



SEIGHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 18th JULY 2022 AT GREAT BRIDGEFORD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllr David Price (Chair) Cllr Mark Hodgkins
Cllr John Busby (Vice- Chair) Cllr Mark Turnbull
Cllr Carole Allen Cllr Richard Wilkes

In attendance: Two members of the public

The minutes were taken by Cllr Turnbull

18/07/2022/01: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND RECORD ABSENCES

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Neil Brown and Mark Hayward, County Cllr Jeremy Pert, Borough Cllr. Ray Sutherland, County & Borough Cllr. Mark Winnington and Philip Bushe (Clerk)

18/07/2022/02: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No written requests for dispensations had been received.

Cllr. Busby declared an interest in item 11 and will take no part in the discussion and decision.

18/07/2022/03: PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

Cllr Wilkes read out a letter on behalf of Ms Karen Davies who was unable to attend regarding her objection to Planning Application 20/32222/FUL. Member of the public Mr R Greatrex asked to discuss Item 12c) but was informed that this was to be discussed by Councillors.

18/07/2022/04: UPDATES FROM BOROUGH /COUNTY COUNCILLORS

No Borough/County Councillors were in attendance.

18/07/2022/05: MEETINGS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 13th MAY 2022 and 16th JUNE 2022

- a) It was unanimously resolved that the minutes of the Council Meetings on 13th May 2022 and 16th June 2022 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- b) Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda. None were identified.

18/07/2022/06: PLANNING MATTERS

22/35860/FUL Erection of bus shelter in Newport Road, Great Bridgeford
22/3560/FUL Handfords Cottage, Long Land Derrington

It was resolved not to object to these two applications and for the Local Planning Authority to be informed accordingly.

22/35723/COU Land off Gorsty Lane, Coton Clanford

It was resolved to confirm the objection already submitted to the Local Planning Authority.

18/07/2022/07: PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Derrington: Cllr Wilkes reported that there had not been any recent correspondence about parking issues in Church Lane. Repairs had been carried out to the multiplay unit in the Playing Field thanks to Cllrs Busby, Haywood, Allen and Wilkes.

Great Bridgeford: Cllr Turnbull reported that Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations at Great Bridgeford Village Hall on 3rd June were well attended and £311 was raised to be divided between the Ukraine Emergency Charity and Katherine House Hospice.

13/07/2022/08: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Queens Jubilee Celebrations event held at Cookland Hall, Seighford on 4th June was highly successful and funds were raised for St Chad's Church, Seighford.

The Chairman and Cllr Allen attended Staffordshire Gliding Club's 60th Anniversary event at Seighford Airfield on 25th June which was very successful and it was agreed that the Clerk write to the organiser, Mr Warren Johnson to thank the Club for an enlightening and enjoyable afternoon.

18/07/2022/09: FINANCE:

- a) To receive an update on expenditure against the budget for 2022/23
- b) Payments for approval

Accounts paid since last meeting

Date	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Total
24/05/2022	Derrington Social Club	Grant for Bouncy Castle Hire	£ 150.00		150.00
24/05/2022	Derrington Village Hall	Room Hire	£ 15.00		15.00
15/06/2022	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog bags	£ 241.50	48.30	289.80
		TOTAL	£ 406.50		£ 454.80

Accounts to be paid

Date	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Total
21/06/2022	SPCA	New Clerk Induction 1-1	£ 40.00		£ 40.00
30/06/2022	Philip Bushe	Monthly Salary, 16 - 30/06/2022	£ 148.40		148.40
01/07/2022	Great Bridgeford VH	Hire of Village Hall, SPC Meeting 18/07/2022	£ 21.00		21.00
01/07/2022	Mrs Stacey Worden	Locum Clerk Fees, 06 - 30/06/2022	£ 209.95		209.95
		TOTAL	£ 419.35		£ 419.35

- c) To approve bank reconciliation

These were all approved by all present.

18/07/2022/10: PROPOSED GREAT BRIDGEFORD BUS SHELTER

The Chairman reported that thirteen weeks had elapsed before the planning application in respect of the bus shelter was validated but, all being well, planning permission should be forthcoming in early September. The Chairman also reported that his daughter Susan had prepared the scaled drawings of the bus shelter and asked if a letter of thanks could be sent to her which was agreed.

18/07/2022/11: TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE FROM MRS W HALL COMPRISING HER EMAILS OF 6th and 24th MAY 2022 RELATING TO PLANNING APPLICATION 20/32222/FUL IN RESPECT OF LAND AT STALLBROOK HALL, CROSSING LANE, DERRINGTON

Mrs Hall had expressed concern at the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25th April 2022 about the fact that the polyhouse, the subject of the planning application, was being built without planning permission by a parish councillor and mentioned that the Chairman at that meeting responded that building without planning permission was neither illegal nor unlawful. She suggested that it was worrying that a member of the Council does not respect the democratic process enough to wait for the planning permission. Mrs Hall stated that it was surprising that the Parish Council passed the original application for the polyhouse without requesting more information on the traffic impact on Crossing Lane and the Village of Derrington. Mrs Hall suggested that there seems to be a worrying lack of rigour and integrity in the Parish Council's approach to this application.

