

Cannock Wood Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at the Village Hall Buds Road,
Cannock Wood on Thursday 17th September, at 7.15 pm.

Present:

Cllr's: Mrs P. Chapman, Mr J. Healey, Mrs M. Allen, Mr I. Bamford. Mr G. Powis
Mr D. Mawle, Mrs P. Ansell

In Attendance:

Mr D. M. Arm - Parish Clerk
Residents from Cumberledge Hill.
Mrs Lucy Stone – Staffs Police

Public Participation

The chair welcomed local residents and Mrs Lucy Stone to the meeting. Mrs Stone had been invited to the meeting to give a presentation on Community Speedwatch schemes.

Mrs Stone gave an overview of how Community Speedwatch schemes were set up and run. She explained that they were a national initiative and that volunteers can run the schemes between 8.00 am to 8.00 pm. They have to advise the Police when they will be undertaking speed checks in an area. Mrs Stone explained what happens when people are caught speeding with people receiving letters warning them of the offence. If they have been caught speeding in schemes in other areas this is logged on a central computer so a person could receive warnings based on offences committed in different areas. On the third instance an Officer will visit the person to give an official warning.

Residents from the Village then discussed issues with Mrs Stone and asked questions. Mrs Stone stated that she would consult with Highways at Staffs CC over the issues raised and see what information could be pulled together. Mrs S Samuels stated that she would also be gathering information on behalf of residents and would come back to the Council for further help as required.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Stone for attending the meeting and the very informative presentation. Mrs Stone and the local residents left the meeting at 20.05 hrs.

1. Apologies.

There were no apologies.

2. Approval of Minutes for the Meeting held on Thursday 16th July 2009.

The minutes of the meeting were read and accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Healey, Seconded: Cllr Powis.

3. Matters arising from the minutes.

There were no matter arising.

4. Planning

4.1 Applications for Consideration.

Due to the Council not having a meeting in August the Planning Sub Committee has dealt with the following applications:

CH/09/0218 – 31 Pineside Avenue – Conservatory to rear

The Council had no objections to this proposal.

CH/09/0262 – The Old Smithy, Chestall Park – Single storey extension to the front.

The Council had no objections to this proposal.

CH/09/0268 – 40 Gilwell Avenue – Conservatory to rear

The Council had no objections to this application.

4.2 Applications approved/rejected by Cannock Chase District Council.

There had been three approvals received from Cannock Chase District Council.

CH/09/0119 – 84 Hayfield Hill – Change of use to retain hard standing for storage of agricultural machinery.

Permission Granted.

CH/09/0188 – Old Lodge Hill Farm, Sevens Road – Domestic Garage

Permission Granted.

CH/09/0189 – Parkside Farm, Chapel Lane – Construction of an external brickwork facing including elevational alterations

Permission Granted.

5. Finance.

The Clerk handed out details of the bank accounts. There was £4,001.25 in the current account and there was £2,443.91 in the 3 Month Premium Account.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Mr D. M. Arm – Clerks Salary

Mr D. M. Arm – Clerks Expenses.

E. A. Roy £50 – Additional page on Web site

Chase Promotions £189.75 – Pens for Village Fayre

Staffs Playing Fields Association £15 – Annual Subscription

Burntwood Signs £47.15 – Council banner for Village Fayre

SPCA £20.00 – Meals for Cllr's at AGM

Proposed: Cllr Powis, Seconded: Cllr Ansell.

6. Grant Applications.

The Clerk informed Cllr's that he had received four applications for grants so far.

7. Electricity Supply.

No problems had been reported.

8. Water Pressure.

Nothing to report.

9. Dog Fouling.

Nothing to report.

10. Correspondence.

See Appendix A.

All noted by Cllr's.

11. Road Safety within the Village.

Cllr's decided that the Clerk should write to Staffs CC asking for speed and vehicle count measures to be put in place on Cumberledge Hill, Hayfield Hill and Buds Road. It was felt that there were still a number of issues with the Bus Service in the area and Arriva should be contacted and invited to a future meeting of the Council.

Cllr Bamford informed the Clerk that he had been able to assess where Grit bins should be located in Holly Hill Road. The Clerk agreed to write to Highways about the issue and also mention that the grit bin at the junction of Cumberledge Hill and Slang Lane had disappeared. Also the grit bin in Chapel Lane, close to the Methodist Chapel needs re-siting.

12. Quality Council Status.

Nothing further to report.

13. Parish Council Web Page.

Cllr Powis informed Cllr's that the new "News Page" was up and running and he was putting information on it. Web site hits had increased in August to 7,172 and the site was being viewed worldwide.

Wikipedia had links to the alternate village web page but not to the Council page. Cllr Powis agreed to talk to Eric Roy on this matter.

14. Community Speed Watch scheme.

This item had been dealt with under Public Participation at the beginning of the meeting. However, with a scheme starting up in Hazelslade and Rawsley very soon it may be possible to share equipment.

15. Review of Village Fayre from Council perspective.

Cllr's felt that overall the stand at the Fayre had gone down well. Pens had been handed out advertising the Council and the new Web Pages but some were left for next year's event. It was felt that for next year the Council should look for fresh ideas and perhaps start planning earlier.

16. Best Kept Village 2009.

Cllr Allen stated that Cllr's were all probably aware by now that the Village had been "Highly Commended" in this years competition which she was very pleased about.

Hopefully next year would be equally, if not more successful.

The Village was also entered in the Calor Village of the year and had got through to the finals.

17. Lighting Review.

Cllr Allen stated that she was upset about how information had been presented in the Liberal Democrat Talkback newsletter as she felt that it associated the Parish Council with the Liberal Democrat Party, which she objected to. Cllr Mawle replied on the matter stating that he had written the article and he felt that local residents should know what work the Parish Council had done and what a good Council it was. Cllr Mawle felt it did not link the Council to the Liberal Democrat party but apologised if the article had offended anyone.

18. Items for discussion/Future agendas.

Cllr's were aware of a new independent group of people calling themselves Friends of Castle Ring and Hazelslade and thought it may be worth supporting this venture.

Further information may be available soon.

Cllr's were aware that a hedgerow had been cut on the Public Footpath from Hayfield Hill to Redmoor Road and the debris left on the path. This is an issue for Staffs CC to resolve

20. Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting would be Thursday 15th October 2009.

The meeting will commence at 7.30 pm.

Cllr Chapman passed on her apologies for that meeting.

The Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

_____ Chairman

_____ Date

Derek Arm
Clerk to the Council.