

# YOXALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Yoxall Parish Council  
held on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm  
in Yoxall Parish Hall

Present: P Hughes (Chair), M Arch, R Yapp, S Evans, J Williams, D Muir,  
P Bailey and R Keys

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

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**1) APOLOGIES**

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

**2) CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman, P Hughes, mentioned the following:

- Parking and use of Car Park.
- Best Kept Village Competition about to start.
- Footpath Stiles.
- Dog Fouling in Parish.
- Firework Night last year.  
Local Plan.

**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 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2022**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022 as a true record, subject to the following amendments:-

- 4) Delete: Censory Include: Sensory
- 10g) Delete: cremation memorial Include: Cremation Memorial Headstones.
- 10j) Delete: Gun Include: Gunn

**Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022, subject to the above amendments.**

5) **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- No matters were raised.

6) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- No matters were raised.

7) **REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR**

a) **Report of County Councillor J Jessel**

- There is nothing specific for Yoxall that I have to report to tonight's meeting. However, I will be preparing a newsletter setting out the newly approved strategy for the next four years and the budget.
- I haven't organised a Needwood Divisional Forum for some while due to Covid and would appreciate it if you could ask the Council if they would like me to arrange one. I had provisionally asked Ben Adams, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, if he would meet with us and I can pursue this if a meeting is wanted.

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

- No matters reported.

8) **PLANNING**

R Keys reported the following:-

**Planning Applications**

P 2021/01621 and 01622

This is an interesting proposal concerning a listed building in Victoria Street and the demolition of an outbuilding to facilitate the building of an attached dwelling.

Before formally commenting, I will be consulting the ESBC Conservation Officer as the property also falls within the village Conservation Area.

Oak Tree Cottage – Static Caravan – Discussion with ESBC.

Lea Fields Farm – The damage to verges and the island has been noted and reported to SCC as well as Chevin Homes who have agreed to repair all the damage when the heavy truck deliveries are completed. Meanwhile, we need to remind Chevin Homes to increase the road cleaning visits.

St Peters Walk and car park – Awaiting contracts though further uses for the open space could be considered.

Bond End – Contact from Trent and Dove Housing confirming lack of progress from developer – PC has had no contact.

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

### a) **Correspondence**

- SPCA Bulletin.
- Staffordshire Police Crime Report.
- Staffordshire Fire Service – Deliberate Secondary Fires.
- SCC Diversion of Vehicular Traffic – Glass Lane, Abbots Bromley – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- SCC Diversion of Vehicular Traffic – Radmore Lane, Abbots Bromley – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- SCC Diversion of Vehicular Traffic – Dunstall Lane, Yoxall – 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- SCC Diversion of Vehicular Traffic – Back Lane, Yoxall – 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.
- Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Newsletter.
- John Atkin, Chair of Yoxall Sports Club – Letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022 regarding Bonfire / Firework Display.

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

### a) **Open Spaces**

P Kitt reported the following:-

#### **Ferrers Field**

Inspection carried out on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup>. All in order.

The Hedge on the right hand side of the Field looking up from Ferrers Road has now been cut by Reg Doxey as promised.

Hinges are on order to repair the Swing Gate.

Quotes have been asked for to repaint the picnic table and benches by the hardstanding and also to treat all other timber equipment, benches and fencing.

This annual treatment has worked well over the last couple of years and not only has it lifted the appearance and enjoyment of Ferrers Field, but it is also helping to protect and increase the lifespan of the timber works.

Prices are envisaged to be below £500.00 for each aspect and Council permission is sought to go ahead with these works for the above reasons and to put us firmly ahead of the game for BKV.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to undertake the work outlined above.

**Resolved: To undertake the work outlined above.**

### **Ferrers Field Development Group**

There have been two further meetings and the following is under way:-

- 1) A decision from Sport England by mid-March as to whether they will be granting any funds at all towards the project.
- 2) The National Lottery are awaiting the outcome of Sport England's decision before finalising our application for funds from themselves so that it can be a detailed and specific application.
- 3) Diana Muir has volunteered to set up Tesco Bags application for funding for Ferrers Field Development Project with any proceeds gained being specifically targeted at developing the hardstanding area as a multi-Sports area. My hearty thanks Di.
- 4) The Group of volunteer ladies are developing to scale, a layout of the area that would be enclosed by the new path and the layout of equipment they would like to see therein for Phase 2 of the project.

