



16 September Full Council meeting minutes

Minutes from 16 September 2021 meeting held at **Carpenter Centre, Overdale, Telford TF3 5BT**.

In attendance

Members

- Cllr Amrik Jhawar (Central Ward)
- Cllr Rob Parker (West Ward)
- Cllr Cathy Salter (Lawley Ward)

Deputy Clerk

- Jill Holland (Deputy Clerk)

Staff

- Simon Bailey (Projects, Events & Engagements Officer)
- Matt Lever (Administration Assistant)
- Judy Parker (Facilities & Community Liaison Officer)

Public

- Representative from Greentech Services

2021/052 – Chair’s welcome

As both the Chair and the Vice Chair were absent, members selected Cllr Rob Parker to chair the meeting. As the Clerk, Sharon George, was absent, Jill Holland, Deputy Clerk, would speak on her behalf.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting at 18:01.

2021/053 - Apologies and absences

It was noted that apologies should be given in advance to the Clerk where possible, and that any apologies are formally agreed by a vote taken at the meeting.

Apologies received and accepted from:

- Clerk, Sharon George – Self-isolating
- Cllr Jayne Greenaway (Central Ward) - Illness
- Cllr Raj Mehta (Lawley Ward) – Self-isolating
- Cllr Shaun Davies (Central Ward) – Borough Council commitments
- Cllr Lee Vidor (Central Ward) – Self-isolating
- Cllr John Yorke (Dawley Bank Ward) - Illness

Departures:



2021/054 – Declarations of interest

None declared.

2021/055 – Public participation

Cllr Rob Parker greeted a member of the public, who introduced himself to members as a representative from Greentech Services, the developers of a proposed solar farm in Little Wenlock Parish. He explained that he had been in town that day talking to local people, and when he saw that Lawley and Overdale Parish Council was having a meeting he thought to attend while he was in the area. He told members that if there was anything they wanted to know about the solar farm, he was more than happy to explain.

Cllr Parker asked if the “areas fit in our parish;” the Deputy Clerk said that they were “just adjacent”, adding that the Parish Council was aware of the proposals. The Deputy Clerk asked if the Greentech representative had contacted Little Wenlock Parish Council; he said yes, they had always been dealing with them, and had taken them on a walk-around of the site last year. The representative added that they had been to the local access forum as well and were discussing their proposals with Harper Adams University.

Cllr Parker asked if it was “just around Steeraway Farm;” the representative said no. He explained that it was part of an old coal mining site, which had finished mining in 2015, adding that the “larger bit to the south is not being used”. They also had a renewable energy lecturer out there from Harper Adams. The challenge, said the representative, was more to do with public access, as “the dogs scare the wildlife.”

Cllr Parker asked if any public rights of way would be impeded. The representative said no – “they’ll be improved.” He explained that the solar panels would be located away from paths, and they would remove the existing fencing so there would be more open area. He suggested that biodiversity in the area would be improved as a result of the changes they were proposing. The Deputy Clerk asked if Greentech’s was the same application going to the planning committee. The representative said that he “presumes it’s going in the next month.”

Cllr Parker asked for how long the solar farm would be there. The representative said it would there for forty years at which point it would be removed. Solar panel efficiency degrades very slowly, he explained.

Cllr Amrik Jhawar said that he had been in a meeting and asked how far the property is away from the farm, to which the representative replied that it was “right next door to it.” Cllr Jhawar clarified that he meant residential properties. The representative said that there were some along New Works Lane, and the solar farm would be behind those. Cllr Jhawar asked if they’d done any surveys of the people living there, and if any objections had been raised. The representative said that no one in New Works had objected, though there had been one objection about car parking potentially increasing traffic. The representative said that when they held pre-application discussions with Telford & Wrekin Council, they said that the extra parking would take some pressure off The Wrekin and Ercall areas.

Cllr Jhawar asked how big the solar farm would be, and how many panels there would be. The representative said that he doesn’t “count the number of panels” in his role, but that the site would produce about 28 megawatts (MW) of power, which he thought would translate into around 60,000 panels in total. They are designed to be as efficient as possible in terms of land, he added, and reiterated that the open areas encouraged biodiversity.



Cllr Jhawar asked how many properties would benefit from the energy produced. The representative said that 1 MW will serve 320 houses, so they were looking at serving about 8,000 households. Cllr Jhawar thought that would be useful for reducing their carbon footprint and said, “good luck.”

Cllr Parker asked if trees would need to be taken out; the representative said no. The site was essentially pastureland, he said – there were some trees there, but they were designing the site around them. They had done a shading analysis, he added, so they would make sure the panels would “sit well away” from the trees.

