

**Minutes of a meeting of Shobnall Parish Council  
held at Brook House, Shobnall Road  
on Monday 20 November 2023 commencing at 7pm**

**Present**

Councillor Pennicott, Chair  
Councillors Dittmer, Hoare and Shilton

**Also present**

Anthony Hemmings and Ray Faulkner, ESO CIC  
Mary Danby, Clerk

**Public Forum**

Mr Hemmings and Mr Faulkner gave a presentation which outlined the work of the Equal Support Opportunities (ESO) CIC, explaining that they would be applying for funding from ESBC's Ward Enhancement Programme (WEP) as they were looking to build and equip a new community centre on land to the rear of B&Q. They also explained that, separate from the WEP application, they were fundraising to purchase a new mini bus as their original one had been stolen. Mr Faulkner said that ESO was requesting financial assistance from the Parish Council in support of the WEP application.

Mr Hemmings and Mr Faulkner were thanked for their presentation and advised that they would be informed in due course of the council's decision on the funding request.

**29. Apologies for absence**

Councillor Donlon

**30. Declarations of Interest and receive written applications for dispensations under the Localism Act 2011**

None had been received.

**31. Minutes**

**Resolved** That the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 August 2023 be approved as an accurate record.

**32. Matters arising**

**Bench:** The Clerk reported that despite having contacted the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport and the County Council's Chief Executive seeking clarification as to why the decision on the application to install a bench on the Staffordshire Highways grass verge on the pedestrian walkway from Moor Street – Shobnall Road had yet to be notified. **Agreed** that pressure be put on the County Council for clarification as what was holding up the application; **it was further agreed** that the MP be requested to assist in this matter if no response is received from the County Council.

### 33. County Councillor and Borough Councillor reports

No reports had been received.

### 34. Financial matters

#### 34.1 Schedule of payments

Payee		Gross £	VAT £	Description
Clerk	BACS	748.36	0.00	Salary and expenses
HSBC	DD	8.00	0.00	Bank charges
SPCA	BACS	126.00	21.00	Training fees
MW Cripwell Ltd	BACS	120.00	20.00	Defib inspections October 2023
<b>Totals</b>		<b>1,002.36</b>	<b>41.00</b>	

**Resolved** That the above payments be approved.

#### 34.2 Bank reconciliation at 31 October 2023

Bank Reconciliation	£
Current Account	89,916.58
Business Money Manager Account	30,524.38
	<b>120,440.96</b>

**Resolved** That the above was a true record.

#### 34.3 Earmarked Reserves (EMRs) at 31 October 2023

Earmarked Reserves	£
Elections	9,592.20
Proposed skatepark extension	44,100.00
Dallow Lock mural refurbishment	6,325.00
Speed Indicator Device	5,555.00
Replacement IT equipment	5,000.00
Benches	2,000.00
	<b>72,572.20</b>
General Reserves	47,868.76
	<b>120,440.96</b>

**Resolved** That the EMRs be agreed.

### 35. Receipts and Payments up to 31 October and Draft 2024/25 Budget

**Resolved** That:

- The report be noted.
- Consideration be given to the council providing additional defibrillators, benches and litter bins around the Parish.
- The draft expenditure figures be adjusted by 3% to take account of anticipated inflation.
- The Clerk provide a report detailing the effect on Council Tax bands for a number of different precept options for comparison at the next meeting.

**36. Shobnall Leisure Complex / Burton Athletic Club: ESBC Ward Enhancement Programme (Public Forum 10 October and Minute No. 26.5 refer)**

**Resolved That:**

- a) The application from the Burton Athletics Club for financial support for the WEP application be declined. Councillors felt that the objective, i.e. to install a stand for athletic meetings, would not bring measurable benefits to Shobnall Parish at the local level as the stand is primarily intended to enable more prestigious meetings to be held on the site and therefore attracting more people from a wider area.
- b) The application from Shobnall Leisure Centre for financial support to replace the floodlighting be declined. Councillors felt that the objective, i.e. to replace the floodlights with LEDs, was a business decision which should be funded from the business's own funds. However, the Parish Council said that it is keen to see more community projects offered where there is a more measurable benefit for the community and it would be willing to consider funding requests in the future which would benefit Shobnall Parish residents at the local level.
- c) The application from ESO CIC for financial support for the WEP application be declined. Councillors felt that the project is too large a commitment for the Parish Council at this time. However, the Parish Council would be willing to consider funding requests in the future, e.g. for specific items within the building, as the project progresses.

