



Minutes of Council Meeting of Great Ness and Little Ness Parish Council, held at Nesscliffe Village Hall on Tuesday, 5th September 2023 at 7.30pm

Present Cllrs. Peters (Chairman), Arthur, Dickinson, Diggory, Gilbert, Mullis, Turner
Absent: Cllr. Brooks
In attendance: Cllr. Ed Potter, Mathew Mead (Shropshire Council), 1 member of the public
Clerk Mrs R. Turner

46/2324 **PRESENT & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Cllr. Brooks. The resignation of Cllr. Nunn was noted. The council thanked him for his service and wished him well.

Actions:

- Clerk to send a thank you card to Cllr. Nunn and advertise the vacancy.
- Chair to co-ordinate purchase of a gift (not from council funds).

47/2324 **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS & DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

a) *Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting and which is not included in the register of interests.*

- Cllr. Turner – pecuniary interest in payments to the clerk.

b) *Dispensation requests* – none.

c) *Declarations of gifts or hospitality* – none.

48/2324 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

A member of the public spoke regarding the consultation on traffic calming works at Ruyton XI Towns. Concern was expressed regarding the potential for traffic to disperse onto roads into Great Ness & Little Ness parish. It was also noted that a survey and needs assessment relating to the works does not appear to be available.

Nesscliffe Country Park - a member of the public asked if community service workers can help with any of the tasks. Mathew Mead said he is unsure if the service still has a working relationship with SC.

49/2324 **PLACE PLAN** – *information session led by Mathew Mead and refinement of Place Plan priorities*

Mathew Mead introduced himself. He works at Shropshire Council as a Place Plan Officer in the Planning Policy Team. He explained that essentially a Place Plan is an infrastructure plan. Place Plans last had a major update in 2019. It had been intended to review them annually, but Covid disrupted this. SC started a major review of the plans this year, beginning with an internal review. Strategic projects use core funding, Central Government funding and/or CIL Strategic. GNLN parish doesn't presently have any major strategic projects identified by SC, as it is a rural area.

SC have internally highlighted parking and drainage improvements to Nesscliffe Hill and Country Park as possible projects.

The chair asked about the GP surgeries serving the parish, in particular Prescott Surgery which is under acute pressure. Mathew Mead said that the Integrated Care Board are responsible for planning surgery provision. The chair suggested GNLN PC participate in this discussion, as residents use either Prescott or Knockin Surgery.

The PC raised deficiencies with the electricity and water network and concerns about drainage/flooding as strategic issues - Mathew Mead said he can raise this with the electricity and water network liaison group, if included in the Place Plan. It was agreed to also request water be added to the community land at Stonehouse Close.

It was also noted that the A5 stretch between Churncote and Felton Butler is becoming more dangerous. There has been 1 fatality, 3 serious incidents and multiple bumps/near misses and overtaking on double white lines. Cllr. Potter said that Highways England have refused to make this stretch of road a 50mph limit as they want to keep traffic moving faster.

The PC said it was concerned about the pressure on Nesscliffe Hill and Country Park and need for visitor management improvements. The PC asked Mathew for his help with leveraging external funding for the Nesscliffe Hill. Cllr. Potter expressed frustration with SC not thinking strategically. Mathew said that projects may more easily attract funding if linked together e.g. a project focused on both archaeology and strategic improvements, as opposed to isolated bids for individual elements. Cllr. Diggory expressed concern about how the paths and signage will be protected when timber lorries are felling trees.

Cllr. Dickinson said that the Country Park Manager wanted to improve The Pines car park but not The Oaks. It was agreed that the access to The Pines is poor, and that more parking is needed opposite The Oaks, possibly on part of the playing field.

Actions:

- It was agreed to invite Mathew to join the Nesscliffe Hill and Country Park WG. Clerk to invite him to the next meeting.
- Mathew said he would speak to the management team about the council's concerns.
- In regard to other Place Plan projects, Mathew suggested doing separate bids for Little Ness VH and Nesscliffe VH. Clerk to submit separate projects. Details awaited from Little Ness VH.
- Add a project on safety between A5 Churncote and Felton Butler.
- Add project on water supply at community land.
- Express support for railway station at Baschurch as part of Place Plan.

