

DRAYCOTT IN THE CLAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 8 October 2015

Apologies: Vice Chairman Cllr Mark Flavell
Cllrs Barbara Marshall and Nigel Powlson
Cllr Stephen Smith, Crown Ward

Present: Chairman Cllr Ken Rudman
Cllrs Sue Fulford, Caroline Hulse (part), and Arthur Renshaw
Parish Clerk Mrs Rita Hill
Mr William J Read, Resilience Support Officer (ESBC) (part)
Mrs Jude Taylor, Sportshire Coordinator (SCC) (part)
PC Josie Shepherd (part)
PC Penny Doyle-Johnson (part)
4 Members of the Public (3 part)

Chairman explained to the two guests present that due to the Police representatives having to leave quickly that he would take Police issues first. The guests were understanding of this.

Greaves Wood. Chairman invited the Parishioner to speak. Parishioner explained the situation that his family had been put under with regard to surveillance cameras / posters that had recently been put up in Greaves Wood. They went onto explain that they had been in contact with the Duchy in London, Savills in Nottingham and the Police about the matter and that they wanted to bring the details to the attention of the Parish Council. The response the Parishioner received from Mr Neil Fraser, Savills was that he knew about the cameras, that it was a private wood, and was unable to comment any further. Parishioner advised that he had met with the Police, who explained it was a civil matter rather than the law.

Cllr Caroline Hulse entered the meeting room.

Parishioner enquired if the Parish Council had been made aware of the cameras. The response was no. Councillors agreed to take this information and investigate further by writing to Savills asking for an explanation / clarification. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

PC Josie Shepherd commented that it sounded like a civil trespass but would need to speak to PC Shenton. **Action – PC Josie Shepherd to advise the Parish Council of the outcome.**

Chairman thanked the Parishioner for attending and bringing the matter to the Parish Council's attention.

Two members of the public left the meeting room.

Police re Vehicle parked on Pipehay Lane estate. Cllr Caroline Hulse reported that the vehicle has since been moved and was no longer causing an issue.

Police re Youngsters playing football on the grassed area in Hollow Lane. PC Josie Shepherd reported that the Police were looking into this. Awaiting a response from ESBC.

PC Josie Shepherd and PC Penny Doyle-Johnson left the meeting room.

Chairman thanked Mr William J Read, Resilience Support Officer (ESBC) for his patience and invited him to speak on the subject of **Emergency Planning**.

Mr Read gave a presentation covering - what emergency planning was; legislation working to; the Staffordshire structure; risk registers; plans e.g. evacuation plans / rest centres; training; exercises; business continuity. Mr Read concluded by talking about how parishes can prepare their own emergency plan, and about a table-top exercise and parish emergency volunteers.

Mr Read said that he would send the Clerk an electronic copy of the emergency plan template and wait to hear the Parish Council's thoughts on it. **Action – Mr Read.** Chairman said that when Cllrs have had chance to look through the documentation the Parish Council would respond.

Chairman thanked Mr Read for attending.

Mr Read left the meeting room.

Chairman thanked Mrs Jude Taylor, Sportshire Coordinator (SCC) for her patience and invited her to speak on the subject of the **Ironman event**.

An in-depth discussion took place regarding the run-up to the Ironman event last June and the actions on and days after; including the lack of notice / consultation the Parish Council received of the event (Mrs Taylor acknowledged this point); that the map issued was inaccurate; whether the route could be flexible. Mrs Taylor advised that with regard to the last point this was not be possible; that it was the Police's preferred route and this route caused least disruption.

Mrs Taylor explained about the planning of the route; Police involvement; the advertisement of the event and that the event would be held in Staffordshire for 3 years. She added that SCC and Ironman recognised that more work was required in communicating with stakeholders, so to start with a monthly newsletter would be issued - **Action – Mrs Taylor to check distribution list** – and that Ironman would be holding a roadshow

Cllrs said that in affect our small village was completely shut down. They added that the various marshalls stopping the traffic were not consistent in what they were saying to drivers e.g. some marshalls would let vehicles through others would not. Cllrs commented that the road closure signs were so many yards ahead but did not indicate that businesses were open as usual. Plus the signs were not removed quickly enough after the event - they were actually out 2 days after.

