

# YOXALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Zoom Meeting of the Parish Council  
held on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.30pm

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

Also Present: Four Members of the Public  
County Councillor J Jessel  
Borough Councillor L Beech  
R Young – Clerk to the Council

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## 1) **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from A Grandfield.

## 2) **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

- Reviewed discussions and agreement to request a 4% increase in the Precept for 2021/2022.
- 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 – Eighty Christmas Tea boxes distributed to Parishioners. Many thanks to all donors, including the Fisherman.
- Card and Flowers to A Grandfield.
- May have physical Parish Council Meetings by May 2021. Need to monitor advice regarding Annual Meetings.
- Monitoring Grants available to the Parish Council.
- Covid Updates.
- D Cross has celebrated age of 102 years.
- Zoom meeting to say goodbye to M Peters.

## 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 ZOOM MEETING HELD ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021**

It was proposed (J Williams), seconded (R Keys) and agreed to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Zoom Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021, subject to the following amendments:-

- 6) Delete: "taking away water nearby houses".  
Include: "taking water away from nearby houses".
  
- 10j) Delete: "School PTA looking at each child".  
Include: "School PTA looking at whole village".  
Delete: "Approved grants of £2,500.00".  
Include: "Approved grants of £2,420.00".  
Delete: "Will try and obtain funding for two trees".  
Include: "Will try and obtain funding to cut down trees".

**Resolved:**

**To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Zoom Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021, subject to the above amendments.**

**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**

J Jessel gave an update regarding the following:-

- Double yellow lines Sudbury Road – Hadley Street.
- Clearance of gullies – Town Hill and Savey Lane.
- Broken drainage on Sandpits Lane.
- Requested R Rayson to improve parking area on Savey Lane. Cost estimate of £10,000. Reviewed funding options. Wooden posts may not be popular. Will also discuss problem with Trent and Dove Housing.
- HS2 Consultation – Coordinating Environmental Impact and Traffic Management. Problem of possible increase in HGV's coming through the village. Transport needs to adhere to agreed routes. Police are not formal consultees but have asked Staffordshire County Council to consult police.

- Covid Update – Staffordshire County Council focusing on the Recovery period. Unemployment for young people increased.

**b) Report of Borough Councillor L Beech**

L Beech mentioned the following:-

- Councillor's Community Fund and criteria.
- Boundary Commission.
- Waste Collection.
- Covid vaccines – Venues very good and well organised.
- Uttoxeter Masterplan approved.

**8) PLANNING**

**Planning Report**

The Neighbourhood Plan – Approved in 2015 will now be reviewed in late 2024 prior to the next Local Plan review in 2025.

**Bond End**

The agents for the Bond End site are meeting ESBC planners to discuss their views on development at the site. They will also meet us again in progressing their ideas.

**Dunstall Lane**

Application No: 00899 for the conversion of an egg production plant into eight general storage units has generated considerable local concern regarding the expected increase in commercial traffic. Local residents have objected as has the Parish Council and discussions are ongoing between ESBC and SCC Highways officers. Local County Councillor J Jessel has also expressed her concern.

**St Peters Walk**

I will be attending a meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February to finalise the legal agreement between ESBC and Lioncourt in transferring the Car Park and open space land to ESBC. Shortly afterwards the PC will then take ownership of the car park and manage the open space for ESBC under a contract.

**Refusals**

Application No: 01229 – the application for an agricultural tied dwelling at Trent Bridge, Morrey Lane was refused.

## **New Applications**

Application No: 00077 – Conversion of a barn to G8 general storage at Longcroft. As before with the two previous applications, we have raised concerns regarding traffic implications.

Application No: 2020/01480 at the Garden House, Longcroft – erection of a stable block, replacing existing store and stables. No objection.

Application No: 00021 – Scotch Hill Roads, Newchurch – Change of Use from agricultural to equestrian use, including new stable block. No objection.

Application No: 00017 – Heron Brook, Victoria Street – Erection of a garden shed and greenhouse. No objection.

