

BRERETON AND RAVENHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held at the Parish Hall, Ravenhill Park, Brereton, on Tuesday, 6th June 2017.

Present

Councillors PA Fisher [Chairman], K Ansell, Mrs P Ansell, Miss IJ Brown, Mrs DM Easton, R Easton, H Farnath, Mrs G Harvey, TA Jones and GN Molineux.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Miss C Harvey, N Parton and Mrs HJ Southwell and District Councillor D Foley.

Mr PG Davies, the Parish Clerk, was also in attendance.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were given at the commencement of the meeting.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd May 2017, be approved and signed as a correct record.

3. POLICE MATTERS

No Police Officers were present at the meeting.

Councillor R Easton circulated a 'scam letter' he had received.

The Clerk undertook to display the letter on the Parish Hall's notice board. He would add suitable wording of the dangers of revealing bank and personal details to such scam organisations.

4. ADDRESS CHANGE – 'BRERETON'

Royal Mail had advised that in order to comply with its Code of Practice, it would be necessary for them to consult all of its customers whose addresses were affected by the change. It was currently considering whether to initiate a site visit before the consultation process got underway.

The Parish Council noted that Amanda Milling [MP] had reaffirmed her support for the address change.

5. LOAN SHARKS

The Clerk reported that following consultation with the Chairman and Councillor TA Jones, an application had been submitted for Grant Funding of £2,000.00.

RESOLVED

That the action taken be approved and confirmed.

6. MOTOR BIKES – NUISANCE – POWER STATION ROAD

The Clerk reported details of an e-mail he had received from a local resident living near Power Station Road complaining about the noise and general nuisance created by motor bikes racing along Power Station Road, sometimes into the early hours of the morning.

RESOLVED

1. That the Clerk write to the Police in full support of the representations already made by local residents.
2. That a letter be sent to the District Council asking them to seek an injunction against this motor cycle nuisance.
3. That the Clerk inform local residents of the action being taken.

7. DOCUMENTATION

The Clerk tabled the following document for the information of the Parish Council:-

- 🚓 Staffordshire Police Cyber Security and Cyber Crime

8. RED ENSIGN – MERCHANT NAVY DAY

A letter had been received from Seafarers UK inviting the Parish Council to fly the Red Ensign, the official flag of the British Merchant Navy, on Merchant Navy Day 3rd September 2017. Participating Parish Councils would be added to the prestigious 'Roll of Honour' on their website.

The Clerk reported that depending on the size of the flag, the cost varied between £28.00 and £45.71. Several Members kindly undertook to donate the funds required to purchase a flag for £28.00.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk arrange to purchase the flag and arrange for it to be flown on Merchant Navy Day.

9. UNION FLAG – FLYING HALF-MAST

RESOLVED

That the Chairman, in consultation with other Members, decide on those occasions when the Union Flag should be flown at half-mast.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD HIGHWAY TEAM

Councillor TA Jones had requested that this item be included on the Agenda. A copy of an e-mail from the Neighbourhood Highway Team 2017 had been circulated with the Agenda.

RESOLVED

That the Neighbourhood Highway Team be requested to carry out the following works:-

- 🚓 Cutting back of hedges which were overhanging the footpath on both sides of Armitage Road.
- 🚓 Replacing the street sign on St Michaels Road which had been damaged and was beyond repair.
- 🚓 Cutting back of the overgrown hedge in the alleyway – Swan Close onto Coalpit Lane.
- 🚓 Cutting back of overgrowth between The Talbot and the by-pass.
- 🚓 30 mph sign on Colliery Road had been damaged and required reinstatement as it was in danger of falling onto the highway [previously reported to the County Council some three months ago].
- 🚓 Drainage clearance to prevent flooding on Armitage Road in the vicinity of the new houses on the former Bradbury and Brown site.
- 🚓 Replacement of missing barrier – Armitage Lane.

🚧 Repair of gate at the top of Cherry Tree Road going onto Coppice Lane.

11. COUNCILLOR MRS HJ SOUTHWELL

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to Councillor Mrs Southwell who had expressed a wish to return to the Parish Council when her health had improved.

RESOLVED

That in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 [as amended], the absence of Councillor Mrs HJ Southwell be approved for a further period of six months.

12. PARISH COUNCIL'S INSURANCE

The Parish Council considered the contents of insurance renewal documentation received from Zurich Municipal, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

1. That the document, as submitted, be noted.
2. That, later in the year, the Finance and Management Committee examine the level of excess applied to items referred to in the policy.

13. FORMER EDL SITE

The Clerk had circulated a letter and accompanying composite response paper from the Environmental Protection Manager at Cannock Chase District Council.

Members of the Parish Council remained concerned not only about flies and the obnoxious odours but, more importantly, the danger of a fire and the consequential impact on parishioners.

RESOLVED

1. That the Clerk respond to the District Council reaffirming the Parish Council's environmental concerns, particularly the high risk of a fire originating from the dumped material.
2. That the Clerk write also to the County Council to ascertain whether any enforcement action could be taken as a result of a change of use on the site.

14. FLOODING NEAR THE CEMETERY

Councillor TA Jones, who had asked for this item to be included on the agenda, referred to the severe flooding on Stile Cop Road in the vicinity of the entrance to the cemetery. It was an ongoing problem during spells of inclement weather.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk request County Highways to clear the drains in this area to prevent a recurrence of the flooding and thus overcome the inconvenience to people, many of whom were already distressed, visiting the cemetery.

15. PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 2nd May 2017, be approved.

16. PARISH HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Parish Hall Management Committee held on 3rd May 2017, be approved.

17. FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 3rd May 2017, be approved.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Parish Council had previously agreed that the next meeting would be held on 18th July 2017, at 7.30 pm.

19. PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public were present at this juncture in the meeting.

[Chairman]