

Yoxall Parish Council Meeting 2nd April 2020
Held under special conditions of delegated powers due
to CORONA VIRUS -Covid-19 Pandemic.

This meeting is held with Chairman and Parish Clerk under special measures in light of current government guidelines for the prevention of spread of Corona Virus (Covid19).

Apologies.

Nil required. Each Councillor has submitted their report as is normal procedure.

Chairman's' Announcements.

It is with great sadness to announce the passing of Alan Jinks. Alan passed away after battling with a long-term illness on 20th March. Alan served as Councillor for Yoxall for fifteen years. Alan was a valuable and active member of the Council and could always be relied upon to give a balanced approach to any debate. He was a great leveller. Our thoughts are with Annette, Alans wife and their children and families at this sad time.

The **Covid-19 virus** has been a constant and continued concern over the past two or three months and conditions and instructions change on a daily basis. We owe a great debt of gratitude to a number of residents who have rapidly responded and formed an action group. In the previous week's leaflets giving advice and offering help have been posted through resident's doors throughout the Parish. Useful information has been given to residents in isolation. It is due to the generosity of time and expense that this continues. Thanks also to our local businesses who have equally responded offering services of food and delivery of goods essential to our daily needs. Thank you to all who go unsung showing kindness, consideration and generosity to their neighbours. The Parish Council is pleased to offer support to this group of volunteers wherever and whatever we can with this great community effort. The Parish Council web site can be used as an update and we are pleased to be able to give a link to the social web page dedicated to the work of the community volunteer group. Both sites are updated regularly.

Sadly, the **Village and Church clean up**, the Annual Parish meeting and the Annual General meeting have been postponed. These will be held at a future date, to be advised.

Flooding issues and prevention work are still on going. The length of the Swarbourn will be monitored and debris removed as necessary. This, as you know, has been carried out several times this year already. The Council have had the banks cleared of debris and trees along Goose Green and Swarbourn Meadow trees were pollarded last year. Sand and sand bags have been replenished following the recent flood. Further supplies will be obtained shortly. A list of sand bag holders are listed on the two main notice boards in the village.

Drains and pavements. Please see our County Councillors report attached to this report. There have been a number of drains and damaged brickwork to bridges reported. Some of these have been repaired.

Projects

You may remember that photographs were taken of the views of Yoxall locations for the first village calendar. A picture of these twelve photographs hang in the Village Hall which was kindly donated by Warren Bradley. It was thought that modern day photographs of the same locations be taken to present a 'now' version of the original scenes. These were taken last year and give to the Council by Mike Boulbey. These have been edited and printed thanks to Chris Rikard and will be framed soon and hung in the Village Hall.

Thank you to all Councillors for your continued hard work at this time.

Declaration of Interest.

Always observed by Councillors.

Approval of minutes of the Regular Parish Council held on 5th March 2020 in the meeting room, Village Hall - Approved.

Matters Arising.

There were none.

Public participation.

Due to current circumstances there were none but correspondence will be dealt with by Parish Clerk.

Report from **County Council Representative**, Mrs. Julia Jessel. Please see attached report.

Report from **Borough Council Representative**, Ms. Laura Beech. Not received.

Planning Report.

Councillor Bob Keyes.

ESBC planning officers are now working from home and are progressing with applications as best they can. The best way of contacting them is by email via the application forms on line. The full list of Yoxall applications can be found on the ESBC planning website.

We have noted a new application for the erection of a general agricultural building to replace a derelict barn at Trent Bridge (P/2019/01544) and the determination of the applications at Lea Fields Farm for 5 dwellings and at Morrey Lane for a single agricultural tied dwelling are still ongoing. The PC have commented on both to the relevant officers. The contracts regarding the Community Car Park were near completion though won't be signed off until ESBC resumes full operations.

For now, the car park is open every day and available for domestic use by villagers.

Clerks Report.

This one is for you Bob.

Matters in progress.

Working groups.

(1) Open Spaces - David Hall. Nil to report.

(2) Village amenities - John Williams.

New posts and gate have been ordered for Swarbourn Meadow. These will be fitted when received and will improve the entrance to this area.

Sand and sand bags are replenished for now. Costs for these will be claimed from ESBC.

Posters have been placed on each parish recreation areas of Sports Field, Goose Green, Swarbourn Meadow, Milne Holme Pingle and Ferrers Field reminding users to observe Government guidelines during the Covid-19 Virus pandemic.

(3) Roads and Pavements - Mike Arch.

