

MINUTES

of the

Drayton Bassett Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 28th January 2014

In the Sports Pavilion, Rectory Close, Drayton Bassett, Staffordshire

Present: Philip Millard (Chairman)
Sue Harris (Councillor)
Geoff Hemus (Councillor)
Brian Reynolds (Councillor)

Apologies: Avril Edmond (Councillor)

Parishioners: Judy Williams / David Davies / Janet Watson / Brian Yeates (LDC) /
Mo Smith / Simon Kidner / Mark Longmore / Stuart Potts

Action

Apologies

Apologies received from Councillor Edmond.

Items for Consideration by Members of the Public

Code of Conduct

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

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting on 26th November 2013 were recorded as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Matters Arising from those Minutes

(12/571) Mill Lane Land – Relocation of Dog Waste Bin (12/562)

Awaiting completion of works currently being carried out by the Environment Agency before we arrange to relocate the dog waste bin.

Councillor Reynolds to invite our handy man to quote once we are in a position to move forward.

Brian Reynolds

(11/572) Felling of trees (11/563)

Chairman Millard advised that he had made contact with the Arboriculture Officer at LDC who has agreed to come and give us an independent opinion of the trees on the Village Green and Historical site and asked for permission to progress.

Chairman

Awaiting response as at 28/01/14.

(12/573) Village Signage (12/564)

Missing/repairs required to Village signage:

Village curtilage - junction of Drayton Lane / Portleys Lane (Ashdene farm) missing.

Village curtilage - 30 yards from main junction A4091 and Salts Lane - sign lopsided.

Councillor Hemus confirmed that he had finally managed to speak to the owner of Drayton House who is happy for the road sign to be erected on the land in front of their property. Councillor Hemus to arrange. Chairman Millard asked for this to be done as a matter of urgency as this has been on-going for some time.

Geoff Hemus

It was previously minuted that Councillor Edmond would obtain quotes for the Parish Council to purchase new signs and pass them to Councillor Reynolds for this meeting as she will be absent, however, Councillor Reynolds was also absent so this action is to be carried forward.

Brian Reynolds
Avril Edmond

Chairman Millard stated that an acknowledgment e-mail had been received from Alan White advising that he will be picking this issue up with Richard Rayson who returns from holiday next week (w/c 25th November).

Chairman Millard advised that as at January 2014 no response has been received.

(13/574) Community Parish Recycling Scheme (13/565)

Chairman Millard advised that he had spoken to Community Council of Staffordshire and confirmed that someone would visit the Village to look for the best location and re-contact him in due course.

As per the previous minute (13/500), once we are in receipt of this information a further discussion needs to take place to propose going ahead with this scheme and agree the location of the bin.

Chairman Millard to chase, although he does have concerns now over the location of the bin due to the proposed work to the Village Club car park as there may not be sufficient space for the bin to be situated. It was agreed to wait until this work has been completed before we make a decision.

Chairman

Still outstanding as at 28/01/13.

(13/575) Grass Cutting Contract (13/566)

Chairman Millard advised that although Tamworth Borough Council had previously stated that they were days away from submitting a quotation, they have now advised that they are not in a position to quote.

Chairman Millard stated that the existing grass cutting contractor, John Mason, has submitted a quotation for a two year period.

Councillor Harris advised that the Drayton Village based company who were initially interested in quoting have declined to quote due to the contract being too big. Chairman Millard asked Councillor Harris to ask the company to e-mail the Parish Clerk advising that they do not wish to quote to record that we have sought alternative quotations.

Chairman Millard asked the Councillors whether they wish to obtain further quotes or if they are in agreement to award the contract to John Mason for the 2014/15 season. Councillor Hemus proposed we award the contract to John Mason and Councillor Harris seconded. Parish Clerk to advise John Mason.

Parish Clerk

(13/576) Notice Board (13/567)

Chairman Millard confirmed that the new Notice Board has now been erected.

It was agreed that Councillor Hemus would arrange to take down the existing Notice Board and store it until we are in a position to erect it on Mayfair Drive once the flood defence works have been completed.

