

SEIGHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30PM ON 27 JULY 2020

Present:	Cllr David Price (Chair) Cllr John Busby Cllr Neil Brown Cllr Mark Hodgkins	Cllr Carole Allen Cllr Mark Turnbull
In attendance:	Cllr Jeremy Pert Cllr Ray Sutherland Cllr Mark Winnington Teresa Merchant-Murphy 2 members of the public	County Councillor Borough Councillor County/Borough Councillor Clerk

29/07/01: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES, RECORD ABSENCES

None required.

29/07/02: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr Busby declared an interest in item 6 Planning ref 20/32222/FUL

Cllr Hodgkins declared an interest in item 12b) Approval of Payments

No written requests for dispensations had been received.

29/07/03: PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

Mr Jacques thanked the Chair for his invitation to the meeting and outlined the problem regarding visitors parking in Derrington for access to the Millennium Green, Duddas Wood and the Greenway with the loss of parking at the Red Lion pub. The Millennium Green committee all agree there is no scope for parking on that land as this is totally against the ethos of the site. The car park which is available is avoided by visitors because it is down a single track unowned and unadopted with a blind 90-degree bend.

Mr Wood reiterated the points made and also added that the village gas station is sited on the blind bend and is hazardous.

The Chair thanked the gentlemen for their input.

29/07/04: UPDATES FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Borough Cllr Sutherland provided the following updates:

- Council has the power to shut down premises if there is a local Covid outbreak
- Cases in the Borough continue to fall
- Leisure centres have re-opened and swimming baths will open next month
- Elections next year so Borough ensuring electors list is up to date
- Look out in local media for the planned development of the old M and S site for retail, residential and car parking use.

County Cllr Winnington provided the following updates:

- There has been a change of Leadership and Cabinet at the Council
- Councillor Winnington is now Chairman of the County Council Planning Committee
- All communities have worked well to help others during the lockdown
- Concerned about the increase in anti-social behaviour since lockdown eased which has involved litter, barbecues and the loss of 30 acres of Cannock Chase which all age groups have been involved in
- Since lockdown more traffic and more speeding on A518. Haughton and Gnosall councils are hoping to get the Speed Safety van out and asked whether Seighford

would like to join in this initiative. Chair asked the Clerk to send letter to Safety Team and include both Seighford and Great Bridgeford.

County Cllr Pert provided the following updates:

- Agreement with Cllr Winnington regarding discourteous and irresponsible driving and anti-social behaviour about which he receives an abundance of emails
- Need to be aware Covid is not over and if we continue to isolate we risk the killing of the economy and a deeper recession, reference to Outbreak Control Board
- The economic impact is just around the corner with 10 million nationwide on furlough and 17,500 within the Borough. More people will find themselves in difficult circumstances and councils and the voluntary sector have to be ready to help these people by supporting and signposting them and they should be planning for this
- The County Council have some available Covid funding for the voluntary sector and reference was made to the offer from the Great Bridgeford Village Hall committee for the school to use the Hall with the support of this funding.

29/07/05 MEETINGS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meetings of the 25th May and the 15th June were accepted as a true record and would be signed by the Chair.

The minutes of the meeting of the 13th July were requested to be amended with apologies recorded for Cllr Hodgkins. This was agreed and the minutes would be updated.

Items for action from these minutes are on the agenda for discussions.

29/07/06: PLANNING MATTERS

20/32222/FUL – Stallbrook Hall, Derrington. Cllr Busby was placed in the Waiting Room for this item. Two emails had been received from the applicant's agent questioning the differing approach to planning applications from adjacent lands. The Chair stated it would not be appropriate for the Parish Council to comment on this issue and that nothing else could be taken into consideration. This was agreed.

20/32535/HAZ – Ladfordfields Industrial Estate, Great Bridgeford. Cllr Busby returned to meeting. There had been no comment made on behalf of Environmental Health. The Chair proposed we make no comment on this application. This was agreed.

29/07/07: CAR PARKING IN CHURCH LANE AND MEADOW LANE, DERRINGTON

Cllr Busby gave a report to the Council on the meeting he attended on 4th June 2020.