There has been no response from Staffs Highways to repeated requests for an update regarding Alexandra Drive island. Julia Jessel has also sent a request for an update from Amey.

The sign at Kings Bromley informing drivers of turning bans has been turned around. This has been rectified.

A request regarding the monitoring of offenders has been sent. No response so far.

(4) Village Hall - John Williams.

All of the regular bookings have been cancelled from March 23rd.

The Hall facilities have been offered for the collection and distribution of food parcels.

Hall redecorating will take place during this 'quiet' period.

(5) Best Kept Village Competition - Ange Grandfield

Work to upkeep the village will carry on despite this event being cancelled. Other events will be looked into once Covid-19 Virus has eased.

(6) Footpaths - Report received from Andy Mountjoy.

Andy continues to walk footpaths within the confines of Government guidelines.

Following from his report in December 2019 it should still be noted that there are still some things to do.

Footpaths 18,26 and 29 to look at right of way.

Footpath 23. Path is blocked.

Footpaths 13 and 51 on the A515. Posts need replacing. These posts were ordered five months ago. These will be chased up.

(7) Website - Mike Arch.

This is a particularly challenging time. We are working with the Yoxall Covid-19 Volunteers Group in order to use as many means of communication as we can so that our parishioners are informed

(8) Burial Ground. Nothing to report.

(9) Ferrers Field - Report by Peter Kitt.

4 bags of play bark have been delivered and spread on top of play surfaces. The area is now much improved.

Repainting of equipment and benches to be carried out.

Trimming of footpath to Savey Lane yet to be carried out.

Lower cut of Ferrers Field will be underway as agreed.

Play areas are closed to the public. Signs have been produced and displayed in each area.

A request has been made to Borough and County Councillors to seek assistance looking into the drainage of the footpath from Savey Lane to Ferrers field. This was and will be of concern to users particularly in heavy rain periods making their way to School, Church or Health Centre.

(10) Riverside Regeneration - Di Muir.

Environment Agency (EA) have been contacted on a number of occasions and they have visited twice. Large amount of debris has been removed from the river and pulled to the river bank. The EA was unable to remove the debris in the river near the treatment plant just off Swarbourn Meadow due to ground conditions. The Environment Agency will continue to monitor the situation.

Two dead trees reported to arborer. These will be removed when ground conditions allow, subject also to any restrictions at this time.

The grant applied made to Severn Trent Community Fund has now been temporarily diverted to organisations and charities dealing with the current Covid-19 virus. We have been asked to postpone our application until the summer when application processes will reopen. These monies are needed to fund the installation of a pathway around the Goose Green development. This will now be put on hold.

The majority of the trees that were planted 15 months ago on Goose Green appear to have survived the winter and flooding.

(11) Wish List - Penny Bailey.

'Then and Now' photographs have been distributed amongst Councillors for approval.

Continued regeneration of Goose Green.

Update of Parish Council website ongoing.

We have 6 Bronze and 3 Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme to guide and support.

Tasks have been allocated and health and safety considered for these students, including latest Government guidelines and restrictions.

Wish list in relation to the village fete - not required due to cancellation of fete 2020.

Business to look at so far - to go in after we have spoken Bob.

(Bob and Me)

1 Contact Mr. and Mrs. Bryant. 21. Savey Lane. Yoxall. DE 13 8PD. Tel.01543 473572.

Requesting double burial plot.

ASAP please Bob.

2. Contact Post Office with follow up and reiterate that Post Office can be located at local business site. Betzys Cleaners. Main Street. Letter to Scott Lacey, Area Network Change Manager.

Mention Hill Ridware again.

Existing and willing Post Mistress. Annabelle Watkins.

I will put letter together Bob and send this on to you.

3. Card will be sent to Annette Jinks on behalf of us all. Hope this is OK.

4. ? condolence card sent to family of Consultant. Mr Amged Al-Hawrani. Family living in Alexandra Drive. Thoughts please.??

5. Bus Service survey carried out by SPCA and NALC requested. This looks at the viability of continued services to the rural communities. Response sent. Thank you Pete.

6. Chase up with SCC new Footpath Sign posts.

7. Send request to ESBC for claim against sand and sand bags.

I think you have the receipts Bob?

8. Write cheque out to Claire Turner for £100.00 for foodbank contribution.

9. Pay for Play bark if not already done so please. Pete could you resend invoice to Bob and me please to make sure??

10. To go over bills and receipts from John Williams

11. make payments