Councillor
Hemus

(13/577) Village Signage (13/568)

Chairman Millard and Councillor Reynolds to meet with Councillor Hemus to obtain his views as the current signs are on his land and this would be brought back to the next meeting.

Chairman
B Reynolds

Meeting now arranged for Wednesday 5th February.

(13/578) Speed of traffic through the Village (13/569)

Councillor Harris raised the speed of traffic through the Village from the bottom end of Drayton Lane towards Tamworth Road, and asked if anything can be done regarding the speed of traffic at both ends of Drayton Lane.

Chairman Millard stated that Helen Portman from Lichfield District Council had advised that LDC are erecting speed indicators in the Village to monitor traffic, however, no response has been received to our e-mail asking to know the location of the speed indicators, when they are likely to be installed and how many will be installed.

Chairman Millard advised at the January 2014 meeting that Helen Portman had advised early December that Staffordshire Highways are actually carrying out a speed and volume survey of the road which will give them a base for the speed, however, this doesn't mean that a SID cannot be put in but the speed and volume will give an accurate indication of the normal road use.

Chairman Millard advised that no further update has been received. Councillor Harris commented that she had spoken to Helen Portman a few weeks ago and Chairman Millard asked if she would be happy to make contact with Helen to follow this up and report back at the next meeting. Councillor Harris agreed.

Councillor Harris

Hybrid Bill Document Deposit (13/560)

Chairman Millard advised that the loan computer for viewing of the documents is now available to access in the Village Club and confirmed that a leaflet drop has been done around the Village notifying parishioners of this.

Chairman Millard stated that no further memory sticks have been purchased due to no interest for a copy of the documents by parishioners.

Petition Document (13/561)

Chairman Millard to read the petition documentation and then make contact with Mo Smith with the purpose of writing the petition together.

Chairman

Item amalgamated into action 14/583.

Manor Park Traffic (13/562)

Councillor Reynolds previously advised that complaints had been received from parishioners regarding the amount of traffic entering and leaving Drayton Manor Park.

Chairman Millard advised that both he and the Parish Clerk attended a meeting at Fazeley Town Council to discuss this issue, where it was advised by Staffordshire County Councillor, Alan White, who was also present, that a meeting between Staffordshire County Council and Drayton Manor Park sometime in March /April has been arranged to discuss a new traffic calming method.

It was agreed that once this meeting has taken place a Working Committee of 2 councillors from Fazeley Town Council and 2 from Drayton Bassett would be set up.

Heathley Lane Dog Waste Bin (13/563)

Parish Clerk confirmed that a laminated A4 notice asking parishioners not to put any bags of waste on top of the bin has been done as requested.

Correspondence**(13/579) New Bus Service (13/564)**

Chairman Millard advised that the leaflet drop publicising the new bus service has now been done.

Following a further discussion on the new bus service, Chairman Millard stated that if TCTS decide they no longer wish to operate the twice weekly bus service and parishioners do not utilise the new public transport, it will be extremely difficult to argue the need for a bus service.

Parish Clerk advised that she had contacted Bernie from Staffordshire County Council to request numbers using the new bus service and sent a chaser e-mail, however, this information is yet to be provided. Parish Clerk to chase again.

Parish Clerk

It was discussed and agreed to display a notice on the notice board advising that the current bus service is going to be reviewed.

Parish Clerk

Chairman's Items

None

Parish Councillor Items**Continuous Donation toward Monthly Lunch Club**

Councillors Harris asked the Councillors to consider continuing to subsidise the monthly lunch club.

It was agreed to continue with a monthly contribution of £2.50 per person for a further 6 months at which time it would be reviewed again.

Councillor Hemus proposed this and Chairman Millard seconded.

Venue of Annual General Meeting

Councillor Harris asked whether the location of the Annual Assembly could be the reason why not many parishioners attend?

Chairman Millard stated that it could be the location, however, there is nowhere else suitable to hold it as we are not able to hold it in the Village Club where alcohol is sold.