50/2324 **MINUTES** – it was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 4th July 2023 as being a correct record and to authorise the chairman to sign them.

51/2324 **REPORTS**

a) *Police Report* – it was agreed to refine the charter priorities to be A5 road safety, speeding in the villages of Nesscliffe, Great Ness and Little Ness and ASB.

b) *Shropshire Council* – Cllr Potter reported:

Quite a bit to report on as it has been a very busy summer for issues, many have been resolved, some are ongoing, albeit being addressed at a slow pace.

Firstly, some general updates, after 5 months of this financial year with the need to make £51million in savings, the council looks to have made in the region of £34 million. However, the pressures in Children's and Adults' Social Care continue to rise in years so £51 million is likely to be the minimum need. This is putting pressure on all service areas, and it is perhaps no surprise the issues which come to my attention are hard fought to resolve.

Consultation on SEND Transport.

Waste - following the restructure of routes and changes to collection days for some residents, Veolia have undertaken to review to make sure things are working efficiently. It appears they can make some efficiencies in time, fuel etc. by making some further changes which are likely to affect circa 600 households in the Loton division. In the coming weeks all these homes will be written to directly and will receive a new calendar outlining what their new collection day will be. It often takes a week or two to bed in and if there are missed collections these can be reported through Shropshire Council's website or let me know and I will sort. Cllr. Potter has spoken to SC about the bin lorry not going at school times – Cllr. Mullis said it was there at 8.55am today.

The waste bins at Nesscliffe Country Park and Great Ness Cemetery which weren't collected for nearly 10 weeks have been dealt with. The green bins that were originally issued by Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council pre 2009 look like they have started to fail with big splits appearing down them. Again, a new bin can be arranged through the council website free of charge replacing the broken one.

St Andrew's, Nesscliffe is having a 10-child provision for SEND pupils. Cllr. Potter believes no schools in Shropshire are at risk with the concrete roofs issue. There are still some surveys to be done so the final outcome is unclear.

Road surfaces are a big issue - Felton Butler and Valeswood are both in need of attention and the council are aware. Cllr. Potter explained there are depth criteria SC work to. Mathew Mead suggested adding the projects to the Place Plan as may need resurfacing.

Action: Clerk to add Felton Butler and Valeswood to Place Plan for resurfacing.

There have been a few issues in Wilcott with inconsiderate parking at the residential children's home. Cllr. Potter is liaising with residents.

c) *Youth Club* – Cllr. Gilbert reported the club starts back next Monday. A committee meeting was held and the club will give £500 towards this year's youth worker fees. The club are keen to be involved in projects for young people.

Action: It was agreed to consult the youth club on relevant CIL projects.

d) *Great Mess to Little Mess* – Cllr. Diggory reported that the group have £96 in the bank. The insurance is paid for. Litter has not been too bad this summer, but there was a lot of litter at Nesscliffe Village Hall.

e) *CIL Working Group* – this was covered under the discussion re Place Plan.

f) *Nesscliffe Country Park WG, including funding request from S Burkey* – it was **RESOLVED** to not contribute £1,800 to the 2024 archaeology costs at this stage. A wider, strategic plan is needed to ensure a holistic approach is taken.

Action: Clerk and Cllr. Peters to draft a reply to the funding request.

g) *Clerk's Report* – noted as per Appendix 1 which also details actions.

h) *Parish Councillor Reports (of external meetings attended)*

The clerk advised that the SALC area committee has been re-scheduled to 19th October.

Action: Clerk to ask Cllr. Brooks if he can attend?