Mrs Taylor said that SCC wants to work towards a better event next year by taking on board comments from stakeholders, such as Parish Councils. To sum up, it was agreed

that SCC would provide details such as the map to the Parish Council to comment on prior to publication; check the monthly newsletter distribution list; make sure the signs show better information and were removed quickly, and better clarification of when the road could be used. **Action – Mrs Taylor.**

It was raised could the roads be closed off later – response was no because the elite riders would need to get through. Chairman asked could Ironman contribute something to Parishes that were affected. Mrs Taylor said no; she went onto mention that Little and Great Hayward made a community event of it and raised money by selling teas and coffees to spectators.

Member of the Public raised that their business lost money during the closure - why were businesses not being compensated? Mrs Taylor responded saying legislation exists and that £1,000,000 was raised for charity on the back of the event. Mrs Taylor said she understood that it must be frustrating, but added that need to look at the knock on effect / the bigger picture of bringing people back in to Staffordshire at another time. Mrs Taylor commented that the County Council does not receive any financial gain from the event.

With regard to a question about farmers and silage time – Mrs Taylor reported that SCC did talk to the farmer community prior to the event. Another question was – what happens if a person or an animal becomes ill how would you get through the road closures – Mrs Taylor responded saying that the procedure was to inform a marshal who would arrange for a chaperone to accompany the vehicle or a doctor / vet would make a home visit.

In conclusion, Mrs Taylor emphasised that SCC were happy to share information; that Ironman were happy to meet the Parish Council and that she was a member of the safety advisory committee. Cllrs agreed that at this stage the Parish Council liaised with Mrs Taylor.

Chairman thanked Mrs Taylor for attending the meeting.

Mrs Taylor left the meeting room.

Member of the Public left the meeting room.

Minutes of the September Parish Council were agreed as read. Proposed by Cllr Sue Fulford. Seconded by Cllr Caroline Hulse. All in favour.

Declaration of Interests

All Cllrs said that they were not aware of any at this point in the meeting, but would declare at the appropriate point during the meeting.

Matters Arising

Co-option of Councillors. RBS has advised that the mandate needs to be signed by all Cllrs. Cllrs present signed the form. **Action – Parish Clerk, Vice Chairman, Cllrs Barbara Marshall and Nigel Powlson.**

Issue with Mr Andrew Griffiths MP - The Green, Pipehay Lane. Mr Andrew Griffiths MP to follow up.

Police issues. Community Speed Watch. Parish Clerk advised that Ms Melanie Langdown had spoken to her and had advised her of the group's disappointment in the poor communication between them and Mr Ian Shaw and that of the 101 service. Ms Melanie Langdown to contact the CSW Leader.

Shoot Dates. Details have been received.

Klondyke Mill - bonfire and fireworks event. Email has been sent.

Accounts for Payment

BT Payment Services Ltd, Parish telephone line	£ 81.16
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The above account was paid by Direct Debit on 26 September 2015. Payment proposed by Cllr Sue Fulford and seconded Cllr Caroline Hulse. All in favour.

Mrs R Hill, Parish Clerk salary October 2015 and expenses	£384.37
Staffordshire Pension Fund, re pension (October payment)	£121.36
Grant Thornton UK LLP, Fee in respect of 2015 Annual Return	£120.00
Bloomin' Gardens & Landscapes Ltd, Grass mowing invoice no. 638824	£103.20
The Play Inspection Company, Annual inspection at play area	£ 71.94

All of the above accounts were proposed for payment by Cllr Sue Fulford and seconded by Cllr Caroline Hulse. All in favour. **Action - Parish Clerk to action the payments.**

Chairman distributed the current receipts / payments accounts for 2015 / 2016.

An invoice had incorrectly been received from Integrity Electrical. Upon further investigation this should have been addressed to the Village Hall Committee. Treasurer of the Village Hall has been advised and offered to sort out the error.

General Correspondence

ESBC re Neighbourhood Projects. Chairman advised Cllrs of the quotes received. Cllrs approved the two Neighbourhood Priorities proposal forms for the slide embankment and the gate & fencing both at the playing field. **Action – Parish Clerk to submit the forms to ESBC.** Chairman offered to attend the Forum meeting on 25 November (another Cllr can attend if so wish). **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Email from Zurich Municipal re Insurance Premium Tax. During this year's Summer Budget, the Chancellor announced an increase in the rate of Insurance Premium Tax from 6% to 9.5% with effect from the 1 November 2015. This increase will apply to all insurance premiums after this date. Noted.

Email from Dovegate Prison re Prison liaison meeting. Date of the next meeting was planned for 28 October at 6.00pm. Cllrs Sue Fulford and Caroline Hulse offered to attend. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Planning Applications and Related Matters

Clive Keble Consulting Ltd re Marchington (Draft) Neighbourhood Plan – regulation 14 Consultation. Noted.

