**SEIGHFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 15 APRIL 2019 AT GREAT BRIDGEFORD VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr David Price (Chairman), Cllr Bill Brown, Cllr Peter Eveson, Cllr Alison Vaughan,

In attendance: Lisa Horritt (Clerk) + 16 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr John Busby, Cllr Michael Eld, Cllr Mark Hodgkins, Cllr Jean Wetton,

# 1. Introduction and welcome

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed residents and councillors.

# 2. Waste and Recycling

Becky Martin addressed the meeting – she works at Stafford Borough Council in the waste department who are responsible for the household collection service.

She updated the meeting about the new waste service provider Veolia who had taken over from February 2018.

She noted that green waste does not go to landfill. All rubbish from Stafford Borough is sent to waste to energy incinerators which turn waste into power for the national grid. The only waste product being ash from the process.

Brown bin waste is recycled in Chebsey and is converted to soil improver which goes to 12 local farms as soil improver.

Becky talked in depth about the blue recycling. A variety of items can be recycled this way including crisp packets, tetra packs, plastic (including bleach containers). She showed the meeting what some of the recycled plastic is remade into and this included a child’s fleece and a pair of trousers.

Paper is separated as it is sent directly to the paper mill for recycling and the collection wagon has 2 separate areas for collecting paper and all other recyclables.

The Chairman thanked Becky for her time and interesting talk.

# 3. Annual Parish Meeting 2018

**RESOLVED:** the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 16 April 2018 be confirmed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

# 4. Matters raised by parishioners

(a) Village Green at Seighford

It was queried whether any action could be taken to retrieve monies spent by the Parish Council fighting this issue. Thanks was also given to the Parish Council for their effort as it has not been easy to resolve. It was noted the beech hedge has been completed today.

**Action: this will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting in May.**

(b) Pavements in Great Bridgeford

Following a site visit with Jeremy Pert an offer to fund £5000 with the Parish putting £2500 together will result in 65m2 of pavements being resurfaced. The meeting queried whether this was value for money.

**Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Pert in relation to potential dates for this.**

(c) Gullies

This remains an ongoing concern. Some gullies along the main road in Great Bridgeford have been emptied this year as part of the 3 year cycle. Other parts of the parish will not be emptied until 2020 or 2021.

**Action: Parish Council to keep this matter under review**

(d) Footpath 20 restoration

It was raised that it is too dangerous for walkers to use the road walking past Seighford Hall. It was queried whether footpath 20 could be restored.

**Action: Parish Council to consider these issues.**

(e) Culvert and flooding issues

It was reported that there is an issue with the manhole in Seighford by the turning to the ford. Severn Trent have ruled out a mains issue and Highways are now looking into the reason for this.

**Action: Parish Council to keep this matter under review.**

(f) Parking on Jasmine Road

Cllr Eveson raised the concerns of a resident regarding a van being regularly parked on the entrance to Jasmine Road off the Eccleshall Road. This had been raised in 2018 and it was noted the advice of the PCSO that no action is possible as the vehicle is taxed and insured and not parked illegally,

**Action: As this is a private road, it is a civil matter and residents involved should consult a solicitor to see what action they can take privately.**

(g) Chebsey Lane

It was raised that the issue raised last year about electrical connectors for the traffic lights being discovered. Network rail appear to have covered these with a yellow barrier. It was queried whether this is safe.

**Action: Clerk to report to Network Rail.**

(h) Footpath to Worston Mill via field

Access has now been restricted to this area as it is private property. A local resident has been working with Seighford Estates to look into making this a permissive footpath which would require individuals to register to use the land.

**Action: Parish Council to keep this matter under review.**

(i) Great Bridgeford Break In’s

It has been raised that several properties in Great Bridgeford have been burgled. The padlock for the Playing Field has been cut off during one incident and this will be replaced.

**Action: Parish Council to replace padlock.**

# 5. Annual Report of the Parish Council

The Chairman presented the Parish Council’s Annual Report for 2018/19 highlighting the main activities/achievements including installation of Speed Monitoring Devices in Great Bridgeford, the Planning Appeal on the Green at Seighford and securing funding for footpath repairs.

He thanked the 5 Parish Councillors who retire this year and gave them his best wishes. He also thanked the groups and individuals who support the Parish Council.

# 6. To receive reports from local community groups (where available)

1. Cooper Perry Primary School

There was no report available for the meeting.

(b) St Chad’s Church, Seighford

Barry Stamp reported on developments at St Chad’s church, Seighford:

* Kate Ashley has been employed as communications manager and now produces the magazine
* The next major inspection is due next year – all works except for the roof have been completed from the last report.
* Funds remain tight, a legacy this year provided an accounting surplus but without this there would have been issues.

On behalf of the vicar and the PCC, Mr Stamp thanked the Parish Council for its award of a churchyard maintenance grant.

(c) St Matthews Church, Derrington

Andrea Dickens reported on developments at St Matthews, Derrington:

* The Rector has left and the position is being advertised
* The PCC plans to add handrails inside the church
* Pews have been removed to improve wheelchair access
* The cost of tree maintenance continues to be difficult to plan for

On behalf of the vicar and the PCC, Mrs Dickens thanked the Parish Council for its award of a churchyard maintenance grant

**Reports from Village Hall committees.**

d) Seighford Village Hall

Mr Robert Eld gave a report on behalf of the village hall committee:

* The coffee morning on Fridays continues to be well attended by villagers
* The Yoga class has now finished
* 2 social events have been held which have brought existing and new residents together.
* There will be an open gardens even in June.

(e) Derrington Village Hall

Cllr Vaughan gave a report on behalf of the village hall committee:

* All groups in the village have continued this year
* There is a new table tennis league
* The hall continues to be well used and attracts both regular bookings and one-off events
* Air conditioning has now been installed – this will help resolve noise issues for events.

Cllr Vaughan thanked the Parish Council for their grant towards the air conditioning.

(f) Great Bridgeford Village hall

Jonathan presented the report on behalf of the village hall committee:

* He introduced the new Chairman – Andy Wright
* Several projects are ongoing to improve the hall
* The hall is well booked for events and regular bookings

(g) Community Speed watch

Cllr Vaughan gave an update on Community Speed watch in the parish:

* Unfortunately, the Community Speedwatch Group covering Great Bridgeford and Creswell is still not functioning.
* The Community Speedwatch Group in Derrington is up and running with 6 members forming 2 teams.
* 3 areas have been designated in Derrington and the teams visit at least once a week to monitor speed.

(h) The Millennium Green

* Roy Wood updated the meeting about an expansion project including 3.43 acres of flood meadow to the rear and a 1.2 acre flood meadow now owned by Staffordshire County Council and potentially the purchase of the rest of the field.
* This would be retained as flood meadow.

*There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm*