

MINUTES

of the

Drayton Bassett Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 25th February 2014

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

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

Apologies: Avril Edmond (Councillor)
No Apologies: Geoff Hemus (Councillor)

Parishioners: Janet Watson / Viv Patchett / Stuart Potts / Mo Smith

Action

Apologies

Apologies received from Councillor Edmond. No apologies received from Councillor Hemus.

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 28th January 2014 were recorded as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Matters Arising from those Minutes

(12/583) Mill Lane Land – Relocation of Dog Waste Bin (12/571)

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

(11/584) Felling of trees (11/572)

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 25/02/14.

Matters Arising from those Minutes cont..**(12/585) Village Signage (12/573)**

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 Reynolds confirmed that the Drayton Lane street sign that is situated in front of Drayton House has now been re-erected.

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 advised that a response had been received from Alan White advising that the issue has now been passed to Helen Portman.

Parish Clerk to follow up with Helen Portman.

Parish Clerk

(13/586) Community Parish Recycling Scheme (13/574)

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 25/02/14.

(13/587) Grass Cutting Contract (13/575)

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. Still to progress as at 25/02/14.

Councillor Harris

Parish Clerk advised that confirmation letter had been sent to John Mason regarding the awarding of the grass cutting contract for the 2014/15 season.

(13/588) Notice Board (13/576)

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

Outstanding as at 25/02/14. Councillor Hemus to progress.

Matters Arising from those Minutes cont..**(13/589) Village Signage (13/577)**

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.

Unfortunately the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 5th February was cancelled due to availability of Councillor Reynolds. New date to be agreed.

Chairman /
B Reynolds

(13/590) Speed of traffic through the Village (13/578)

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 had been received as at the February meeting. Councillor Harris stated 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

(13/591) Viewing of HS2 Documents (13/560)

Chairman Millard stated that following some six weeks of making the HS2 Hybrid information available in the Village club no-one took the opportunity to view it and feels that we shouldn't continue to make the information available via this way. It was discussed and agreed to put a notice up advising that the information is now available via a USB stick which can be requested by contacting the Parish Clerk.

Councillor Reynolds proposed this and Councillor Harris seconded.

Parish Clerk to put a notice on the Village notice board.

Parish Clerk

It was also suggested that an e-mail is sent to every attendee of the recent HS2 event advising them of the same.

Parish Clerk

Matters Arising from those Minutes cont..**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 two councillors from Fazeley Town Council and two from Drayton Bassett would be set up.

(13/592) New Bus Service (13/579)

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. No response as at 25/02/14. Parish Clerk to chase again.

Parish Clerk

It was discussed and agreed to display a notice advising that the current bus service is going to be reviewed and advising what the consequences of parishioners not using the bus service will be.

Parish Clerk to create notice.

Parish Clerk

(13/593) Bench in Bus Stop (13/581)

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 January 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.

Chairman Millard advised that no quotes have been received as at 25/02/14. It was therefore agreed to go ahead and purchase the bench from Marmax Products as discussed at the January meeting. Parish Clerk to arrange.

Parish Clerk

Correspondence**(14/594) Speed of Acorn Bus**

Chairman Millard advised that we had received an e-mail from a parishioner regarding the speed of the bus through the Village.

A discussion took place and it was agreed to respond to the parishioner to advise that we have taken on board their comments and will monitor the situation to see if this continues.

Parish Clerk to respond accordingly.

Parish Clerk

Chairman's Items

WI Hall Donation

Chairman Millard asked the Councillors if they felt that the Parish Council should make a donation to the WI as they kindly allow us to use the WI Hall each year as the venue for the Parish Council Annual Assembly.

Viv Patchett who was present at the meeting stated that they may be looking for a donation from the Parish Council in the near future as the hall is now showing signs of bad repair. The WI is currently obtaining quotations for the work and Viv advised that they will be asking the Parish Council to make a donation towards the repairs in the near future.

Local Plan Strategy: Main Modifications January 2014

Chairman Millard advised that the above document has been received which details all land identified in Lichfield District Council where they can build houses for the future which also gives details on what land is protected and which isn't.

Chairman Millard asked if any Councillor wished to view the document, however, no-one wished to view it.

Parish Councillor Items

Monthly Lunch Club

Councillor Reynolds raised the venue of the monthly lunch club and asked whether an alternative venue could be considered.

Councillor Harris voiced a strong opinion that this was not something that she would consider as organiser of the lunch club as she felt it was being lead by certain people as a method of de-stabilising the lunch club and felt very strongly that this should be resisted. Councillor Reynolds repudiated the accusation and said that it was a legitimate request.

A very heated discussed ensued which has not been minuted.

Chairman Millard stated that a Councillor can bring any matter raised to them from a parishioner to a Parish Council meeting. Chairman Millard also stated that a Councillor can have a different view to another Councillor and if they do then they should not then be subject to an extreme negative response from another Councillor(s).

Chairman Millard suggested to Councillor Reynolds that he reports back to those who raised the issue of an alternative venue and explain the situation, and Councillor Harris can take the thoughts of some of the lunch club attendees away and decide what action to take if any.

Chairman Millard reiterated again to Councillor Harris to be careful in the content of e-mail correspondence especially what is sent to the Parish Clerk as this information is within the public domain. Making claims and naming parishioners, especially if any accusations are false could implicate individual councillors and the Parish Council. Remember, people's opinion vary and if taken seriously could be seen as libellous.

(14/595) Finance Reports

Chairman Millard advised that we are still waiting for one of the two bank statements so the Finance Reports cannot be submitted.

Parish Clerk to circulate once statement is received.

Parish Clerk

Planning

One planning application circulated at the meeting. No comments from Councillors.

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.

High Speed Rail Link – Open Community Event (14/583)

Event now taken place. Action closed.

(14/596) Petitioning & Resolution

Part of the Hybrid Bill states that before the Parish Council can petition, an official minute has to be recorded formally passing this at a publicised meeting. It was discussed and agreed that this would be done at the next Parish Council meeting on 25th March.

Parish Clerk

Parish Clerk to place an advert in the Tamworth Herald at least 10 days prior to the meeting. Parish Clerk to also request that this is included in the Village Voice submission.

Item to be added to the March agenda.

Parish Clerk

Co-option of Stuart Potts & Mo Smith onto the Council

As HS2 experts, Stuart Potts and Mo Smith were co-opted onto the Parish Council to help the Parish Council petition against HS2 and as such will not be involved in normal Parish Council work.

Councillor Harris proposed this and Councillor Reynolds seconded.

The meeting finished at 8.15pm

Italic text indicates notes from previous minutes