Cllr Parker thanked the Greentech representative for attending.

2021/056 – Minutes of the last meeting

Cllr Rob Parker pointed out that of those members present, only he and Cllr Jhawar had attended the last meeting.

The minutes from the **Full Council Meeting** held on **26 July 2021** were **APPROVED**. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be signed and **ADOPTED** as a true record. This was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Amrik Jhawar and **SECONDED** by Cllr Rob Parker.

2021/057 – Finance

2021/057/A – Invoices for payment

Cllr Parker said that invoices had been sent out for payment.

Cllr Jhawar if the finances could be simplified. The Deputy Clerk pointed out that they were “as simplified as they can get.” Cllr Parker said that it was a good point, and suggested that if they were easier to access, they would be approved easier.

🔴 **ACTION 037: Jill Holland to investigate ‘simplifying’ the finances.**

2021/057/B – Bank reconciliations

Cllr Parker said that he had checked them, and they were “OK.”

2021/057/C – Grant application and compilation table

Judy Parker said that there had been one application, from Cuan Wildlife Rescue. She explained that Cuan often contacted the Parish Council when ducks were stuck in the drain at the Newdale pond.

The grants compilation sheet had been asked for by members at the previous Full Council meeting, Ms Parker said, and it showed, starting from May, the number of organisations that have applied, how much the Parish Council had granted them, and included a running total.

There was also an application from Home Start which had originally been submitted to the July meeting, but which had been deferred until further information could be provided, she said. Home Start had replied with the requested information, and after having gone through their database found they were providing support to 12 members of the Lawley and Overdale community. Due to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) they couldn’t provide the names and addresses, however. Ms Parker pointed out that as a result there were “really two [grants] to consider tonight.”



Cllr Parker pointed out that Home Start's grant wasn't on the agenda, so it would need to be deferred to the October Full Council meeting.

Cllr Parker asked members for their comments on the Cuan grant application, which was for £500.

Cllr Cathy Salter said she knew they rescued birds, as one of the first issues she had as a councillor was a trapped bird. She said that she did notice that if you "look down their numbers they have a healthy bank balance though she still thought £500 was viable as "they do help in our area".

Cllr Parker pointed out, for Cllr Salter's reference, that applicants could request any amount, but the Parish Council could "offer something more or less," adding that "we have flexibility".

Cllr Jhawar said that it was a long-lasting charity, which had been running since 1989. He would consider the application but wondered for how much.

Cllr Salter asked if the Parish Council had £1,500 left in the budget. Ms Parker pointed out that the grants budget was a global amount, and they could "move stuff over." She added that this application was the first they had received from Cuan.

Cllr Parker explained that the cap on the grants funding was based on the number of electors in the parish. Ms Parker clarified that it was £7,000 in total for 2021/22.

Cllr Jhawar asked how much money was left in the grant fund. Ms Parker said £4,500.

Cllr Jhawar **PROPOSED** issuing a grant of £500 to Cuan Wildlife Rescue. Cllr Salter **SECONDED**. Grant application for £500 **APPROVED**.

- **DECISION: Lawley and Overdale Parish Council to issue a grant of £500 to Cuan Wildlife Rescue.**
- **ACTION 038: Home Start grant application to be deferred until the October Full Council meeting.**

2021/058 – Councillors' session

Cllr Cathy Salter reported that:

- She had a resident report to her that there was "racing" going on along Lawley Drive late at night. She did manage to get a photo of it all, so that was sent to Lawley and Overdale Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT), and "an order had been issued."
- People were concerned about speeding on Bryce Way past the new school. Cllr Salter had hoped that Cllr Shaun Davies was going to be at the Full Council meeting to discuss it. She said that she is part of Speedwatch and was hoping to get volunteers together to do Bryce Way. Obviously, they would need to ask the police, but at least they would know what the issue is, she added.
- She had received an email from a resident who was concerned that, once building work started on Phase 11, the developers may start using Bryce Way as a cut-through. The resident wanted signage on either side. She pointed out that building works hadn't started yet, so it was unknown if it would be an issue.
- There was lots of pavement parking along Village Drive. She pointed out that Sharon George, Clerk, had managed to get some warning notices put out, which "made it better for a couple of days."
- She had sent to the Clerk comments from a resident who wanted her disabled husband to be able to pick-up their grandson but couldn't use the path between Rock Road and Newdale in a motorised wheelchair. She said that the Clerk had forwarded that to the Rights of Way team at TWC, "so hopefully something might be able to be done."



- She had heard from a resident who was upset because she lives at the Meadows off Glendale, and there was somebody in the new houses lighting fires, so she was “going to have a word.”

