

YOXALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Yoxall Parish Council
held on Thursday, 7th October 2021 at 7.30pm
in Yoxall Parish Hall

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

Also Present: Borough Councillor L Beech
R Young – Clerk to the Council

1) APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from M Arch and J Jessel.

2) CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman, P Hughes, mentioned the following:-

- Correspondence to go via the Clerk to report at the next Meeting.
- Many thanks to Veronica Shorthouse for her work and help as Caretaker of the Village Hall. Veronica has moved to be near her family.
- Armistice Day Update.
- Litter Pick – 16th October 2021.
- Christmas Boxes Distribution – 10th December 2021.
- Health Centre Update.
- Community Speed Watch Report.
- New Flags.
- Road and Pavement Update.
- Sports Club Meeting 30th September 2021. No insurance cover from the Parish Council for planned event.
- Conservation Day last Sunday well attended.
- Request from Parishioner to apply grass seed to area adjacent to the highway.
- CPRE.
- Ferrers Field Facilities Meeting – Further Meeting 12th November 2021.
- School – 20mph speed limit.

3) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

To be recorded when matter raised during the meeting.

4) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 2ND SEPTEMBER 2021

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 2nd September 2021, subject to the following amendments:-

- Delete S Green in Minutes. Include S Evans in Minutes.
- Planning Report – Delete “Le Field Farm”. Include Lea Field Farm”.
- Conservation Group – Delete “Guides to help”. Include “Guides, Cubs, Scouts and Brownies to help”.
- Wish List – Delete “Goose Green”. Include “School Green”.

Resolved:

To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 2nd September 2021, subject to the above amendments.

5) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- No matters were 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

L Beech mentioned the following:-

- New Monitoring Officer.
- Update regarding Grant Application.
- Correspondence regarding Cartref.
- Planning Applications relating to Longcroft Farm.

8) PLANNING

R Keys reported the following:-

Planning Report – October 2021

Significant applications received include:-

01076 – Erection of a replacement stable and creation of a ménage at the Spinney, Wood Lane. No objection.

01025 – Following my query, ESBC have confirmed that this is a re-submitted application for conversion of an agricultural building in Morrey Lane. The applicant has amended the application to address concerns regarding the extent of conversion required. Further discussions to follow with ESBC

Permissions

00889 – Front extension at Old Nursery House, Morrey Lane.

01097 – Storage extension to existing building and Change of Use for land to be used as car parking at CTS Toner Supplies, Trent Bridge.

Refusal

00475 – ESBC refusal regarding a side and rear extension at 35 Lighwood Road.

Other Planning Matters

Gov planning – The proposed changes to local planning have now been paused by the Government. This does not mean that Local Plans and housing allocations will not be changed and we will continue to liaise with CPRE in monitoring the situation.

During the last month I have been discussing an article on Yoxall's Conservation area with James Bate, ESBC assigned officer, as he handles regular enquiries regarding planning issues within the area. An explanatory article is now being prepared for the Parish magazine.

The SCC application for double yellow lines at Hadley Street, Sudbury Road and King Street is now being processed and we expect its implementation in October/November.

St Peters Car Park – We have been advised that the legal agreement has now been completed and meantime I have learned that the roadside landscaping of the car park will fall within the PC's maintenance but the verge leading to the corner of St Peters scheme will fall within the separate contract with ESBC.

9) CLERK'S REPORT

a) Correspondence

- Enquiry regarding responsibility for Ground and Play Equipment Maintenance at Alexandra Drive.

- Request for provision of Grass (Seed or Turf) on roadside verge – Deferred until growing season.
- J Jessel – Covid-19 Update.
- SCC – Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice – Bow Meadow Lane, Newborough.
- Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Newsletter.
- J Jessel – 2021 Community Fund.
- Staffordshire Fire – Log Burners.
- SPCA Bulletin.
- The Community Foundation for Staffordshire.
- J Jessel – A38 Bulletin.
- Glasdons – Confirmation of Order – Litter Bin.
- J Jessel – NHS Urgent Treatment Centres.

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

a) **Open Spaces**

P Kitt reported the following:-

Ferrers Field

A litter pick was carried out from Milne Home Pingle up the lanes to Ferrers Field and around the Field, resulting in two full bags of litter/rubbish removed on Saturday, 2nd October 2021. Ferrers Field and Play area was in good condition.

John Francis has been requested to shape the Hedges to the field as was done last year, to his credit, he was intending to do so anyway. The work will be done in the near future.

The ROSPA Inspection has been carried out and we have their report. There are no significant problems.

Finally, the second meeting of the Ferrers Field Action Group was held on Friday, 1st October and the Minutes are attached to this report. Second meeting arranged for 12th November 2021.

Milne Holme Pingle

A litter pick was carried out down the A515 to Milne Holme Pingle and around “the Pingle” on Saturday, 2nd October 2021, resulting in three bags of litter/rubbish removed. “The Pingle” was in general in very good condition and tidy.

The siting of an additional bin by the area where the cars park on the left is essential and this will be achieved when the new bin is located outside Malcolm’s, the old bin being relocated to “the Pingle”.