52/2324 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) *Payments including payments made between meetings-* it was **RESOLVED** to approve the following:

| Ref | Payee | Item | Type | Net | VAT | Gross |
|----------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| P30-2324 | R Turner | Salary | SO | £937.03 | £0.00 | £937.03 |
| P31-2324 | SCPF | Pension | SO | £241.12 | £0.00 | £241.12 |
| P32-2324 | G Taylor | Misc works | BACS | £1,169.00 | £185.80 | £1,354.80 |
| P33-2324 | X2 connect | Supplies for phone box re-painting | BACS | £223.20 | £44.64 | £267.84 |
| P34-2324 | Asset Surfacing & Construction | Gateway Great ness | BACS | £875.22 | £175.04 | £1,050.26 |
| P35-2324 | SCPF | Pension | SO | £241.12 | £0.00 | £241.12 |
| P36-2324 | R Turner | Salary | SO | £937.23 | £0.00 | £937.23 |
| P37-2324 | Asset Surfacing & Construction | School safety signs | BACS | £6,998.40 | £1,399.68 | £8,398.08 |
| P38-2324 | SDH Accounting | Internal audit | BACS | £200.75 | £0.00 | £200.75 |
| P39-2324 | R Turner | Expenses | BACS | £247.11 | £44.23 | £291.34 |

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|----------|----------------------------|------|------|---------|--------|---------|
| P40-2324 | Telford and Wrekin Council | GDPR | BACS | £290.00 | £58.00 | £348.00 |
|----------|----------------------------|------|------|---------|--------|---------|

b) *Income received-* noted as follows:

| Ref | Payee | Item | Amount |
|---------|------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| R5-2324 | Great Hanwood PC | Training costs donation | £90.00 |
| R6-2324 | Ford PC | Training costs donation | £90.00 |

c) *Arrangements for mid-year internal control check* – it was **RESOLVED** to nominate Cllrs. Peters and Dickinson to do a check in October, reporting back to the November meeting. Cllr. Mullis to be reserve.
Action: Clerk to arrange.

53/2324 **PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS – FOR INFORMATION**

- 1) 17/05151/EIA - Proposed Poultry Units NW Of North Farm, Felton Butler
Proposal: Erection of four poultry rearing buildings, eight feed bins, biomass store and amenity building including landscaping and tree planting.
Pending Consideration
- 2) 22/01262/VRA106 - 5 Darby Close, Nesscliffe, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DN
Proposal: Variation of the Section 106 Legal Obligation pursuant to planning permission 14/03259/OUT
Awaiting Decision
- 3) 22/05153/OUT - Phase 2 Proposed Development Land West Of Nesscliffe Hotel, Nesscliffe
Proposal: Outline application for residential development to include means of access (resubmission of 14/03797/OUT) to be served via extant Phase 1 (12/00821/OUT & 13/02901/REM & 16/00670/REM)
Awaiting Decision
- 4) 23/01843/FUL - West Lodge, Little Ness, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 2JX
Proposal: Extension and Conversion of existing double garage to form live-in carer's accommodation including associated hard paving
Refused – Householder Appeal in progress – no opportunity for PC to comment further.
- 5) 23/01959/FUL - Land SW Of Marsh House, Wilcott, Shrewsbury
Proposal: Erection of stables for private equine use and store
Decision: Refuse
- 6) 23/02093/FUL - 3 Holyhead Road, Nesscliffe, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1AX
Proposal: Demolition of an existing structure, and the erection of 1No. dwelling, associated drainage and ancillary works
Pending Consideration
- 7) 23/02070/FUL - Land Adj. Longacre House, Wilcott, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1BJ
Proposal: Erection of 2no. Detached Dwellings with Detached Double Garages and the Formation of a New Driveway and Vehicular Access.
Decision: Refuse
- 8) 23/02207/FUL - Proposed Residential Development North Of Kinton Business Park
Proposal: Proposed Farm House and all Associated Works at Kinton, Nesscliffe
Pending Consideration
- 9) 23/02298/FUL - Robin Hill, Kinton, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1AZ
Proposal: Erection of a garage and workshop and all associated works (revised scheme)
Decision: Refuse
- 10) 23/02390/FUL - Land At, Little Ness, Shrewsbury, Shropshire
Proposal: Erection of agricultural barn for storage
Decision: Refuse

- 11) **23/02793/FUL - Little Orchard, Adcote Lane, Nib Heath, Shrewsbury, SY4 2JX**
Proposal: Erection of detached building to provide gymnasium. (Revised design to replace previously consented application 20/02884/FUL)
Decision: Grant Permission
- 12) **23/02834/FUL - Little Ness House, Little Ness, Shrewsbury, SY4 2LG**
Proposal: Convert Old Grooms House Into Holiday Accommodation
Decision: Grant Permission
- 13) 23/03445/CPE - Poultry Broiler Units, Great Ness, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury
 Proposal: Application for a certificate of existing lawful use for the construction of the three poultry rearing building
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

