

HANBURY PARISH COUNCIL

STAFFORDSHIRE

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING TUESDAY 8th DECEMBER 2015

HELD IN THE HANBURY MEMORIAL HALL AT 7.30PM

Present

Councillors T Iball (Chair), K Ward, S Skeet, Mrs J Hendon, Mrs J Harris

104/15 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor E Gregson and Mr S Smith (ESBC).

105/15 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 2nd November 2015 were approved and signed.

106/15 Chairman's Information

1. SPCA – Bulletins 5th November, 26th November and 3rd December 2015

Following the national survey during the summer of 2015 on the use of the Mobile Library, the results have demonstrated that the service is used by less than one percent of the nation's population. Unsurprisingly this is due almost in totality to the availability of information via the internet and in electronic format.

However, of those that do use the Mobile Library service, 94% completed the survey and stated they intended to continue doing so, and as such Hanbury will still receive a visit from the Mobile Library every three weeks.

Hanbury Parish Council have submitted a grant request from the NALC/DCLG Transparency Fund to assist with the costs for setting up the Website and for the costs of a new printer. This fund is administered via the SPCA.

Councillor Iball noted that SPCA advise that from March 2017 the traditional approach of External Auditors being carried out by the Audit Commission will change, with the abolition by central Government of the Audit Commission. As such the Parish Council will have to find their own external auditor.

Councillor Iball and A Andrew will begin to consider other options and report back at future meetings.

2. SPCA – Annual report and Accounts and Fit for Farming

Councillor Iball advised that the annual report and accounts for the SPCA have been received, and a booklet entitled “Fit for Farming”. There was nothing particularly of note in the report or the booklet.

3. “CLEAN for the QUEEN”, 4th – 6th March 2016

Councillor Iball advised that a letter had been received detailing a national initiative to encourage volunteers to take part in an event over the above weekend to tidy up their local areas in time for HM The Queen’s 90th Birthday. Councillor Harris and A Andrew will take the lead in organising an event in Hanbury on Saturday 5th March. Information will be publicised in the next article in the Parish Magazine.

107/15 Reports

Councillor Iball and Councillor Hendon visited St George’s Park on 17th November where the latest proposals were presented, as follows: -

- a) Construction of a number of private houses within the park complex, which formed part of the original planning consent some years ago
- b) Construction of a new accommodation building for younger teams needing to stay overnight, where the hotel is less user-friendly – for example for young teenagers staying away from home overnight often for the first time
- c) The volume of traffic in and out of the park has been nearly double that expected when the initial planning proposal was prepared, and complaints have been received from Barton under Needwood and Tatenhill. Whilst the brown tourist signs direct visitors from the A38 at Branston and then via Wellington Street and Henhurst Hill, many others depend on SatNav technology which directs them through other more direct routes through the villages. As yet the Park is unsure how this issue will be dealt with.

Councillor Iball reported that he and Peter Gold from the Draycott and Hanbury Cricket Club attended the Neighbourhood Forum, at which Peter Gold presented a grant application for the renewal of the boundary fence at the cricket club. The cricket club have already raised around a third of the funds required, and are confident that the usual 50% contribution can be realised. However, only one quote for the work had been sourced, and the Forum requires three comparable quotes to be presented for consideration.

Councillor Iball has been advised by the Superfast Broadband organisation that the necessary cabinets will be installed in the Parish during July 2016. Subsequently the necessary superfast cabling will be installed, but as yet there is no confirmed date for this work.

A Andrew reported that the Council had received a grant of £1000 from SCC Community Fund via Councillor R Fraser as a contribution towards the purchase and installation of the defibrillator. A shortfall of £435 still remains, which will either be funded from Parish Council funds or via a further grant application to the WASP fund at ESBC. A Andrew will progress the grant application. Either way, the Councillors agreed that the purchase of the defibrillator and its installation at Far Fillimore should proceed.

108/15 County Roads

A Andrew reported that information has been received regarding the Highway Winter Operations from SCC, and that an article detailing this had been submitted for the December edition of the Parish Magazine. Alternatively, the information can be found at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/winter

Councillor Iball reported that the Council has been contacted about “Lights Off” – a national programme of switching street lights off from midnight until 5.30 in the morning. The Councillors had no specific objection to this policy, but requested that A Andrew include the issue in the next Parish Magazine submission so that any issues raised by the Parishioners could be considered.