The fence posts have been installed and concreted in ready to take the new gate which is being installed, along with the new fencing required, by Neil Fleming, and this will be completed in the near future.

Old Litter Bin to be re-sited at Milne Holme Pingle.

b) Village Amenities

J Williams mentioned the following:-

- New Litter Bin in transit to the Parish.
- Noticeboards need a Tidy Up.
- Sand for Bunker ordered. Adequate stock of sandbags.
- Dog Bin next to Bunker to be repaired.

c) Roads and Pavements

M Arch sent a report as follows:-

- Weight Limit Signpost replaced at Wood End Lane and potholes in Hadley Street identified for repair by SCC Highways following report I had submitted.
- Highways England continue to use new diversion when A38 closed for repairs which is keeping the majority of HCV's away from Yoxall during the night.
- If no response to our letter regarding traffic issues in Yoxall, suggest we write again asking for a response and proposed actions.

P Hughes commented as follows:-

- A lot of work undertaken on the A38 plus the layby at Alrewas.
- Report received from David Walker on the Community Speedwatch.
- 20mph speed limit by the school.
- Yellow "No Parking" lines to be installed.
- Contacting School to ask parents to use the Car Park facility and not block Hadley Street.

d) Village Hall

J Williams commented as follows:-

- Getting back to pre-Covid bookings.
- Fence at the front of Hall painted.
- Retirement of Veronica Shorthouse.
- Keyholder details and Cleaning of Hall outlined.

e) **Best Kept Village Competition**

S Evans reported the following:-

Since the last meeting it has been agreed to arrange a big village and church clean up on Saturday, 16th October 2021. The event has been advertised extensively throughout the village via posters, roadside repeater signs, Community Facebook and our website. I have also contacted St Peter's School, Guides, Brownies, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers.

Members of the community have been asked to meet at the Parish Hall. Equipment and PPE will be provided on the day, as will free breakfast sandwiches and tea/coffee for all participants.

Catering for Saturday, 16th October: We will offer a choice of bacon, sausage, egg or meat free sausage/bacon sandwiches. White, brown bread. Red, brown sauces. Tea, coffee, sugar, semi-skimmed milk, orange juice. I will arrange for these items plus paper napkins. We cannot cater to every diet. However, we will display manufacturer's ingredients in order that people are aware of allergens in products.

I am in the process of compiling a schedule of jobs (such as litter picking, bus shelter sweeping, etc.) and the village will be divided into sections for completion. Please can you let me know if you are able to help out. Anyone who wishes to assist, but cannot help on 16th October (9.00am-1.00pm) – please let me know!

Yoxall has participated in BKV since the 1950's. I would like to put a couple of features in the Fisherman over the coming months explaining more about BKV, its origination and Yoxall's success.

Cuttings left on ground at Alexandra Drive – P Hughes offered to assist clear up the cuttings.

Hedge growth over pathway on King Street.

S Evans thanked everyone for help.

f) Footpaths

R Keys commented as follows:-

- Enquiries regarding broken stiles. Cost split between Landowner and Parish Council. Will review stiles and check with Staffordshire County Council with regard to cost.
- P Hughes said Footpath 53 may need to be reviewed.

g) Website

- M Arch had confirmed he will use Councillor Reports to update the Website.

h) Burial Ground

- Clerk to review Burial details.

i) Riverside Regeneration

D Muir reported as follows:-

Goose Green

The wild flower meadow area has been signed to advise visitors that the area will only be cut once or twice a year to encourage germination of the seeds. Some extra wild flower plants have been planted around the area by Jean Norris – taken from her garden.

We have enjoyed two Sundays with Burton Conservation Volunteer group this month (19th and 26th) who continued with the pond clearance and a general tidy up. Some overhanging branches have been removed for safety and strimming around all the newly planted trees was undertaken. A 'Doggy Dip' area was created down to the river with steps allowing doggy visitors to have a swim! There were not many residents who came and volunteered to help on either day so it is hoped that the formation of our own Conservation Group will help.

A point to note is that I have seen quite a few walkers with dogs off their leads on Goose Green. Perhaps we need to make better signs? I am reluctant to approach people after receiving considerable verbal comment from some visitors who were enjoying a picnic as I had simply pointed out the whereabouts of the litter bins.

National Forest Community Woods Network

S.Evans and myself attended the Autumn event on 1st October at Whistlewood Common near Melbourne and spent the day (and a free lunch!) learning about rural crime, funding and the recruitment, training and retention of volunteers. It was a very interesting day and we met many other organisations from around TNF. One fact that emerged from the rural crime talk given by PC Paul Russell from Derbyshire Rural Crime Team was that Staffordshire have no such team which is appalling considering how much of the county is rural. Paul suggested that we might want to contact the Staffordshire Crime Commissioner and discuss this with him.

Large Trees on Goose Green Boundary with Shop and Flat

The issue was raised by Jackie Coates who is the landlord of the property objecting to the blocking of light caused by a couple of large conifers on GG side of the fence. I spoke with her and said no one has a legal right to light and that she is welcome to cut down any overhanging branches on her side, but there is no plan to remove or even cut back the trees. They in fact help to conceal an ugly fence and the back of the buildings.

