

BRERETON AND RAVENHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held at the Parish Hall, Ravenhill Park, Brereton, on Tuesday, 6th February 2018.

Present

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

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

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

1. MRS GERALDINE JOHNSON

The Parish Council was very saddened to learn of the untimely death of Mrs Geraldine Johnson, the wife of former Councillor Peter Johnson.

All present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were given at the commencement of the meeting.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2018, be approved and signed as a correct record.

4. POLICE MATTERS

The Chairman welcomed PC Scott Martin and PCSO Dave Hughes to the meeting. The Police Officers presented their report [copy attached].

The Police noted that a Councillor was prepared to make a statement identifying the individuals who had vandalised the flagpole fronting the Parish Hall. Members made the Police aware that if they required more evidence to facilitate a prosecution, the Parish Council would be prepared to make available CCTV images showing the individuals causing the vandalism.

The Police were also informed of a damaged car blocking part of the pavement in Lodge Road. The vehicle was not only causing an obstruction but it was also badly damaged and, therefore, a safety hazard to passing pedestrians.

5. BRERETON LIBRARY

The Chairman introduced, and welcomed, Mr John Wilson from Rugeley Rotary Club who updated the Parish Council on the current status of their proposal to run the library, its background and their plans for the future.

Mr Wilson advised that it was the intention of the Rotary Club to increase the profile of the library so that it could be used as a community hub for residents. The organisation was anxious to work with the Parish Council and other local organisations in delivering this important initiative. Currently, twenty-one voluntary library assistants had been identified from within the Club and if further support was required, volunteers would be sought from

the local community.

Reference was made to the current County Council consultative exercise in respect of libraries and Mr Wilson was invited to inform the Clerk of any issues or concerns in respect of Brereton Library which he would like included in the Parish Council's response.

Mr Graham Hunt [Community Partnership Officer] had submitted his apology for this meeting but had indicated that he would be available to attend the next meeting.

RESOLVED

That further consideration be given to this matter, including a formal response to the consultative exercise, at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

6. OAK TREE FARM

The Clerk had circulated a letter from the Planning Regulation Manager at the County Council explaining the terms of the Injunction and Approved Method Statement in relation to non-burning waste.

Following evidence that the Staffordshire Fire Service would soon be in a position to authorise removal of the waste, it was

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to the County Council pointing out that if the waste material is not fully removed in accordance with the terms of the Injunction and the Method Statement, the Authority should take prompt action against those responsible.

7. PROPOSED CHANGES TO LOCAL BUS SERVICES

The Clerk had circulated a letter from the Chief Executive of Staffordshire County Council explaining the reasons for the proposed changes to local bus services. He advised that officers were likely to be in contact with the Parish Council to evaluate viable service options currently being developed.

The Parish Council noted that within the available resources it was unlikely that a local bus service would be introduced along Armitage Road. The focus going forward would be on whether the existing connect service could be re-shaped and re-funded.

A Member referred to the possibility of changes being made to the circular bus 24 which was a valuable and well-used service for local residents.

RESOLVED

1. That the Clerk contact Arriva with a view to securing their assurance that no changes would be made to circular bus service 24.
2. That the Clerk reply to the Chief Executive of the County Council pointing out that:-
 - ✚ the "Lichfield and Rugeley Connect Mobility Link" was a socially necessary service for the reasons previously given and request that the Authority reconsider its decision to withdraw subsidy from the service; and
 - ✚ requesting the County Council's support to the Section 106 application made to Lichfield District Council for Real Time Passenger Information on bus stops serving the 825 bus service in Brereton and Ravenhill.

3. That the Chief Executive of the District Council be asked to take whatever action he could in support of the Parish Council's representations to secure the retention of the "Lichfield and Rugeley Connect Mobility Link" service.

8. DOG FOULING – FOOTPATH ADJACENT TO A513

The Parish Council noted the contents of a letter from the Environmental Protection Manager [copy previously circulated] advising that arrangements were being made to review the provision of 'No Fouling' signs along this stretch of road. In addition, the area would be added to the list of those requiring patrols by Enforcement Officers.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk invite the Environmental Protection Manager to attend the March meeting of the Parish Hall Management Committee to discuss this matter further and, in the meantime, he be asked to identify and indicate the number of Enforcement Officers employed by the District Council.

9. TRANSFORMING THE TRENT VALLEY [TTTV]

The Landscape Partnership Manager had advised that the TTTV was not involved in the Country Park Scheme on land formerly comprising the golf course.

10. WORLD BOOK NIGHT

The Clerk had made application for a supply of books to be distributed to the local community to mark World Book Night on 23rd April 2018. He undertook to update the Parish Council at its next meeting as to whether the application had been successful.

11. SECTION 106 AGREEMENT RELATING TO HAWKSYARD: PA 03/00627/045

The Parish Council noted that the following Section 106 project proposals had been submitted to Lichfield District Council:-

-  Brereton and Ravenhill Canal Improvement Scheme
-  Real Time Passenger Information

The Parish Council would await the decision on the application before deciding whether to pursue a formal complaint of maladministration.

12. THE CHICANE WHERE COALPIT LANE BECOMES COLLIERY ROAD

Members placed on record their thanks to the Chairman for carrying out remedial measures to improve the safety at this chicane pending the response from the County Council on the Parish Council's request for a 40 mph speed limit on Colliery Road.

13. DOCUMENTATION

The Parish Council noted that the following documents had been tabled for circulation to Members:-

-  Canal and River Trent – Planning for Waterways in Neighbourhood Plans
-  Indices of Deprivation 2015 – Cannock Chase Summary Profile

14. STAFFORDSHIRE DIARY OF VILLAGE FESTIVALS AND EVENTS 2018

An invitation had been received from the Community Council of Staffordshire to include any major festivals and events in their yearly on-line diary.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk submit details of Brereton Carnival for inclusion in the on-line diary.

15. SECTION 106 MONIES – CANNOCK CHASE DISTRICT COUNCIL

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to the Chief Executive of the District Council to ascertain whether any Section 106 monies would be forthcoming to the Parish Council from Lea Hall and other development sites within the parish.

16. AMI BLAYMIRES

The Parish Council had previously agreed to review progress on this matter at this meeting.

Members considered that although there had been some attempts to improve security, there remained a real danger of fire from the large amount of refuse remaining on the site. AMI Blaymires was just 200 yards from a school and close to residential properties.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk acquaint both the District Councillors and the County Councillor with the background to this matter and request them to press for the compulsory purchase of the site in order that action could be taken to negate the dangers which had been identified by the Parish Council.

17. COUNCILLOR MRS HJ SOUTHWELL

The Clerk reported that the three months sanction given to Councillor Mrs HJ Southwell for not attending meetings due to ill health, expired on 4th March 2018.

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 three months from 4th March 2018.

18. PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 9th January 2018, be approved.

19. PARISH HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Parish Hall Management Committee held on 10th January 2018, be approved.

20. FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 10th January 2018, be approved.

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

The Parish Council had previously agreed that the next meeting would be held on 6th March 2018.

22. PUBLIC FORUM

No matters were raised at this juncture by the members of the public present at the meeting.

[Chairman]