

Minutes of the Drayton Bassett Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 31st March 2009 in the Pavilion Buildings, Drayton Bassett, and Tamworth.

Present:

Chairman P. Millard
Councillor A. Edmond
Councillor M. Garbett
Councillor G. Hemus
Clerk L. Hayes

In attendance

Lisa Brown Parishioner new appointment of Parish Clerk acting as observer.
Richard Warran interested in seeking opportunity to join D.B.P.C. as a Councillor.

09/029

Apologies:

County Councillor C. McEwan
Vice Chairman Lockhart
Councillor Walford

09/030

Code of Conduct

Chairman Millard reminded those present in the meeting to observe the Code of Conduct during the meeting.

09/031

Items for consideration by members of the public

Letter of Complaint by resident at 20 Drayton Lane regarding site of stile adjacent to her property.

Clerk L. Hayes reported to the meeting that the resident in question had sent a letter to D.B.P.C. about the stile in question.

Clerk L. Hayes reported to the meeting that she had telephoned the resident who has been advised that Lichfield District Council advised the resident that D.B.P.C. have instigated the stile being replaced. Clerk re-assured the resident that this was not the case.

The resident is concerned about threats to public safety, privacy and damage to the fence which is re-occurring due to constant use.

Discussion ensued in the meeting about the complaint and Chairman Millard directed Clerk to find out stile ownership and Lichfield District Council's response to resident.

09/032

Approval of the minutes of the meeting on Tuesday 24th February 2009.

It was agreed by those present in the meeting that the minutes were a true record of the events that had taken place.

Councillor Garbett reported not being able to access minutes/agenda from the Clerk due to some incompatibility with computer software.

09/033

Outstanding action points from the meeting of 24th February 2009 report on progress?

Item 1

Street Lighting Mayfair Drive, Fazeley

Lichfield District Council have written a letter to D.B.P.C. reporting responsibility for ownership and street lighting on pathway at Mayfair Drive, Fazeley and agreed to follow up the faulty street lights.

Item 2

Vehicles exceeding speed limit outside of Manor Primary School

Clerk reported upon a letter received from Richard Lane, Headmaster, Manor Park Primary School to acknowledge the continued problems of irresponsible parking that D.B.P.C. have regularly reported. R. Lane declined to attend the forthcoming Annual Assembly due to his imminent marriage.

Item 5

Mill Lane – response to EA letter.

Chairman Millard reported this matter to be outstanding and will be following this up outside of the meeting.

Item 6

Congestion at Drayton Manor Park

Chairman Millard reported that a meeting was to be arranged between Colin Bryan and representation from D.B.P.C. to address this.

Item 7

Flooding in Salts Lane

Councillor Hemus agreed to expose drains that are covered with weed and debris to help water soak away.

Item 8

Parish Councillor Surgeries

Chairman Millard reported that the meetings that had been arranged had been well attended and would summarise all the main concerns of the residents; to be discussed at the next meeting.

However, there were a couple of key urgent issues that needed moving forward as follows;

- a. Speeding through the village or the perception of speed.
- b. Irresponsible parking outside the school at drop off and picking up times.
- c. Request for traffic calming measures

- d. Survey to be repeated to determine eligibility to apply for traffic calming measures.

Discussion ensued in the meeting over the way forward and it was agreed to;

- a. Invite a Police presence into the village at busy periods of time.
- b. Apply for speed guns, funding thereof and training in their use.
- c. Signs on dustbins to alert drivers to slow down to 30 m.p.h. – 20 m.p.h. when travelling though the village.
- d. It was agreed to redistribute fresh signs to residents to be able to stick on bins awaiting collection from L.D.C. each Friday as a means of raising awareness of speeding in the village.
- e. Councillor Garbett agreed to sum up the key points from the meetings and circulate this amongst council members.
- f. Chairman Millard requested co-operation from D.B.P.C. on future surgeries and the creation of a rota to support this.

Item 10

Perimeter Fencing Quotation

Clerk has requested J. Mason contractor to submit a quote and this remains outstanding.

Item 11

Village Signs Ornamental

It was noted that the Clerk had overlooked an action point to write to Lord Peel to seek permission to use the family crest in the creation of future village signs. Clerk to follow this up.

Item 13

Dog Foul Management

Clerk L. Hayes reported to the meeting that she had followed up the Dog Warden at L.D.C. and it was acknowledged that D.B.P.C. have taken all the measures at their disposal to address this protracted matter.

Chairman Millard sought clarification over the distribution of a leaflet to all residents alerting them to this continued nuisance. It was reported that Councillor Walford had compiled the leaflet and is awaiting distribution.

Clerk reported that Lichfield District Council have agreed to put the village under surveillance and will distribute new signs and pay visits to try and apprehend and serve fixed penalty notices on residents who lets their dogs foul the pavements.

Item 14

Village Planters

Cllr. Edmond agreed to check with Amberol who are the company that supply the current planters the cost of sitting a new planter at the parcel of lane at the junction of Drayton Lane and Portleys Lane and report back to next meeting.

Item 15

No Ball Games Notice

Discussion ensued within the meeting over where the ball games were taking place.

It was reported to be on the walkway between Old Manor Close and Drayton Lane.