109/15 Parish Amenities

Playing field: -

Nothing to report.

Public footpaths: -

Councillor Hendon advised the Councillors that a print run of around 1000 copies has been undertaken of the new Hanbury Walks leaflet. Councillor Harris offered to deliver leaflets to all parishioners in Hanbury, A Andrew will deliver 100 copies to The Cock Inn and Draycott Post Office, a further 100 copies to East Staffordshire Ramblers, and will deliver one copy to all Parishioners in Coton-in-the-Clay and Fauld.

Councillor Iball took a number of copies to distribute to St Werburgh’s Church, and will visit the Dog and Partridge and the Museum in Tutbury to see if they wish to stock any copies for their customers and visitors.

A Andrew will contact East Staffordshire Borough Council to enquire whether the leaflets can be included in the “What’s On in Burton” information received from time to time.

The Common: -

The results of the Countryside Consultation have been published by SCC, and four options have been highlighted as being relevant to the Common and the ongoing management of community land.

Hanbury Parish Council has been very fortunate that a number of local volunteers have assisted with the management of the Common for many years, and the Council is keen that this arrangement should continue. As such the Parish Council will not be entering into a formal land management agreement with SCC.

Councillor Iball, Councillor Skeet and Peter Stone met with Lawrence Oates from Staffordshire Wildlife to discuss the creation of additional habitats and plant growth. Mr Oates suggested bluebells for the shady parts of the Common, ramsons by the sides of the path, perhaps a hedge to the left of the approach road with fruit trees planted within it. Some of the lower branches from certain trees within the existing woodland should be removed.

All of the above activities will be considered when funds or further volunteers are available, perhaps involving Sudbury Prison volunteers again. Councillor Skeet has agreed to take over the ongoing management of the Common and its maintenance, and the involvement of Mr Oates and Staffordshire Wildlife ensures that the habitat for wildlife will be maintained and enhanced.

St Werburgh's Churchyard: -

A Andrew has obtained three quotes for the removal of two large trees and their stumps, which vary from £780 to £1280, plus VAT, which is recoverable.

The Council will advise the PCC that such work can be undertaken, subject to authority from the Diocese of Lichfield. If approved, the work will be carried out prior to the bird nesting season, in early Spring 2016.

Councillor Iball noted that when showing the tree surgeons around the Churchyard as part of this process, two other trees were identified as potential issues for the near future. Given the limited funding available via the precept, Councillor Iball feels an approach to the ESBC may be necessary should further tree surgery be required.

110/15 Planning Matters

There have been NO planning applications for consideration for the period 3rd November to 8th December 2015.

111/15 Correspondence

- Planning Permission refused for The Old Blacksmith's Shop, Anslow Road, Hanbury.
- ESBC – Christmas Waste and Recycling Arrangements

112/15 Precept for 2016 – 2017

Councillor Iball and A Andrew have assessed the accounts and calculated the additional costs of churchyard maintenance and website creation and maintenance.

The Councillors voted and agreed a 2% rise in the precept to cover these additional costs, the first increase in the precept in four years.

113/15 Councillor Vacancy, appointment of Vice Chairman and including Bank Signatory

A Andrew reported that she had consulted with ESBC regarding the process of advertising for the vacant Councillor's position, and had agreed that an advertisement would be placed on the Parish Noticeboard, in the Burton Mail and the Parish Magazine. It is hoped that the post can be filled by the end of January, and the announcement of the new Councillor will be made at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Councillor Iball suggested that the Councillors discuss the vacant Vice Chairman position amongst themselves and decide who wishes to take on this position. The Bank Signatory is a legal requirement and a replacement signatory must be appointed.

114/15 Matters for the Next Meeting

Councillor vacancy, Vice Chairman and Bank Signatory

115/15 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 1st February 2016, at Hanbury Memorial Hall, commencing at 7.30 pm.

The dates for the meetings for the remainder of 2016 have been arranged, and are as follows: -

Monday 7th March, Monday 4th April, Tuesday 10th May, Monday 6th June, Monday 11th July, Monday 5th September, Tuesday 11th October, Monday 7th November and Monday 5th December.

PART II

116/15 Accounts for payment

ESBC – Election Costs for 2015	£83.56
Diane Malley – Administration of Payroll, Second Half	£24.00
Shaun Wiles – PX Graphics – Walk Leaflet and artwork	£405.00

TOTAL: **£512.56**

The meeting closed at: 20.35