The Deputy Clerk then responded to some of Cllr Salter’s points in turn:

- The Deputy Clerk said that regarding racing on Lawley Drive, the police were already aware of that, and PC Dave Worrell had done a speed test. There were some plans to investigate traffic-calming measures, and although they couldn’t “do much at the moment due to the findings,” it had picked up by both the police and TWC. Cllr Parker asked about whether the traffic lights were enough already on Lawley Drive. The Deputy Clerk said that the problem was the Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique (SCOOT) was out-of-sync, “so it lets too many through and they go too fast,” but that was being looked at.
- The Deputy Clerk said that the problem with Bryce way was different to that on Lawley Drive, as the part outside the school was not adopted yet. An additional problem there, she said, was the bespoke speed bump. The SNT and TWC Highways had been looking at that as well, as it had previously been raised by Cllr John Yorke.
 - **ACTION 039: Deputy Clerk to ask about signage on Bryce Way in relation to works vehicles.**
- Regarding Phase 11, the Deputy Clerk said that “they shouldn’t be going that way in, they should be going the other side”. She said that photos had been sent in to the Parish Council, and there was already a convoy on the road. If they did access the site through that way, they could report it to the developers. The Deputy Clerk added that she would ask about signs.
- Regarding parking notices on Village Drive, the Deputy Clerk said that she could pass that on to the Community Action Team (CAT) Enforcement Officers and ask them to go back to that location more often.
 - **ACTION 040: Deputy Clerk to ask the CAT Enforcement officers to return to Village Drive to issue parking notices more frequently.**
- Regarding motorised wheelchair access on the public right of way (PROW), the Deputy Clerk said that there was currently a project with TWC to improve kissing gates and barriers to prevent off-road motorbikes quadbikes, but which would remain wheelchair and pushchair friendly.
- Regarding the fires being set at the Meadows, the Deputy Clerk confirmed that the proper course of action was to report it to TWC.

Cllr Amrik Jhavar reported that:

- Environmental representatives had attended the former Pink Skips site.
- He had heard that plans were being looked at to develop the fields opposite Overdale into football pitches.
- There was a footpath near Marlborough Way, Newdale, next to a little field, which is fine to use normally, but when it has rained it becomes muddy, flooded, and difficult to access. He thought that some kind of hard surface would improve it, as lots of people made use of the path.

2021/059 – Ward members’ session

Cllr Amrik Jhavar was the only ward member present and delivered his report during the councillors’ session.



2021/060 – Community affairs

2021/060/A – Lawley Management Committee (LMC) meeting summary

The Deputy Clerk explained that a summary had been provided for councillors in Appendix C, and it was just for informational purposes, and there was no action required other than to “make note of it.”

Cllr Parker replied with “noted.”

2021/060/B – Lawley Partnership Board (LPB) update

The Deputy Clerk explained that a bid had gone in for traffic-calming measures in Lawley, though Cllrs Yorke and Lee Vidor had been unable to attend the meeting. The Deputy Clerk said that she understood the bid had been successful, and the LPB was going to match-fund the £6,000 for traffic-calming. Simon Bailey added that this would include two cameras; they had gone to the LPB for match-funding for another one. Mr Bailey added that it would go forward for consultation, so they would have to follow that process.

Cllr Parker expressed his frustration with “this stuff;” he said that many of these issues had raised by Lawley and Overdale councillors in the past, “then it all gets built badly, people living here have to put up with it, and then pay money to fix it”. He added that he felt like he was “banging his head against the wall.”

The Deputy Clerk said that the LPB had also invited the Parish Council to have a stall at their consultation engagement event on 16 October, and councillors were welcome to attend to talk to residents and put forward what the Parish Council does. Cllr Parker said they would need to send that invite out; Ms Parker said that they already had. Cllr Parker said that if nobody has responded they should send it again. The Deputy Clerk said that she would resend it.

- **ACTION 041: Deputy Clerk to re-send the invitation for councillors to attend the LBP engagement event on 16 October.**

2021/060/C – Armed Forces Covenant

The Deputy Clerk explained that members needed to decide whether to support the Armed Forces Covenant or not. She thought that the Parish Council had been very supportive of the Armed Forces in the past, via means such as Remembrance services, poppies, and various charities have attended Summerfest in previous years. She said that it was a decision for councillors if they wanted to support it or not.

Cllr Salter asked if they were “basically adopting” the Covenant. The Deputy Clerk said yes.

Cllr Parker asked if it was going to cost any money; the Deputy Clerk said no.