Circulars Received

Savills re Duchy of Lancaster Newsletter, Summer 2015. Noted.

Community Council of Staffordshire re Village SOS launches Mobile Phone App. Noted.

Wicksteed Leisure re product literature. Noted.

Highway / Traffic Matters

Issues with Mr Graham Hunt, SCC Community Partnerships Officer (Cannock Chase and East Staffordshire):

Average Speed Cameras - motorbikes. Mr Graham Hunt has advised that he needs to take further advice on this.

A50 improvements, diversion route and construction traffic. Carried over from September meeting:

Mr Graham Hunt to speak to Mr Andy Mason and suggests that he comes to a meeting. **Action – Parish Clerk to remind Mr Graham Hunt of the above action.**

Discussions with Cllr Philip Atkins regarding compulsory purchase of land in Stubby Lane. Cllr Philip Atkins has asked Mr Graham Hunt to explore this option. **Action – Mr Graham Hunt to keep the Parish Council informed of progress.**

Potholes - Aston Bridge on A515 (ref 4007982). It was noted that recently there had been temporary lights on the bridge. **Action – Parish Clerk to advise Mr Graham Hunt.**

Reinstatement of green footpath in Stubby Lane. Cllr Arthur Renshaw to meet with Mr Jeff Green, SCC CHLO. **Action – Cllr Arthur Renshaw.**

Mr Andy Mason, Senior Project Manager re A50 Improvements – Diversionary route. Photographs received of other stretches of highway which use concrete safety barriers on live carriageways. These to be kept on file for future reference / meetings.

Gullies (4015394) between Aston Bridge and Moreton Lane roundabout. Highways has advised a works order has been raised for drain and gully cleaning. It was noted that over the last week works have been seen at this location.

Boulder. Further concerns were raised. Cllr Arthur Renshaw to raise the matter with Mr Jeff Green, SCC CHLO. **Action – Cllr Arthur Renshaw.**

Proposed A515 Weight Restriction south of Draycott in the Clay. Chairman reported that the Vice Chairman still had the petition. A letter has been received from SCC regarding 'working together to address the impact of heavy goods / commercial vehicles on roads in Staffordshire' – two meetings were to be held on 20 October and 10 November. Chairman and Vice Chairman offered to attend – Cllrs agreed. **Action – Chairman and Vice Chairman.**

Ashes Lane re collapsed verges and no road markings. Repairs have been carried out.

The Barn Restaurant advertising signs on Moreton Lane roundabout. It was noted that the signs have been removed. Parish Clerk had contacted Mr Richard Rayson, SCC to see if he knew who had removed the signs – response awaited. Cllrs agreed to make a diary note for March 2016. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Better signage at Six Roads End. Response from Mr Graham Hunt advising that SCC has decided to review the policy on weight restrictions on local roads.

Overhanging hedge over pavement, Stubby Lane. Mr Jeff Green, SCC CHLO has sent a letter to the landowner. Cllrs raised that in general a lot of hedges were overgrown along Stubby Lane. Cllr Arthur Renshaw to raise concerns when he meets Mr Jeff Green, SCC CHLO. **Action – Cllr Arthur Renshaw.**

Cutting back of shrubs near to the bus shelter. Mr Jeff Green, SCC CHLO to carry out the work w/c 2 November.

NHTeam. The team was coming out to the Parish w/c 2 November. Cllrs to let the Parish Clerk know of any works. **Action – Cllrs and Parish Clerk.**

Overhanging tree branches within the grass verge opposite Swan Road. ESBC has been informed.

Village Facilities, Maintenance and Landscaping

Weekly inspection reports. Carried over from September meeting:

Inspection reports received - weeds in bark in jungle climber. **Action – Chairman offered to pull them up and rake the bark.**

Inspection reports received – one of the picnic seats was broken. **Action – Parish Clerk to contact Wicksteed's for a replacement (supply only).**

Parish Clerk was asked to chase up when the bi-annual maintenance works of the play equipment would be carried out. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Litter bins. With regard to the emptying of the litter bins Cllr Arthur Renshaw advised that he had spoken to someone but had not received a reply as yet. In the interim Cllr Arthur Renshaw offered to look into a possible solution. Cllrs agreed. **Action – Cllr Arthur Renshaw.** Parish Clerk advised that if the Parish Council employed someone then there would be an insurance implication of £32.39 and additional administration would be required e.g. HMRC Basic PAYE. Cllr Arthur Renshaw said would it be worth considering contacting Willshee's for a quote. Cllrs agreed. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Goal posts. PC Richard Boulter has enquired as to where the goal posts have gone to. Cllr Caroline Hulse offered to speak to the landlord to ask if the goal posts could go back up until he has levelled the field. **Action – Cllr Caroline Hulse.**

Kissing gate. Another complaint has been received. Waiting a reply from Mr Richard Rayson, SCC Highways. Cllrs agreed to contact Mr Richard Rayson direct (cc. County Cllr Philip Atkins, Borough Cllr Stephen Smith and Mr Graham Hunt). **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Annual Inspection. Report sent to Cllrs prior to the meeting. All risk assessments were found to be very low or low.

