

# YOXALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30pm  
in the Parish Hall, King Street, Yoxall

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

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

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## 1) APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from J Jessel, L Beech, P Bailey  
and P Kitt.

## 2) CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman, P Hughes, mentioned the following:

- Annual Meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023.
- Litter Pick – Very good attendance.
- BKV starts on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023.
- Fingerpost – Wrong location on path to Savey Lane.
- Ferrers Field Development – Young Mothers to hold Fete.
- Sports Club – AGM – 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023.
- Thanks to S Evans for contact with Primary School – Memento  
to pupils for Coronation plus A Grandfield Cup.
- Village Map progressing.
- Bench – Upper Hoar Cross Road – Waiting for response from  
SCC Highways.
- Speedwatch – Contact with SCC.
- Salary review for Parish Clerk.  
It was proposed (J Williams), seconded (R Keys) and agreed  
that the Parish Clerk's salary be increased by 5% from the 1<sup>st</sup>  
April 2023.

**Resolved: To increase the Parish Clerk's salary by 5%  
from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.**

## 3) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- Declarations to be made when relevant item raised.

**4) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2023**

It was proposed (J Williams), seconded (R Keys) and agreed the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 be approved as a true and correct record, subject to the following amendment:-

- 2) Chairman's Announcements – Paragraph 6  
Include: "Big Village Clean-Up".
- 4) Minutes  
Delete: 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
Include: 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023, subject to the above amendments.**

**5) MATTERS ARISING**

- No matters raised.

**6) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- No matters were raised.

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

**a) Report of County Councillor**

J Jessel had circulated the following:-

- Confirmed A38 will not be closed for 3-4 days this week.

**b) Report of Borough Councillor**

- No matters reported.

**8) PLANNING**

R Keys reported the following:-

**Planning Report – April 2023**

**Applications**

P/2023/00252 – Formation of new access road off Longcroft Lane – Challens Farms.

P/2023/00293 – Single storey rear extension at 2 St Peters Way.

## **Decisions**

TPO order 449 made by ESBC covering two sycamore trees at The Hollies, Bond End, Yoxall. This follows a refusal in February to pollard these trees.

Planning Policies – ESBC have recently issued a consultation on a new policy covering new developments outside of settlement areas. The SPG gives more weight to accurately meeting local housing needs and we hope that the policy is eventually adopted.

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

#### **a) Correspondence**

- CPRE – “The Big Help Out” – Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023.
- ESBC – Parish Council Elections – 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023.
- ESBC – Notice of Election – Borough and Parish Council Elections.
- Petition – Speed Limit – Hadley End – Copy details sent to Staffordshire County Council.
- ESBC – Notice of Election Agent.
- Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Newsletter.
- PWLB – Confirmation of balance outstanding as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
- SPCA Bulletin.
- Ana Cortez – Social Researcher.
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service – Posters.
- SCC – Highway Bulletin.
- Countryside Voices – Spring/Summer 2023.
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue – Motorcycle Safety.

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

#### **i) Conservation Group**

S Evans reported the following:-

Conservation Group: Green Corridor Project ongoing. Thanks to Rhys, Bronze DoE for helping tirelessly on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March. We will be arranging dates for the coming months and announcing these over the next few weeks. The young trees and hedging plants planted in November and February appear to be growing. (Bryony front garden poster also part of the Conservation Group efforts).

Riverside Regeneration – Goose Green. Dates will also be announced in respect of maintenance work on this site.

Footpaths: There have been several issues with local footpaths and Paul Rochefort at SCC has been asked to look into these for us.

Footpath Signage: I am currently awaiting response from Paul in respect of fingerpost queries.

The walking leaflet is also being developed in conjunction with Bryony.

Maintenance of paths and stiles to be addressed in April and May.

ii) **Best Kept Village Competition**

S Evans reported the following:-

Entry form and supporting documentation taken to Community Foundation Staffordshire and handed in (Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> April). Closing date Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> April (Easter Monday).

Judging commences in May. We have some work to do before then please! If you can let me know when you can help and for how long we can sort out the tasks.

I have collected BKVC posters from school and there will be prizes of a book token £10.00 each x 3.

I have been working with Bryony who has designed a wonderful poster for the BKVC colouring competition featuring the Yoxall Penny. So, we have a coronation theme as requested. (Will bring to meeting).

Best Front Garden Competition will run as usual. Thanks to Councillor Muir for announcing in The Fisherman. Suggested prizes of Woodhouse Nursery vouchers; 1<sup>st</sup> £50.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> £25.00; 3<sup>rd</sup> £15.00, as previous.

One of the comments against us last year was the state of front gardens! How we can be expected to control this I am not sure! However, again, working with Bryony, I have a design which can be coloured in or left plain and put in residents' windows. This will indicate that the garden is being left natural as so many organisations are asking us to do now. (Will bring to meeting).

Clear Up, Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March: Weather was against us, very wet. However, despite not as many people as previously, we collected a lot of litter and some good work was achieved. Thanks have been extended to businesses (Paul Shum Family Butcher, Yoxall Village News) for fantastic support in respect of refreshments. Our thanks are also noted to the volunteers for cooking and serving refreshments – via Councillor Bailey.

**iii) Riverside Regeneration**

D Muir mentioned the following:-

- Branches removed from River Swarbourn.
- Consider options to improve entrance to Goose Green. Tarmac entrance area to provide parking.
- Benches on Goose Green need to be weather proofed/ repaired.

