

Drayton Bassett Parish Council Annual Assembly held 17th April 2018
WI Hall, Heathley Lane

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors - Philip Millard (Chairman), Brian Reynolds, Avril Edmond, Ian Watkins, Marlene Keenan, Alan Watkinson.

PARISH CLERK: Sue Stait

REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS: Women's Institute – Ann Foley and Lin Shears, Police – PCSO Deryn Small and PCSO Andrea Horsnal, Manor Primary School – Simon Robson, Friends of Manor Primary PTA – Emma Brown and Becky Casey, Drayton Bassett Village Club – Ben Matthews, Richard Timmins and Mick Page, St Peter's Church – Judy Davies, HS2 Liaison – Stuart Potts.

PARISHIONERS: M Leake, M Bryant, D Bryant, P Shears, R Keenan, D Davies, J Watson, L Millard.

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

Councillor Millard welcomed all those present to the meeting and introduced himself as Chairman, and Sue Stait as the new Parish Clerk. On behalf of the Parish Council he thanked Odette Ghent for her support during her time as Parish Clerk, and condolences for Viv Patchett. Viv was an active member of the WI, and will be sadly missed.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor G Hemus.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Assembly held 26th April 2017 were circulated to all those present. They were approved as a true record of the meeting held on 26th April 2017 and were signed accordingly by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes

4. PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS

Copies of the annual Finance Report were circulated to all. The Chairman reported that the Parish Council had agreed a slight increase to this year's budget and outlined the reasons for this. Notably that the Parish Council is responsible for all grass cutting, including the church yard, and that this is the largest single budget item. Income from the football pitch is new for 2017/18 as this was historically provided free of charge. The agreement was originally based on players being resident in the village. The Parish Council agreed that as this was no longer the case there would be a charge levied. It was noted by a Parishioner that the 2016/17 figure for football pitch hire was shown as £6,219. This was subsequently resolved as incorrect. That figure should have been titled VAT refund. The Finance Report was updated following the meeting.

5. ANNUAL REPORT – WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Ann Foley presented on the previous 12 months' activity. No changes to report. Ann thanked the Parish Council for their contribution to the roof repair work.

Full report included as an appendix.

6. POLICE

PCSO Deryn Small introduced herself and explained that she does not have a report but would take questions back to her superiors.

Questions for PCSO Small:

What is the future of PCSOs in Staffordshire?

They provide a valuable resource and there is no evidence to suggest cut backs for the foreseeable future.

Would it be possible to have a more regular Police presence in the village? Particularly during school run times, as part of the effort to reduce cars speeding past the school. Similarly, with traffic activity on and around the junction of Salts Lane and the A4091.

PCSO Small will raise this with her superiors.

Can Parishioners contact PCSO Small directly?

Yes, via email at the following email address - deryn.small@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

The Head Teacher of Manor Primary School, Mr. Robson, thanked the Police for their continuing support with visits to school.

7. ANNUAL REPORT – ST PETER'S CHURCH

Judy Davies reported on the last 12 months' activity. There have been some changes because of a shortage of volunteers.

Full report included as an appendix.

8. ANNAUL REPORT – MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr. Robson introduced himself as Head Teacher and reported that the school is striving to include the wider village community in the school and school life. There are currently 101 pupils and 4 spaces available.

Full report included as an appendix.

9. ANNUAL REPORT – FRIENDS OF MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

Emma Brown introduced herself and Becky Casey. Emma reported that they have 8 members, all of whom have children at the school and rely on support from the wider parent community.

Full report included as an appendix.

10. ANNUAL REPORT – SCOUTS

The Scouts were not represented at the meeting.

11. ANNUAL REPORT – DRAYTON BASSETT VILLAGE CLUB

Ben Matthews introduced himself as Secretary, and Richard Timmins and Mick Page as fellow members of the committee. Ben reported that the management of the Village Club had recently changed and therefore no formal report on the last 12 months' activity was available. He noted that the newly elected committee are working hard to increase membership to make it financially viable to continue trading. The Chairman commented that the Parish Council had always supported the Village Club and will continue to do so.

12. HS2 UPDATE – STUART POTTS

Stuart Potts introduced himself as HS2 Liaison. He suggested that the Parish Clerk add a link to the Parish Council website for more information hs2instaffs.commonplace.is.

A Parishioner reported that the security light on the HS2 site on Drayton Lane needs to be dipped.

It was resolved that the Parish Clerk will email Tahir Ahmed notifying him of this.

Full report included as an appendix.

13. PROPOSED CONSERVATION AREA

The Chairman provided an update on the conservation area proposal. Detailed information is available at lichfielddc.gov.uk/draytonbassett. Parishioners were invited to review the planned boundary of the conservation area. The deadline for public consultation has been extended to Monday 14th May 2018.

14. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman welcomed two new Councillors, Marlene Keenan and Alan Wilkinson, and presented an update on the 2017/18 activity. Investment in play equipment for the recreation ground. Provided planters and flowers. Continuing to support the bus, although this is due to be

reviewed if it is not more widely used. Reviewed planning applications, although the final decision rests with Lichfield District Council. Future plans include updating the website and applying for an HS2 grant to refurbish and repurpose the tennis court to a multi-sport facility. Encourage representatives from community groups to attend Parish Council meetings and an offer for Councillors to attend community group meetings to build on the good relationships between all. Whilst we are currently experiencing technical challenges with the existing website, any events you would like to promote should be emailed to the Parish Clerk at parishclerkdbpc@gmail.com.

15. OPEN FORUM

No further issues were raised.

The Chairman closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending, the Councillors for their continued hard work, community groups for sharing their annual reports and parishioners for supporting the Parish Council.

Councillor Reynolds thanked Councillor Millard for his ongoing work as Chairman.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:10 p.m.