**MINUTES OF WOORE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Monday 14th March 2016**

**Held at Woore Victory Hall**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr M. Moore (Chairman), Cllr M. Blake (Vice Chairman), Cllr A. Allison, Cllr H. Blake, Cllr S. Clifford, Cllr M. Cowey, Cllr Ford, Cllr H. Lightfoot and Cllr F. Woodcock.

**IN ATTENDANCE**:

Shropshire Cllr J. Cadwallader, Ms S. Tyson and Ms C Bedson (Tree and Footpath Wardens) and Miss S. Pimlott, Clerk to the Parish Council (the PC).

**PUBLIC**

Four members of the public attended the meeting.

**15188 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr J. Higgin apologised for being unable to attend for personal reasons.

**15189 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Cllr Woodcock declared a pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item 15193(3). Cllr Lightfoot declared a pecuniary interest in respect of Agenda Item 15196(c).

**15190 OPEN FORUM**

1. Members of the public, Mr and Mrs Taylor, accompanied by their daughter, raised an issue in respect of Agenda Item 15192(5), namely the search for a new public open space in the Parish. They all reside on the Bloor development at Ash Mount, off the Audlem Road. They said that the development includes a play area. Mr and Mrs Taylor explained that that play area, whilst looking very attractive, was impractical. It was, they said, too small and the majority of the play equipment was unsuitable for young children. More space and equipment was required, particularly for younger children. Mr and Mrs Taylor said that they had noticed the Village Green area and wondered, without realising it was the Village Green, whether it would be suitable as a play area and new public open space. The Cllrs, in the course of their discussion about the Taylors’ concerns, raised the possibility of the Ash Mount management company replacing some of the existing equipment and the possibility of putting young children’s swings and a climbing frame on the Village Green. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chairman recommended that this issue should be put on the Agenda for the Parish Council meeting in June.
2. A member of the public, Mr Rigby, raised concern about the condition of the manhole cover opposite his home on London Road. He said that it required repair or further repair. It was agreed that the Clerk would report Mr Rigby’s concerns to Shropshire Council (SC) Highways Department.

**15191 TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14th FEBRUARY 2016**

The Council resolved to approve the Draft Minutes of the Meeting of 14th February 2016, subject to the minute of Agenda Item 15176 (4) being amended so that, after the words “but Cllr Clifford” in the Draft, the wording “moved a motion that the PC should move onto the next Agenda Item as what Cllr Lightfoot’s statement was addressing was not a matter on the Agenda” should replace the following wording in the Draft: “raised a point of order to the Vice Chairman, the Chairman being absent from the meeting. That point of order was that the PC should move onto the next Agenda Item as what Cllr Lightfoot’s statement was addressing was not a matter on the Agenda. The Vice Chairman ruled that it would be appropriate…”. It was further resolved that there should be added to the resolutions appearing at the end of the Draft Minutes a resolution “to move onto the next item on the Agenda” and that it should be recorded that that resolution had been proposed by Cllr Clifford, seconded by Cllr H Blake and that Cllrs Allison, H Blake, M Blake, Clifford and Higgin had voted in favour of that resolution and that Cllrs Cowey, Lightfoot and Woodcock had abstained.

**15192 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 8TH FEBRUARY 2016**

1. **War Memorial** (**15176(7)**) – The Clerk reported that she had written to, and spoken with, Rev D. Alcock in connection with the PC’s willingness to meet the costs of cleaning the War Memorial. The Clerk said that she was awaiting his response.
2. **Council Tax Precept** **(15176(8))** – The Clerk said that she had obtained written confirmation from SC that it had received the PC’s completed Precept Form.
3. **Replacement of ShropNet** **(15176(9))** – The Clerk reported that the PC and SC had agreed that the PC would no longer be using ShropNet with effect from 18th March 2016, when it was hoped it would be replaced by Hugo Fox. The website address would remain www.wooreparishcouncil.org
4. **Felling of ash tree on Candle Lane** (**15178**) – The Clerk said that she had yet to write to the landowner to advise him that he needed to fell an additional ash tree on Candle Lane but that she would do so in the very near future.
5. **Search for a new public open space (15181**) – The Clerk reported that she had written to SC officer Mr Blount requesting a copy of the Section 106 Agreement which SC and developers had entered into for the provision of a new public space in Woore. She had received an automated email response from SC advising that Mr Blount was on holiday.
6. **Tree felling on Village Green** (**15182**) – Ms Tyson, Tree Warden, said that, as agreed at the last meeting, she had spoken to SC Officer Andrea King to obtain advice about which trees would be appropriate to replace the trees which the electricity supplier will be felling on the Village Green. Ms King has provided a list of suitable trees. Ms Tyson will consider the list and provide the Clerk with a final list of trees which the Clerk will then ask the electricity suppliers to plant on the Village Green.
7. **Traffic speed reductions outside Woore Primary School** (**15183**) – The Clerk said she had been unable to progress this matter. She would put this on the Agenda for the next meeting.
8. **Grasscutter and Lengthsman services (15185) –** The Clerk advised she would be meeting both these contractors to discuss the works they would be carrying out for the PC in the forthcoming growing season.