- **DECISION: Lawley and Overdale Parish Council to support the Armed Forces Covenant.**

2021/60/D – Ketley Brook Traveller’s site

The Deputy Clerk said that there were no further updates. She said that Cllr Jacqui Seymour had passed on her apologies for being unable to attend and asked that her disappointment at the lack of updates be expressed on her behalf.

2021/060/E – Community Action Team (CAT) Enforcement (ENFO) update

The Deputy Clerk said that it was still going very well, with just a few tweaks.

Cllr Parker asked for a reminder of what all the acronyms stood for, and the Deputy Clerk explained.



Cllr Parker asked if the Parish Council had committed to pay £70,000 for the CAT, which the Deputy Clerk confirmed. Cllr Parker said that these reports (Appendix G) were important to look at, as they gave insight into how effective that spend was. He then asked how residents could raise issues, and whether the fact that the Parish Council had access to the CAT was being communicated.

The Deputy Clerk said that people could report issues via the MyTelford app; her understanding was that if they did that and the issue was part of their core works, which would form part of the CAT reports. She said that if residents reported issues to the Parish Council, the staff team has a direct line email to the CAT team, who “then go and sort the problem.”

Cllr Parker said that it was “early days” and pointed out that the CAT had only just started, then said that the report looked like it ended in March, so he was not sure how current it was. He suggested that if the Parish Council were to get the most value from it, they should raise its profile, and “ask people to do things.” He said, “if you were to say we spent £70,000 a year on this, I’d think, ‘really?’”

The Deputy Clerk said they have been creating “really nice” images they could use. They could use them as a platform to highlight the works that were being done. Cllr Parker said that “part of our responsibility is to evaluate the value we’re getting from this service,” adding “we might need to do something different to get more value from it”.

Simon Bailey said that Paul Fenn, TWC, had offered to come along to any Parish Council meetings in the future if members would like to ask him questions. The Deputy Clerk asked if members wanted her to invite Mr Fenn to a future meeting as a speaker - perhaps in November. Cllr Parker said, “that’s fine,” and clarified that he was just wondering what value the Parish Council was getting from the CAT. Ms Parker said that the CAT would have been in operation for six months by then, so November would be a suitable time to review.

Cllr Parker said that as an elected representative, if he was challenged on the value of the CAT by a member of the public, he felt that he wouldn’t be able answer them. He asked if they had got two cameras as a result of the CAT; the Deputy Clerk confirmed that and said that they had worked very well. Cllr Parker said, “that’s the kind of difference that we need to bring out.”

ACTION 042: Clerk to invite Paul Fenn, TWC, to the November Full Council meeting.

2021/060/F – Parish Environmental Team (PET) CAT update

The Deputy Clerk said that this item was a report from Chris Hallam; he would now do a monthly report explaining what he’s been doing across the parish, so people could “see what they are paying for.”

Cllr Parker said “great,” and that he appreciated that. He added that what he really wanted to see was the difference he has made to residents and the environment. He explained that it was “a bit like a performance review for staff – yeah you’ve done lots of stuff, but what difference have you made.” The Deputy Clerk said that Mr Hallam was “very proactive and has been helpful”. She said that if an issue was picked up on social media, they only needed to send a quick message to Mr Hallam, and he dealt with it.

2021/060/G – Newsletter

Ms Parker said that it was “that time of year again” when the team had to look at producing a winter newsletter. She asked if any councillors had anything they would like to be included, they should email her over the next couple of weeks.



She pointed out that Cllr Yorke had been “quite keen” on obtaining data on the parish’s “more elderly residents” – 65 and only – but the staff team “keep hitting brick walls” on that. It was extremely hard to find data on over 65s, she said, and TWC couldn’t help.

Ms Parker explained that they had “come up with a cunning plan.” The Parish Council could purchase a freepost name licence for £240, which would give it a freepost name that could be printed on the newsletter in the form of a reply slip, asking anybody aged 65 and over to send their names, addresses, and dates of birth to the Parish Council for free. The Parish Council would only pay the cost of postage for the replies it received, she added. She pointed out that while Cllr Yorke had wanted to send out a Christmas voucher, it was too late to arrange that, though they could instead do something for Easter. Ms Parker added that she was just informing members about what staff had decided.

Cllr Jhawar asked when the newsletter would be going out. Ms Parker said it would go out in the first two weeks of December, so it would have to be ready for the end of November.

Cllr Parker asked if they could use that freepost address for other purposes. Ms Parker said that Simon Bailey had already suggested that they could also use it for the community centre consultation, as they could just print it on an envelope.

The Deputy Clerk said that the licence they had already used for the St Saviours survey had proven “quite effective;” this would just be on a wider scale, enabling them to do a “lot more”, she added.