Replacement of rotten posts. A quote of £240.00 including VAT has been received from S Gregson Groundwork & Landscaping. Cllr Arthur Renshaw said he wanted to go back to the company to query whether the quote included for a replacement stile or whether it covered the installation only, as Cllr Arthur Renshaw already had a stile that could be used. **Action – Cllr Arthur Renshaw.** Chairman proposed that the quote be accepted at £240.00 or less, subject to the answer about the stile. Seconded by Cllr Caroline Hulse. All in favour. **Action – Parish Clerk to place the order.**

Notice at playing fields. Chairman read out the response received from Mr Michael Hovers, ESBC. Cllr Arthur Renshaw said that he had two noticeboards already made up and wanted to make two more. Chairman suggested that he asked a company for a quote to erect all four. **Action – Cllr Arthur Renshaw.**

Annual closure of the gaps in the playing field boundaries. Cllr Arthur Renshaw wished to correct an entry in September's minutes saying that there were gaps that required closure. Cllrs agreed for the closure to take place and asked the Parish Clerk to contact Mr Nicholas Preston to see if he still had the rails. **Action – Parish Clerk.**

Trimming of playing field hedges. Quote received from S Gregson Groundwork & Landscaping for £354.00 including VAT to cut boundary hedge and clear all brash. Cllr Arthur Renshaw explained that the hedge boundaries would be cut by hand as it was a young hedge; that the area between the chain link fence and the road would be cleared and the hawthorn bushes cut back. Cllr Arthur Renshaw raised about the laurel and suggested that the landlord be contacted out of courtesy. Cllr Caroline Hulse offered to do this and advise the Parish Clerk. **Action – Cllr Caroline Hulse.** Works proposed at the cost of £354.00 by Chairman. Seconded by Cllr Sue Fulford. **Action – Parish Clerk to place the order.**

Village Hall Update

Flat roof application. The Village Hall Committee has sent their thanks to the Parish Council for the financial support given to this project.

Annual closure of the path at the rear of the Village Hall car park. Mrs Jenny Murphy to close off the gate over the weekend of 14 to 15 November. **Action – Mrs Jenny Murphy.**

Any Other Business

Chairman has been advised by a Parishioner that the public footpaths 10 and 9 have an electric fence going across them. **Action – Chairman to check and advise the Parish Clerk accordingly.**

The issue of Christmas trees for the Village Hall and St Augustine's First School was raised. Parish Clerk was asked to contact Mr Neil Fraser, Savills. **Action – Parish Clerk.** Cllr Caroline Hulse offered to arrange delivery of the trees. **Action – Cllr Caroline Hulse.**

Cllrs noted that recently there had unfortunately been quite a number of road traffic accidents along the A515 just outside the Parish boundary.

In Cllr Barbara Marshall's absence, the Chairman raised that a Parishioner had spoken to her about vehicles / school buses parking outside their property. Discussion took place. **Action - Parish Clerk was asked to write to the Parishioner.**

A rumour has been circulating that Waitrose in Uttoxeter was not opening; however, County Cllr Philip Atkins has since advised that the store was opening Easter 2016.

As no other business arose the open meeting closed 9.50 p.m.

Date of the next monthly meeting: Thursday 12 November 2015, 7.30 pm, Village Hall.

Signed



Date 12 November 2015

Chairman

2015 – Dates of Parish Council meetings:

10 December

2016 – Dates of Parish Council meetings:

14 January	11 February	10 March	14 April	12 May
9 June	14 July	8 September	13 October	
	10 November	8 December		

Minutes of the Parish Council meetings can be viewed in the noticeboard located outside the Village Hall and <http://draycottontheclayparishcouncil.btck.co.uk/>

Draycott in the Clay Parish Council has adopted the Model Publication scheme as approved by the Information Commissioner. Details are available via the Parish Council meeting or via the Parish Clerk.