

BRINDLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2019
AT THE WHITE HOUSE MARQUIS DRIVE, RUGELEY
7.30PM**

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: P. Adams (Chairman)
D. Cotton
A. Pearson
Mrs M. A Turville
R. Turville
M. Sutherland

IN ATTENDANCE: Colin Donnelly (Landscape Projects Officer/Capital Projects Manager, Cannock Chase Council) to end of item 3
Lynn Evans (Community & Education Officer, Cannock Chase Council) to end of item 3
Mrs T. Williams (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies from parish councillors

Apologies were received from County Councillors: P. Hewitt and B. Jones.

2. POLICE REPORTS

No police officers were in attendance.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Colin Donnelly and Lynn Evans, officers of Cannock Chase Council were welcomed to the meeting.

Mr Donnelly informed Councillors that he had recently been appointed to the position of Capital Projects Manager, a new role created to facilitate the delivery of capital projects in the district. His first projects (from 1 October 2019) will include Norton Canes Cemetery, Cannock Stadium Phase 2, Rugeley ATP and a playground scheme in Norton Canes. His previous role over many years had been Landscape Projects Officer, where he had worked closely with Groundwork, a federation of charities working nationally and locally to transform lives in the UK's most disadvantaged communities.

Mr Donnelly said that he was contacting all parish councils for the purpose of explaining his role and exploring opportunities for working with them in the future. He hoped to learn about their plans (in respect of future projects) and identify how he could help them, and them steer his work, for the mutual benefit of both parties.

Lynn Evans explained her role as Community & Education Officer and Chairman of Friends of Hednesford Park. She has a passion for her community and is seeking to improve the quality of communication and engagement with local councils in the future.

Parish Councillors asked whether the officers had or were wishing to develop a working relationship with Cannock Chase AONB Joint Committee. They said they would like to develop a working relationship.

Chairman's Initials

19/2019-20

Councillors shared their thoughts on the quality of engagement they had experienced with Cannock Chase AONB.

Upon completion of the item, the Chairman thanked Mr Donnelly and Mrs Evans for their attendance, before they left the meeting.

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

To declare interests for this meeting:

| <u>Member</u> | <u>Interest</u> | <u>Type</u> |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Councillor P. Adams | Chetwynd's Charity | Personal |

5. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2019 were approved as a correct record.

6. PROGRESS REPORTS/UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Parish Council's representation in response to Cannock Chase Council's Local Plan Review (forwarded to Cannock Chase Council on 17 July 2019) was noted. It was also noted that comments would be reported to the Cabinet on 17 October, along with a report on the next stage of the Review.

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items to be raised under the relevant agenda item.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence

All correspondence was noted from the Clerks Report.

b. Items of Interest/Requiring a Response

The following items of incoming post were considered:

Cannock Wood Neighbourhood Area Designation – A letter from Cannock Chase Council (undated) advising that on 6 June 2019, Cannock Chase Council (via delegated authority) had resolved to designate the Cannock Wood Parish as the Cannock Wood Neighbourhood Area.

Resolved: To note that Cannock Wood Parish had been designated as Cannock Wood Neighbourhood Area.

Changes to Highways Defect Reporting System – An email from County Councillor Bryan Jones (dated 2 September 2019) advises that changes had taken place to the Highways defect reporting system on Staffordshire County Council's website and the myStaffs app. This included improved functionality and greater explanation for residents.

Resolved: To note the improved functionality of the Highways defect reporting system and myStaffs app.

Email from Landscape Projects Officer – An email from the Landscape Projects Officer at Cannock Chase Council was noted. The item had been discussed above (item 3).

Resolved: An email from the Landscape Projects Officer was noted.

SPCA Weekly Bulletins:

- **Bus Services – Message from Cllr Helen Fisher, Staffordshire County Council** (Bulletin 4 July 2019) – a change to free travel (the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme) for older people holding bus passes came into force on 1 July 2019. Passengers can use their bus passes between 9.30 and 11.00pm but travelling at peak times in the morning may no longer be free. Passholders are asked to check with their local operator and ask about the best prices and options for their journey.
- **Air Aware Staffordshire Campaign** (Bulletin 7 July 2019) – the objective of the campaign is to reduce air pollution in 16 Air Quality management Areas across Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent.
- **Tree Charter Newsletter** (Bulletin 15 August 2019) – NALC has partnered with the Woodland Trust and the National Union of students to promote ten principles of protecting green spaces and trees in local areas. Annual Tree Charter Day is on 30 November, where people are encouraged to plant trees around the UK. Free trees can be applied for through The Woodland Trust.
- **Permitted Development Rights** (Bulletin 18 July 2019) – NALC has expressed its concern that temporary permitted development rights introduced by the Government in 2014 have become permanent.

It was suggested that a note be requested from Cannock Chase Council clarifying how they interpret Permitted Development Rights. It was also stated that planning teams are often challenged, and Planning Control Committees do sometimes go against officers’ recommendations. It was suggested that a Planning Officer could be invited to a future meeting.