2021/060/H – Planning update

The Deputy Clerk said that the Clerk & the Chair had asked her to say thank you to all members for agreeing with the content of the letter of complaint regarding the Planning Committee process re phase 10 affordable housing.

2021/060/I – Office resumption

The Deputy Clerk said that at the last Full Council meeting, the team was charged with devising a plan of opening the office; she said that the Clerk had instructed a company to install the screens previously agreed by councillors. There would front office screens and screens in the back office, and they will be installed in the latter part of October. She added that sourcing materials had become difficult at that late stage.

She said that the staff were working towards a schedule/rota system, providing cover for the office, and were working on the idea of having the office open for the public by appointment only – so that it wouldn’t “be a revolving door, bearing in mind the high COVID rate,” she added. The Deputy Clerk said that they did realise the office has to be open to the public, but they had to be cautious, and highlighted the low attendance at the Full Council meeting that night due to self-isolating.

Cllr Parker asked what the staff wanted. The Deputy Clerk said that some staff wanted to go back into the office, and some didn’t, though pointed out that they could cover it between them. Cllr Parker said that it wasn’t “right to force people to come in who don’t want,” and he had hoped the report would encapsulate what the staff wanted and didn’t want. He added that the plan “might end up saying that we can’t have the office open to the public at this stage.”

Ms Parker said that all necessary work was being done successfully from home and thought that between the five members of staff they could work on a rota with two in the office at any one time, though she wouldn’t be comfortable with three. Cllr Parker said that was the kind of proposal he was looking for; that was what would enable them to have the doors open to the public.

Cllr Salter said, “you’ve got to come together as a team.”



The Deputy Clerk said that the team had “done quite well so far,” continuing to use social media.

Ms Parker said that things changed when they had five members of staff; “we always had an open-door policy, and people would drop in, but now we’ve got five workstations we haven’t got the facility for people to drop in anymore.”

Cllr Parker said that he was looking for a proposal. Ms Parker said that they could bring that to the October meeting.

Cllr Jhawar said that they needed to figure out how to make a rota. He added, “the time has come.”

ACTION 043: Staff to bring a proposal for re-opening the office to the October Full Council meeting.

2021/060/J – Events

Mr Bailey apologised for sending out the corresponding paper late, and said it was just to give an update on events that had happened recently, a couple that were planned in the future, and to ask members for a couple of decisions to be made.

He said that the Best Garden Competition had recently finished; it ran through August and was publicised across all channels. They did four categories, though entries were slightly down last year. There were seven back garden entries, two most creative entries, three young gardener entries, and no front garden entries. Unfortunately, he said, all the entries this year had come from Lawley residents. Mr Bailey thanked Cllrs Yorke and Vidor for judging the entries and explained that the staff team had made the deciding decisions. The winners and runners-up would be presented with gift cards and certificates the following week, where photos would be taken at the same time.

Mr Bailey said that he had been in discussion with Great Dawley Town Council (GDTC), who had asked him about Lawley and Overdale Parish Council’s (LOPC) garden competition – they’d asked him if they could chat about how the Parish Council had done it, as GDTC only received entries from their own gardener as he travelled around their parish. So, while LOPC’s entries were low, Mr Bailey said, at least some people were applying.

Cllr Jhawar said that he didn’t think they were reaching as many people as they could, explaining that he knew of a gardener in Overdale that would have entered if they’d known about it. Cllr Salter insisted that older people were better gardeners but didn’t feel that the Parish Council was able to reach them with social media alone. The garden competition was also advertised in the notice boards across the Parish area.

Mr Bailey pointed out that there were some local garden companies, and maybe they could link in with them and promote it there. He said they were looking at other ways of reaching people – it was only second time they’d run the competition, and there were other avenues to look at.

Mr Bailey pointed out that councillors themselves could help to promote the Parish Council’s events among residents they knew, too.

Cllr Jhawar said, “we must find a way to let people know.”

Ms Parker said that if they started publishing a second newsletter again, that would go out in around June, which would allow them to advertise the garden competition. Mr Bailey queried the cost of publishing a second newsletter compared to how many people might look at it, though he thought it was good feedback they could look at for next time.

Mr Bailey said that there had been a recent Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) testing event on 6 September at AFC Telford. The event was originally going to be held at Lawley Community, but COVID had “put a stop that.” The



Parish Council had provided £3,000 funding towards the event. Around 720 men had been tested, with one found to have a very high reading, and several other 'red' and 'amber' results.

Cllr Parker said that those things needed to be in a newsletter so they could communicate them to people. He asked if there was any feedback about the Parish Council's noticeboards. The Deputy Clerk said they had received had one comment when the new noticeboard had been installed on Lawley Village Green, though she thought that most people wouldn't think to comment on them.

