

YOXALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Yoxall Parish Council
held on Thursday, 2nd September 2021 at 7.30pm
in Yoxall Parish Hall

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

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

1) APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from J Jessel and L Beech.

2) CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman, P Hughes, mentioned the following:-

- Welcomed Councillors after Summer break.
- New Flags ordered.
- HS2 traffic included in A515 report.
- No left turn on A515 to stay.
- Then and Now pictures will be available soon.
- Woodhouses and Town Hill – R Keys in contact with Amey.
- Welcome Pack.
- Conservation Group Meeting on the 26th September 2021.
- Sports Club.

3) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

To be recorded when matter raised during the meeting.

4) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 1st July 2021.

Resolved:

To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 1st July 2021 as a true and correct record.

5) **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- 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 matters reported.

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

- No matters reported.

8) **PLANNING**

R Keys reported the following:-

Planning Report – July-August 2021

Significant applications included the following:-

2021/00918 – Conversion of two farm outbuildings to form 10 stables and an indoor riding area at Longcroft Farm. The PC has made enquiries with ESBC planning to discuss any issues which may arise as this site has been subject to a number of applications.

2021/01025 – Prior approval application at Yoxall RD/Morrey Lane for an agricultural building to be converted to a dwelling. We did not raise an objection to a similar application recently and are waiting for the planning officer's early views on this proposal.

2021/00889 – Front extension and alterations to existing outbuilding at the Old Nursery House, Morrey Lane – No objection.

2021/01018 – Replacement of sun room extension, lowering external ground levels and installing gate piers at Le Field Farm, Hadley Street.

2021/01019 – Listed building application for repairs to roof, external masonry and chimneys as well as various internal repair and alterations.

As both applications involve extensive works, I gather that the applicant has already undertaken considerable research and has also consulted ESBC on appropriate methods and materials.

Planning Reforms Proposals

I have discussed the implications of the Government's new planning reforms with CPRE who are very well informed on rural planning issues. One of the proposals is for councils to designate protected areas and the implications for villages like Yoxall are clear in that to protect the village from major developments we must lobby for inclusion within a protected area category.

For now, it is a case of closely monitoring the situation, though I have recommended that the PC join the CPRE to enable us to be aware of any key developments with the reforms and their implications.

9) CLERK'S REPORT

a) Correspondence

- SPCA – Training courses.
- J Jessel – Repairs to Branston A38 Interchange.
- J Jessel – Dogshead Lane, Catholme.
- SCC – Robert Smith – No Waiting Restrictions on A515 King Street and Hadley Street, Yoxall.
- SPCA Bulletin.
- Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Newsletter.
- Staffordshire Fire Service – Reporting an Emergency.
- Came and Co – Parish Council Insurance.
- CPRE – Chairman's Report.
- SCC – C Liston – No Left Turn Restriction on A515.

10) MATTERS IN PROGRESS OR REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

a) Open Spaces

P Kitt reported the following:-

Application for a Grant for the Fencing and Gate has been submitted to Laura Beech to proceed with on our behalf. The total cost of works is £850.00. As we are now nearly six months into the year and our finances are returning, permission is sought to carry out the works sooner rather than later to finally secure the Field, both from a security point of view and a Health and Safety point of view regardless of the outcome of the Grant application.

If we are 100% successful with the Grant, we will get our money back. If we are only partially successful, we will receive some recompense. If we are unsuccessful, the works will still require

doing and the longer we wait, I can only foresee the cost of materials continuing to rise.

Ferrers Field Report – September 2021

The quarterly inspection has been carried out by Sovereign, our approved contractors, on the 4th August 2021. The only issue identified was the play bark which has been topped up by Ken.

There may be a need for a further couple of bags, but the ROSPA inspection is due and arranged for September, and I would suggest awaiting their report to see if there is a need at this stage.

Ferrers Meeting

A Public meeting was held at the Village Hall and Parishioners invited to attend to discuss the future development of Ferrers Field Play area on the 27th August 2021, as agreed by the Parish Council. The minutes are included below in this report.

A further follow-up meeting has been agreed for approximately four weeks' time, depending on availability of the Hall, please John.

b) Village Amenities

J Williams commented as follows:-

- Noticeboards need a coating before the Winter.
- Will review Sand Bunker and Sandbags.

c) Roads and Pavements

M Arch reported the following:-

- HS2 - Noted details of HGV coming through the Village with gravel. HS2 Birmingham thanked for details of Haulier and Registration number. Inspector came out and checked traffic for three hours.
- HGV damaged the kerb just past the Cup.
- Currently overnight closure at Barton Turns.
- Movement of HS2 vehicles need to be monitored.
- Reviewed traffic issues in Yoxall, including domestic vehicles.