It has to be stressed, it is by no means certain that we will obtain any funds at all from Sport England or the National Lottery, and if this is the case, we may have to reapply or consider our options etc.

Several other Grants have been explored by myself and I am yet to find one that is appropriate and to which we fit the requirements of that Fund.

### **Milne Holme Pingle**

The area was visited on 2<sup>nd</sup> March and was all okay.

Following the meeting with Allison Thornhill of Trent Rivers Trust, Phil Hughes and Diana Muir and myself, Allison has met with the Trent Valley Way Interpretation Consultant and he has

suggested a seat and a Totem, and they are now coming up with sketches and installation costs.

They have a limited budget and are also trying to obtain funds from the National Forest Community Grant as a top up to their budget. We await further information and details.

A suggestion by Diana Muir of proper steps down from the path to the ground level where the proposed new bench would be, is being costed and may be our contribution to the project.

All of the above would certainly enhance Milne Holme Pingle and it would make an excellent point to stop for a picnic etc.

**b) Village Amenities**

- No matters reported.

**c) Roads and Pavements**

M Arch mentioned the following:-

- HCV's with HS2 blue signs coming through the Village. Please note Registration Numbers.
- Updated Website with National Highways information.
- R Yapp commented the No Right Turn Sign on Wood Lane was down.

**d) Village Hall**

J Williams commented as follows:-

- Some guttering replaced.
- Revenue levels back to normal.

**e) Best Kept Village**

**Village Clear Up:** This will take place on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 9.30am – 1.00pm.

The event will be advertised extensively throughout the village via paddleboards, posters, social media, school, groups, etc. (Paddleboard laminated posters to be ordered over the coming week). Is there a banner still in existence? I think I remember one on the school railings.

Catering: Free breakfasts butties, tea/coffee to be offered. Assistance with catering on day to be confirmed. Catering items being sourced from local suppliers/businesses.

Article about BKV and Yoxall's involvement produced for Fisherman and Parish Council website. Unfortunately, no space in March issue, but being run with poster in April edition. Tidy up did appear in What's On section.

Gold DoE's assistance with noticeboard maintenance ongoing. Better weather hoped for in March!

The list of jobs which require attention is still ongoing. Please let me know as soon as possible about any jobs/tasks which you feel require our attention.

School: I will be going back this month about pupils designing posters and participating in a litter pick.

Application Form: We need to submit by mid-March.

Requested Councillors to review Signs, e.g. Dog Fouling Signs and Dogs on Leads.

Noticeboards need attention which would be ideal project for Duke of Edinburgh.

Reviewed Social Media options plus display of BKV Banner.

**f) Website**

M Arch reported Councillor Reports and Police Report updated.

**g) Burial Ground**

- J Williams commented there are no drainage problems in the Burial Ground as reported in the "Fisherman".
- D Muir asked could a location be agreed in the Burial Ground for a Compost and a Bonfire of branches/trimmings of bushes/trees that are cut back.
- The Clerk said there was a need to purchase wooden crosses to mark reserved plots.
- It was proposed (J Williams), seconded (D Muir) and agreed a quantity of wooden crosses for reserved plots should be purchased.

**Resolved: To purchase a quantity of wooden crosses to mark reserved plots.**

## **h) Riverside Regeneration**

### Village and Churchyard Clean-Up

Councillor D.Muir gave a brief resume of work being carried out on Goose Green by the Burton Conservation Group which coincides with the Village and Church clean-up. The Parish Council agreed to the use of part of the non-consecrated section of the burial ground for the disposal of shrub and tree debris.

### Goose Green

A new wooden fence has been erected on the boundary with The White House and the area looks much tidier. There is a gate on to Goose Green from the garden.

There is still lying water at the north end of the wildlife pond over the path and beyond. I have populated the pond with frogs from my garden pond so hopefully there will be some frogspawn this Spring.

### Sensory Garden

I have been in touch with the lady who instigated and planned the sensory garden in Sidmouth and she is happy to give any assistance that would be helpful. The first priority is to decide where it should be positioned in the village.

R Keys commented the Sensory Garden should not be a busy location and that St Peters Walk would be a route to an area of ground that may be suitable, although the soil is not good quality.