## **9) CLERK'S REPORT**

### **a) Correspondence**

- Malcolm Fahey – Planning Application Wood Lane, Hall Farm.
- Malcolm Fahey – Toad Crossing Signage – Dunstall Lane, Stoneyford.
- Dates for Parish Council Meetings.
- J Jessel – “Staffordshire Means Back to Business”.
- J Jessel – Covid-19 Testing Update.
- Staffordshire County Council – Diversion of Vehicular Traffic – Tatenhill Lane, Rangemore.
- “The Census is Here” – Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021.
- SPCA – Zoom Meetings – Issues with Parish Council Meetings being targeted for disruption.
- Staffordshire County Council – Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice – Forest Road and Newborough Road – Six Roads End.
- Staffordshire Archive and Heritage Newsletter.
- Staffordshire Police – Barton and Needwood Changes.
- Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire – Unsung Heroes.
- SPCA Bulletin.

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

### **a) Open Spaces**

P Kitt reported the following with regard to Milne Holme Pingle :-

Inspection and Report carried out 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021.

The area was in good order. It has been flooded, but all appears okay.

The litterbin has been installed and there is some litter for removal under the Hedges which is difficult to get at and will be removed in better weather.

Application has been made to the Borough Council for funding to complete the outstanding works to the “Pingle” to bring it to the required standard. Those works are to close off the openings in the Hedgerows, on the right as you walk towards the river, with fencing and to install Gates at the access point for the tractor. This will achieve the following:-

- 1) Secure the Field from unauthorised use.
- 2) Secure the Field so that children cannot simply walk through the hedge onto a road that is used by vehicles and affords access to the river.
- 3) In these difficult times provides another safe area where people can exercise with their families locally.

**b) Village Amenities**

J Williams commented as follows:-

- A Volunteer undertaking litter picking in village.
- P Hughes confirmed he would obtain litter pickers and high visibility jackets.
- Opposite Retail Shop – Chain link removed – Two litter bins need repair. R Keys said both bins in poor condition and local resident could refurbish and paint at a cost of £100.00 per bin.

It was proposed (J Williams), seconded (R Keys) and agreed to accept the offer from a Parishioner to refurbish the two bins at a cost of £100.00 each.

**Resolved:**

**To refurbish the two litter bins.**

- Meeting with Lioncourt on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – reviewed Signage required plus barrier needs painting.

**c) Roads and Pavements**

M Arch reported the following:-

Reported last month about the increase in gravel moving lorries through the village. There has been a modest reduction in the number of movements but at times gravel traffic is still significant. Still concerned that the lorries may be connected with HS2 despite assurances that such traffic would not come through the village.

**There was an accident** during the recent period of inclement weather, when a vehicle hit the corner of the Golden Cup. Have written to Staffordshire Highways and asked them to look into the possibility of erecting a safety barrier in front of part the premises similar to the type that is positioned on front of the local school.

A significant number of pedestrians, including children, walk past the Golden Cup on a daily basis and are regularly subjected to motor vehicles (cars and HCV's being driven in a dangerous manner). Staffordshire Highways are to ask their safety team to take a look. Have offered to meet.

Response from Staffordshire Highways regarding the **island at Alexandra Drive**. Highways wish to assess daily usage of the traffic once we get back to something like normal times. Pointed out that the request to improve the island (diameter and height) is seen as a safety measure as there are no traffic calming measures in place in the village.

**d) Village Hall**

- J Williams commented he had joined a Zoom Presentation with Support Staffordshire which was very informative. Subscription to Support Staffordshire is £25.00 each year.

It was proposed (J Williams), seconded (P Bailey) and agreed to subscribe to Support Staffordshire at an annual cost of £25.00.

**Resolved:**

**To join Support Staffordshire at an annual cost of £25.00.**

**e) Best Kept Village Competition**

- P Bailey agreed to obtain a quote to provide plants for the Flower Tubs in the Village. D Muir said some of the plants are perennials and will save some costs.

**f) Footpaths**

R Keys reported the following:-

I have been liaising with the National Forest on how we can apply for funding and we need to assemble a single project submission involving match funding.

I have also been discussing the footpath close to Ferrers Field and SCC have now agreed to send an inspector.

**g) Website**

M Arch mentioned the following:-

- Updating Covid-19 information on Website as details become available.
- New section for HS2 Phase 2a Consultation – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 until 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Website: [WWW.hs2.org.uk/phase2a](http://WWW.hs2.org.uk/phase2a)
- Updated the “Useful Addresses” section.
- Laura Beech, Borough Councillor provided n update regards Covid.