- Community Speedwatch reporting motorists entering Village at speed.
- R Keys suggested additional signage was needed. M Arch mentioned that "Give Way" signs may be appropriate.
- Letter to be sent to David Williams (SCC Cabinet Member for Highways) and Staffordshire Police.

d) Village Hall

J Williams reported the following:-

- North Staffordshire Fire inspected Fire Extinguishers.
- Update regarding bookings.
- Builder to repair guttering on porch.
- Also requested quote for outside doors.
- Obtaining quote for replacement door locks.
- Veronica Shorthouse leaving at the end of the month as moving to Swadlincote.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to give a leaving gift of £50.00 to V Shorthouse.

Resolved:

It was agreed to give V Shorthouse a leaving gift of £50.00.

- J Williams asked if anyone was aware of a suitable replacement for V Shorthouse.

e) Best Kept Village Competition

- S Green confirmed she would be looking after the BKV Competition in future and she may delegate some duties.

f) Footpaths

R Keys commented :-

- Very little progress regarding grants for footpaths.
- Many organisations look for a wider coverage such as a Conservation Group which would cover a wider range of subjects.

g) **Website**

- M Arch to update after the meeting.

h) **Burial Ground**

- No matters reported.

i) **Riverside Regeneration**

Parish Council Report – 2nd September 2021

Goose Green

Wild flower hay has been spread over an area around the wildlife pond to create a wild flower meadow. The hay was provided by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust and spread by Burton Conservation Volunteer Group. Both of these organisations have kindly donated their time and resources so there has been no charge. It is now important that this area is not mowed and the wild flowers are allowed to grow. I have spoken to John Francis about the grass cutting that he does on Goose Green and have discussed this area with him. I am meeting up with him next week when he will be cutting again. I am considering the best way to sign the area so visitors to GG are aware of the intended meadow.

We have two Sundays booked this month (19th and 26th) with BCV group to continue with the pond clearance and a general tidy up, although at the moment the pond appears to be dry! The latter of these dates is also the day that we hope to launch a Yoxall Conservation Group which Sue is organising.

National Forest Community Woods Network

The Parish Council is now a member of this network and I attended a networking event at the Timber Festival at Moira at the beginning of July. It was attended by a large number of organisations from all over The National Forest and group discussions took place on a variety of issues. There is a follow-up event on 1st October at Whistlewood Common near Melbourne and Sue and myself have signed up to attend.

SpiltMilk and the Yoxall Little Wander

There has been a delay in finalising the audio tour as one of the girls of SpiltMilk has had a health problem and has undergone surgery from which she is still recovering. Sarah has apologised for the delay but the project will resume once Adele is fit again.

Welcome Pack

The Yoxall Welcome Pack has now been redesigned and is ready to go to print. Copies have been distributed to all councillors and Bob and myself would 'welcome' any comments! One question that springs to mind is who is going to keep the copies for distribution?

j) Sports Club Development

- R Keys reported the Sports Club had undergone some changes with the election of a new Chairman with a view to put forward ideas for fundraising for proposed improvements.
- R Keys assisting with a planning application and ESBC have reviewed initial details and not raised any concerns. Project to cost in the region of £200K.
- Bonfire and Firework Night to be held on the 30th October 2021.

k) Health Services

R Yapp mentioned the following:-

- Meeting with Yoxall Practice Manager.
- Staff Communication.
- Doctors Rota.
- Organisation.
- Open Meeting at Village Hall.
- Telephone System needs improving.

l) Conservation Group

S Green commented as follows:-

- Launch of Conservation Group – 11.00am, 26th September 2021.
- Set-up from 8.30am.
- A lot of interest in another event being planned for Spring 2022.
- Any VIP's attending would help.
- R Keys said need to invite County and Borough Councillors.
- School interested with children designing a Logo.
- Guides to help.

11) WISH LIST

P Bailey reported the following:-

- Updated the Wish List with information from last meeting and circulated an updated list.
- W.I. planting Centenary Tree on Goose Green on Saturday, 2nd October 2021.

12) HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS

- No matters reported.

13) FINANCE

a) Cheques Payments

DATE	CHEQUE NO.	DETAILS	£
02/09/2021	506201	Hall Caretaker	329.17
02/09/2021	506202	HMRC (PAYE)	224.60
02/09/2021	506203	Clerk	268.95
02/09/2021	506204	Clerk Expenses	31.95
02/09/2021	506205	N Fleming	510.00
		TOTAL:	£1,364.67

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

Resolved:

To issue the above cheques.

14) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Thursday, 7th October 2021.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

P Hughes
Chairman