The Chair praised the Millennium Green Committee for their great achievement in establishing the Green but stated that if you run an attraction you are expected to provide car parking and not to expect someone else to supply it for you. Cllr Sutherland said it was up to residents and the Millennium Green Trustees to sort out but was happy to convene a meeting with interested parties on the suggested date of Saturday 8th of August. It was agreed that Cllrs Allen, Price, Busby be invited to attend along with Mr Jacques, Mr Wood and Kathryn Nicholls.

20/07/08: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a) Three grant applications have been submitted for Great Bridgeford play equipment but nothing has been heard back probably due to Covid lockdown
- b) The Green, Seighford and the S106 Agreement – reminders have been sent and most recently to the Leader of the Borough Council, Patrick Farrington, Cllr Sutherland said in addition he would speak to him
- c) The Chair gave a summary of the playground reports which included weeds and moss, wear on swing chain, gaps need to be filled and rust. It was proposed that Cllrs Brown, Turnbull and Price would work on the Great Bridgeford play equipment. Cllr Allen has put an ad for volunteers to help with the Derrington play equipment as there is quite a lot of work to do and the cost of employing professionals would be excessive. The Chair reported that there is welding needed on joints on the igloo and

the picnic tables seem to have been vandalised by being ripped from their foundations. Cllr Busby offered a day of one of his employees who is a good welder. The Chair thanked Cllr Busby.

At this point Cllr Pert asked the Chair permission to leave the meeting, permission was given.

- d) The Chair reported that the playgrounds had reopened on the 4th July and inspections should take place monthly. The inspection rota drawn up by the previous Clerk was not fit for purpose as it did not require a date or name of Councillor performing the inspection neither was there any indication of where or whom it should be submitted to. The Chair agreed the form needed updating and this would be done before the next meeting
- e) The fallen trees near the Sewage Works, Derrington were removed by Cllr Busby's men and the Chair wishes to record his thanks for the swift and efficient work performed
- f) The play equipment was opened for use on 4th July. Posters were laminated by Cllr Busby and he and Cllr Turnbull reopened the sites. Thanks are recorded for Roger Sammons of Bridge House, Billington Lane, Derrington ST18 9DH, who screened off the equipment and removed the screening for 4th July. The Clerk was asked to send a letter of thanks to Mr Sammons
- g) The Clerk provided an update on the new website and will be attending a Website Accessibility course. The website will be online by the required date
- h) It was agreed to sign up for the 90-day free trial of Parish Online, assess its value and report back to the next meeting. This was agreed.

29/7/09 CLERKS REPORT

- a) A response has come from Saul Hocking and the laminated signs for dog waste bins are in process
- b) Three quotations were received for hedge-cutting.
The Chair recommended using Dan Ingham who had done the work last time. This was agreed
- c) The Clerk can find no review of the GDPR by the previous Clerk. This will be queried with the previous Clerk and the Locum Clerk
- d) Minute 19/11/11a) to read 4 inspections instead of 3. This was agreed.

29/07/10 PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORT

- Cllr Allen noted the need to repair the playground equipment as per the inspection report
- Cllr Busby said that a Speed Watch had started operating in the village from the 10th July and reported a decrease in speeding and 40% less traffic. As regards the removal of fallen trees, what is left needs to be monitored but no immediate concern
- Cllr Hodgkins reported that the footpath on the Ford bridge is not safe, light has not been on at Cooper Perry school. DriveMe has been very loud and there have been reports of not being able to access the minutes on website
The Chair responded by stating that both the footpath and the lights were the responsibility of the County Council and that there should be no problem accessing the minutes. Cllr Sutherland commented on the DriveMe issue by reporting the matter to Robert Simpson at Environmental Health noting that it needs to be a "nuisance" rather than "loud" adding that there are strict laws about noise levels but it can be very difficult to prove and to note the conditions on the day that noise is bad. Cllr Hodgkins was asked by the Chair to send comments to me to send to Robert Simpson and Cllr Sutherland asked to be copied in
- Cllr Turnbull reported that an extra dog waste bin had been obtained from Mick Bailey at StreetScene and had been placed on the Eccleshall Road attached to the Great