Discussions took place on the possibility of constructing a Sensory Garden and also as to where it could be sited in the village.

## **i) Sports Club Development**

R Keys reported the following:-

- Quantity Surveyor costed extension proposal at £243k.
- Active Fund Raising programme.
- Richard Thorn to prepare a Report on Further Action.
- Parish Council to deliver to planning application stage.

- P Hughes reviewed options and suitable outcome for a future event regarding nearby horses, considering a solution that makes all parties happy.

One option would be to hold Firework/Bonfire on Ferrers Field – problem with parking and impact on animals/pets.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to support a Sports Club Bonfire and Fireworks this year.

**Resolved: To support Sports Club Bonfire and Fireworks this year.**

**j) Health Services**

R Yapp mentioned the following:-

- Attended Sensory Walks and Outdoor Experiences today.
- Yoxall Health Centre Newsletter has not appeared and staff update not in the “Fisherman”. Details to be included in next month’s edition.
- Update from Yoxall Health Centre for The Fisherman.

We are working on ways to improve communication between Yoxall Health Centre and our patients.

The quickest and easiest way for us to communicate directly with patients is via the use of text messaging. Please can you contact the surgery with your mobile number if you are not currently receiving text messages from us.

We have a new Facebook page for patients to follow for health promotion messages, information about closures for training and any other news. <https://m.facebook.com/Yoxall-Health-Centre-112812331300853/>

Our website has been updated with information about our team and closure dates for 2022. If you would like to find out about the different roles within the surgery team, please visit: <https://www.yoxallhealthcentre.org.uk/>

**k) Conservation Matters**



Walks: February walk on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> was full and enjoyed by all. Future dates: Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> March (morning) few places remain and Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April (afternoon).

Due to popularity of walks, I am hoping to offer a date in June for an evening walk concluding with supper.

Quotations for replacement stiles to be concluded this month.

Footpath clearance: Path leading from Victoria Street to Sudbury Road, litter picking and tidying commenced. Better weather required.

Alexandra Drive: It was hoped to encourage a working party to assist with the general tidying of the estate during March, better weather required. A note will be put through residents' doors. Residents concerned regarding tree branches on footpath spreading over gardens.

Conservation Group will hold a meeting on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm. Paul Rochfort will be the speaker. This will be advertised shortly.

Involvement with youth groups (Scouts, Guides, etc.) ongoing.

Fundraising: The group requires funds and cannot rely on grants alone. It is suggested that a series of fundraising events be held commencing with a St George's Day Tea in the Parish Hall on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Variety of stalls, raffle, etc., and a Jubilee Quiz.

Regarding the Conservation Group the Chairman gave a guide on the parameters of the Parish Council and its involvement with the Conservation Group.

## **11) WISH LIST**

P Bailey confirmed she had circulated an updated Wish List to Councillors.

## **12) HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS**

As predicted, the yellow lines have pushed the problem further up Hadley Street and this combined with the building work, vehicles are now being parked further up the road past the grass triangle, making it difficult to get on and off some drives. This has also resulted in a lorry taking part of a tree down, just missing the offending parked car and nearly took down telephone line. The tree was a lorry which had nothing to do with Leafields development.

I've also been asked to raise again by two households, under H&S, concerns about the issue of cricket balls landing in their gardens. They

feel more could be done by the Sports Club and its only a matter of time before someone gets injured. A third household has again raised the issue of his trees being affected by a hedge by the cricket field.

### 13) FINANCE

#### a) Cheque Payments

DATE	CHEQUE NO.	DETAILS	£
11/02/2022	506358	Chairman's Expenses	25.40
14/02/2022	506359	Harwil Associates	195.00
03/03/2022	506360	Parish Clerk	268.95
03/03/2022	506361	HMRC (PAYE)	179.20
03/03/2022	506362	South Staffs Water	23.97
03/03/2022	506363	Betzy's	200.00
03/03/2022	506364	Keely's Solicitors	240.00
03/03/2022	506365	Clerk's Expenses	35.05
03/03/2022	506366	Steelway Fencing	68.40
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£1,235.97</b>

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

**Resolved: To issue the above cheques.**

### 14) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

➤ Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

P Hughes  
Chairman