

YOXALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Zoom Meeting of the Parish Council
held on the 3rd December 2020 at 7.30pm

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

Also Present: Two Members of the Public
R Young, Clerk to the Council

1) APOLOGIES

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

2) CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- Zoom to be extended for three months.
- Christmas boxes to be delivered on 4th December 2020.
- Updating of "Welcome Pack".
- Remembrance Day went well.
- Graffiti on Bus Shelter and Electricity Sub-Station to be removed.
- S Griffiths at SCC Highways updated regarding grass cutting.
- Footpath maintenance ongoing.
- Fruit trees due for delivery.
- Waste bins installed on Goose Green. Waste bins to be reviewed.
- Post boxes stolen on outskirts of village.
- Thanked J Jessel for Needwood Division Zoom Meeting regarding the A38 road works and impact on local traffic plus review of repairs needed.
- Consider Precept for 2021/2022. Agreed to defer to January 2021 Parish Council Meeting.

3) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Declaration 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 5TH NOVEMBER 2020**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Zoom Meeting held on the 5th November 2020, subject to the inclusion of J Williams as being in attendance.

Resolved:

To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 5th November 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**

➤ No matters reported.

8) **PLANNING**

R Keys reported the following:-

Planning Refusal – 01299 at Woodland Croft application for erection of agricultural workers dwelling.

Planning Permission – 01067, Longcroft Farm – Conversion of a barn to Class B8 general storage unit, with conditions on traffic frequency.

Significant new applications:-

01162 – Reeves End Farm, Sandpits – Conversion of redundant farm buildings to create two x two bed dwellings.

01155/57 – The Old Farmhouse, Victoria Street – Retention of exterior posts and gates with internal cladding and panelling.

An updated Statement of Community Involvement has been adopted by ESBC to encourage developers to thoroughly consult local communities.

Results of the Housing Survey recently circulated to the village will be discussed at a meeting with the agents for the developers in December. Their application will be for a site at Bond End.

Boundary Commission – The recommendations have now been delayed as a revised plan has been submitted following many objections from Barton, Yoxall and surrounding villages. The new proposal outlines a much wider electoral ward covering Abbots Bromley, Yoxall and Barton taking in Tatenhill, Newborough and Hoar Cross. Three Councillors would be elected in May 2023 to cover the new ward which would be known as Bagots and Needwood. The Parish Council and Parishioners are urged to study the proposals online at ESBC website noting the 12th January deadline to provide their views. The Parish Council will respond following further study of the proposals.

9) **CLERK'S REPORT**

a) **Correspondence**

- Chris Wait – Yoxall Meadows Woodland.
- SCC – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy 2020-2025.
- SPCA Bulletin.
- Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Newspaper.
- WRCC – Village and Community Halls in Tier 3.
- SCC – “Looking after those around us”.
- J Jessel – Dog Fouling – Ferrers Road.
- Notes of Meeting of the Needwood Division Meeting – 11th November 2020.
- Timothy Leathers – Police Incidents.

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

a) **Open Spaces**

P Kitt reported the following:-

- Litter pick and inspection carried out on 1st September 2020.
- The area was looking clean and tidy.
- All the remedial works agreed and approved at the September Parish Council Meeting have now been carried out and completed.
- All fencing on the left-hand side has been repaired and new fencing across the river frontage sited.
- All benches have been repaired and re-painted.
- The concrete blocks have been re-painted.

- The area between all the planted trees has been cut back and the difference this has made is incredible and will be maintained hereafter.
- Diana Muir has visited and assessed a location for the fir tree and is arranging planting.
- There are no further costs envisaged before Spring when it is hoped we will be in a position to complete Phases 3 and 4, reinstating fencing to the gaps in the hedge on the right-hand side of the field as you approach the river and siting gates to the Tractor entrance; resulting in the field being completely secure.

b) Village Amenities

J Williams mentioned the following:-

- Welcome Pack – Need to update due to changes in the Parish.
- Lengthsman – In 2018, advertised for a Lengthsman. Could advertise again as Job Description available. R Keys commented the need to monitor budget available. It was agreed that quotations should be obtained for work to be undertaken in the Parish.
- It was proposed, seconded and agreed that J Williams to co-ordinate contract work around the Parish.