Mr Bailey told councillors that the Lawley 5k Fun Run had taken place the previous Saturday. It had been highly successful, though numbers were a bit reduced compared to previous years – there were normally around 250 attendees, while this year 169 took part. He had received an update from the leader of Lawley Running Club (LRC) to say that from those 169 people they had earned around £920. LRC was going to make that up to £1,000; as the Parish Council had agreed to match-fund it, both charities would get the same amount. He added that they were planning a presentation at the Grazing Cow in the near future.

Mr Bailey added that Cllr John Yorke had been "really helpful" at the Fun Run. He'd spoken to many residents and their children and "really got stuck in". The Deputy Clerk said that Cllr Yorke had clapped everybody over the finish line. She added that normally the event was full within a couple of weeks, but there were several large runs taking place that weekend, and those attracted more competitive runners.

The LRC had thanked the Parish Council for getting everything set up, Mr Bailey said.

Mr Bailey continued, explaining that the next event would be the Remembrance service in November. He reminded members that they had to do a virtual service last year, which was very well received. For 2021 they were planning a "community act of Remembrance", which would be a non-religious service; he added that he wanted to thank those councillors who'd already agreed to do readings. They were currently making a programme and invitation post, and they would look at how best to spread the word. He said invitations had already been sent to local schools, scouts, Brownies, and others, to see if they wanted to provide representation on the day. Mr Bailey also said that the fabricators had attended the war memorial earlier that day and repaired the graffiti that had damaged the Roll of Honour. "Good", said Cllr Parker.

Mr Bailey said that members needed to make a couple of decisions.

He had received a partnership working request from GDTC – they were looking to do a Dawley Bank Festive Fun event on 5 December and were planning for the event to take place at Dawley Baptist Church. It would include a crafts fair, Christmas stalls, bouncy castle, and face painting, with a DJ outside, and a 'find Santa' trail within the Jubilee Woods. GDTC had their meeting on Monday earlier in the week and agreed a budget of £3,500, though after speaking to them they are looking for £5,000, and they thought would be good to approach LOPC as the parish crosses and they thought it would be a good opportunity for partnership working. Mr Bailey pointed out that the development plan requires the Parish Council to undertake more partnership working, and he wondered if the Council wanted to be involved in it. He added that the staff team thought it would be a good idea.

Mr Bailey then asked if councillors would want to put £1,500 towards it as part of the partnership working budget. The Parish Council could have its own stall at the event to raise money for its charities, he added.

Cllr Salter thought it sounded "really good", adding that she did occasionally look at the community page. She thought that people in Dawley Bank often felt left out or neglected, and this might help with that. She thought getting more involved with Dawley Bank would be positive.



Cllr Jhawar was asked if he had any thoughts. He said that it was “not a bad thing to put something up for the community”, but he thought something should be done in Lawley. Mr Bailey says this event would only hit a small amount of the electorate, and he would like LOPC to do something on its own for the rest of the parish. He pointed out that the extension of the hard surface of the war memorial had been completed which had opened it up a lot, and they could do something there at Christmas. He added that they had already been approached by carol singers for any Christmas events. That would cover Lawley, he said, and suggested that the Parish Council could also do something in Overdale. If the Parish Council did partner with GDTC for their event, he said, LOPC could do something of its own – the only question would be if it would be one event, or two events.

Cllr Jhawar said that the only problem was the “dividing line is the motorway”; he said, “this side of the motorway is closer to Dawley Bank”, and “any event on this side won’t be benefiting people on this side”. He thought the Parish Council should be looking after all the parts of the ward.

The Deputy Clerk said that by being involved with GDTC’s event “to whichever degree we’re still providing a presence from this parish, and because we wouldn’t be responsible for a big event there, we could hold something in Lawley, and perhaps have something in Overdale, and sort-of The Rock”. She said they were just looking for member’s comments, proposals, or agreement on the idea of working with GDTC, with a view for LOPC to do something else as well.

Cllr Jhawar said that if the Parish Council were to do two events on its own, he didn’t see any benefit in working with GDTC. He said that the Parish Council should just do two events of its own, then reiterated “just two - one in Overdale, one in Lawley”.

The Deputy Clerk said that at GDTC’s event LOPC could just have a stall for a tombola, so it “wouldn’t be putting in massive work”. Mr Bailey said that partnership working was something built into the Parish Council’s development plan, so he thought it would be a good opportunity. He added that it was not going to take much work.

