

DRAYCOTT IN THE CLAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 9 April 2015

Apologies: Cllr Robert Hardwick

Present: Chairman Cllr Kenneth Rudman
Vice Chairman Cllr Mark Flavell
Cllrs Sue Fulford, Barbara Marshall, Nicholas Preston and
Arthur Renshaw
Parish Clerk Mrs Rita Hill
PC Richard Boulter (part)
PCSO Zoe Evans (part)
Mr Stephen Smith
4 Members of the Public (3 part)

Minutes of the last Parish Council were agreed as read. Proposed by Cllr Barbara Marshall. Seconded by Cllr Nicholas Preston. All in favour.

Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

Policies, Procedures and other related documents

Cllrs had reviewed the revised Media Policy, Model Standing Orders and Financial Regulations prior to the meeting and agreed to formally adopt them. Proposed by Vice Chairman. Seconded by Cllr Sue Fulford. All in favour.

Chairman brought the following two issues forward in order that Parishioners present could take part in the discussions prior to the rest of the meeting. Cllrs agreed to this.

Proposed A515 Weight Restriction south of Draycott in the Clay. Flyer has been distributed round the village. No response from County Cllr Philip Atkins regarding the letter sent to him. Petitions have been distributed and one has been placed at The Swan PH.

Chairman opened the meeting allowing Parishioners to speak.

One Parishioner said that he does not want to be at odds with the Parish Council or the village about the weight restriction proposal, but does have concerns about speed. He pointed out that the Community Post Office does not make money and that once you lose the community status it would be hard to get it back. The Post Office at the moment has the status till April 2016. Following a recent in-house survey, 15% of Shop business was from lorry drivers that would be affected by the weight restriction proposal. Plus, the opening of a Farm Shop down the road will be

competition – these two hits will affect business. Vice Chairman queried the 15% stated. It was understood that the survey had been conducted over 10 days and that most of the lorry drivers had been delivering locally so would not be affected by the proposed weight restriction. Parishioner added that lorry drivers spend more money in the Shop even though their footfall is smaller. At this point the Chairman interjected and said that Draycott in the Clay was third in line with this proposal as Yoxall and Kings Bromley were going for the proposal and added that Henhurst Hill, Burton upon Trent were also pursuing the same proposal.

Cllr Nicholas Preston queried why a referendum had been taken on the reduction in speed proposal but not now. Response was do not need to take a referendum on everything.

Cllr Arthur Renshaw commented we want to support local businesses, the last thing we want to do is hit these, what we want to do is stop those lorries using the A515 as a cut through route.

Cllr Nicholas Preston raised that he thought the fuel station would suffer, plus could lose the Shop as well.

Another Parishioner asked who had issued the flyer. The response was the Parish Council. He asked where all the evidence on the flyer came from. He added that there was less traffic on the road now than 20 years ago and where was the evidence of through vehicles. With reference to 'noise at night' he slept at the front of his house on the A515 and was not disturbed by this. He felt this latest proposal was the same as the speed limit proposal.

Vice Chairman responded saying it was not just the Parish Council wanting to do this; it started off with Kings Bromley, then Yoxall - both parishes are very concerned. He added that there were plans to expand Fradley so this proposal was a catalyst for it.

Parishioner enquired about the statement made regarding 1,000 HGVs movements on the A515 daily. Response was that the source was the Department of Transport website.

Cllr Barbara Marshal reiterated Vice Chairman's previous comment and added that HGV drivers would still be able to access Stubby Lane.

With regard to the earlier question about Parishioners being consulted, the Parish Council minutes are available for people to read, Parishioners can attend Parish Council meetings and a flyer has been distributed. The petition was not 'a fait accompli'. A Parishioner said that people were being forced to sign the petition. The Parish Council took great exception to this statement as this was not the case at all. Parishioner added that people were doing so without the full knowledge of the facts. The response from the Parish Council was that if Parishioners don't like the idea then they don't sign it.

Parishioners were advised that Mr Andrew Griffiths MP was backing the project.