Bridgeford sign coming from the Eccleshall direction close to Worston Lane and it seems to have solved the problem. Over lockdown the bin on the Great Bridgeford playing field had been overflowing. Mick Bailey emptied it at no cost but said they were looking at levying charges for emptying playing field bins next year. He also reported an increase in speeding since lockdown eased and thought the Police camera van would be useful

- Cllr Price said that Stafford Falcons will be practising on the Great Bridgeford playing fields with the Under 12's on Thursdays between 6.30 and 7.30 and the Under 16's on a Saturday morning. Complaint received about 2 hedges in Worston Lane, he had seen the 2 owners and was writing to Chebsey Parish Council about the matter.

29/07/11 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE DARVILL

- Cllr Allen to be nominated as representative to Derrington Village Hall Committee
- The Chair expressed the difficulties in attracting individuals to join Parish Councils. Cllr Busby suggested putting the vacancy notice in the Social Club, Cllr Sutherland said it was really down to the contacts that the Parish Councillors have and Cllr Winnington commented that there had been 50 letters from locals about the planning application so they are interested in their village. The Chair said it was important if Councillors had personal contacts that they know they have the calibre for the role. He stated that Cllr Charlotte Darvill had been a great asset to the Parish Council and it was a great loss when she resigned.

29/07/12 PARISH FINANCES

- Update of expenditure to budget was not available as the present Clerk has only been in post for 10 days. This report will be available at all subsequent meetings
- Cllr Hodgkins was placed in the Waiting Room as he had declared an interest in the approval of payments which were as follows:

Payee	Details	Total	VAT incl.
Morrall Play Services Ltd	Annual Inspection of 3 play areas – Oct 2019	£143.96	£23.99
Morrall Play Services Ltd	Operational Inspection of 3 play areas – Feb 2020	143.96	23.99
Morrall Play Services Ltd	Quarterly Inspection of 3 play areas – June 2020	143.96	23.99
Stafford Borough Council	Grass cutting at Derrington & Great Bridgeford	1166.78	194.46
M A Hodgkins	Grass cutting at Seighford & hedge cutting at		
	Great Bridgeford 2018 and 2019	1315.00	
Kerry Turner	Salary for June 2020	287.75	
Kerry Turner	Office Costs 26 th May to 6 th July 2020	43.57	1.16
JRB Enterprise Ltd	10 cases of dog waste bags	285.30	47.55
Staffs Parish Councils Assoc	Councillor Fundamentals Course – 22.07.20	50.00	

All payments were agreed

- See a)
- The Chair had written to 4 auditors recommended by SPCA but only 2 quotations have been received. The Chair said in the light of the quotation from V.Evans being similar to what we had paid previously and her experience as a Parish Clerk he would suggest her appointment. This was agreed. (Cllr Hodgkins re-joined the meeting)
- The approval of a replacement cheque to SPCA was agreed.

29/07/13 CLERK TRAINING COURSES

The approval of the Clerks 1 2 1 Induction and Website Accessibility was agreed.

29/07/14 COUNCILLOR TRAINING SCHEME

Cllrs Price and Turnbull had “attended” the Fundamentals training. Cllr Turnbull described it as very,very useful and there was lots he didn't know and recommended other Councillors

that it was well worth it if they had the time (2 hours). Cllr Price said the presenter had been very good. Cllr Allen expressed an interest and the Clerk said she would send further details.

29/07/15 NEXT MEETING

The Chair reported that we have permission to meet remotely until May 2021. With so much uncertainty we do not know whether our next meeting on September 21st will be remotely or physically. The Parish Council have previously received some criticism on comments on planning applications so it may be necessary to convene a short extraordinary meeting if there are any before 21st September.

29/07/16 MEETING CLOSE

As there was no further business the Chair thanked the Councillors and the Clerk and declared the meeting closed at 9.19pm.