Cllr Parker said that he was “a bit cynical; that isn’t partnership working, that’s Dawley asking us for £1,500 and we can have a stall”. If that was what members wanted to do, he said, that would be “fine”. He thought it was a good idea to do something in Overdale, pointing out that “it’s a long-neglected part of the parish, which doesn’t perceive itself to get any attention”, and added “Rock Road is a big dividing line, and it would be good to do something there”. He clarified that he wasn’t saying they shouldn’t do something in Dawley Bank, as “they suffer from a similar problem”, but that he was just “uncomfortable” with that idea being described as partnership working. He added, “they’ve planned it, they’re asking us for a contribution”. He said that if Mr Bailey thought they could put something on in Lawley and in Overdale, “we should do that”.

Mr Parker said that as for GDTC’s event he had no problem with supporting it, but he thought that £1,500 was too much. He suggested that they would be better off putting more resources into Overdale and Lawley.

Mr Bailey clarified that £1,500 was just the figure GDTC had mentioned, and obviously they would be prepared to accept any sort of contribution.

Cllr Parker asked how much the Parish Council’s own events would cost. Ms Parker said that would depend on what they planned to do, and planning hadn’t started yet. She added that she thought £5,000 was “quite a lot”. Mr Bailey said that GDTC could put on an event for £3,500, but if they got additional funding, they could improve it by having a grotto instead of a sleigh, hiring extra face painters, and so on. That would be the difference between doing it on a basic budget, he said.



Cllr Parker proposed that the Parish Council holds an event in Lawley, and a separate event in Overdale, “slightly smaller but specific to Overdale”.

Cllr Parker then asks if members wished to contribute £500 to £750 to GDTC, to “show we are willing”, and perhaps put a stall on. He added that he just wanted to “focus on our residents”. Ms Parker said that if the Parish Council had a stall at GDTC, it would be to raise money for its own charity, not for GDTC. The Deputy Clerk added that they needed to “make that quite clear”.

Cllr Parker clarified that he was “not wanting to be isolationist”. Ms Parker suggested £750 would be a reasonable amount.

Cllr Jhawar said that he felt LOPC should become a total partner, but otherwise it would be “best to do our own”. Ms Parker suggested they could have a presence there and advertise it to parish residents. Cllr Parker thought that £1,500 would be “pretty much half anyway”. The Deputy Clerk agreed and said that it was a lot of money considering how much had already been planned.

Cllr Parker **PROPOSED** contributing £750 to Great Dawley Town Council’s Christmas event. Cllr Jhawar **SECONDED** and said that the Parish Council should also do its own event. Mr Bailey pointed out that he had made it clear to GDTC that the Parish Council’s priority would be to its own parish.

Cllr Parker said that he was “wary of this phrase of partnership working”.

2021/060/K – Healthwatch Telford and Wrekin (HWTW)

The Deputy Clerk said that Cllr Yorke had asked for this item to be on the agenda. Partially for information, she said, but also because it refers to health and wellbeing, which was integral to the Parish Council’s development plan targets. She thought that he was requesting that, as a Parish Council, they publicise and share information for HWTW across social media.

2021/060/L – Carpenter/Linden Centre community use

The Deputy Clerk explained that they’d earlier had a meeting with cabinet minister Paul Watling and Felicity Mercer, from TWC, following several meetings about the issue, and they had been contacted earlier that day by Felicity Mercer who confirmed that any bookings for community use would have to go through the Linden Centre. TWC were willing trying to arrange discounted prices for hire charges, she added. She thought that it was a positive step forward, albeit a little step, but pointed out that they were “further forward now than we were last year” once Felicity Mercer was involved.

The Deputy Clerk said that Simon Hayden, who works for Felicity Mercer, would be attending the October Full Council meeting to discuss how to use the Carpenter Centre and how to survey residents about what they’d want to see there. This could eventually lead to an event where residents shared their views, she said. The Deputy Clerk hoped that it could result in grants for start-up costs for groups in Overdale.

Cllr Jhawar said that “hopefully at the end of this something will come of it”. He added that he didn’t want to forget about the Linden Centre, and that the Linden Centre’s headteacher had been “very accommodating”. The Deputy Clerk agreed and said that the headteacher “was very vocal and supportive about opening up the community centre”.

2021/061 – Correspondence

The Deputy Clerk said that there was no pertinent correspondence.



Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is requested that the public and press should not be present.

The representative for Greentech departed the meeting at 19:39 after being asked to leave.

2021/062 – Confidential items

Items were noted.