Parishioner summed up his thoughts by saying they understand why don't want lorries coming through the village, but won't know the future of the Post Office / Shop until it hits us. Concerned about retaining the Post Office community status. Chairman said that the Parish Council values the Shop and Post Office and will support in every way possible to ensure that closure does not happen.

The Parish Council had previously voted on the weight restriction proposal; it was not unanimous but was voted for.

Cllr Sue Fulford commented that the worst time for HGVs was early evening and night time and wondered if such a restriction could be put on timings.

Chairman brought the discussion to a close as the conversation was moving onto different areas. He thanked everyone for their comments and for coming to the meeting.

Chairman handed over to the Vice Chairman one completed petition form. There was still more time for other forms to be completed. At the end of April Vice Chairman to collect all the petitions in and forward to the A515 Action Group. **Action – Vice Chairman.**

Two Members of the Public left the meeting room.

Access over Village Hall car park. Further to the discussions at the last meeting Member of the Public informed the Parish Council that the length of the oil tanker pipe would be 180 feet and would reach the tank whilst the tanker was parked on the highway, but would still need to walk the pipe over the car park in order to gain access to the tank. Member of the Public was still not sure at the moment as to the exact location of the tank in their garden, but would inform the Parish Council once they knew. Cllrs agreed that the discussion be put in writing, adding that the Parish Council cannot give guaranteed right of access for life. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Member of the Public left the meeting room.

Matters Arising

Issues with Mr Andrew Griffiths MP. The Green, Pipehay Lane. Carried over from March meeting:

No further update from Mr Andrew Griffiths MP.

Kuehne & Nagel Site. Cllrs agreed for a follow-up email to be sent to Parkwood Consultancy enquiring as to whether the site contract has been signed for the next 5 years and about the latest on the permissive path. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Bridlepath from the Riddings to Coton in the Clay. SCC Rights of Way to check. Diary note to follow-up in September 2015. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Footpath 6. Chairman raised that the stile was broken – SCC Rights of Way to be advised. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Landfill Site, Moreton Lane. Response received from Mr Chris Blakeman, Biffa Waste Service Ltd saying that “there are still potential unacceptable health and safety risks to members of the general public which are associated with the control systems on site. Due to the above concern, I am not, unfortunately, at present able to permit public access to the Marchington site. I will review the matter later this year but do not envisage the situation changing for the next few years.” Vice Chairman commented that the position had not changed for at least the last 6 years. Diary note to follow-up in April 2016. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Accounts for Payment

BT Payment Services Ltd, Parish telephone line	£ 72.05
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The above account was paid by Direct Debit on 26 March 2015. Payment proposed by Vice Chairman and seconded Cllr Barbara Marshall. All in favour.

Mrs R Hill, Parish Clerk salary April 2015 and expenses	£371.29
Staffordshire Pension Fund, Employer's (£95.86) and Employee's (£26.36) Contribution Rate re Mrs R Hill's pension (April payment)	£122.22
Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association, Annual subscription 2015-2016	£261.00
Community Council of Staffordshire, Annual subscription 2015-2016	£ 25.00

All of the above accounts were proposed for payment by Vice Chairman and seconded by Cllr Barbara Marshall. All in favour. **Action - Parish Clerk to action the payments.**

Chairman distributed the current receipts / payments accounts for 2014 / 2015.

From April 2015, the employer's pension contribution rate increases from 19% to 20%.

General Correspondence

SCC re Pension – Discretionary Policies. SCC has acknowledged adoption.

SCC re Superfast Broadband. Chairman advised that he rang BT and complained about the poor speed of his broadband and was informed that his hub was at fault as he was getting the superfast speed to his house. Chairman thought this information, along with the previous details from SCC should go into the next Parish Council Newsletter.

Police issues. PC Richard Boulter was not aware of the recent Community Speed Watch training.

PCSO Zoe Evans introduced herself.

PC Richard Boulter commented that the next prison liaison meeting was planned for Tuesday 2 June at 6.00pm at Dovegate and were we aware. Response was no.