**15193** **PLANNING**

1. **Planning application 16/00377/FUL – Erection of a detached dwelling following demolition of existing outbuilding at land to the rear of Tudor House, 14 London Road, Woore.**

Cllr Lightfoot reported that she had visited houses neighbouring Tudor House and distributed the PC’s notices advising the neighbours of the application and how to contact her, or alternatively SC, should they have any concerns or comments they might wish to make. The only concerns raised with her were by a lady who was worried about the effect on the footpath should the planning permission be granted. Cllr Lightfoot thought that the parking spaces edged in red on the Applicant’s plans should be edged in blue as she did not think that they were owned by the Applicant. Cllr Allison raised concerns about the Applicant’s reference to ample parking in the Square and the layby. Cllr Woodcock said that he considered the parking in this spot to be far from ample. The parking in the Square is limited to 4 spaces, and is used by the shop owners, parishioners when they call at the post office and shops and, on occasion, by residents in the vicinity who lack off road parking. Customers’ use of the shop is restricted already by the lack of adequate parking. All the Cllrs considered further pressure on existing parking was unacceptable.

It was commented that the application, if granted, would further develop an already overdeveloped location, with all the consequences that inevitably flow from such overdevelopment. By way of example, Cllr Woodcock referred to the proposed southern elevation of the proposed development which would cast long shadows over the new stable development’s gardens.

The Cllrs resolved to object to the application because of inadequate parking and drainage provision and because of the overdevelopment of a very restricted space behind Woore’s main shopping area.

1. **Planning application 16/00789/FUL – Erection of attached double garage and garden store together with associated internal alterations at 1 Farmfields** **Rise, Woore.**

Cllr Clifford reported that he had called on the immediate neighbours. The Applicant had already discussed his application with them. None of them raised any objections or concerns.

The PC resolved to support the application.

1. **Planning application 16/00820/REM – Approval of Reserved Matters (Landscaping) pursuant to outline permission 12/04469/OUT: redevelopment of site.**

Cllr Woodcock, who had declared a pecuniary interest in respect of this matter, left the meeting prior to his application being discussed. Cllr Ford, who had also been lead Cllr in respect of the earlier planning applications for this Site, advised that he had met with the Parish Tree and Path Wardens to go through the proposed planting scheme. Ms Bedson confirmed that the majority of the trees were native medium sized trees with light canopies which would let through sunlight. The site had been visited. The existing oak tree on the site was to be retained and the newly planted trees, when fully grown would, in Ms Tyson’s view, look fantastic. The PC resolved to support the application. Cllr Woodcock returned to the room following the resolution.

1. **A response to an appeal (ref no: 16/02392/REF) brought by Berrys against the refusal of their planning application 14/05206/OUT- Outline application (access for approval) for mixed residential development on land north of Newcastle Road, Woore.**

SC Cllr Cadwallader reported that he had read the Appellant’s submissions. He considered that a number of the submissions should be challenged. He said that SC would contest the appeal and that, following the adoption of SC’s Local Plan and SAMDev, SC’s record in successfully opposing appeals was good. SC Cllr Cadwallader said that it would be helpful if the PC were to make its own submission in opposition to the Appeal and it was resolved that Cllr Allison would make such a submission on behalf of the PC with the support and assistance of the PC’s Planning Working Group.

1. **Planning application 15/03321/REM – Storage land at Station Yard, Pipe Gate. Reserved matters (layout, landscaping, appearance, scale) pursuant to outline permission 12/04469/OUT for the redevelopment of the site.**

The Clerk reported that planning permission for this development had been granted on 4th March 2016.

**15194 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL’S THE BIG CONVERSATION**

Cllr Cowey attended on behalf of the PC. He reported that the second session, like the first which he had previously attended and about which he had previously reported to the PC, was excellent. The SC Head of Finance had given a good presentation about the purpose of the Big Conversation. Those attending were then divided into break out Groups to consider the future funding of SC services. No conclusions were reached. Cllr Cowey will attend the next session on 23 March when the results of the Big Conversation will be made available to those attending, prior to the publication of SC’s final report in April.

Cllr Allison raised concerns about how representative those attending the meetings were of the communities in Shropshire. She was concerned about the influence of unrepresentative groups. SC Cllr Cadwallader said SC recognised the need for the Big Conversation to represent all the people of Shropshire and he was pleased that representatives appeared to reflect a wide variety of people and age groups. He said that SC is ultimately responsible, as the elected body, to make the decision about how to deliver the services it has a statutory duty to provide and which non statutory services will be funded. The PC thanked Cllr Cowey for attending.

