flags required attention.

Action: The Clerk was asked to find out who was responsible for their upkeep

Councillor Edwards reported that water was lying on the road at Broughton by the entrance to the stables near the junction.

Action: Clerk to inform Shropshire Highways

Councillor Cook asked when the street light outside The Dormers, High Street would be repaired. Clerk informed him that E.ON had been instructed to install one of the new lanterns as a priority.

Councillor Harris reported there were two large potholes at the bottom of Digbeth Lane.

Action: Clerk to inform Shropshire Highways

Councillor Cotham reported that the tarmac had sunk on the bridge at Lower Hopstone. White lines had been reinstated on the Watery Lane side of the Woundale crossroads but not on the other side.

Action: Clerk to inform Shropshire Highways

Councillor Cowie reported that there was a blocked drain at the top of the lane to Draycott near Mrs. Marsh's property.

Action: Clerk to inform Shropshire Highways

The Parish Council website required updating.

The Clerk reported that the computer supplied by Shropshire Council in 2009 was not working. She had brought it to the meeting to see if any of the councillors were able to get it to function but they had not been successful.

Action: Clerk to take computer to Wombourne Computer Supplies to seek advice. If it was not economically viable to have it repaired, Councillor Parr offered to help the Clerk purchase a replacement up to the value of £300.

13/15 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Clerk asked councillors to give some thought as to whether a speaker should be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting. A date for the meeting will be discussed at February's meeting.

14/15 CORRESPONDENCE

Review of village entrance speed limits and signs

All councillors had received Mr. Atkinson's observations regarding speed limits and signs at the various entrances to Claverley. As there was insufficient time to discuss this item, it was agreed to defer discussion at the February meeting.

Upper Aston Junction

Alice Dilly, Shropshire Council, had informed Councillor Woodward that the proposal to move the road across slightly to improve the visibility from the give way junction would not be implemented. Mouchel had been investigating and had found utility apparatus in the verge which would be very costly to move or lower to facilitate the new carriageway construction.

Details of an alternative proposal had been received. New upgraded and better positioned direction signs and two new visibility mirrors would be provided. After discussion it was agreed that the better positioned mirrors could be of assistance but it was not thought the new signage would be of benefit.

Notification of Road Closure

Notification had been received from Shropshire Council that the Claverley to Ludstone road will be closed on 2nd March for one day between the hours of 9.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. to enable British Telecom to replace some covers in the carriageway.

Youth Club's request for the Parish Council to change day for its meetings

Councillor Lawrence's report had been forwarded to all the councillors. The first open evening had featured a film and had been successful and another open evening with a film was planned for January. Youth Club members had enjoyed their Christmas party. In his report Councillor Lawrence had asked if the Parish Council could consider changing the day for its meetings from the second Monday of the month to the second Thursday of the month. As Councillor Lawrence was not present, it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

16/15 CHEQUES

Chq. No. 001225 G.T. Drury - providing PA equipment and music for

	New Year's Eve.....	£50.00
001226	E.ON Energy Solutions -Annual Maintenance Charge – 2 nd half payment.....	£958.86
001227	Npower Ltd. – energy for street lights 01/10/14 to 31/12/14.....	£1017.54
001228	Claverley Youth Club – 7 th instalment of start-up costs.....	£126.00
001229	Mrs. G.M. Price – Clerk's salary 29/09/14 to 28/12/14 (13 weeks).....	£686.27

It was proposed by Councillor Whitmore , seconded by Councillor Edwards and agreed by the Council to pass the cheques for payment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.00 p.m.

Date of next meeting: Monday, 9th February at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall