

CULMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr Ian Steele

**Heather Coonick, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Hopton Gate Cottage,
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Parish Council Meeting

On TUESDAY 3rd November 2020, conducted remotely. The Meeting commenced at 7pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllr Steele (Chair), Cllr Pike, Cllr Alderson, Cllr Holland, Cllr Mear, Cllr Norton and Cllr Turley.

In Attendance: Cllr Motley (Shropshire Council) and Heather Coonick, (Clerk)

1.0 Apologies for Absence: None.

2.0 Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting

Members are requested to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

3.0 Public involvement session: (Agenda Items only) No members of the public.

4.0 Minutes: RESOLVED (unanimous) that the Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Culmington Parish Council held on 6th October 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. PROPOSED Cllr Holland SECONDED Cllr Alderson.

5.0 Matters Arising: Cllr Motley reported that no hotels had been used to house rough sleepers during lock down.

6.0 Reports from Members

6.1 Cllr Motley (Shropshire Council) reported that she has contacted Cabinet members to ensure SC is communicating with rural areas regarding the Lock Down and advised them to communicate via Parish Councils who need strong links with the Community Reassurance Teams. Children who get school meals will get food boxes during the Christmas holidays. She is investigating whether Village Halls will be able to get further funding if they stay shut during the Christmas period. The Farm Diversification Scheme is providing further financial help. The tree scheme closed within two days but will reopen shortly with a further 10,000 trees being made available. Shropshire has made some strong comments on the Planning White Paper and she feels that it is unlikely to go ahead in its present form.

6.2 Cllr Steele Flood Action Group: See later item on flood alleviation.

7.0 Correspondence:

7.1 Manor Orchard: No response can be made at this point, the clerk will respond when further information is available.

7.2 Shropshire Climate Action Partnership: It was agreed to ask this group to attend a Parish Council meeting next year.

- 7.3 **Funding and Grants Bulletin** – no response required.
7.4 **Her Majesty’s Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire** – the clerk will respond.

8.0 Finance:

8.1 Accept Finance Report: RESOLVED (unanimous) to Approve the Finance Report. PROPOSED: Cllr Mear SECONDED: Cllr Alderson. There had not been a new bank statement since the last meeting.

8.2 Prepare Budget; The Council considered the draft budget and discussed the need for a reserve. Cllr Motley suggested that there may be costs involved in an expected Boundary Review. Cllr Alderson asked the Clerk to provide the Council with examples of the affects of different reserve levels upon the precept. The budget will be formalised at the Parish Council meeting in January 2021.

9.0 Report on Site Visit: John Bellis Shropshire Council’s Drainage and Flood Risk Manager, Jonathan Stigwood and Nicholas Stigwood, Drainage Engineers joined Cllr Motley, Cllr Steele, Cllr Turley Jayne Disley (Flood Action Group) and the Clerk on 23/10/20 to look at the issue of flooding in Culmington Village and Seifton Lane. There is a Capital Expenditure Project planned for Blacksmith’s Corner, John Bellis agreed to look at issues on Sparchford Lane, Manor Orchard and will jet the drains on the main road. Desilting Seifton Brook near the ford was discussed but the Environment Agency have concerns about fish spawning during October to May. This may need to be an annual task possibly funded by the Parish Council. Cllr Turley discussed an overflow pipe for a bridge on the brook and has since met with Mr Bellis, Rhian Townsend, Shropshire Drainage Engineer and Luke Neal, Shropshire Wildlife Trust to discuss the proposal. It was felt by those present at both meetings that progress was being made to try to alleviate some of the flooding risks.

10.0 ‘We Don’t Buy Crime: Smartwater Initiative: The Clerk reported that 44 kits had been requested and 39 delivered. Cllr Steele asked that all Cllrs speak to members of the Parish to remind them of the benefit of the initiative.

11.0 Speed Sign: Clerk reported the post for the sign has not yet been erected despite various emails with Shropshire Council Highways. The Clerk has alerted the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioners Office and she will email Andy Keyland.

12.0 Back-Up for Computer Records: Councillors agreed that Microsoft One Drive should be used toto back-up computer data. There is no cost up to 5GB which should be sufficient.

13.0 Decide Upon a Site for the Parish Council Notice Board: Cllrs Pike and Steele will consider sites in the village and report to the next meeting.

14.0 Community Support During Future Lock Downs: Cllr Motley will send links for support to the Clerk. The Clerk has put the Shropshire Council contact details in Ripples.

15.0 Decide Upon the 2021 Meeting Dates: It was agreed that meetings should start at 7pm except in June, July and September when they will start at 7.30pm

16.0 Items for the Next Meeting: Potholes – the Clerk has reported potholes in Burley.

Date of the Next Meeting: Tuesday 5th January, 2021 at 7pm. The meeting Closed at 8.30pm