

YOXALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Yoxall Parish Council
held on Thursday, 4th November 2021 at 7.30pm
in Yoxall Parish Hall

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

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

1) APOLOGIES

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

2) CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman, P Hughes, mentioned the following:

- New Car Park usage.
- A38 Road Closures.
- Dog Fouling at Burial Ground and Ferrers Field – Authorities notified.
- New Waste Bin installed by Shop.
- Conservation Group met and second meeting planned for 13th November 2021.
- Bonfire at Sports Club well attended.
- New Gate at Milne Holme Pingle stolen.
- Royal British Legion – Provision of Wheelchair.
- Community Speed Watch.

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 7TH OCTOBER 2021

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7th October 2021, subject to the following amendment:

- 10k) Delete: Dr Gunn is on long term sick.
Include: Dr Gunn is on long term sick leave.

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 7th October 2021, subject to the above amendment.

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

J Jessel confirmed the following by email:

I have received some information from the police with regards to speeding at Bond End, Yoxall over the past 12 months = 63. I have also received information from Sgt. Kirkland regarding enforcement action on the A515.

The police have now set up a process whereby Dashcam footage showing contravention of the bans can be used to prosecute drivers via the Force Resolution Centre. Results will be circulated on the Police social media in the near future.

Also, the Roads Policing Team were at the location on the A515 on 23/09/21 for an operation where they completed multiple stops and reported a driver for contravening the weight limit signage.

I have a meeting arranged with Richard Rayson and the Divisional Highways Team regarding various local highways issues. I will report on progress following this meeting.

I have had confirmation of the reason for SCC Highways not supporting the requested barrier.

The reason that Highways would not agree for a pedestrian guardrail being erected at the bottom of the footway onto Savey Lane is due to the location of the dropped kerb. The barrier would block the use of the access point for pedestrians using a wheelchair / electric scooter / pushchairs, etc.

b) Report of Borough Councillor L Beech

- No matters reported.

8) PLANNING

R Keys reported the following:

New Planning Applications – October 2021

P/2021/01321 – Extension at 23 Hollys Road, Yoxall

P/2021/01325 – Change of Use from agricultural building to small manufacturing unit.

And also:

P/2021/01357 – Change of Use – to create an office and showroom at Longcroft Farm, Longcroft.

Although these two applications meet the rural economic needs criteria, they follow another current Change of Use application at the same location. Consequently, we have enquired about traffic implications in clarifying the anticipated vehicle movements of the various proposals. SCC, as the Highways Authority, will be determining this aspect and ESBC will advise us of the outcome.

P/2021/01245 – Agricultural Change of Use and provision of an annexe at Holly Tree Cottage, Lucepool Lane.

P/2021/01328 – Conversion of outbuilding to three dwellings at Red Bank Farm, Maker Lane.

P/2021/01223 – Conversion of agricultural building to form two dwellings at Church Farm, Sudbury Road, Newchurch.

P/2021/01267 – Installation of gates and erection of a Brick Wall at End Barn Woodhouses.

Appeal

Against a refusal at 35 Lightwood Road, Yoxall, by written reps only.

Permission

For a side and rear extension at Lichfield Lodge, Lodge Lane.

9) **CLERK'S REPORT**

a) **Correspondence**

- SCC (Anna Copnall) Temporary Closure of Savey Lane.
- SCC Temporary Closure Notice – Moors Hill, Tatenhill.
- SPCA Bulletin.
- Staffordshire Archive and Heritage Newsletter.
- My Staffordshire Newsletter.
- A38 Traffic Management Bulletin.
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue – Advice to carers.
- SCC – Update regarding £4m History Centre for Staffordshire.
- SCC (J Jessel) – Consultation Mental Health.
- SCC – Covid-19 Resident Survey.
- ESBC – Footpath 46, Land off Scotch Hills Road, Newchurch – Diversion.
- Parishioner Requests (2) for Welcome Pack.

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

a) **Open Spaces**

P Kitt reported the following:-

Milne Holme Pingle Report – November 2021

A litter pick and inspection was carried out on 26th October 2021. The area was clean and tidy and had been recently mowed and was looking very good, particularly as the new fencing and gates have been installed enclosing and securing the field.

There remains a small opening to the footpath and bridge at the river end of “the Pingle” and this requires a small gate to allow access in and out of the field at this end. Neil Fleming has been asked to quote for this.

There are no other works envisaged for “the Pingle” at this stage this financial year, other than siting the recycled litter bin when available.

