

Acton Burnell, Frodesley, Pitchford, Ruckley & Langley Parish Council

CLERK'S REPORT

Parish Council Meeting 8 March 2022

22.3.8 Finance

22.3.8.3 Clerk's additional hours

I am requesting the Council pay for 8 additional hours incurred due to the additional meeting in February and the amount of research time required to look at banking options. I am also requesting the Council pay for 14 hours towards my CiLCA training hours.

22.3.8.4 Budget

The Council needs to approve the additional overspend to the salary line as result of costs incurred by paying for the Clerk's additional hours above. In addition, a further £7.24 overspend on the office equipment and supplies line due to a stationery order.

22.3.8.5 Pay Increase

The NJC pay claim for 2021/22 has finally been agreed at 1.75%. Therefore, I am asking the Council to consider increasing my wage by the agreed percentage and backdate this increase on my pay to April 2021.

22.3.9 Budget

My CiLCA course brought to my attention that our budget forecast document should include all Council funds not just our general reserves. Therefore, I have revised the document to include Lightsource and CiL funds. I have also amended the 2021/22 figures to show actual expenditure to date. I am asking the Council to adopt this document to supersede that agreed at the January meeting.

22.3.13 Community Governance

In order to support the Parliamentary constituency boundary review due to start in the autumn, Shropshire Council has asked SALC to compile any proposals local Councils have for local boundary changes. We have previously responded that we currently have no need for any changes and I will reiterate this unless there is any change to this position decided at the meeting. SALC are particularly interested to know if any Councils have been working together to consider potential changes. We have not currently been approached by any neighbouring Councils to suggest any changes. The local council boundary review has been delayed until after the parliamentary boundary review is completed.

22.3.15 Planning

22.3.15.2 Clerk to update on existing applications

- Bentley Ford Farm - Ref: 21/05903/FUL. Some revised drawings have been added to the planning portal.

Acton Burnell, Frodesley, Pitchford, Ruckley & Langley Parish Council

- Swan House, Frodesley - Ref: 21/04666 VAR. The plans for the garage have returned to a single storey building. Therefore, this application now only covers the change from timber cladding to a rendered finish on the exterior walls.
- Home Farm Barns (Castle Barns), Acton Burnell - Ref: 21/03635/VAR. It has been noted that obscured glass is being installed in the clerestory windows.

22.3.15.3 Clerk to update on Other Planning Notices

- Cottage Farm House - Ref: 21/08329/ENF. SC decided on 14/2/22 that drainage meets planning conditions and all building work is complete. I have requested an update from SC on whether this means that the enforcement case is now closed.
- Frodesley Lodge - Ref: 19/06414/ENF. The external building has been ruled unlawful but we are yet to receive any information on how/if SC's enforcement team will pursue this issue.

22.3.16 Highways Matters:

22.3.16.1 Clerk to report on highway matters

I reported the issues raised at January's meeting and, in addition, the sign on the approach to Frodesley from Longnor which has been knocked and is facing in the wrong direction. At present, all reports are still listed as being investigated by the local highways team.

22.3.16.2 Frodesley traffic calming parish gateway signs update

I have not received any further information from Shropshire Council and have requested an update in time for the meeting.

22.3.16.3 Stoneleigh footway, Acton Burnell – now complete

Shropshire Council completed the extension of the footway in Acton Burnell to Stoneleigh Close in February 2022.

22.3.18 Parish Matters

22.3.18.4 Ruckley and Langley Parish Noticeboard

The key is missing from the noticeboard in Ruckley, so I am unable to access it. I would like the Council to consider whether they would prefer to replace the noticeboard, which is a slightly rickety state before I spend any money on finding a locksmith to replace the lock. From a quick search, I estimate that a like for like replacement would cost around £1,000.

22.3.19 Platinum Jubilee

22.3.19.3 Sunday Family picnic

I think for transparency, the January minutes should have been clearer about the delegation of the organisation of the picnic to a group of volunteers. Therefore, I think it's necessary for the Council to formally delegate their duties and include text in the March minutes along the lines of:

"Organisation of the Jubilee picnic has been delegated to a task and finish group led by Cllr Johnson and comprised of the Clerk and a group of volunteers from the parish. The council has allocated the group a budget of a maximum of £1,500 from the Lightsource CBF to fund the picnic. Cllr Johnson

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will report back to the council at its regular meetings on budget and costs; plans for the day; ticket sales and procedures for handling cash; and risk assessment and insurance in order to formalise any decisions required to be made by the Parish Council. Any actual payments will go through the Parish Council's usual financial governance procedure and will be approved at a Parish Council meeting."