**h) Burial Ground**

- R Keys commented rainwater running down path at Burial Ground due to volume of rainfall.
- J Williams said several years ago had a CCTV review and raised pipe issues with Homeowner nearby, resulting in the Water Authority taking responsibility.

**i) Ferrers Field**

P Kitt reported the following:-

Inspection and Report carried out on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021.

The area was in good order and all equipment appeared to be working correctly. Some small pieces of litter were removed.

Following emails from Mike Arch, I was prompted to follow up on the footpath issues between Ferrers Field and Savey Lane that I had passed onto Julia Jessel 12 months ago. My thanks to Mike. Thanks also to Phil Hughes for assistance and, in particular, Bob Keys, who has been pursuing this vigorously on our behalf with Landowners and SCC.

Below is a summary of where we are up to with the issues regarding the footpath and major pedestrian thoroughfare.

- 1) The Landowner to dig the necessary ditches as soon as possible to ease flooding problems and thereafter maintain them. Bob Keys has contacted landowner Reg Doxey and also reported the situation to SCC for them to follow up on our behalf if necessary.

- 2) The Tree roots need removing; a root barrier installing and the path resurfacing as soon as possible to prevent tripping hazard and serious injury.

Bob Keys has been in contact with Julia Jessel and Julia is aware of the problems and is following up with SCC.

Peter Kitt is obtaining several written quotations for the works on behalf of PC for SCC.

- 3) If the path is to be dug up, it is essential to install drainage at this point for the most cost effective outcome. Peter Kitt is obtaining written quotes on behalf of PC and SCC.
- 4) The Parish Council has no ownership or direct responsibility for any of the above. Indeed, the Parish Council could not authorise works to be carried out on Property it does not own.
- 5) The Parish Council is responsible for looking after the Parish and as such the Safety and Welfare of all Parishioners. In vigorously pursuing all of the above, County Council, Landowners and obtaining Quotations for carrying out the remedial works for and on behalf of the County Council, The Parish Council is doing all that is reasonably practical to ensure the Health and Safety of the Parishioners.
- 6) A fully repaired footpath, with tree roots removed, a root barrier installed to stop any repeat of the problem, and proper adequate drainage to prevent flooding in the future can be achieved if all parties involved: Landowners; SCC; Severn Trent; Highways; Parish Council continue to work closely together on this and are prepared to meet costs as required and proportionately if necessary.

**j) Riverside Regeneration**

D Muir reported the following:-

- Goose Green very wet – Pond and River overflowed.
- Two new gates renewed at a cost of £400.00 – Funding will come from National Forest.
- Two trees need to be removed during next month by Contractor – Funding to be allocated to cover cost.

- Local Garden Nursery donated primrose plants to be planted, possibly by the entrance to Goose Green.
- Time Capsules to be buried on Goose Green – School advertising details.
- Received letter with request to commemorate Sarah George who had passed away. Would like to donate towards Goose Green with an appropriate tribute as she liked and was interested in wildlife. Could contribute towards another workshop, bird boxes, picnic bench or bird feeding station. Very grateful for any contribution.
- Local designer reviewing Welcome Pack with regard to local area and design.

## 11) WISH LIST

P Bailey commented as follows:-

- Circulated to Councillors 2020 Wish List.
- Started 2021 Wish List.
- No news as to whether Yoxall Fete will go ahead this year.

## 12) HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS

- This item was deferred.

## 13) FINANCE

### a) Cheques Payments

DATE	CHEQUE NO.	DETAILS	£
11/01/2021	505905	Neil Sutcliffe	45.00
04/02/2021	505906	Ken's Countryside	186.00
04/02/2021	505907	Support Staffordshire	25.00
04/02/2021	505908	N Fleming	570.00
04/02/2021	505909	M & R Electrical	350.40
04/02/2021	505910	Yoxall PCC	50.00
04/02/2021	505911	MAZARS	360.00
04/02/2021	505912	South Staffordshire Water	82.50
04/02/2021	505913	R Young	268.95
04/02/2021	505914	V Shorthouse	331.17
04/02/2021	505915	HMRC (PAYE)	222.60
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£2,491.62</b>

It was proposed (J Williams), seconded (D Muir) and agreed the above cheques should be issued.

**Resolved:**

**To issue the above cheques.**

**14) DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

The meeting closed at 9.33pm.

P Hughes  
Chairman