Details given of gate stolen.

Ferrers Field Report – November 2021

A litter pick and inspection were carried out on 26th October 2021. The area was looking very good having been recently mowed and the hedges trimmed as required. The trees at the top have been done similarly and look very good.

Only the hedge to the right of the field as you look up Ferrers Field from Ferrers Road remains uncut, but I believe this is not our responsibility. It may be worth considering asking John Francis to do this from our side as it would probably only be a couple of hours work and marginal cost, but make a huge aesthetic difference to the overall appearance to the area. Council's views/opinions are sought on this.

The ROSPA report identified only a couple of small issues. The ramp to the Fort is loose again. I have asked Ken to price for a more permanent ramp, concreted in to butt up to the Fort to make a permanent solution to this and remove the consistent maintenance problem we have with it.

The timber swings are showing some small signs of rot on the outside timbers close to the base. I have asked Ken for a price to dig out around each base area, replace any timber that is rotting and brace the supports. This will hopefully stop any spread, ensure the stability of the swings and prolong the lifespan of the swings.

Ken has been asked for a price to edge up and tidy up the paths. It may be worth asking John Francis for a quote once we have Ken's prices too.

As we are hoping to carry out works to these paths in the Spring 2022, Council may wish to hold any works on tidying up paths / edging up.

Following the various points made at the Ferrers Field Development Meetings, application has been made via Laura Beech to ESBC, for funds to purchase a second picnic bench identical to the existing benches both at Ferrers and Goose Green. Ken has been asked for a price to install as and when Grant is approved.

We have an area at Ferrers Field of hardstanding that used to house a Basketball hoop etc. Council is requested to give consideration to reinstating a Basketball hoop in the original position. (Do we still have the original?) These can be purchased for £650.00. I would propose also a Netball hoop at the opposite end of the hardstanding. These can be purchased for £250.00. We may be able to apply for Grants to cover the cost of purchasing this equipment. Ken has been asked for a price to install if it is decided to proceed.

The installation of the above would immediately enhance Ferrers Field facilities on offer and specifically for our older children at very little cost as most of the facility exists in situ.

It is felt that the culprits responsible for vandalism many years ago have long grown up and moved on. Furthermore, because of the works carried out by the Council over the last couple of years to the trees at the front of Ferrers Field, residents now have a clear and complete view up the field and can clearly see what is happening on the field.

The siting of an additional picnic bench and the introduction of a Basketball hoop and a Netball hoop onto the existing hardstanding for older children would achieve very quickly some of the things requested by Parishioners at an affordable cost whilst we still have other pressing matters to deal with as a Parish Council.

The new path could then be looked at being progressed in the financial year 2022-2023, when hopefully we will have the surplus we have forecast to put towards it and also allowing time for Grant applications to be made to fund the difference. Council permission is sought to progress these proposals to continue developing Ferrers Field Play Area.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to request Ken's Countryside Landscapes to carry out repairs to the swing facility at a cost of £400.00.

Resolved: Ken's Countryside Landscapes to repair the swing facility on Ferrers Field.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to request Ken's Countryside Landscapes to undertake repair/improvement to the slope on Ferrers Field at a cost of £60.00.

Resolved: Ken's Countryside Landscapes to repair/improve the slope on Ferrers Field.

b) Village Amenities

J Williams reported the following:-

- New waste bin installed – Old Bin with Ken's Countryside Landscapes.
- Dog Fouling – Photographs available of offenders. Contacting Enforcement (ESBC).Details of problem to be included in "The Fisherman".
- Noticeboard outside Jubilee Hall requires replacing. Chairman has possible replacement Noticeboard.

c) Roads and Pavements

M Arch reported the following:-

- Increased traffic volume into the Parish at certain times.
- Road Closures on A38 updated every week on website.
- Letter sent to D Williams (Cabinet Member) and R Rayson (SCC Highways) two months ago – No reply.
- Police Initiative at Bond End.

d) Village Hall

J Williams reported the following:-

- Hall now being fully used.
- Statutory electrical and heating boiler checks to be undertaken during next 2-3 weeks.
- Reviewed key locations.
- Confirmed two chair trolleys available.

e) Best Kept Village Competition 2022

S Evans sent a report as follows:-

The big village and church clean up on Saturday, 16th October 2021 went well. Sincere thanks to all who helped with this event. Over 28 bags of rubbish were collected and lots of tidying up achieved.

Thanks also to Paul Shum Family Butchers and Yoxall Village News for their kind and generous support.