2021/063 – Agenda items for the next meeting

- Councillors to email any agenda items for the next meeting to the Clerk.
- Home Start grant application
- HMRC/PAYE issue.
- Clerks' appraisal/targets and minutes of Personnel Committee meeting

2021/064 – Date of next meeting

It was **noted** that the **Full Council** parish meeting would take place on **Thursday 14 October 2021 at 6pm**, at **The Carpenter Centre, Overdale.**

The meeting closed at 19:52.

Signed by Chairman:

Date:



Action record

Ref #	Minute #	Open date	Description	Assigned to	Target date	Date closed	Comments
001	2020/158	15/04/2021	Councillors to approve invoices for payment before Cllr Parker authorises them at the bank.	All councillors	Ongoing	N/A	
003	2020/159	15/04/2021	Clerk to send Cllr Mehta any unanswered questions about the Lawley Partnership Board for him to take to the next board meeting. Cllr Mehta to relay the answers back to councillors.	SG, RM	06/05/2021 17/06/2021 15/07/2021 16/08/2021		Awaiting a response from the LPB. Questions couldn't be addressed at the time, so nothing for Cllr Mehta to relay back. On the agenda for the 13 July LPB meeting. To be taken to a meeting with the LPB Manager as questions not addressed at 13 July meeting.
005	2020/160	15/04/2021	Weekly email to continue as appropriate. Important or time-critical information to be sent out as it arrives.	ML, staff	Ongoing	N/A	Will continue as and when required.
006	2020/160	15/04/2021	Councillors to respond in a timely manner to all emails marked as 'response required.'	All councillors	Ongoing	N/A	"Hopefully, we will become better boys and girls!" – Cllr John Yorke, 17/06/2021
023	2021/031	17/06/2021	Clerk to contact HMRC to self-report the PAYE issue and obtain advice on how to proceed.	SG	15/07/2021 16/09/2021 14/10/2021		HMRC has been unresponsive thus far.
024	2021/031	17/06/2021	Clerk to investigate either outsourcing payroll or buying software to handle it internally.	SG	15/07/2021 16/09/2021		Ongoing.



026	2021/034	17/06/2021	Clerk to ask about the SCOOT system at the next Highways meeting.	SG	15/07/2021		
028	2021/043	26/07/2021	Add the HMRC pensions issue to the 16 September Full Council Meeting's agenda.	SG	16/09/2021		
029	2021/044	26/07/2021	Clerk to send the insurance renewal figures out to councillors once it is available	SG	16/09/2021		
030	2021/044	26/07/2021	Clerk to obtain data from Home Start about how many people within the parish they support.	SG	16/09/2021 CLOSED	16/09/2021	Requested information has been obtained.
031	2021/044	26/07/2021	Clerk to draft a letter to Lee Plumber confirming the donation in recognition of Becky Plumber.	SG	16/09/2021 CLOSED		Completed.
032	2021/045	26/07/2021	Clerk to investigate what had happened to the wildflower bed on Lawley Village Green.	SG	16/09/2021		
033	2021/047	26/07/2021	Clerk to invite Paul Watling, Shirley Reynolds, and Lee Carter to the next meeting.	SG	16/09/2021		
034	2021/047	26/07/2021	Clerk to insist that TWC respond to their questions about PROW.	SG	16/09/2021		
035	2021/047	26/07/2021	Simon Bailey to arrange to get a quote for the cost of replacing the lights in the Lawley Community Centre.	SB	16/09/2021		
036	2021/047	26/07/2021	Simon Bailey to send a copy of his events plans to councillors.	SB	16/09/2021 CLOSED	16/09/2021	Councillors are now up-to-date on upcoming events.
037	2021/057	16/09/2021	Jill Holland to investigate 'simplifying' the finances.	JH	14/10/2021		
038	2021/057	16/09/2021	Home Start grant application to be deferred until the October Full Council meeting.	SG	14/10/2021		
039	2021/058	16/09/2021	Deputy Clerk to ask about signage on Bryce Way in relation to works vehicles.	JH	14/10/2021		
040	2021/058	16/09/2021	Deputy Clerk to ask the CAT Enforcement officers to return to Village Drive to issue parking notices more frequently.	JH	14/10/2021		
041	2021/060	16/09/2021	Deputy Clerk to re-send the invitation for councillors to attend the LBP engagement event on 16 October.	JH	14/10/2021		



42	2021/060	16/09/2021	Clerk or Deputy Clerk to invite Paul Fenn, TWC, to the November Full Council meeting.	SG/JH	11/11/2021		
043	2021/060	16/09/2021	Staff to bring a proposal for re-opening the office to the October Full Council meeting.	Staff	14/10/2021		

n.b. "Target date" defaults to the date of the next Full Council meeting when no specific timeframe is set, to enable progress to be reviewed.