54/2324 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND APPEALS – FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 1) 23/03514/FUL - The Pound, Hopton, Nesscliffe, Shrewsbury, SY4 1DJ
 Proposal: Demolition of existing property and garage - Replacement dwelling and garage
Comments: It was **RESOLVED** to support the application as it is within a SAMDEV community cluster, is a reasonable size and enhances the street scene.

55/2324 **PARISH MATTERS**

- a) *Highways maintenance* – see clerk’s report (appended).
Action: Clerk to report condition of the edge of the road at The Oaks car park.
- b) *Review of parish council EMG works* –it was agreed to collate a list of problem, areas
Action: Councillors to email clerk with details of priority areas:
- Cllr. Gilbert - The Crescent, Noticeboard and Stonehouse Close
 - Cllr. Dickinson – road through Nesscliffe
 - Cllr. Diggory - Hopton Lane.
 - Cllr. Turner – to obtain a map for the next meeting to discuss. Ask SC Highways Technician for a map or Mathew Mead, potential cost of £45 approved.
 - Clerk to compile list of areas covered by EMG grant.
- c) *Play area maintenance matters*- the clerk reported that Ray Parry Playgrounds have attended to some maintenance issues.
- d) *Defibrillator maintenance matters* – the clerk reported that the Oswestry First Responders have checked the parish defibrillators.
- e) *Asset condition review*- the clerk and Cllr. Dickison are doing a check on 14th September.
- f) *Policy review* – it was agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair go through the policy schedule with the clerk and report back to council
Action: Clerk, Chair and Vice Chair.
- g) *Website* – it was noted that Hugofox are to commence charging from 4th October 2023.
Actions:
- (i) It was **RESOLVED** to sign up to the Silver package temporarily (rolling monthly).
 - (ii) It was agreed to start procuring a new website. Clerk to find out traffic data from Hugofox site. Cllrs. to send criteria to clerk by 22nd Sep of what website should include. It was agreed that it is important to make sure GNLN PC hold the legal status of domain name not the developer.
- h) *Reports of other parish matters*
- (i) *Ruyton traffic calming consultation* – it was **RESOLVED** to express concerns about the potential impact of traffic diverting into the parish. It was also noted that there is not a survey/need assessment available, and that GNLN PC would have liked to have had the opportunity to work with Ruyton XI Towns PC and SC. The

basis for using CIL funding was also questioned given that schemes in the parish had struggled to secure CIL for traffic calming.

Actions:

- Clerk and Cllr. Peters to liaise to respond by 10th September.
- M Mead to seek more information about the scheme.

(ii) *VOSA site* – concern over its condition

Action: Clerk to contact VOSA

(iii) *Bench at Little Ness* – the volunteer grass cutter has passed away - it was **RESOLVED** to add this to G Taylor's schedule.

Action: Clerk to contact Graham.

(iv) *Newsletter* – deadline of mid-September for articles.

56/2324 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Funding opportunity from Community Resource* – this has been passed to potential interested parties.
- Major exercise at Nesscliffe Training Camp – 9th September to 13th October*
Action: Clerk to publish on Facebook page.
- SC – formation of Marches Forward Partnership* – Cllr. Potter explained that this covers Shropshire, Powys, Herefordshire, Monmouthshire.

57/2324 **NEXT MEETING**

- Council Meeting – 3rd October 2023, 7.30pm, Nesscliffe Village Hall.*
- Items for agenda*
 - Policy Review
 - Cllr. Arthur - apologies

58/2324 It was **RESOLVED** that that pursuant to Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972 and pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and press should be excluded during discussion of Item 59/2324, due to the likely disclosure of confidential information

59/2324 **VAS SIGN WARRANTY ISSUE** – it was **RESOLVED** to ask the contractor to fix the sign under the 5-year warranty. The contract for the sign supply is between the main contractor and sign supplier.