There are still plenty of jobs which require attention, including sweeping, cutting back and ongoing litter picking. A list for these is currently being prepared.

D Muir reported that Jo Cooper (BKVC) had confirmed a “Certificate of Participation” and small tree to plant were to be sent in recognition of the Parish Council’s Community involvement.

f) Footpaths

R Keys mentioned the following:-

- Meeting with Conservation Group.
- Footpaths can be included with Conservation.
- Grant options.
- Footpath 43 has been realigned.

g) Website

M Arch commented the following were either included or to be included on the Website:-

- Notice regarding two Defibrillators.
- Dog Fouling in Village.
- Planning Report.
- Details of Gate that had been stolen.

h) Burial Ground

- J Williams gave details of the spoil/soil accumulated in the Burial Ground.
- It was proposed, seconded and agreed the spoil/soil should be removed from the Burial Ground.

Resolved: Agreed arrangements to have surplus spoil/soil removed from the Burial Ground.

i) Riverside Regeneration

D Muir commented as follows:-

- Children could make Nesting Boxes at School. Parish Council to fund materials.
- National Forest Walking Festival next year and have asked if the Parish can be involved.
- Problem of Dogs not being on leads. R Keys commented Laura Beech could pass details to the relevant office at ESBC.

j) Sports Club Development

- R Keys reported a meeting with ESBC Building Inspector tomorrow regarding the foundations of the Club building.

- The Chairman, P Hughes, said he had received an enquiry from the operator of a mobile Fish and Chip van as to whether he could site his vehicle on the Sports Club Car Park. J Williams commented it would not be possible with restricted access.
- J Williams reported the trees on the boundary by the new development appear to be diseased. S Manning to review and provide a quote. J Williams may defer any work to Spring 2022.

k) Health Services

R Yapp commented as follows:-

- There has not been another PPG meeting since the last Parish Council Meeting. Next one is 2.00pm on Tuesday, 16th November 2021 in the Village Hall. The change of venue is the number of people wishing to attend. The Revd Jeremy is going to attend.
- Disappointingly, no new newsletter has been published and so no update was in "The Fisherman". Continue to get negative feedback regarding lack of face to face access to the G.P. and phone waiting times.
- Also expanded on problems:-
 - Communication.
 - Staff illness.
 - Staff shortage.
 - Risk of closure.
 - Cancellation of proposed meeting on the 16th November 2021.
 - Newsletter to be quarterly.
 - Can book Covid Booster six months after second Covid vaccine.

l) Conservation Matters

S Evans sent a report as follows:-

Report for 4th November 2021 Meeting

Follow up contact has been made with all those who signed up to the group at the launch day. We have also arranged Saturday sessions on 30th October and 13th November for people to come along and plan taking the group forwards. Some good ideas and suggestions have been received.

Contact with school ongoing regarding prizes for logo design finalists. Anticipated that this will be concluded in November.

We do need to chat through aims of the group and plan projects, as well as a diary slot for meetings etc. Schedule planning for 2022 essential now. Date needed for late January 2022, to arrange for Paul Rochfort (per Bob Keys) to come along and talk to the group.

11) WISH LIST

P Bailey mentioned the following:-

- Circulated updated Wish List.
- Parish Council to sponsor Dog Show.
- P Hughes commented additional names to be included on Beryl Behague Tea List.
- Fete Committee have donated funds towards the Beryl Behague Tea Costs.
- Including Village Hall Locks and Doors on Wish List.

12) HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS

- This item was deferred.

13) FINANCE

a) Cheque Payments

| DATE | CHEQUE NO. | DETAILS | £ |
|------------|------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 04/11/2021 | 506301 | R Young | 268.95 |
| 04/11/2021 | 506302 | HMRC (PAYE) | 179.20 |
| 04/11/2021 | 506303 | Glasdons | 388.58 |
| 04/11/2021 | 506304 | Woodhouse Green Nursery | 1,209.00 |
| 04/11/2021 | 506305 | Cancelled | 0.00 |
| 04/11/2021 | 506306 | Cancelled | 0.00 |
| 04/11/2021 | 506307 | Ken's Countryside Landscapes | 405.60 |
| 04/11/2021 | 506308 | Betzy's | 160.00 |
| 04/11/2021 | 506309 | R J Francis | 1,808.40 |
| | | TOTAL: | £4,419.73 |

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

Resolved: To issue the above cheques.

14) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Thursday, 2nd December 2021.
- The meeting closed at 9.06pm.

P Hughes

Chairman