

**The Minutes of Richards Castle (Shropshire) Parish Council Meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at the Village Hall Richards Castle commencing at 7.30pm**

**13/48 Present:**

**Councillors:**

Cllr H Salwey (Chairman)

Cllr J Whittall, Cllr A Cowell, Cllr T Harral, Cllr B Anderson and Cllr A Wright

Mr C E Williams (Clerk)

**Members of the Public**

Nil

**13/49 Apologies:**

Nil

**13/50 Declaration of personal/prejudicial interest:**

Nil

**13/51 Minutes:**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2013 were approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman, subject to Shropshire Councillor not being present.

**13/52 Chairman's Report:**

A letter of congratulations had been sent to Peter Corfield who had been awarded the MBE in the New Year's Honours list for his service to the local Community in particular his work as Chairman of the Ludlow Hospital League of Friends.

The Clerk reported that Shropshire Council had made changes to the Planning Application process which would see approximately 97% of applications being determined by planning officers and that all area planning committee meetings would now be held centrally in Shrewsbury.

The final version of SAMDev – allocation of Housing and Industrial Land should be published by Shropshire Council in March 2014 this will then be subject to approval by the Planning Inspectorate which may involve a Public inquiry before adoption which may be early 2015.

The Clerk explained that until the SAMDev had been adopted there was currently in Shropshire a shortage in the Governments required target of a housing five year land supply.

The Chairman reported that he would be attending a presentation at Shrewsbury on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2014 where this item would be discussed and any ramifications explained.

The re-cycling in Cober Road is closing and also the former council offices at Stone House Ludlow with staff being transferred to offices at Ludlow Library and Craven Arms.

**13/53 Highway Items:**

Cllr A Wright provided an update on the proposed improvements to the drainage in Station Road Wofferton which had still to be completed.

Following a request from Cllr A Wright Shropshire Council had recently cleaned out adjacent ditches and clear grips/channels along the Turkey Farm in Park Lane Wofferton to assist in re-directing surface water from the highway.

**13/54 Financial Items:**

a) The following accounts were approved for payment:

Smiths of Derby – 10 year maintenance contract for church clock of which 50% funded by the Ludlow and Clee Local Joint Committee.

b) Precept 2014/15 – The Clerk had produced a statement of estimated Income and Expenditure for 2014/15 and also estimated that the Council would have balances of £4,700 at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014. After considering the details the Parish Council agreed that the precept should remain at £2,983 for the financial year 2014/15.

**13/55 Reports from other Organisations attended by representatives of the Parish Council:**

The next Public meeting of the Ludlow and Clee Area Local Joint Committee will be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at Ludlow Boxing Club Wheeler Road Ludlow commencing 7.00pm

It should be noted that for the financial year 2014/15 there will be no grant funding available to local organisations from the Local Joint Committee due to budget cutbacks by Shropshire Council.

**13/56 Parish Plan:**

The Parish Council were awaiting the final version of the Parish plan following the consultation period.

It should be noted that although the Parish Council will adopt the plan the various actions to be undertaken may be subject to the availability of financial resources to which no financial provisions has been made by the Parish Council. Additionally, grants/funding may not be obtainable from other organisations and therefore the provision of new services/facilities would be the reliability on voluntary contribution from the local community.

**13/57 Planning Applications:**

Planning Application 13/05026 – Proposal to develop a single Affordable Home adjacent to Mitnell Villa Mitnell Lane Richards Castle – The Parish Council had No Objection to the application.

Planning Application 14/0031/Ful – Extensive alterations and improvements to the main house, cottage and annex; conversion of detached garage to studio accommodation, Ravenscourt manor Ashford Bowdler – No Objection.

**13/58 Items raised by Parish Councillors:**

The Clerk would ensure that a copy of the Minutes is made available for inclusion in the Castle News – it should also be noted that a copy of the minutes will be available on the Parish council website [www.2shrop.net/rechardscastle](http://www.2shrop.net/rechardscastle) these will be draft minutes until adopted by the parish Council at its next meeting.

**13/59 Next Meeting:**

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 and 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Chairman