Action – Parish Clerk to contact HMP Dovegate.

Cllr Arthur Renshaw reminded PC Richard Boulter about the offer to the local Police of the facilities at the Village Hall.

PC Richard Boulter and PCSO Zoe Evans left the meeting room.

Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities. No response has been received from Borough Cllr Robert Hardwick with regard to utilising the Borough Council website. Chairman requested the Parish Clerk to look into other options and report her findings at the next meeting. **Action – Parish Clerk.** All Cllrs present at the meeting consented to their current email addresses held by the Parish Clerk to be used for Parish Council business. Chairman went onto raise about the new requirement for electronic signatures. **Action – Cllrs and Parish Clerk for the next meeting.**

The Pensions Regulator re New Automatic Enrolment Legal Duties. Noted.

SCC Pension Fund re Automatic Enrolment for Town & Parish Councils. Noted.

Network Rail re Notes of the Public Information Meeting for Sudbury Level Crossing. Noted.

Draycott Show Committee re Hanging Basket Competition. No competition this year.

Grant Thornton re Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015. Due to the date of the May Parish Council meeting the Parish Clerk had made a prior request to Grant Thornton to extend the 'Date of Announcement' from 22 June 2015 to 29 June 2015. Grant Thornton has approved the request.

Planning Applications and Related Matters

ESBC re East Staffordshire Local Plan Examination – Revised Programme of Hearings. Noted.

Derbyshire County Council re Withdrawal of application – Erection of a 2,500 breeding sow pig rearing unit, Land off Uttoxeter Road, Foston. Noted.

Circulars Received

ESBC re Register of Electors – Notice of Alteration. Noted.

SPCA re "Gazette". Noted.

Do the Honours for Staffordshire. Noted.

Streetscape re Product literature. Noted.

CPRE re Field Work. Noted.

CPRE re Countryside Voice. Noted.

Highway / Traffic Matters

GATSOs. As recorded in the Burton Mail on 30 March 2015, four of the GATSOs within the village were in the top ten 'snapping cameras in Burton'.

Community Speed Watch scheme. Mr Ian Shaw has advised that Mr Martin Vale is to be co-ordinator of the group and that the equipment has been delivered to him. Cllr Arthur Renshaw to contact Mr Martin Vale. **Action – Cllr Arthur Renshaw.**

Road Safety Partnership. Mr Graham Hunt to find out who the replacement will be.

Reinstatement of green footpath in Stubby Lane. Mrs Sam Griffiths has been advised of the substandard reinstatement and she confirmed that it was best rectified by the NH Team.

A519 and A515 average speed designs. Chairman read out the response received from Mr Graham Hunt regarding the equivalent accident data for the stretch of A515 from Yoxall to south of Draycott in the Clay. Cllrs were concerned with the information provided as the data was not current and wished to query this as there has been a minimum of 5 injury accidents within the last 18 months. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Pothole near to Aston Bridge on A515. Report to be re-issued to Highways (4007982). **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Mr Andy Mason, Senior Project Manager re A50 Improvements – Diversionary route. As a response has not been received from Mr Andy Mason Cllrs agreed to contact him again. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Advertising signs on Moreton Lane traffic island. Diary note for October 2015. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Marchington Cliff – deep ruts and potholes. SCC Highways has advised that works have been raised and were currently waiting scheduling.

Unauthorised removal of kerb and installation of road gulley area near to Sudbury garage. Mrs Sam Griffiths has advised that "that a new road gully is being installed and connected to the existing gully and drainage system on the opposite side of the road. These are works that were planned to stop highway water ponding on the highway."

Gullies between Aston Bridge and Moreton Lane roundabout. It was reported that along this stretch of highway the water was not running into the gullies. **Action – Parish Clerk to advise SCC Highways.**

Neighbourhood Highway Team programme for 2015. List of works to be sent. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Highway splay near Woodlands Rise. Matter was discussed and Cllrs agreed to contact Mrs Sam Griffiths, SCC for advice. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Boulder. Waiting response from Mrs Sam Griffiths, SCC.

