

YOXALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Zoom Meeting of the Parish Council
Held on the 5th November 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: P Hughes, M Arch, P Kitt, P Bailey, R Keys and D Muir

Also Present: L Beech
R Young, Clerk to the Council

1) APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from A Grandfield and J Jessel.

2) CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman of the Parish Council, P Hughes, mentioned the following:-

- A515 Working Group.
- Hall – Trying to comply with Covid-19 rules.
- Armistice Day Update.
- Payment made to Boulton Arenas.
- Footpaths Update.
- Yoxall Welcome Pack.

3) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Declarations to be made when subject is discussed or received during the meeting.

4) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 1ST OCTOBER 2020

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 1st October 2020, subject to the inclusion of "Report Received from L Beech as follows" at 7b.

Resolved:

To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 1st October 2020, subject to the above inclusion.

5) MATTERS ARISING

- No matters raised.

6) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- No matters raised.

7) REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

a) Report of County Councillor J Jessel

- No items reported.

b) Report of Borough Councillor L Beech

Matters reported as follows:-

- Update regarding Covid-19.
- Waste Sites to remain open including recycling.
- Play Park remain open.
- No services as yet to change. Full details on ESBC website.

8) PLANNING

1. A housing needs survey has recently been circulated to village homes by Fosseway Developments seeking residents' views. The PC has suggested that they meet with the planning consultants after the survey has been completed. The PC will ensure that the neighbourhood plan has been considered as well as the local plan.
2. Planning Application No. 01517 – revised application regarding Cartref, Main Street. Replacing a bungalow with two houses. There is no change in the PC's view that one dwelling is more than suitable for this site.
3. Planning Application No. 01903 – application by the Duchy of Lancaster to remove an agricultural tie from a property in Dunstall Lane. The PC has no objection.
4. Planning Application No. 01067 – conversion of an agricultural building to general storage use. The PC is awaiting guidance from ESBC officers regarding their enquiries on the exact use of the building.

5. Planning Application No. 00132 – an application to replace a static caravan with a permanent dwelling at Oak Tree Cottage, Murray Lane. Background to the application has been looked into with ESBC officers. Proposed design is acceptable. The PC has no objection.
6. Planning Application No. 00773 – proposal to convert a redundant barn into two dwellings at Scotch Hills Lane. The PC has no objection.

9) **CLERK'S REPORT**

a) **Correspondence**

- Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Newsletter – November 2020.
- SPCA Bulletin.
- SPCA Coronavirus Update.
- Staffordshire Police – Monthly Report.
- Highway England A38 Work Scheme – 26th October 2020.
- SCC Temporary Traffic Regulation Order – Ashbrook Lane, Abbots Bromley.
- J Jessel – Needwood Divisional Forum Meeting – 11th November 2020.
- Safer Road Speeding Offences.

10) **MATTERS IN PROGRESS OR REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION**

a) **Open Spaces**

- P Kitt reported work completed on Milne Holme Pingle and grass and hedges cut on Ferrers Field.

b) **Village Amenities**

- No matters reported.

c) **Roads and Pavements**

M Arch reported the following:-

- For some time now bushes and brambles have been growing over a stretch of pavement just before the entrance to Alexandra Drive. Pleased to say they have been cleared.
- An obsolete diversion sign, together with accompanying sandbags to the North of Alexandra Drive have been removed following representations to Staffordshire Highways.
- Had a Working Group meeting via Zoom, chaired by Julia Jessel with other Parish Councillors from Kings Bromley and Draycott, plus reps from Staffordshire Highways and Staffordshire Police.

- The proposed early warning sign advising HCV drivers of the turning bans along the A515 and to be located on the approach to the Moreton Lane traffic island in Draycott is to be installed during the week commencing 23rd November.
- Early warning signs are also planned for the A38/A50 under the jurisdiction of Highways England. Installation is planned for 2021.
- Staffordshire Police are to visit hauliers on the Marchington Industrial Estate to remind them that they cannot turn left in Bromley onto the A513 and also at the Wood End Land junction.
- Overnight checks to be made by Staffordshire Police on a periodical basis to monitor and deal with offenders.
- The Working Group is acutely aware of potential disruption by HCV's involved with the HS2 project. Plans and timescales to be requested to ensure that HCV's connected with HS2 do not come through the villages along the A515.

d) Village Hall

- J Williams reported that as from today everything has ground to a halt due to the National Lockdown.

e) Best Kept Village Competition

P Hughes mentioned the following:-

- Requested Councillors to review the Parish for matters that require improvement.
- Reviewed gates, sand bunker and various entrances to Parish land.
- Councillors reviewed condition of fencing at a business location.
- P Bailey commented the three Litter Bins to be located on Goose Green would need emptying. Clerk to notify ESBC.
- R Keys gave details of land maintenance issues, Gisborne Close – Alexandra Drive, involving Bovis Homes. Section 106 agreement between Bovis Homes and ESBC confirming Borough Council to undertake ground maintenance. Councillors reviewed footpaths and trees in the area.

