

BRERETON AND RAVENHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held at the Parish Hall, Ravenhill Park, Brereton, on Tuesday, 4th December 2018.

Present

Councillors R Easton [Chairman], Ms IJ Brown, Mrs DM Easton, PA Fisher, Mrs W Fisher, Mrs G Harvey, TA Jones and GN Molineux.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K Ansell, Mrs PA Ansell, Miss C Harvey, Mrs R Harvey and N Parton 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 6th November 2018, be approved and signed as a correct record.

3. APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES

RESOLVED



That the following Members be appointed to serve on the Committees listed below:-

Councillor Mrs W Fisher	-	Planning Committee
Councillor Mrs R Harvey	-	Parish Hall Management Committee and Finance and Management Committee

4. POLICE MATTERS

In the absence of a Police representative, the Clerk read out the Police Report.

Members expressed concern about the following:-

-  the funding of the Police and the lack of Police response;
-  the total inadequacy of the 101 telephone system.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk acquaint the local MP with the concerns of the Parish Council and invite her comments thereon.

5. DRAFT CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISALS AND MANAGEMENT PLANS

The Parish Council noted the contents of a letter and enclosure from the District Council inviting comments on the following:-

Talbot Street/Lichfield Street, Rugeley [the part within the Parish of Brereton and Ravenhill]; and
Trent and Mersey Canal [within Cannock Chase District].

Copies of the Area Approvals and Management Plans had been circulated. The deadline

for comments was 17th December 2018.

RESOLVED

That Councillor T Jones be authorised to prepare a draft response on behalf of the Parish Council.

6. STAFFORDSHIRE LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND

Councillor M Sutherland had replied to the letter of thanks from the Parish Council by advising that he was pleased to be able to support a worthwhile activity for a forward thinking parish.

The Clerk had circulated a copy of the Publicity Guidance received from the County Council. He reminded Members that the funding must be used in the current financial year.

7. CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Members noted that the tree being prepared by Councillors P Fisher and Mrs G Harvey and Mr Harvey, on behalf of the Parish Council, was nearing completion and would be sited in the church for the festival on 15th December 2018.

8. CRIMINAL DAMAGE IN BRERETON AND RAVENHILL

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire advised that he did not hold the information requested by the Parish Council and had, therefore, referred the matter to Staffordshire Police.

The Parish Council noted the following information received from the Police:-

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Charged	-	-	1
Community Resolution	-	1	-

The Parish Council, in noting the response remained concerned about the level of criminal damage and anti-social behaviour in Ravenhill Park.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to the Managing Director at the District Council acquainting him with the background to this matter and requesting that the Authority, in liaison with the Police, arrange for application to the High Court with a view to securing an injunction on known individuals preventing them from entering Ravenhill Park.

9. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY – LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FUNDS ALLOCATION

The Clerk reported that the District Council had confirmed that the £1,370.28 received from the Authority could be used for the refurbishment/replacement of bus shelters.

10. DOCUMENTATION

The Clerk tabled the following document for circulation to Members:-

 Staffordshire Pension Fund – Employer Focus

11. COALPIT LANE / BIRCH LANE / COLLIERY ROAD

The Clerk circulated an email received from the Community Infrastructure Liaison Manager.

The Parish Council noted that the County Council intended to take no further action apart from possibly renewing markings and cutting back the vegetation opposite the junction to improve visibility.

Members, in expressing their disappointment with the response, made reference to an accident which had occurred about four weeks ago where the personal injury sustained by the driver resulted in them being taken to hospital.

RESOLVED

1. That in view of this new information, the County Council be asked to:-
 - ✚ reconsider the matter with a view to reducing the speed limit; and
 - ✚ arrange, as they suggested, for the road markings to be renewed and vegetation cut back.
2. That a letter be sent to the occupiers of a property in Coalpit Lane requesting them to kindly cut back the height of their hedge to improve visibility for drivers at this Junction.

12. WORLD BOOK NIGHT – 23rd APRIL 2019

RESOLVED

That the Clerk be authorised to make application for participation in World Book Night 2019.

13. MEMBERS LIAISON MEETING WITH AMAZON

The Clerk circulated an email received from the District Council inviting the Parish Council to appoint one member to represent the Parish Council on a Member Liaison Group. The first meeting would be held on 31st January 2019, at 4.30 pm at the Amazon Fulfilment Centre, Brereton.

Councillor P Fisher indicated that he had offered to be the District Council's representative at the Liaison Meeting.

RESOLVED

1. That subject to Councillor P Fisher being appointed as the District Council's representative, Councillor R Easton be nominated as the Parish Council's representative.
2. That if Councillor P Fisher is not appointed as the District Council's representative, he be appointed as the Parish Council's representative, with Councillor R Easton as substitute Member.

14. MARTIAL ARTS CENTRE – STATE OF WALL

Members had been approached by a local resident regarding the state of the wall outside the Martial Arts Centre at the entrance to Wharf Road.

RESOLVED

1. That a letter be sent to the Martial Arts Centre making reference to the approach received from a members of the public and requesting them to kindly take appropriate action to secure the stability of the wall.

2. That if no action is taken by the Martial Arts Centre, the County Council be acquainted with the position as the wall could potentially fall onto the public highway.

15. STAFFORDSHIRE ROAD SAFETY GRANT FUND

The Parish Council was informed that the bid submitted for a Road Safety Grant in the sum of £4,700.00 to facilitate a speed reduction initiative, had not been approved.

16. CANNOCK CHASE AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY MANAGEMENT PLAN 2019 - 2024

The Clerk had circulated an email from the CCAONB Partnership inviting comments on this Draft Management Plan. The last date for responses was 11th January 2019.

RESOLVED

That the Draft Management Plane be noted.

17. COMMUNITY FUNDED SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLS

The Clerk had circulated an email from the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport inviting local Councils, businesses and local organisations to fund the salaries of School Crossing Patrol Wardens. A sum of £4,000.00 [per Patrol Warden] would be required each year.

RESOLVED

1. That the County Council be informed that this was clearly a County Council responsibility and that the Parish Council simply did not have the funds to accede to their request.
2. That the Parish Council continue to monitor the situation as the safety of children in the parish was of paramount importance.

18. PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 6th November 2018, be approved.

19. PARISH HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Parish Hall Management Committee held on 7th November 2018, be approved.

20. FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 7th November 2018, be approved.

21. DATES OF MEETINGS 2019



RESOLVED

That the dates of Parish Council meetings in 2019 be as follows:-

8th January
5th February
5th March
2nd April [followed by the Annual Parish Meeting]
14th May [Annual Parish Council Meeting]
4th June
16th July
3rd September
1st October
5th November
3rd December

22. PUBLIC FORUM

The public present made reference to the following:-

-  School Crossing Patrol Wardens – the need for alternative funding to be found if the County Council would not meet its obligations.
-  The Parish Council undertook to add zebra crossings and pelican crossings to its list of possible schemes to be funded via the HS2 road safety initiative.

[Chairman]