D Muir trying to get workshop going to produce nesting boxes (Bird Boxes). Made contact with person to help and would only cost £6.00 per box.

j) Sports Club Development

- This matter was referred to the Private and Confidential section of the meeting.

k) Health Services

R Yapp reported the following :-

An open meeting was held in Village Hall by the Health Centre and over 100 folks attended. The PPG are arranging an AGM so folks will have another opportunity to ask questions. Anyone can attend but need to notify.

There have been staff changes, a new HCA, an extra person in Dispensary, and new receptionist. Dr Gunn is on long term sick and due to shortages, they have only been able to secure a locum GP one day a week. Dr Kaul is partner GP F/T and Dr Osman is salaried P/T. GP communication has improved but issues remain regarding access

to GP's, telephone response times and call backs, and attitude of some staff, but there has been some improvement, but still lots to address.

P Hughes commented the Website had not been updated for five years.

AGM for Patient Participation Group to be held on the 16th November 2021.

I) Conservation Matters

S Evans reported the following:-

The 26th September launch event on Goose Green was advertised via posters throughout the village, editorial in the Fisherman (August and September issues) and also posted on the PC website and Yoxall Facebook page.

The event itself was well attended with some 30 people signing up for the group. We have recorded specific interests and the signup form also appears in the October issue of the Fisherman for all those who were not able to attend. Thanks are extended to Yoxall Fete Committee for the loan of a gazebo and to everyone for helping and attending on the day.

I took the idea of St Peter's pupils designing a logo into school at the beginning of this term. Mr Draper kindly arranged for all classes to take part. Teachers judge each class and we have been handed the final four to make our decision. (I will bring these to the meeting).

The next stage is to invite all those who have signed up for a "tea/coffee get together" in the Parish Hall. If we could offer a choice of two dates (perhaps a Saturday morning and then a Saturday afternoon), this would maintain interest and keep numbers effective reference COVID.

Taking the group forward, we need to chat through aims of the group and plan projects, as well as a diary slot for meetings etc.

D Muir and myself attended a Community Woods Network event at Whistlewood Common on 1st October. This included discussions about volunteers and funding. A very informative day and most useful. The next event will be hosted by Rangemore and Tatenhill Parish Council. D Muir and I have offered our assistance to them.

D Muir and Goose Green

Talking to attendees at our launch event, I heard nothing but positive comments about Goose Green and its development. Likewise at the networking event. There is no doubt that this project has launched the Yoxall Conservation and Environment Group.

Conservation follow-up meeting to be held on Saturday, 30th October 2021.

11) WISH LIST

P Bailey had circulated a copy of the updated Wish List with all additions and deletions which was reviewed.

12) HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS

➤ No matters reported.

13) FINANCE

a) Audited AGAR

The Clerk reported that the Annual Return for 2020/2021 had been approved. However, it had been noted a grant of £719.00 from ESBC had been analysed incorrectly. This had been rectified.

b) Cheque Payments

DATE	CHEQUE NO.	DETAILS	£
07/10/2021	506206	N Sutcliffe	50.00
07/10/2021	506207	ESBC (Litter)	595.68
07/10/2021	506208	Eon	280.15
07/10/2021	506209	South Staffordshire Water	31.03
07/10/2021	506210	Parish Clerk	268.95
07/10/2021	506211	HMRC (PAYE)	179.20
07/10/2021	506212	ROSPA (Pay Inspection)	111.60
07/10/2021	506213	MAZAR	408.00
07/10/2021	506214	S Timmis	460.00
07/10/2021	506215	N Fleming	1,360.00
07/10/2021	506216	ESBC (Premises Licence)	180.00
07/10/2021	506217	North Staffordshire Fire	568.28
07/10/2021	506218	Waterplus	38.99
07/10/2021	506219	R J Francis	1,854.00
07/10/2021	506220	Betzys Cleaning Services	80.00
07/10/2021	506221	Parish Clerk's – Expenses	31.60
07/10/2021	506222	Print and Digital Ltd	42.00
		TOTAL:	<u>£6,539.48</u>

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

Resolved: To issue the above cheques.

14) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

➤ Thursday, 4th November 2021.

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

15) SPORTS CLUB DEVELOPMENT

R Keys reported the following:-

Brief report partly based on last week's meeting attended by two Parish Councillors with an update on the next actions. P. Kitt and J. Williams were unable to attend.

Briefly, the Committee has some plans for a fireworks/bonfire event at the end of October. A risk assessment statement has been sent to the Parish Council as landowners.

The planning application is near completion but firstly, the PC has to agree to meet the application fees imposed by ESBC of £920.00. Secondly, there is another cost of a materials estimate which would cost £300.00 inc VAT.

I have informally spoken to a few PC members and the feeling is that some reassurances would be wise before the PC commits this sum, i.e. a planned programme of fundraising and the total cost could be in excess of £200K.

It may also be wise to delay the application until the SC fundraising actually begins to give the project maximum time for its completion as permissions are usually time limited to three years.

The meeting closed at 9.27pm.

P Hughes
Chairman