f) Footpaths

R Keys reported the following:-

- Footpath Group formed one month ago.
- Thirty-Two to Thirty-Six Footpaths.
- Four separate teams allocated sections of footpaths to review clearance and stiles.
- Footpaths colour coded Red, Amber and Green to highlight degree of difficulty.
- Details to be submitted to SCC.
- P Hughes obtained accurate map from SCC.

g) Website

M Arch reported the following:-

- Asked to look into accessibility issues regarding partially sighted and blind residents. The website has been built in such a way that people with visual impairment can access it. It also allows for people who are colour blind and the use of screen readers interpret the website content and convert it to audio (basically reading the page content to the user). The website is 100% compliant.
- Monthly usage is a modest 300 visits at the moment, although there was a spike in June to 500.
- Would like to see more villagers using the site which is kept up to date with news/issues/information.
- The latest Covid requirements are listed on the “Home” page of the site.

h) Burial Ground

- No matters reported.

i) Ferrers Field

- P Kitt reported several remedial items of work in hand.

j) Riverside Regeneration

D Muir reported the following:-

- The four Woodland School benches have been installed this week by Ken Rayworth and the cost of these has been covered by money from sponsors. The plaques were not sent with the

benches but will be despatched separately this week. The Woodland School area is now looking good.

- ESBC has approved a CCD grant of £1,000 towards the cost of the two interpretation boards which will be designed, constructed and installed in the New Year.
- The National Forest Company has approved a Small Grants Fund of £1,420. This is specifically to be used for the wildlife pond reconstruction, a community orchard, edible hedging, a workshop to create bird and bat boxes, to improve the entrance gates and to put towards the interpretation boards.
- Burton Conservation Volunteer Group have spent two Sundays on Goose Green and have cleared out a quarter of the wildlife pond, cut back a lot of undergrowth around the trees that were planted two years ago, created piles of logs for wildlife habitats and removed dead and overhanging branches. We had four members of the public who volunteered to help us. The cost of this (£500) is part of South Staffordshire Water Pebble Fund (£2,000) which was awarded and paid to us in December 2018.
- I have spoken to Staffordshire Wildlife Trust to organise a half day workshop to build bird and bat boxes. I have contacted Helen Cottam at St Peters School and she is keen to get a group together but I am waiting to hear from SWT when that is likely to take place. It could be our first event using the Woodland School area!
- I have ordered 30 fruit trees for the orchard and they should be delivered at the end of this month. I will try and get a working party together to plant them. The cost of these trees (about £350) is also part of The Pebble Fund. I have also ordered some free hedging plants from The Woodland Trust but they won't be delivered until next March.
- I have a quote from Neil Fleming to replace the two gates at the entrance and to tidy up the picket fencing, and I have left a message with him to go ahead with the work.
- The new residents of The White House have revealed the base of a brick outhouse which borders Goose Green and were concerned that land drains were broken by roots. I've had a look and don't consider there to be any problem.
- Alan Bailey approached me to ask if he could plant a seedling scots Pine tree on Goose Green but I feel it would be better planted on Milne Holme Pingle as there is more space there for a large tree.

- I have amended the Income and Expenditure spreadsheet to reflect the latest position, copies of which were circulated to Councillors.

Christmas Boxes

- I have submitted three of my neighbours' names to be included in the distribution of the boxes. Also, is Cynthia Shum on the list?

Ken's Comments

- The new shelter needs a coat of preservative and the ivy on the wall opposite needs trimming.

Alexandra Drive Footpath

- A resident brought it to my attention that some rubble had been dumped by a resident in Gisborne Close on the footpath. Bob Keys had a word and it has been removed.

11) WISH LIST

P Bailey commented regarding the follows:-

- Wish List updated last month.
- Christmas Boxes.
- Christmas Cards on order.
- Litter Bins on order.
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme – Young Parishioner wishes to progress to Gold.
- Fingerposts ongoing.

12) HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS

- In abeyance.

13) FINANCE

a) Approval of Cheques

DATE	CHEQUE NO.	DETAILS	£
05/11/2020	505842	Ken's Countryside	1,218.00
05/11/2020	505843	R J Francis	1,249.20
05/11/2020	505844	Glasdones	1,110.24
05/11/2020	505845	Cancelled	0.00
05/11/2020	505846	Cancelled	0.00
05/11/2020	505847	ESBC – Litter Bins	589.20
05/11/2020	505848	R Young	268.95
05/11/2020	505849	V Shorthouse	331.17
05/11/2020	505850	HMRC (PAYE)	222.60
05/11/2020	505863	N Sutcliffe	45.00
05/11/2020	505864	Ken's Countryside	650.00
05/11/2020	505865	D Bell	50.00
05/11/2020	505866	D Muir (Trees)	346.19
05/11/2020	505867	Karl Gamble	64.74
		TOTAL:	£6,145.29

It was proposed, seconded and agreed the above cheques should be issued.

Resolved:

To issue the above cheques.

14) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Thursday, 3rd December 2020

The meeting closed at 9.03pm.

P Hughes
Chairman