# Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held at Cressage Village Hall on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Robert Davies, John Esp, Matthew Murray, Kal Parkash, Victoria Todd (Chairman), Shropshire Cllr Claire Wild, two members of the public and the Parish Clerk (Vanessa Voysey)

#### 23.17 Chairman's welcome

The Chairman, Cllr Victoria Todd, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 23.18 Apologies

An apology was received from Cllr Laura Christmas – unwell

## 23.19 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and dispensation requests.

There were none at this time

#### 23.20 Public session.

A resident asked if the Parish Council had any additional information about the development plans for the Glebe Land (21/01022/OUT), it was advised that there was no additional information to the notification that the plans had been rejected.

It was requested that the Parish Council considered lobbying for a 20mph zone to be put onto Severn Way. The road layout and speed of traffic is not safe for cyclists, particularly children. There was support for this suggestion, and Cllr Victoria Todd noted that the Parish Council had supported the 20 is Plenty campaign. Cllr Rob Davies noted that the local Head Teacher encouraged children to scooter and walk to school, and that concerns about road safety could hinder this initiative. Cllr Rob Davies said that he would follow it up the 20mph speed limit request with a Shropshire Council contact.

Photos of a broken bridge making a footpath impassable, and a photo of the stile that had been put in to replace the kissing gate on Wood Lane, had been sent to the Chairman prior to the meeting. The Parish Clerk said that she would pass this on to the Outdoor Partnerships team at Shropshire Council.

A resident commented that Cllr Claire Wild is good at taking things forward, noting that it can be difficult for residents to get in contact with Shropshire Council. He recently called up about a road closure that was not advertised online, when he called back later, there was no record of his original call. The prioritisation of surface works works seems questionable, noteably the works from the top of Gleedon Hill to the doctor's surgery. He will be following this up with Cllr Wild.

# 23.21 Minutes from the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved, to accept the minutes of the meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 as a true record.

# 23.22 Shropshire Councillor's Report

There was none at this time

### 23.23 Planning matters:

#### i. Decisions

The following decisions were noted:

23/01626/TPO: Reduce by 2 meters branches no bigger than 40cm overhanging No 47, remove dead wood and small epicormic growth on stem from 1no. Oak (T1) protected by Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council (Land at Severn Way, The Moors & Surrounding Areas, Cressage) Tree Preservation Order 2007 (Ref. SA/443)

47 Severn Way, Cressage Decision: Grant Permission

21/01022/OUT: Outline application for residential development of up to 60 dwellings, vehicular access from Harley Road and accompanying footway improvements to Harley Road and public open space. All matters reserved save for Access.

Land Adjacent The Vicarage, Harley Road, Cressage:

Decision: Refuse

#### ii. Planning Applications

#### 23/02013/FUL

Works to enclose the existing canopied entrance area to create a replacement conservatory, the small conservatory to the rear of the building is to be demolished and replaced with a green oak framed garden room and In addition, the existing prefabricated concrete, large double garage is to be replaced with a timber framed and weatherboarded 4 bay garage and workshop

Plume Of Feathers, Harley, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 6LP.

To file: support

#### 23/02326/FUL

Two Storey Side Extension at 10 Raby Cottages, Sheinton Road, Cressage

To file: support

## 23.24 Highways matters:

The Chairman (Cllr Todd) said that she would be contacting the Highway Engineer regarding advice for bidding for the Community Fund – Safer Roads grants from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office

Cllr John Esp said that better signage would be helpful, and Cllr Victoria Todd said that there needs to be more indication that vehicles are entering a village. Cllr Matthew Murray suggested moving the 30mp and 40mph signs. Cllr Rob Davies said that an improved speed activation sign had the benefit of already having a power supply in place, so it would be an upgrade.

It was noted that there was a recent accident near the Eagles but that this was not specific to the junction but was a driving error.

#### 23.25 Financial matters:

i. It was proposed, seconded, and resolved to agree payment of invoices and charges

Payee	Item	Amount	Date of Invoice
Clerk	Salary month 3	£627.47	14/4/2023
		gross	
HMRC	Tax month 3	£tbc	14/4/2023
Clerk	Travel June .	£15.39	
Water Plus (direct debit)	Pavilion water	£19.51	23/5/2023
Ecotricity (direct debit)	Pavilion heat/light	£t15.83	29/5/2023
SLB Maintenance	May	£696.24	1/6/2023
Shropshire Council	Energy: street lights	£502.87	9/5/2023

The Shropshire Council first quarter energy bill for streetlights was additional to the public agenda items.

Cllrs Matt Murray and Rob Davies suggested reducing the hours of street lighting being on and that seeking the opinion of the public would be suitable for inclusion in a Village Life article. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk will look for more information in the Parish Council's archives about the street lighting.

- ii. It was agreed to note: receipts and expenditure to end May
- iii. It was agreed to note Bank Reconciliation to end May
- iv. It was agreed to note the Spend Against Budget to end May
- v. Review and approval of Financial Regulations was deferred
- vi. Review and approval of Standing Orders was deferred

#### 23.26 Other Parish Matters

- i. The Eagles Junction: this item was discussed under Highways (22.24)
- ii. West Mercia Police Safer Roads funding: a discussion on the possibility of applying for grant funding was covered under Highways (22.24)
- iii. Maintenance Contract: this was discussed in confidential session
- iv. To receive any updates on under the 11s play area and proposals for more accessible equipment, and access to the site: this was deferred
- v. Recreation area rents and income: it was noted that £75 had been received from the Tug of War event, and that this would appear on next month's financial information.

There has been no communication as yet from the football club about using the pitch next year. Cllr John Esp said the club had requested the key on the same day as the Tug of War and unfortunately he had to decline, so the club went to Much Wenlock instead.

- vi. Bins for dog waste an update was received from Shropshire Council that this would be included in upcoming works schedule.
- vii. Footpaths –concerns, including the kissing gate on the Wood Lane/Shaw Lane footpath, had been covered in the public session
- viii. Update on securing the play area perimeter: it was noted that a makeshift fence had been put in place between a house and the play area. It was suggested that there were at least three houses with direct access to the play area, the Parish Council might need to identify the houses and write to the householders requesting that they use the official access to the play area for safeguarding and health and safety reasons.

## 23.27 Items for consideration at next Council meeting, not for debate or decision

Eagles Junction and entrance to the village Under 11s Play Area Dog Waste Bin updates Footpaths and bridge Streetlights

23.28 **Date & time of next Council meeting** – 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Cressage Village Hall at 7.00 pm

Before moving into confidential session, Cllr Victoria Todd reminded the Parish Council that correspondence had been received from Caring for God's Acre requesting a donation of £600. It was agreed to decline at this time.

There was discussion on the Church being an asset of the Church of England, and if the churchyard would fall to the responsibility of the Parish Council if closed, and the possible contracting costs that would apply in this case.

#### 23.29 Confidential Session

It was resolved to exclude the public and press in accordance with Schedule 12a, Local Government Act 1972, as the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters. It is therefore requested that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and press be excluded

## 23.30 Contractual and Staffing Matters

The Parish Clerk updated the Parish Council on staffing and contractual matters. There was discussion on the points raised and an agreement on how to move forwards.