

Cannock Wood Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at the Village Hall Buds Road,
Cannock Wood on Thursday 19th November, at 7.30 pm.

Present:

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

In Attendance:

Mr D. M. Arm - Parish Clerk
Mrs. B. Brettle - Parishioner
County Cllr - J. Bernard

Public Participation

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Brettle and Cllr Bernard to the meeting.

Cllr Ansell stated that she was very pleased to see County Cllr Bernard at the meeting and hoped that he would attend other meetings in the future. Cllr Bernard stated that he would be attending future meetings as it was how he could find out what was happening in the area he represented.

Mrs Brettle asked Cllr's if there had been any developments with the speeding problems that had been highlighted by residents. The Chairman stated that the Council had not had any update or feedback from local residents since they had attended the September meeting of the Council. The Clerk agreed to contact Mrs S Samuels, who agreed to be the resident's point of contact, to see if she was aware of any developments. The Clerk explained that he had requested that Highways install traffic and speed counters on Cumberledge Hill, Hayfield Hill and Buds Road. As yet this had not been done because of the high volumes of such requests across the County, however, it was hoped they would be available soon. Cllr Chapman stated that she would like to see chicanes installed on the roads to reduce the speed of vehicles. Cllr Bernard stated that to install a chicane would cost £20K. Cllr Bernard explained that he was a member of the Community Speedwatch scheme in Heath Hayes and gave an overview of how it worked. Cllr's felt that a Speedwatch scheme was a deterrent whilst it was being operated but the Village needed a permanent solution to the problem of speeding vehicles. The Council was very keen to get a solution but needed to work with residents to get their views. It was hoped that the Council would get feedback for the January meeting of the Council and hopefully by then the speed and traffic counters would be in place. If residents attended, a way forward could be established.

The Clerk informed Cllr's that he had received a reply from Highways about additional Grit bins being placed in Holly Hill Road. Unfortunately the necessary criteria had not been met so no additional bins would be sited. The Grit bin in Chapel Lane could be re-sited if that was what residents desired. Cllr Chapman stated that residents in Chapel Lane felt it would be better placed near to the junction with Cumberledge Hill following some "near misses at the junction last winter. The Clerk also informed Cllr's that a request had been submitted to reinstate the road surface by

Nunswell car park where the culvert had been repaired and this would hopefully be done soon.

Mrs Brettle left the meeting at 19.55 hrs.

1. Apologies.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Powis.

2. Approval of Minutes for the Meeting held on Thursday 15th October 2009.

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

Proposed: Cllr Healey, Seconded: Cllr Bamford.

3. Matters arising from the minutes.

The Clerk reported that he had asked again the road surface by Nunswell Park Car Park where the Culvert had been repaired. The order was in place to repair the surface and was moving up the list of work to be done.

4. Planning

4.1 Applications for Consideration.

CH/09/0330 – 84 Hayfield Hill – Replace existing chicken pens with stable block and replacement of exiting garage with new garage.

The Council had no objections to this proposal.

4.2 Applications approved/rejected by Cannock Chase District Council.

There had been two approvals received from Cannock Chase District Council. CH/09/0262 – The Old Smithy, Chestall Park – Single storey front extension.

Permission Granted.

CH/09/263 – 40 Gilwell Road – Conservatory to rear.

Permission Granted.

5. Finance.

The Clerk handed out details of the bank accounts. There was £7,277.27 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 for November and December

Mr D. M. Arm – Clerks Expenses.

Proposed: Cllr Healey, Seconded: Cllr Bamford.

The Clerk handed out financial information to Cllr's giving an overview of the finances of the Council and a risk analysis. He explained the information to the Council and stated that the Council did not really have any risk to the financial situation.

Cllr Ansell stated that she had been advised of money available for grants for organisations in the AONB area and she would be advising John Tonks who may be able to apply on behalf of the Beaudesert Sports Field Trust.

