

# COUND PARISH COUNCIL

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Cllr Simon James</b> Glebe Farm Upper Cound Shrewsbury SY5 6AT	<b>Clerk:</b>	<b>Lisa Harris</b>
<b>Telephone:</b>	<b>07977 121803</b>	<b>Telephone:</b>	<b>07748 648382</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<b>cpc@sijames.uk</b>	<b>Email:</b>	<b>clerk@cound.org.uk</b>

---

## **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** **Held at 7.30pm on 21 September 2023 at The Guildhall, Cound**

**Present:** Parish Councillors T Roberts (Acting Chair), R Davies, J Hall, R Sartain, M Smith, and Shropshire County Councillor C Wild

**Clerk:** Lisa Harris

### **46.23 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors S Green, S James, S Scott and K Symonds. As Vice-Chair, Councillor Roberts chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chairman.

### **47.23 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

- a) No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared
- b) There were no applications for a dispensation regarding disclosable pecuniary interests

### **48.23 Public Participation Session – a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for the public to speak, with a strict 5-minute limit per speaker. Members of the public may speak on matters appearing on the agenda. However, if a matter does not appear on the agenda, a written request should be submitted to the Clerk no later than 2 working days before the meeting.**

There were no members of the public present

### **49.23 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 July 2023**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

**It was proposed** by Councillor Hall and seconded by Councillor Roberts and  
**resolved (without opposition)**

that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 July be accepted as a true record. The minutes were signed accordingly by the Vice-Chair.

### **50.23 Clerk's report on matters arising since the Parish Council Meeting of 20 July 2023**

- The Clerk advised that HugoFox had provided website hosting services at no cost for a number of years but from 4 October 2023 would be charging a monthly fee. As the charge compared favourably with other providers, and to avoid disruption to the service, a monthly direct debit had been set up to pay HugoFox £9.99 (+VAT).

### **51.23 To receive report from Shropshire Councillor**

Councillor Wild briefed the Parish Council on Shropshire Council's pioneering scheme to create the first council-owned carbon-saving pyrolysis plant, in a move to target the climate crisis. It is

predicted to produce at least 500 tonnes of biochar a year.

Pyrolysis is the heating of organic matter at high temperatures, without oxygen. It creates gases and oils which can be burned in a generator to produce clean renewable electricity, around 35% of which is used to power the unit. It creates biochar, a carbon storing form of charcoal, that has many uses and is considered to be of great benefit environmentally. Biochar is most commonly used on land, where it improves the soil, helps reduce drought stress for crops, and stores carbon that was formerly carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. It can also help reduce pollutants like agricultural pesticides and fertilisers from getting into rivers.

Biochar is also being used in materials like plastic alternatives and in asphalt for road surfacing. In both cases the materials have a much lower carbon footprint but perform just as well.

Three potential locations for the pyrolysis plant have been identified in Bridgnorth, Ludlow, and north Shrewsbury, all on areas of land suitable for light industrial use.

#### **52.23 To receive the defibrillator audit check for the period**

Councillor Roberts had performed the audit checks for the period up to 17 September and confirmed that both defibrillators were ready to use as and when required. A status update had been recorded on The Circuit website.

#### **53.23 Guildhall Matters**

Councillor Sartain provided a brief update: The Guildhall is back in operation and a number of events had been held recently including two weddings. The new toilet build was nearly complete. Thanks were extended to the Guildhall Trustees with particular mention made of the contributions of Geraint Rees and Tim Roberts.

#### **54.23 Current Year Financial matters**

##### **a) Payments**

##### **Authorised payments for August and September 2023 from Treasurer's Account**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
21/09/23	Miss L Harris	Clerk's expenses Aug/Sep	£ 99.45
21/09/23	Miss L Harris	Clerk's Salary Aug/Sep	£ 529.76
21/09/23	HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary Aug/Sep	£ 132.20
21/09/23	HugoFox	Monthly website fee	£ 11.99
21/09/23	D Burn	Environmental Maintenance Jul/Aug	£ 310.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£1083.40</b>

**It was proposed** by Councillor Hall and seconded by Councillor Smith and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the above accounts be approved for payment.

##### **b) Bank reconciliation to 17 September 2023**

The bank was reconciled at £9,585.69, being the online banking balances on the date the meeting Agenda was prepared. The bank reconciliation was agreed and signed by Councillor Hall.

**55.23 Planning**

**1. Decisions to note:**

None

**2. Planning applications for consideration:**

**a) Ref: 23/03701/FUL**

Address: Highfields Harnage Cound Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6EJ

Description: Erection of single storey extension open sided for workshop space and solar panels located on the flat roof

Validated: 08 Sep 2023

Status: Pending Consideration

**b) Ref: 23/03955/FUL**

Address: 51 Upper Cound Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6AS

Description: Erection of single storey side and rear extension

Validated: 08 Sep 2023

Status: Pending Consideration

No objections nor comments were recorded on any of the above planning applications.

**56.23 To consider adopting the BT payphone kiosk sited at Upper Cound to house a defibrillator**

BT plans to remove 19 public payphones in Shropshire, one of which is sited in Upper Cound. The opportunity has arisen for the kiosk to be adopted, at a cost of £1, for community use.

**It was proposed** by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Hall and

**resolved (without opposition)**

that the Parish Council adopt the payphone kiosk

**ACTION:** Clerk to arrange the adoption of the kiosk.

**57.23 Correspondence**

Nothing beyond what was mentioned elsewhere on the agenda.

**58.23 Future agenda items**

- To consider purchasing a defibrillator for the adopted payphone kiosk. Clerk to prepare full costings to be presented at the November meeting.

**59.23 Date of next meeting**

Thursday 16 November 2023 at 7.30pm at Cound Moor Village Hall.

The Acting Chair thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 8.16pm.

Signed by Chairman: .....

Date: 16 November 2023