The Parish Council considered Mrs Hall's comments and responds as follows:-

1. Parish Councils are statutory consultees in respect of planning applications by virtue of the Town and Country Planning Management Procedure (England) Order 2015. Parish Councils are not Planning Authorities and the final decision is made by the Local Planning Authority not by the Parish Council.
2. As has already been mentioned, it is neither illegal nor unlawful to start development without planning permission. Councillor J W Busby is a very active member of the Parish Council who does an exceptional amount of work in the community and your criticism of him is unwarranted.
3. So far as the likely impact of the polyhouse development will have on Crossing Lane and the Village of Derrington, Mrs Hall's attention is drawn to the fact that all traffic reports available to the Planning Officer were available to the Parish Council and, in particular, to the report dated 11th April 2020 from the Highway Authority which reads "There are no objections on highway grounds to the proposed development". Clearly, the Highway Authority is the expert on highway matters, not the Parish Council or the residents of Derrington and the Parish Council has great respect for the Highway Authority in giving sound advice.
4. Members of the Parish Council are of the highest integrity and very carefully consider all planning applications that come before them and clearly Mrs Hall's criticism has no basis and is unfounded.

18/07/2022/12: HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATH & PLAYING FIELD MATTERS

- a) To consider the request for the installation of play equipment and the acquisition of additional land for play purposes in Seighford Village

Discussions have been held with the land agent for the Seighford Settled Estate as to whether the Estate will be able to provide additional land on a long lease for this purpose in the village and their response is awaited.

- b) To consider the request for traffic calming measures in Seighford Village

Cllr Busby attended a meeting of Seighford residents, co-ordinated by Mandy Cameron to discuss the need to reduce speeding in the centre of the village near Cooper Perry Primary School to make the area safer for school children and their parents. The Chairman requested Councillor Hodgkins to lead on this matter by discussing with Mrs Cameron setting up a Community Speedwatch Group via the Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership CSW Coordinator.

- c) To consider the request for the installation of outdoor gym equipment.

This can only be considered on a parish wide basis to include the three villages. The first priority of the Parish Council is ensure that a fully equipped playing field is set up in Seighford Village.

d) To consider quotations for the cutting back of the overhanging branches to the zip wire at Derrington Village Playing Field.

Two quotations were received and the lower quotation of £350 was proposed for acceptance by Cllr Wilkes and seconded by Cllr Busby and agreed by the Council.

d) To report on the outstanding matters relating to the lack of road markings at the junction of Cherry Lane with Whitgreave Lane and the poor state of the footway in Eccleshall Road, Great Bridgeford (North West section up to the Worston Lane turning)

County Cllr. Jeremy Pert emailed the following reply relating to these two matters:-

1. Cherry Lane and Whitgreave Lane - The County Council are not in favour of adding additional road surface markings at this location as there is no active accident history here, the Cherry Lane has a limited number of dwellings and is a dead end and it felt that adding road markings would not really do anything for the users of this element of highway. The County is keen not to add to their ongoing maintenance costs unless there is a clear defined need, which I guess we can all understand given the state of local government finances. I also do not know when the lane first came into existence but I would guess that it has not had road markings from its initial inception.
2. Pavement along Eccleshall Road in Great Bridgeford – I have asked for a Highways Inspector to visit this location to inspect the state of the pavement but am yet to have any feedback from that site visit. Given maintenance of footpaths is a cyclical annual budget, I would guess that the best we could hope for now is a planned surface dressing in 2023. But I need to see where the pavements fall within the wider County Council list of priorities across the County – i.e. those which are in the worst state of repair get picked up soonest.

e) To consider a quotation for the replacement of safety surfacing to the igloo at Derrington Village Playing Field.

The quotation received was considered to be too expensive and it was agreed that Cllrs. Busby, Haywood and Wilkes are to investigate the matter further.

f) To discuss the Duty Roster for the Playing Field inspections.

It was agreed that a reminder system is to be set up by the Clerk to ensure that due inspections are not over looked.

g) To discuss complaints received about the condition of some of the trees at Great Bridgeford Playing Field adjoining Cherry Tree Crescent.

It was agreed that an arboriculturist's report be obtained on the relevant trees in order to give further consideration to the matter.

18/07/2022/13: STAFFING

- a) To approve the membership fee for the Clerk to join the SLCC
- b) To approve attendance at the next SPCA Clerks training course.

Approval was given to these matters following a proposal made by Cllr. Busby and seconded by Cllr Hodgkins.

18/07/2022/14: NEXT MEETING ON 19th SEPTEMBER

Agenda items to be forwarded to the Clerk not later than 10 days before the next meeting.

18/07/2022/15: MEETING CLOSE

As there was no further business, the Chairman thanked members for their attendance and Cllr. Turnbull for taking the minutes and closed the meeting at 9.15pm.