Chairman Millard requesting taking advice from Staffordshire Parish Council's Association on if the parish council can erect signs of this type on any piece of ground. Clerk to follow this up and report back to next meeting.

Item 16

Electricity Account

Switched to N Power.

Item 17

Planning Applications

Remarks of most recent plans reported to L.D.C.

Item 18

Best Kept Village Competition

In preparation for this event a village tidy up is planned for; Saturday 18th April at 10.00 a.m. till 12 midday.

Notice/s to go on the Village Green Notice Board, Village Voice.

It was reported that this information was also included in the flyer that is being circulated around the village on dog foul management.

Item 20

Community Gangs

Next round of jobs to do will be May 2009.

Clerk requested Councillors to alert her to any jobs to be undertaken.

09/034

Correspondence

A full copy of all correspondence was circulated to all those present in the meeting.

Councillor Edmond requested a copy of the Allianz Insurance report on the Play Equipment in Rectory Close, Playing Fields to attend to items in need of attention.

09/035

Changes to LloydsTSB

Clerk L. Hayes raised the matter of changing signatures on the accounts held by D.B.P.C. after changes in positions of Clerk and Parish Councillors.

It was agreed to address this between meetings.

09/036

Financial Officer Resignation

M. Monk letter of resignation received as responsible Financial Officer acknowledged. The council agreed not to accept this resignation until further discussion with Mrs Monk.

Chairman Millard agreed to follow this up outside of the meeting.

09/037

Chairman's Items

A. Goal Nets

1. Goal Nets – Young people have requested to be able to use goal nets outside of Sunday morning play when the nets are then removed and stored in Pavillion Buildings.
2. Consideration was given to painting a goal mouth on the metal fence at the back of the tennis courts – Councillor A. Edmond agreed to follow this up and report back to next meeting.
3. Seek quotes for prices for permanent nets – Councillor Edmond.

B. Appointment of New Parish Clerk

Chairman Millard reported the interview date as having taken place on Saturday 7th March 2009. 12 applications were received for the post. 4 applicants were invited for interview and 1 did not attend. The applicant who was successful was Lisa Brown and is due to commence appointment on 3rd April 2009. There will be one month overlap with two clerks in order to hand over responsibilities. Current Clerk will cease appointment after the Annual Assembly on the 28th April 2009. Chairman Millard did not sit in on the interview for L. Brown and it was affirmed that D.B.P.C. had agreed unanimously on the appointment of L. Brown.

C. Appointment of new clerk L. Brown

Discussion ensued in the meeting on the offer of employment letter that should go out to L. Brown. It was determined that the appointment would be on BAND SC19 at the rate of £9.13 PER HOUR which is commensurate with the NALC 2008/9 criteria.

A contract offering the terms and conditions will be raised and sent to L. Brown forthwith – Chairman to send current Clerk electronic copy.

The appointment is for 7 hours per week from 3rd April 2009.

09/038

Parish Councillors Items

Park Gates – Rectory Close Playing Fields

Councillor Hemus reported that after the oak gates had been removed due to their poor state of repair that the appearance of the entrance to the playing fields is looking unkempt.

Discussion ensued in the meeting over the way forward on this matter and it was agreed to;

Request J. Mason to quote for work for the re-instatement of the gates.

Gates are in storage at the property of Councillor Hemus and he invited members of D.B.P.C. to inspect them to determine future use.

09/039

Trees Adjacent to the Walkway Old Manor Close, Drayton Lane.

Councillor Garbett reported the trees are in a poor state of repair and seem haphazardly positioned. The ownership of these trees needs to be ascertained. It was agreed that Councillor Hemus inspect the area and report on the state of the trees at the next meeting.

09/040

Signs at top and bottom of Portley's Lane

Signs were temporarily installed when repairs to the bridge were being undertaken as the lane not being suitable for HGV's. The signs need to be removed as heavy goods vehicles are coming through the village. Clerk requested to contact Staffordshire Highways for the removal of signs forthwith.

09/041

Finance

Maxine Monk was not present in the meeting so no financial report to comment upon. Clerk L. Hayes made available current bank statements to D.B.P.C.

09/042

Planning

Application No. 09/ was given to Cllr. Edmond, Cllr Garbett and to return to Chairman/Clerk for comments to be recorded and to report back to LDC.

09/043

Best Kept Village Competition

Village Tidy agreed as Saturday 18th April 10.00 till 12.00 midday.

09/044

Web Site

Chairman Millard reported to the meeting that the web site had been refreshed and encouraged members of D.B.P.C. to view it and the new agreed changes have now been sent to E Roy for action.

09/045

War Memorial

Awaiting for the quote for the planned visit of the chosen contractor to be followed up via D. Bryant.

09/046

Next Meeting on funding initiatives for D.B.P.C.

Chairman Millard reminded the members of D.B.P.C. that they had agreed to find time outside of the general parish council meetings to convene to address funding to apply for. Chairman Millard circulated information about; The Big Lottery Funding Projects and Sportsmatch Applications and requested D.B.P.C. members read this information prior to a meeting agreed as being at; 40 County Drive, Fazeley on Tuesday 7th April 09 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting concluded at 9.05 P.M.

Action points have previously been circulated from this meeting.