**37. Grant Aid application**

**Resolved** That the grant aid application for £500 from The Childrens Air Ambulance Service be approved.

**38. Planning matters**

**38.1 Planning applications**

<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposal</b>
P/2023/01017	237 Shobnall Street	Change of Use from residential dwelling (C3) to a House in Multiple Occupation (C4) to accommodate 4 residents
<p>Objection on the following grounds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Supporting Statement states that the occupants would use bus, bike, motorcycle or walk for commuting and leisure purposes. The Parish Council is of the opinion that the occupants are likely to have vehicles. Given this likelihood, the proposed increase in occupancy would potentially worsen parking issues in an area which already has inadequate on-road and off-road parking provision (Shobnall Neighbourhood Plan Policy T5 – parking).</li> <li>▪ The increase in WC/bathroom facilities could potentially adversely affect drainage/sewerage capacity in the area.</li> <li>▪ There is a demand for larger family homes in the area (Shobnall Neighbourhood Plan Policy HD3 – Housing Mix).</li> </ul>		
P/2023/01054	25 Grange Street	Change of Use from residential (Class C3) to a 4 bed House in Multiple Occupation (C4)
<p>Objection on the following grounds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Supporting Statement assumes that the occupants would use bicycles or walk for commuting and leisure purposes. The Parish Council is of the opinion that the occupants are likely to have vehicles. Given this likelihood, the proposed increase in occupancy would potentially worsen parking issues in an area which already has inadequate on-road and off-road parking provision (Shobnall Neighbourhood Plan Policy T5 – parking).</li> <li>▪ The increase in WC/bathroom facilities could potentially adversely affect drainage/sewerage capacity in the area.</li> <li>▪ There is a demand for larger family homes in the area (Shobnall Neighbourhood Plan Policy HD3 – Housing Mix).</li> <li>▪ The Planning Statement refers to the Local Plan, NPPF and the Housing Act 2004 but omits any reference to the Adopted Shobnall Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2031.</li> </ul>		

### 38.2 Comments submitted to ESBC retrospectively approved

The Clerk liaised with all Parish Councillors regarding the following planning application as ESBC required the Parish Council's comments before the council were next due to meet. The following comments were submitted to ESBC:

<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposal</b>
P/2023/001173	4 St Pauls Square	Felling of one Cypress Conifer tree
No objection		

**38.3 Planning Decisions**

**Resolved** That the report be noted.

**39. Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981**

**Staffordshire County Council (Public Footpath between Shobnall 3 and Shobnall Road in Shobnall Parish) Modification order 2019**

The County Council had advised that on 28 July 2023 the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs confirmed the above Order made under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 with modification.

**Resolved** That the information be noted.

**40. Correspondence and circulars**

**40.1 SPCA**

The SPCA's weekly Bulletins had been circulated to all councillors.

**40.2 Highways England**

The A38 Traffic Management Bulletins had been circulated to all councillors.

**41. Exclusion of the Press and public**

**Resolved** That under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (Section 2) (and as expended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information.

**41. Staffing Matters**

**Resolved** That following confirmation from NALC/SLCC that the pay increase for 2023 had been agreed, backdated to 01 April 2023, the increase be applied to the Clerk's salary (scp 17) with immediate effect.

**42. Date of next meeting**

Monday 18 December 2023 commencing at 7pm at Brook House, 18 Shobnall Road, Burton upon Trent DE14 2BA.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed .....

Date .....