**15195 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL’S ROAD SAFETY EVENT**

Cllr Cowey and the Vice Chairman attended this event for the PC. Cllr Cowey explained that the event was nothing like either of them expected. The presenter, Ben Hamilton Bailey, had challenged the customary approach to highway safety with its emphasis on speed restrictions, yellow lines, sleeping policeman and signage and had looked instead at other alternative approaches which can deliver safer roads. By way of example, he had said that getting rid of white lines had made drivers more cautious and so reduce their speed. In Holland, putting roads through the centre of children’s playgrounds had also led to speed reductions. Both Cllrs considered that the presentation was thought provoking and interesting but they said that they did not think it was relevant, at this time, to Woore.

**15196 REPRESENTATIVES’ REPORTS**

1. **Victory Hall (VH).** Cllr H Blake reported that the next meeting of the VH Committee was scheduled for the week commencing 21st March. She said that the floor behind the bar had now been repaired.

1. **Moveable Vehicle Activated Signs (MVAS).** The Vice Chairman confirmed that he now had a laptop. It would make it easier for him to manage the settings on MVAS. He had circulated the most recent statistics obtained from MVAS. It was agreed that he would continue to circulate the MVAS statistics in their current format.
2. **Tree and Path Wardens’ Report.** Cllr Lightfoot left the meeting prior to the Report as she had declared a pecuniary interest in Phoenix Field.

Ms Tysonsaid that she and her Co-Warden, Carol Bedson, had recently met with SC’s Northern Area Rights of Way Officer. He had signed them both up as official SC Path Wardens. He had provided them with up to date Rights of Way Plans, loppers for cutting back foliage obstructing rights of way and some waymarking signs which ask walkers with dogs to keep them on leads on paths in fields grazed by sheep.

Ms Tyson reported that the Rights of Way Officer had indicated that he had received a further complaint about the condition of the footpath on Phoenix Field. He had checked the path and he was satisfied that the surface of the path is adequate when appropriate footwear is worn. He had agreed that SC would fit a new easy access gate at the northern end of the path and a bridle gate and steps at the other end of the path.

Ms Tyson said that SC had provided the owner of the path, Cllr Lightfoot, with 200 metres of native hedging plants, which are good for wildlife, to line the edge of the footpath on Phoenix Field. Ms Tyson’s view was that the new hedge would benefit from further hedging plants to thicken it up. Ms Tyson said that it is hoped that SC would be offering further free trees and hedging plants to the public in August and that those wishing to obtain trees and hedging should apply quickly as the supply is, understandably, quickly exhausted.

Ms Tyson said that a report had been received about an overgrown path at Brooklands. When the Wardens had checked the path, it was passable. However, the Wardens had used their newly acquired loppers to lop vegetation which was encroaching on the path.

Cllr Lightfoot returned to the meeting at the conclusion of the Report.

The Chairman thanked Ms Tyson and Ms Bedson for all their efforts. He said that he appreciated the time their efforts took at such a busy time of the year. This was endorsed by all the Cllrs.

1. **Neighbourhood Plan (NP).** The Chairman and Cllr Clifford reported that the first public meeting on 11th March went well with more than 40 parishioners and Cllrs in attendance. A number of apologies had also been received prior to the meeting. Those there represented a good cross section of the community. The Chairman had opened the Meeting and SC Officer Nicola Fisher had given a presentation. There had been an opportunity for those attending to raise questions. It was clear from the questions that interest in the NP was not prompted just by a wish to prevent further development but also by a desire to improve the infrastructure in the Parish. At the end of the meeting those attending were asked to vote, by a show of hands, if they were in favour of pursuing a NP for the Parish. Of those attending, two thirds voted in favour. The turnout and level of interest justified going forward.

It was stated that a further meeting would take place at the Victory Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 16th March and parishioners who were prepared to volunteer their services were asked to attend.

1. **SC Cllr J. Cadwallader.** Cllr Cadwalladerreported that SC had resolved on a 2% increase in its precept and an additional 2% for adult services. Any further increase would have required a Referendum.

**15197 COUNCILLORS’ AND CLERK’S TRAINING**

The Clerk said that she had commenced the CilCA qualification, as required in her contract of employment. As discussed at an earlier meeting, the Clerk said that she had made arrangements for the Shropshire Association of Local Councils (SALC) to deliver a training course on Fundamentals for Cllrs for all the Cllrs, except Cllr Higgin who had recently completed that course. The Clerk said that she would forward a choice of dates for the course. SALC would only attend if a minimum of 10 people attended the course. Cllrs from neighbouring parishes would be invited to attend to make up any shortfall in numbers. The Clerk said that the Vice Chairman had also started his planning related course.