Village Facilities, Maintenance and Landscaping

Weekly inspection reports. Inspection reports received.

Noticeboard. Cllr Arthur Renshaw advised that he has a noticeboard almost complete, but would require some posts at about £5.00 each. Cllrs agreed for these to be purchased. Proposed by Chairman. Seconded by Cllr Barbara Marshall. All in favour. **Action – Cllr Arthur Renshaw.**

Bloomin' Gardens & Landscapes Ltd – site meeting. Cllrs agreed to re-contact Bloomin' Gardens. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Repairs to Play Area. A charge of £45.00 for Carriage – Freight for new parts charged at cost, was omitted from the Parish Council's calculation at the last meeting. Prior to this meeting Chairman, Cllrs Arthur Renshaw, Barbara Marshall, Nicholas Preston and Sue Fulford gave approval for the extra charge so that order could be placed. Works due to take place week commencing 20 April.

Gap in fence. Chairman read out notes from a discussion between the landlord and Cllr Barbara Marshall. It was clarified that a gap was needed not a gate, with the proviso that it would have to be shut off one day a year so that it did not become a right of way. From further information received, it was agreed that SCC Rights of Way be informed of the danger identified to users of the footpath and request that a risk assessment be carried out as a matter of urgency. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Village Hall Update

Flat roof. Funding of £1,650.00 has been granted. A letter of financial support for £260.00 from the Parish Council was required for the application. Proposed by Cllr Sue Fulford. Seconded by Cllr Barbara Marshall. All in favour. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Repair / replace car park lights. Carried over from March meeting:

Cllr Arthur Renshaw offered to look into this as maybe the bulbs had failed; if so, it was suggested they were replaced with LED low wattage bulbs instead of halogen. **Action – Cllr Arthur Renshaw.**

Constitution. Chairman to contact the Treasurer of the Committee regarding the Constitution of the Hall. **Action – Chairman.**

Flooding of Village Hall. Update waited from Highways.

A quote of £1,104.00 + VAT has been received from Timbuild. Cllrs agreed to place the order. Proposed by Cllr Barbara Marshall. Seconded by Cllr Sue Fulford. All in favour. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Any Other Business

Sewerage problems in Deepcut Road. Matter was discussed. It was agreed that it was an issue for ESBC Environmental Health and suggested that the Deepcut Road Management Committee contacted ESBC direct.

Parish Council Newsletter. Vice Chairman to put a draft together for the next meeting. Cllrs were asked to send in contributions or ideas to the Vice Chairman.

Action – Cllrs and Vice Chairman. In light of the discussions that took place at the start of the meeting, Cllrs agreed to give the village Community Post Office and Shop an opportunity to print a flyer which Cllrs would distribute free of charge alongside the next issue of the Parish Council Newsletter. **Action – Vice Chairman**

Yew Tree Lane. Numerous potholes the whole length of the road. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Forest Road. Highway signs were facing the wrong way. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Cllr Barbara Marshall raised that a Parishioner had spoken to her about buses stopping outside their property. As the property does not have a dropped kerb Cllrs agreed that for legal reasons the Parish Council cannot act on this matter.

Overgrown hedge over footpath, New Row. SCC to be advised. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

General comment from Cllrs Barbara Marshall and Sue Fulford, were Cllrs aware that the national speed limits for HGVs over 7.5 tonnes, travelling on a single carriageway had increased from 40mph to 50mph and on dual carriageways increased from 50mph to 60mph.

Cllr Arthur Renshaw wished to thank Cllr Nicholas Preston for all his hard work during his time on the Parish Council. Cllrs were unanimous.

As no other business arose the open meeting closed 9.15 p.m.

Date of the next monthly meeting: Thursday 14 May 2015, 7.30 pm, Village Hall.

Signed

Date

Chairman

2015 – Dates of Parish Council meetings:

11 June	9 July	10 September
8 October	12 November	10 December

Minutes of the Parish Council meetings can be viewed in the noticeboard located outside the Village Hall.