Cllr's discussed the Precept for 2010/11. Cllr Bamford stated that the Council may well choose to support a speed watch scheme or something similar but the Council had money in the 3 month Premium Account. Cllr Mawle stated that he thought the Precept should be maintained at the current level as if it was raised it could cause further hardship in difficult times. Cllr Ansell felt it would be prudent to keep it at the same level. Cllr's were unanimous in agreeing to leave the Precept at the current level of £8,240.

Proposed: Cllr Mawle, Seconded: Cllr Bamford.

6. Grant Applications.

The Clerk read out the grant applications and circulated them for Cllr's to look at. The following Cllr's declared interests in the grant applications.

Cllr Ansell in the Beaudesert Sports and Recreational Trust.

Cllr Healey in Cannock Wood Cricket Club although he was no longer Chairman.

Cllr Chapman in the Welfare Club.

Cllr Allen in Cannock Wood Cricket Club.

Cllr's discussed individual grant applications and after debate it was agreed to make the following grants:

CRUSE - £100. Proposed: Cllr Ansell, Seconded: Cllr Mawle.

Beaudesert Under 5's - £150. Proposed: Cllr Mawle, Seconded: Cllr Ansell.

Cannock Wood Football Club - £200. Proposed: Cllr Healey, Seconded: Cllr Bamford

Cannock Wood Cricket Club - £200. Proposed: Cllr Mawle, Seconded: Cllr Chapman

Evergreens - £150. Proposed: Cllr Healey, Seconded: Cllr Ansell

Welfare - £360 – Proposed: Cllr Ansell, Seconded: Cllr Healey

D. Arm - £564 – Proposed: Cllr Bamford, Seconded: Healey.

It was agreed to support an application from Beaudesert Sports Field Trust under Section 19 of the Local Government Act 1976, supporting a body in providing a facility that the authority could not provide themselves. It was agreed to provide £500 for this purpose. Proposed: Cllr Mawle, Seconded: Cllr Healey.

7. Electricity Supply.

Cllr's reported a brief interruption to supply in certain parts of the village in the past week.

8. Water Pressure.

Water pressure now seemed to be good.

9. Dog Fouling.

Cllr Chapman stated that she had been contacted by Mrs Bird who lived in Slang Lane about dog fouling occurring outside her property over the last two weeks. Cllr Chapman had contacted Cllr Allen to get publicity about the problem, hoping that whoever was responsible for the problem would see the article and act in a more responsible manner.

10. Correspondence.

See Appendix A.

All noted by Cllr's.

11. Road Safety within the Village.

This item was discussed under Public Participation.

12. Quality Council Status.

Nothing further to report.

13. Parish Council Web Page.

Nothing further to report.

14. Community Speed Watch scheme.

Cllr Mawle stated that he had been contacted by a resident of Hayfield Hill who wanted to support the scheme and he had put her in touch with Mrs S. Samuel. There had been no update from local residents on any further progress.

15. Low Carbon Communities.

The Clerk handed out information that Mr Trevor Stokes had left at the previous meeting. Cllr's discussed this and felt that it would be a good idea to present this to the Village. Cllr Allen stated that she was hoping to organise another Village meeting in 2010 and that it would be a good idea to include a presentation at that meeting. Cllr Allen would look into organising a date in the New Year. The Clerk agreed to email Mr Stokes to keep him informed.

16. Items for discussion/Future agendas.

Cllr Mawle stated that there would be District Council by-elections in May 2010 and he would be standing for re-election. He would be sending out regular election leaflets and wanted to know if Cllr's would object to him mentioning that he was a member of the Parish Council. He suggested that he would run the leaflets past the Chairman for concurrence. Cllr's stated that they would be happy with that.

The Clerk informed Cllr's that Cllr Bernard had asked if he could put a notice in the notice board informing residents of when local surgeries were held. Cllr's had no objection to this request.

Cllr Allen stated that she had been made aware of eggs being thrown against resident's front window by youths. Hopefully this would not become a problem.

17. Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting would be Thursday 21st January 2010.

The Meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

_____ Chairman

_____ Date

Derek Arm
Clerk to the Council.