**15198 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

1. S.H. Pimlott
2. Salary £372.26
3. Expenses £132.48
4. Sundry (CiLCA registration £250) £270.00
5. HMRC £93.07
6. Tony Seabridge (inclusive of VAT) re grasscutting and other works £2286.00
7. Society of Local Council Clerks re M. Blake training £480.00
8. Mileage Claim Cllr Blake for attending PC Website training

at Shrewsbury and Study Day at Didcot (NP) £219.19

1. Woore Victory Hall room hire re Parish Council £60.00
2. Woore Victory Hall room hire re Neighbourhood Planning £138.00
3. Shropshire Assoc. of Local Councils re Clerk’s CiLCA training £60.00
4. Shropshire Assoc. of Local Councils re supply of guides £24.00

The Council resolved to pay the above accounts.

**15199 CLERK’S CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence, which had been circulated by the Clerk by email, was noted.

**DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MONDAY 11th MARCH 2016 at 7.15 pm**

**PARISH COUNCIL AGM: MONDAY 9TH MAY 2016 at 7.15 pm.**

**RECORD OF VOTING FOR WOORE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8th FEBRUARY**

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| **Agenda Item** | **Motion** | **Cllr** | **For** | **Against** | **Abstain** |
| **15191** | Resolved to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th February 2016, subject to the amendments specified in the Minutes. | Moore | **X** |  |  |
| Allison | **X** |  |  |
| Blake H | **X** |  |  |
|  | Blake M | **X** |  |  |
| **Prop: Clifford****Second: M Blake**  | Clifford | **X** |  |  |
| Cowey | **X** |  |  |
| Ford |  |  | **X** |
| Lightfoot | **X** |  |  |
| Woodcock | **X** |  |  |

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| **Agenda Item** | **Motion** | **Cllr** | **For** | **Against** | **Abstain** |
| **15193(1)** | Resolved to object to the Application on the grounds set out in the Minutes. | Allison | **X** |  |  |
| Blake H |  |  | **X** |
|  | Blake M |  |  | **X** |
| **Prop: Clifford****Second: Ford** | Clifford | **X** |  |  |
| Cowey | **X** |  |  |
| Ford | **X** |  |  |
| Lightfoot | **X** |  |  |
| Woodcock |  |  | **X** |

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| **Agenda Item** | **Motion** | **Cllr** | **For** | **Against** | **Abstain** |
| **15193(2)** | Resolved to support the Application. | Moore | **X** |  |  |
| Allison | **X** |  |  |
| Blake H | **X** |  |  |
|  | Blake M | **X** |  |  |
| **Prop: Clifford****Second: Lightfoot** | Clifford | **X** |  |  |
| Cowey | **X** |  |  |
| Ford | **X** |  |  |
| Lightfoot | **X** |  |  |
| Woodcock |  |  | **X** |

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| **Agenda Item** | **Motion** | **Cllr** | **For** | **Against** | **Abstain** |
| **15193(3)** | Resolved to support the Application. | Moore | **X** |  |  |
| Allison | **X** |  |  |
| Blake H | **X** |  |  |
|  | Blake M | **X** |  |  |
| **Prop: Ford****Second: Clifford** | Clifford | **X** |  |  |
| Cowey | **X** |  |  |
| Ford | **X** |  |  |
| Lightfoot | **X** |  |  |

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| **Agenda Item** | **Motion** | **Cllr** | **For** | **Against** | **Abstain** |
| **15193(4)** | Resolved to oppose the Appeal and that Cllr Allison should make a submission to that effect with the support and assistance of the Planning Working Group. | Moore | **X** |  |  |
| Allison | **X** |  |  |
| Blake H | **X** |  |  |
|  | Blake M | **X** |  |  |
| **Prop: Moore****Second: M Blake** | Clifford | **X** |  |  |
| Cowey | **X** |  |  |
| Ford | **X** |  |  |
| Lightfoot | **X** |  |  |
| Woodcock |  |  | **X** |

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| **Agenda Item** | **Motion** | **Cllr** | **For** | **Against** | **Abstain** |
| **15198** | Resolved to pay the accounts listed in the Agenda. | Moore | **X** |  |  |
| Allison | **X** |  |  |
| Blake H | **X** |  |  |
|  | Blake M |  |  | X |
| **Prop: Clifford****Second: Woodcock** | Clifford | **X** |  |  |
| Cowey | **X** |  |  |
| Higgin | **X** |  |  |
| Lightfoot | **X** |  |  |
| Woodcock | **X** |  |  |

**Signed: ……………………………………**

**Michael Moore / Malcolm Blake\***

**Chairman / Vice Chairman\***

**Dated: …………………………………….**

**\*delete as appropriate**