**BONINGALE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of meeting**

**Thursday 15th June 2023**

**Present**

Cllrs. D Slatcher (Chairman), C Keeton (Vice-Chair), S Burgess,

A Gilson- Caldwell. K Vilton.

County Councillor, N Lumby.

Clerk to Boningale Parish Council, M Ward.

1. **Election of the Chair of Council.**

To elect a Chair of Boningale Parish Council for the financial year 2023/24.

Cllr Keeton proposed that Cllr Slatcher should be elected chair of Boningale Parish Council for 2023/24 which was seconded by Cllr. Gilson-Caldwell and unanimously agreed by the council.

1. **Election of the Vice Chair of Council.**

To elect a Vice Chair of Boningale Parish Council for the financial year 2023/24.

Cllr Vilton proposed that Cllr Keeton should be elected Vice Chairman of Boningale Parish Council for 2023/24 which was seconded by Cllr Burgess and unanimously agreed by council.

1. **Apologies.**

To receive and approve apologies for absence. Members are asked to make their apologies direct to the clerk.

None.

1. **Declarations of interest.**

To consider declarations of interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

Where a member indicates that they have a prejudicial interest but wish to make representation regarding the item before leaving the meeting, they must do so under item 4 (D) of Public Participation.

None

1. **Appointment of a representative to the Albrighton Civic Society and the Red House Committee.**

To appoint a member to represent Boningale Parish Council on the Albrighton Civic Society and Red House Committee for the financial year 2023/24.

Cllr. Burgess proposed that Cllr Slatcher should be the council representative on the Albrighton Civic Society and the Red House Committee which was seconded by Cllr Vilton and unanimously agreed by council.

1. **To confirm continued membership of Shropshire Association of Local Councils (SALC).**

To confirm continued membership of SALC and approve the payment of the annual membership fee for 2023/24.

Cllr Keeton proposed that the council should continue its membership of SALC for 2023/24 and that the membership fee of £182.51 should be approved. Cllr. Burgess seconded the proposal which was unanimously agreed by council.

1. **Public Participation.**

**Members of the public**are invited to ask questions, make representations, or submit comments on any item on the agenda. This is **LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER PERSON –**at the sole discretion of the Chairman.

No members of the public were present.

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting (enclosure).**

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2023.

Cllr Vilton proposed that the minutes of 1st March 2023 were a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr Gilson-Caldwell and unanimously agreed by council.

1. **Matters arising.**

To consider any issues arising from the minutes that are not included on the agenda.

Members noted that the blockage to the drain in Burnhill Green Road had been relieved by the farmer and there had been no subsequent drainage problems. A damaged road sign had also been replaced.

1. **Correspondence**

To review any outstanding correspondence that has been received since the last meeting.

The clerk informed members that the internal auditor’s report had been received and the accounts had been approved without alteration. The auditor’s fee had been added to the list of invoices for payment as detailed in agenda item 16.

1. **To approve the AGAR form 2, Certificate of Exemption, for the external auditor (enclosure).**

The AGAR Certificate of Exemption was approved by the council and signed by the Chairman and Clerk in readiness for posting to meet the deadline of 30th June 2023.

1. **To approve the AGAR form section 1, Annual Governance Statement, for the external auditor (enclosure).**

The AGAR Annual Governance Statement was completed by the council and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

1. **To approve the AGAR form section 2, Accounting Statements 2022/23, for the external auditor (enclosure).**

The AGAR Accounting Statement for 2022/23 which showed reserves of £1,241 at the beginning of the financial year and reserves of £1,682 on 31st March 2023 was approved by the council and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer.

1. **To consider and approve the bank reconciliation for the financial year to 31st March 2023 (enclosure).**

The bank reconciliation for the financial year ending 31st March 2023 which showed a closing balance of £1,682 was approved by the council.

1. **To approve the dates for the exercise of public rights (enclosure).**

The notice of public rights for the financial year ended 31st March 2023 was agreed by the council with the announcement commencing on 30th June 2023 and ending on 11th August 2023.

1. **To approve accounts for payment:**
* Staffing - £300.00
* Internal audit fee - £106.80
* Council website premium plan – 108.00

Cllr. Vilton proposed that the three outstanding payments totaling £514.80 should be paid with immediate effect, which was seconded by Cllr. Gilson-Caldwell and unanimously agreed by the council together with an annual payment to the clerk to cover the cost of 1 printer ink cartridge and one ream of printing paper.

1. **Items for inclusion on the next agenda.**

Members agree that the following items should be placed on the next council agenda scheduled for 27th September 2023:

* Update on the Pepperhill Solar Farm including discussions on suitable projects in relation to the anticipated grant from Low Carbon.
* Road safety concerns in the area.
* A list of agreed council policies with notification of any outstanding omissions.
1. **To approve the revised grant application information and form for future use (enclosure).**

Cllr Burgess proposed that the revised grant application and form should be adopted by the council which was seconded by Cllr. Vilton and unanimously agreed.

1. **To consider the NALC template for a draft Code of Conduct which could be applicable to Boningale Parish Council (enclosure).**

Cllr Slatcher proposed that the NALC draft Code of Conduct should be adopted by the council which was seconded by Cllr. Keeton and unanimously agreed.

1. **To consider the draft recommendations from Shropshire Council for new electoral arrangements as they apply to Boningale (enclosure).**

Cllr. Lumby pointed out that the recommendations for new electoral arrangements were produced by the Boundary Commission and would place Boningale Parish Council in the larger Shifnal Rural area. It was agreed that Cllr. Gilson-Caldwell would reconsider his earlier remarks on the proposals and then recirculate them to members for comment. A revised draft would be submitted to the clerk who would forward it to the appropriate authority.

1. **To consider the West Mercia PCC funding for safer road projects and whether Boningale should submit an application.**

Earlier proposals relating to the A464, and the Burnhill Green Road had been submitted to Shropshire Council and councillors agreed that a revised version could be submitted to West Mercia PCC for possible funding. The agreed application would be forwarded to the clerk by Cllr Gilson-Caldwell who would then submit it to the PCC.

1. **Update on the development of the Pepperhill Solar Farm south of the Holyhead Road.**

Members noted that planning permission had been granted for the Pepperhill Solar Farm and an email from the contractor, Low Carbon, suggested that construction would begin towards the end of 2023. Low Carbon had promised a monthly update on progress.

The route of the footpath and the bridal way had now been agreed and a new map with the revised details would be circulated shortly.

Members agreed that there was a need to discuss and consult with residents regarding the Low Carbon funding for a local project so that full support for any future development could be assured.

1. **Any outstanding planning applications.**

There were no outstanding planning applications.

1. **Date of next council meeting – 27th September 2023 at 7.00 pm in the Old School Room, Boningale.**

Members agreed that the next council meeting would be held on 27th September 2023 at 7.00 pm in the Old School Room, Boningale.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.27 pm.

Signed………………………………………………………… Date…………………………………………….

Chairman