Resolved:

That J Williams co-ordinates contract work to be undertaken in the Parish/Village.

c) Roads and Pavements

M Arch mentioned the following:-

- Update regarding night time closures of A38 and traffic using alternative routes.
- Haulage Traffic through village.
- Update regarding Police Activity plus visits to Marchington and Fradley Industrial sites.
- Morton Lane Traffic Island – Sign installed.
- Waiting Restrictions Sudbury Road and Hadley Street.

d) Village Hall

J Williams commented as follows:-

- Hall not being used at present.
- No Hall Receipts for December 2020.
- Heating Boiler serviced.

e) Best Kept Village Competition

- P Hughes commented he would be contacting A Grandfield to review needs for 2021.

f) Footpaths

R Keys reported the following:-

- Two of the three area studies have now been completed and I will be conferring with Howard Price to produce the full audit when the third study is completed. The Parish Council can then produce a definitive guide. Meanwhile, four free new stiles are being delivered by S.C.C. to replace broken stiles at Hadley End/Morrey. I have requested a supply of fingerposts and will also be applying for more stiles as a result of the completed audit. However, supply of these will be subject to available funds and grants.

g) Website

M Arch commented as follows:-

- Photograph of Goose Green added.
- Latest Covid-19 information included on Website.
- Will correct contact details for D Muir.

h) Burial Ground

- No matters reported.

i) Ferrers Field

P Kitt reported the following:-

- Ferrers Field litter pick and inspection carried out on 1st December 2020.

- The Field was found to be in very good condition. Recently mowed and, in particular, the Football Pitch was cut very short and very playable.
- The hedges were all cut back, shaped and tidy. I think it is only fair to say John Francis has done an excellent job this year.
- The works requested and approved at our October Parish Council Meeting have now been carried out.
- The Arbour area has all been cut back along with the hedge behind the external bench.
- All the footpaths throughout the field have been edged up and this has made a significant difference and improvement.
- Around the bases of the trees to the fore of the field have all been strimmed around, as have the fence areas.
- Play bark has been put down beneath the swings in the areas that required it and this has brought the area up to the required standard.
- The timbers on the wooden plinth area have been replaced and this is now safe.
- The rubber buffer to the tunnel entrance has been resecured and this is now safe.
- The footpath to Savey Lane has been strimmed, cut back and edged up, and this is now tidy.
- The fencing behind the trees in the corner has been repaired.
- The area is litter free.
- There is one of the step along stumps that appears to be breaking up and has an uneven surface on the top which could cause problems, which I have contacted Ken Raworth to sort out immediately. He assures me it will be sorted by the weekend.
- No further works or costs are envisaged until Spring.

j) Riverside Regeneration

D Muir reported the following:-

Little to report this month on Yoxall Riverside Regeneration:-

Plaques have been screwed onto the benches. Has the £700.00 due from The Royal British Legion and The Yoxall Book fund been paid yet?

The three new rubbish bins are in place. Are they being emptied and where can we put the spare one that was replaced at the entrance?

Fruit trees have not been delivered but I'm hopeful that they will be delivered before Christmas.

Neil Fleming has the updating of the entrance gates and fencing scheduled in his work.

I've had three quotes for felling two dead alder trees on the river bank: £900.00 Meadowview Garden Services; £600.00 Stockley Park Tree Services; and £400.00 Fairview Arborists (Simon Manning). I will look for funding and ask Simon to do the work in the New Year.

- J Williams said the equipment being used by J Francis on Goose Green is a little heavy and he may be prepared to invest in additional equipment.
- Waste bin moved from entrance to Goose Green and may be used at another location.
- R Keys gave an update regarding the Car Park confirming documentation signed by Lioncourt who will be keen to leave the site as E.S.B.C. are to instigate conditions of agreement.

11) WISH LIST

- P Bailey confirmed the Wish List will be updated and sent to Councillors by email.
- Christmas Boxes and Cards to be distributed tomorrow.
- P Bailey thanked P Hughes for help.

12) HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS

- Deferred to next Parish Council Meeting.

13) FINANCE

a) Approval of Cheques

DATE	CHEQUE NO.	DETAILS	£
03/12/2020	505868	R Young	268.95
03/12/2020	505869	V Shorthouse	331.17
03/12/2020	505870	HMRC (PAYE)	222.60
03/12/2020	505871	M Arch (Expenses)	20.35
03/12/2020	505872	Burton Conservation	500.00
03/12/2020	505873	Yoxall PCC (Fisherman)	50.00
03/12/2020	505874	Woodhouse Green Nurseries	1,150.00
03/12/2020	505875	Sustainable Furniture	2,817.00
03/12/2020	505876	R Keys (Flowers)	30.00
03/12/2020	505877	R Keys (Expenses)	25.00
03/12/2020	505878	Ken's Countryside	1,752.00
03/12/2020	505879	A Pipe Dream	70.00
		TOTAL:	<u>£7,237.07</u>

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

Resolved:

To issue the above cheques.

b) Annual Return 2019/2020

The Clerk reported that the External Auditor (MAZARS) had approved the Annual Return for 2019/2020 commenting the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

14) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Thursday, 7th January 2021.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

P Hughes
Chairman