The Chairman of the Planning Committee said he had developed a good relationship with officers at Cannock Chase Council and having the opportunity to telephone them for information and advice was valuable. Sometimes officers appear grateful for the Parish Council’s support.

Resolved: To note points of interest from the SPCA Weekly Bulletins.

c. Consultations

● **Electoral Review**

An email from the Managing Director of Cannock Chase Council (dated 30 August 2019) and a letter from the Local Government Boundary Commission had been circulated with the papers for the meeting. The letter provides notification of the Boundary Commission’s intention to carry out an Electoral Review of the District Council and invites it to identify a potential timetable for this to be undertaken. It was not expressly stated whether this would also include parish council boundaries.

Resolved: That the details of the pending Electoral Review of the District Council be noted, and that further information is awaited.

9. PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATOR

Councillor Cotton advised Members that the defibrillator was now fully installed and operable.

Councillor Cotton said that he was working on the phone box to clean it, repaint the exterior and replace a missing glass panel. An invoice was given to the clerk for the cost of materials which had been authorised for payment.

Chairman’s Initials

The defibrillator will be regularly checked by Rugeley & District Community First Responders and the code (which has been given to West Midlands Ambulance Service) held on file.

Resolved: To note the progress report on the defibrillator project in Stafford Brook Road.

10. PARISH WARD ISSUES

a. Chase Side

Cross-Country Bikes

Concern was expressed about the number of cycle events and road closures that were being planned on Cannock Chase. This included the Commonwealth Games. It was suggested the item be put on a future agenda for consideration.

Junction at Stafford Brook Road and Penkrige Bank Road

The Strategic Community Infrastructure Manager has confirmed that Staffordshire County Council has no plans to improve road safety at this junction.

Salt Bins

It was requested that the salt bins in Brindley Crescent and Kingsley Wood Road be refilled with bins also being surveyed for soundness. One of the bins in Kingsley Wood Road may be broken.

b. Brindley Village

Information was shared on a fly tipping issue at the disused quarry entrance on the Rugeley Road. Ten to twelve container loads of hazardous debris (containing asbestos) was recently dumped there with access gained forcibly by cutting the locks to the barrier. The incidents were caught on camera and have also been photographed.

A Break in has occurred at Trinity Pop In. Again access was gained by cutting the lock on the gate.

c. Cannock Chase Forest

An email from Staffordshire County Council (dated 9 August 2019) with information on the work planned on Cannock Chase over the coming months was noted. This included the reintroduction of cattle, bracken control, scrub control, heather cutting and new habitats for insects.

An email from the AONB Land Management Officer (dated 24 July 2019) confirms the Parish Council's payment (by cheque) for renewal of its Group Nightjar Membership has been received but not presented for payment as a complete review of the membership scheme is in progress.

11. INVITATION TO MEETINGS/EVENTS

To note forthcoming (external) meetings/nominate members to represent the Parish Council (where appropriate):

- AONB Conference on Friday 4 October 2019 at Brocton hall Golf Club – Councillor Pearson would be representing the Parish Council at this event.
- Staffordshire Playing Fields Association AGM on 16 October – the parish council is not a member and would not be represented at the meeting.
- SPCA Annual General Meeting on 2 December (with nominations reaching the SPCA office by Friday 18 October 2019). Member Councils are also invited to put forward motions for debate.

12. REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

Councillor R. Turville and Mrs M. A. Turville would represent the Parish Council at Cannock Chase Council Chairman’s Civic Service on 22 September 2019.

It was noted that Etching Hill Village Hall may close next year as there are too few members on the Committee.

13. COUNCILLOR REPORTS

No reports

14. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Financial Position of the Council

A breakdown of income and expenditure for the financial year to date was provided (Clerks Report dated 10 September 2019). The budget statement shows the current financial position of the Council with reserves totalling £10,945.67.

Resolved: To note the financial position of the Council.

b) Request for Grant Aid Cannock Chase Shed

The Council considered a request for grant aid from Cannock Chase Shed.

Resolved: That the applicant is asked for a financial report for the community group to enable further consideration to be given.

c) To authorise cheques for payment

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| 100159 | Cannock Chase Council | £1228.49 | Election Costs: £171.02 (Brindley Village) & £1057.47 (Chase Side) |
| 100160 | The White House | £25.00 | Use of room for meeting on 10 September 2019 |
| 100161 | Councillor D. Cotton | £160.24 | Reimbursement for the cost of materials for maintenance work to telephone box (paint, paint primer, defibrillator sign) |
| Direct Debit | Information Commissioners Office | £35.00 | Data Protection Membership Renewal to 13-09-20 |

Resolved: To authorise payment of the cheques listed.

15. ANY OTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Future meeting dates

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meetings of the Council will be held on Tuesday 26 November 2019 at the White house, Marquis Drive, Brindley Heath at 7.30PM.

Chairman’s Initials

The Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Signed.....

Chairman, Mr. P. Adams

Date.....

Chairman's Initials

24/2019-20