

BRERETON AND RAVENHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held at the Parish Hall, Ravenhill Park, Brereton, on Tuesday, 3rd October 2017.

Present

Councillors Ms IJ Brown [Vice-Chairman in the Chair], K Ansell, Mrs DM Easton, R Easton, TA Jones and GN Molineux,

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs P Ansell, H Farnath, PA Fisher [Chairman], Miss C Harvey, Mrs G 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 meeting held on 5th September 2017, be approved and signed as a correct record.

3. POLICE MATTERS

The Chairman welcomed PCSO David Hughes to the meeting. PCSO Hughes presented a breakdown of calls to the Police between 5th September and 30th September 2017 [copy attached].

The Clerk reported that in respect of Police resources, the LPT Commander Cannock Chase, had advised as follows:-

“2 x PC – arriving January 2018, allocated to response
2 x PC – arriving February 2018 – allocation to be decided, due to shifts changes and forthcoming Sgt process.

In relation to PCSOs:-

2 PCSOs started at Cannock Chase on 20th March 2017
3 PCSOs started at Cannock on 12 June 2017
1 PCSO started at Cannock on 18th September 2017.”

The Parish Council noted that the youth who had destroyed the defibrillator had been sentenced as follows:-

- ✚ Current order revoked
- ✚ Sentenced to 12 months referral order
- ✚ £85.00 cots
- ✚ F and D of golf club

Members noted that no direct response had been received from the Police and Crime Commissioner to the letter sent by the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council in respect of future Police resources in Brereton and Ravenhill.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write again to the Police and Crime Commissioner requesting a direct response to the information requested in his earlier letter.

4. RAVENHILL PARK

The District Council had confirmed that there was a designated Public Space Protection Order in place for the park. Council officers had been asked to install additional warning signs in the park and also to seek permission from the County Council to install some signs on street furniture.

The Clerk was pleased to report that the invoice which he had sent to the District Council, had resolved the confusion over ownership of the flag pole and had brought the matter to a close. In essence, the District Council had finally acknowledged that the flag pole had been provided by the Parish Council.

5. HS2 PHASE 2a

Councillor TA Jones circulated a letter he had sent to HS2 on behalf of the Parish Council in respect of the above. Copies of the letter had also been sent to Rugeley Town Council and Brindley Heath Parish Council.

RESOLVED

1. That the action taken be approved and confirmed.
2. That the Parish Council place on record its thanks to Councillor TA Jones for the excellent response submitted.

6. AMI BLAYMIRES – REDBROOK LANE

The Clerk circulated a copy of a letter he had received from the Environmental Protection Manager at Cannock Chase District Council in respect of the above.

The Parish Council expressed its continued concern about the exceptionally serious consequences for Brereton and Ravenhill if a fire broke out on this site. It was essential that the building was made secure until such time as the waste was cleared from the site.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk reiterate these views in a further letter to the District Council.

7. COMMUNITY MEETING

The Parish Council received an update on this community meeting.

Members were pleased to learn that attempts by the Police and Crime Commissioner to blame the Parish Council for several issues had been robustly refuted by the local community who had responded positively in support of the Parish Council.

Members again reiterated their concern that, unlike many other forces, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire had failed to secure any funding for the Police from Section 106 Agreements.

Members noted that the next Community Meeting would be held on 30th November 2017, at 7.00 pm.

8. NEWMAN GROVE ALLOTMENTS

Councillor R Easton updated the Parish Council on the improvements carried out on land next to Newman Grove allotments. The work, which had been done by voluntary labour, had secured substantial environmental improvements for the area. In addition to local volunteers, significant contributions had been made by CEMEX, Ace Plant Hire and HD Ricketts.

The Parish Council acknowledged the excellent work undertaken and it was

RESOLVED

1. That the Parish Council place on record its thanks to Councillors R Easton, Mrs DM Easton, Ms IJ Brown, Mrs G Harvey and also Mrs M Bladon for the splendid voluntary contribution they had made to ensure the success of the venture.
2. That a letter of thanks be sent to CEMEX for the excellent work their employees had carried out on the site.
3. That letters of thanks be also sent to Ace Plant Hire and HD Ricketts for the contribution each had made in supplying equipment and materials.

9. COMMUNITY PATHS INITIATIVE

The Parish Council noted that the Parish Council's bid for funding of £650.00 for the purchase of equipment to facilitate the clearance of public footpaths had been approved. Prior to releasing the funds, the County Council had asked the Parish Council to identify the footpaths requiring maintenance. If any hedges or trees were to be cut back and pruned, it would be necessary to seek the permission of the landowner over whose land the footpath was situated.

RESOLVED

1. That the Clerk liaise with Councillors R Easton and TA Jones in identifying the footpaths to be maintained.
2. That the Clerk, together with Councillor R Easton, arrange for the purchase of the equipment set out in the bid submission.

10. DANGEROUS POTHOLES

Councillor TA Jones, who had asked for this item to be included on the Agenda, referred to two dangerous potholes at the junction of Talbot Road and Redbrook Lane.

The Parish Council noted that previous fairly recent repairs to the potholes had not been carried out to the required standard, resulting in this situation arising.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk request the Highways Department of the County Council to carry out urgent repairs to these potholes as with darker nights approaching, and the area not being well lit, there was a danger to both pedestrians and motorists.

11. TRANSFORMING THE TRENT VALLEY [TTTV] LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

The Clerk circulated information received from the TTTV Landscape Partnership Manager giving details of a new landscape scheme being developed along the River Trent in Staffordshire and Derbyshire.

RESOLVED

That in thanking the Partnership Manager for consulting the Parish Council, the Clerk make reference to the following:-

- ✚ The River Trent forms the northern boundary of the parish where there is no public access either legal or permissive.
- ✚ The work being done by the District Council in developing a Country Park in this area.
- ✚ The Parish Council would wish to continue to be consulted as the various schemes were progressed.

12. PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 5th September 2017, be approved.

13. PARISH HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Parish Hall Management Committee held on 6th September 2017, be approved.

14. FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 6th September 2017, be approved.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Parish Council had previously agreed that the next meeting would be held on 7th November 2017, at 7.30 pm.

16. PUBLIC FORUM

Reference was made to the possibility of volunteers from Rugeley Rotary Club administering Brereton Library. Discussions were underway between the Club and the County Council but if sufficient progress had not been made by 1st December 2017, other measures would be considered.

The Parish Council had previously been given a categorical undertaking that the library would not be closed and in this regard, it was

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to the County Council to seek confirmation that they would honour previous assurances given to the Parish Council that the library would not be closed.

[Chairman]