**iv) Open Spaces**

P Kitt had circulated the following to Councillors:-

The quarterly inspection of Ferrers Field has been undertaken by Sovereign and the reports are awaited.

It is expected the report will identify all of the issues reported to Council at the last Meeting.

Attached are the quotes from Ken regarding the works discussed at that meeting. Ken is reviewing the price quoted for clearing and edging up the paths and feels confident he can reduce this if all other works proceed.

This work will bring two large open space areas up to the required standard.

It is proposed that the works are carried out immediately after the Easter Holidays.

My recommendation to Council therefore is that we go ahead.

This will ensure we are prepared for Summer and, of course, the forthcoming BKV competition.

The Chairman, P Hughes, to review the quotes obtained with Contractor.

**v) Village Amenities**

J Williams mentioned the following:-

- J Williams to ensure events do not clash. Update details to be included on Website and in the "What's On" section in the Fisherman. J Williams to draft letter to the "Fisherman" and other organisations.
- Gave details of damaged Road Sign.

**vi) Village Hall**

J Williams gave details as follows:-

- Difficulty finding builder to replace doors and frames – ongoing.
- Hall rates of hire to increase from the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023.

**vii) Burial Ground**

J Williams commented as follows:-

- Intend to improve rough section (unconsecrated) of Burial Ground.
- Part of Burial Ground very wet – Defer to later in the year.
- Reviewed Burial Fees as can be misunderstood. Proposed the opening of burial/cremated plot is increased to £250.00.

It was proposed (J Williams), seconded (D Muir) and agreed the opening fee for burial/cremated plot is increased to £250.00.

**Resolved: Opening fee for Burial/Cremated Plot is increased to £250.00.**

J Williams read out the Burial Charge Schedule.

**viii) Roads and Pavements**

M Arch gave details of the following:-

- Road Sign damaged.
- Hollys Road – Pothole on pavement.
- Petition from Hadley End residents – Need for Speed Signs.
- Problem of Traffic Speeds on Main Street continues. Need Staffordshire Police to be involved. Letter to be sent to Staffordshire Police regarding speed of vehicles. R Keys enquired if a Police Officer could join a meeting.

**ix) Website**

M Arch to update Website regarding Planning, A38 Update, Proof of I.D. for Election and Goose Green.

x) **Health and Safety – Health Services**

R Yapp reported the following:-

CPR and choking in very young, training arranged for 3<sup>rd</sup> July in conjunction with YaPP and FOSPS.

Also, Yapp attending Health Event at Barton on 19<sup>th</sup> August, aiming to do further CPR training. YaPP AGM was held on 28<sup>th</sup> March.

**Other Matters**

Angela Burns has asked if we are interested in buying marquee for £500.00.

Petition on speeding handed to Chairperson.

Fete: old Committee has bene in discussions with parties regarding the future of the Fete. One group decided not to proceed, but another group has now come forward, but probably not time to run it this year.

11) **WISH LIST**

P Bailey had circulated a copy of the Parish Wish List (Updated). The entrance to Goose Green to be added to the Wish List.

12) **COMMUNITY**

S Evans reported the following:-

- In contact with the School to be involved as follows:-
  - Best Kept Village Competition.
  - Poem regarding Yoxall/Coronation.
  - Present Coronation Mug to Children.
- Obtaining formal quotation for 140 Coronation Mugs boxed £4.87 each plus VAT.
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- Golden Cup planning Coronation function.
- Bunting reviewed for Coronation.
- “Discover Yoxall” ongoing – Any other items to be included.
- BKV reviewed jobs to be undertaken before Judges arrive.
- Information Sign to be installed.
- Reviewed Display Boards and Signage for BKV.
- Tesco Grant Scheme (Burton) now operative – Vote at Burton Store.
- Garden Challenge – To be advertised in the “Fisherman”.
- Chairs available from Church.

It was proposed (J Williams), seconded (R Keys) and agreed to purchase fifteen chairs at a cost of £300.00.

**Resolved: To purchase fifteen surplus chairs from the Church at a cost of £300.00.**

**13) SPORTS CLUB**

R Keys gave an update mentioning the following:-

- Proposal to expand Club Building – Builder preparing quotation.
- Grant Funding.
- Requested Audit Report and Constitution of Sports Club.
- Review of Annual Rent – J Williams to review Lease.

It was proposed (R Keys), seconded (M Arch) and agreed the Annual Rent should be increased to £400.00 from 2023, subject to the wording of the Lease.

**Resolved: The Sports Club rent should be increased to £400.00 from 2023, subject to the wording of the Lease.**

J Williams abstained.

**14) FINANCE**

**a) Cheque Payments**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to issue the following cheques:-

<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHEQUE NO.</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>	<b>£</b>
06/04/2023	506601	Butler Tree Survery	400.00
06/04/2023	506602	Betzy's	160.00
06/04/2023	506603	A Pipe Dream	120.00
06/04/2023	506604	SPCA	391.21
06/04/2023	506605	ESBC – Litter Bins	703.60
06/04/2023	506606	N Sutcliffe	50.00
06/04/2023	506607	Cancelled	0.00
06/04/2023	506608	ESBC Burial Ground Rates	167.66
06/04/2023	506609	Waterplus	183.75
06/04/2023	506610	South Staffordshire Water	34.72
06/04/2023	506611	Bryony Halsted	140.00
06/04/2023	506612	Bingham Ground Services	14,846.16
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£17,197.10</b>

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

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

P Hughes  
Chairman