Councillor Harris asked how the meeting is publicised? Chairman Millard advised that the meeting is put on the website and the Village Notice Board, and each Village Group; Manor School, Village Club, WI, Church are invited to attend to give an update on the past 12 months work of their group.

(14/580) Precept

Following an e-mail to the Councillors asking for their views as to whether to increase, decrease or keep the precept at the same amount as last year, Chairman Millard advised that as a Parish Council we haven't increased the precept for a number of years and unless we had received a very large VAT refund we wouldn't have had enough money to see us through to the next precept.

Following a discussion, Councillor Hemus proposed we keep the precept at the same amount and Councillor Reynolds seconded. Councillor Harris was in favour of this proposal.

Parish Clerk to complete the paperwork and post to Lichfield District Council.

Parish Clerk

Dog Show (13/566)

Following a suggestion by Councillor Harris to hold a Dog Show, Councillor Harris confirmed that she had looked at other potential venues but there were none that would be suitable so it was agreed not to progress.

(13/581) Larger Dog Waste Bin, Heathley Lane (13/567)

Parish Clerk advised that it wouldn't be possible to purchase a larger dog bin due to the issue of the weight of the bags when emptying.

The possibility of purchasing a second bin was discussed and it was agreed to monitor the current usage of the existing bin before making a decision on purchasing a second one.

(13/582) Bench in Bus Stop (13/568)

Parish Clerk provided quotes for two potential benches for the bus stop.

It was agreed that the bench would need to be secured to the floor and a decision was made to purchase the bench that could be secured to the floor.

Councillor Harris proposed the purchase and Councillor Hemus seconded.

County Councillor Brian Yeates who was present at the meeting mentioned a very good carpenter in the Village who could be approached with a view to quoting. It was agreed that Councillor Hemus would make contact to see if he would be interested in quoting for a new bench.

Councillor
Hemus

Best Kept Village Competition 2014 (13/569)

Chairman Millard asked for a volunteer to lead the organising of the Best Kept Village competition, however, there were no volunteers forthcoming. It was agreed that Drayton Bassett will not enter this year.

Finance Reports

Finance reports circulated prior to the meeting. No questions were raised.

Planning

No outstanding planning applications.

Chairman Millard confirmed that Councillor Edmond had now met with the Planning Inspector of Lichfield District Council and having seen the area in question is going to look at satellite pictures of the area and historical planning applications to see what they can find and report back in due course.

HS2 (13/570)

Parishioner, Mo Smith asked if the Parish Council had submitted a response to the Compensation consultation to which Chairman Millard advised not as yet.

Mo Smith to send Chairman Millard a copy of the documentation which he will read and then seek the help of Mo to complete on behalf of the Parish Council.

Chairman Millard attended a meeting to discuss the Parish Council's response and this is now being progressed.

(14/583) High Speed Rail Link

It was agreed to hold an Open Community Event on Saturday 22nd February 2.00pm – 5.00pm to show the parishioners what the impact of HS2 will have on them and the Village, as well as giving them the opportunity to respond to the environmental study. Chairman Millard asked Councillors to make every effort to attend

Stuart Potts and Mo Smith to prepare the presentation and a hand-out will be printed to be handed out at the event.

Chairman Millard to speak to Pete Hayes to ascertain whether the Village Club is available to hold the event.

It was agreed that the Parish Council will fund the PR for this event up to £1,000. Councillor Reynolds proposed the funding and Councillor Hemus seconded

'Response' letter to be circulated at the event asking parishioners to sign on the day. Mo Smith to prepare the letter.

Mo Smith to e-mail Christopher Pincher, Dan Byles, Alan White and neighbouring action groups to invite them along to the event. Chairman Millard to invite Middleton Parish Council and Canwell & Hints Parish Council.

Leaflet drop to be done advertising the event.

Parish Clerk to ask Linda Hayes to put an article in the Village Voice advertising the event.

Chairman

Parish Clerk