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CHESLYN HAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Wednesday 1st March 2017

at the Village Hall, Pinfold Lane, Cheslyn Hay at 7.00 pm

**1. 01/03/234 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

* 1. No members of the public in attendance.

**2. 01/03/235 – LIZ MINSHALL, GOOD LIFE VILLAGE AGENT, LOCALITY 3**

2.1 Liz Minshall, Good Life Village Agent, Locality 3, attended the meeting to update members and give them a brief overview of her role:-

* Roles of Village Agents have changed, they are now tasked with promoting the ‘GoodLife’ agenda and signposting to agencies;
* Contract has been reduced to 20 hours per week with a three year contract (reviewed annually);
* Priority is Caddick Farm Estate, building resilient families and communities, any spare capacity can be used on Locality 3 projects;
* Requested the Parish Council to nominate a Community Champion to liaise with the Village Agent.

2.2 Parish Councillors suggested Liz Minshall contact the Salem Church, especially the Trussell Trust Food Bank, in order to seek out families in need of assistance. Members also suggested contacting the Cedar Tree and the Citizens Advice Bureau.

**3. 01/03/236 - MEMBERS PRESENT**

3.1 Councillor B. L. Bladen (Chair 7.00 pm – 8.15 pm)

Councillor J. C. Davison (Chair 8.15 pm – 9.25 pm)

Councillors :- P. Appleby, E. A. Davison (Mrs), R. Denson, A. W. Emery,

L. Emery, G. P. Keatley, A. Pugh (Mrs), P. Wilkinson, B. Woolley

District Councillor B. Williams

Melanie Brown – Parish Clerk

**4. 01/03/237 – APOLOGIES**

4.1 Apologies for absence from Councillors P. L. Appleton, S. Hollis, J. King,

C. Wilkinson (Mrs) and County Councillor K. Perry.

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**5. 01/03/238 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

5.1 No declarations of interest reported.

**6. 01/03/239 – MINUTES**

6.1 That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 15th February 2017 be recorded as a true and accurate record.

**RESOLVED:**

**Proposed by Councillor J. C. Davison seconded by Councillor P. Wilkinson that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 15th February 2017 be recorded as a true record.**

**7. 01/03/240 – POINT OF ORDER**

7.1 Councillor J. C. Davison raised a point of order regarding an email circulated by Councillor Hollis on the 18th February 2017 discussing the voting process at the last Parish Council meeting and predetermination.

7.2 Councillor J. C. Davison stated that he had been accused of breaching the Code of Conduct and just because you raise an issue does not mean that you have a closed mind.

7.3 Councillor J. C. Davison stated that it was at his suggestion that the tenant of the Talbot Public House be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss the ‘A’ boards and assisted him when he Chaired the meeting in Councillor Bladen’s absence. During this meeting he demonstrated that he was open-minded and listened to the tenant’s response.

7.4 In relation to the last Parish Council meeting Councillor J. C. Davison stated that he does not like the Chairman’s casting vote system and instead chose to ask for it to be on the agenda at the following meeting when in fact the motion could have failed and would not have been revisited for six months.

7.5 Councillor J. C. Davison declared that he has no interest in the Talbot Public House, he has only ever visited the public house twice, both occasions on Parish Council business. He declared that he does not know anyone in the Talbot Public House, has no relations working there and has neither a financial or pecuniary interest.

7.6 Councillor E. Davison also raised a point of order. She was disappointed that the email from Councillor Hollis referred to her as a ‘Parish Councillor & his wife’ rather than an Elected Member in her own right.

7.7 Councillor E. Davison declared that she has no interest in the Talbot Public House and her only concern was the safety of the villagers due to driver distraction and ensuring that the Parish Council treat everyone fairly and consistently.

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8. **01/03/241 – TALBOT PUBLIC HOUSE ‘A’ FRAMES REQUEST**

8.1 As new information has come to light regarding the ‘A’ boards the Chairman suspended standing orders in order to open up the discussion and revisit the resolution at 7.1 from the last meeting.

8.2 Councillor J. C. Davison stated that to maintain consistency the District Valuer will need to be appointed to value the common land outside the Talbot Public House, which is currently housing the ‘A’ boards, for rental value. The Clerk reported that once this has been completed a contract will need to be drawn up by the Finance and Policies Committee for approval by Full Council which will be reviewed every twelve months.

8.3 Members discussed liability and insurance, ‘A’ boards on County Council land, distraction and safety for drivers, maintaining consistency with other Parish Council land hirers and costs involved in this process.

**RESOLVED:**

**Councillor B. Woolley withdrew his proposition at 7.1 from the Parish Council meeting held on the 15th February 2017 pending the Clerk’s discussions with the tenant of the Talbot Public House with regard to rental costs.**

**9. 01/03/242 – COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

The Clerk reported on updates from Councillor K. Perry:-

9.1 A number of volunteers have been trained at the Library and an interested organisation are now putting together a business case.

9.2 Site works at Landywood Lane will be carried out in approximately 8 weeks which includes breaking into existing pipework, providing a ditch and a barrier fence in order to move the water from the carriageway.

**10. 01/03/243 – DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

10.1 District Councillor Emery reported that the DX site application had been refused by South Staffordshire District Council yesterday evening.

10.2 District Councillor Emery reported that she is currently liaising with County Council Highways regarding a footpath issue in Warstones Road.

10.3 District Councillor Williams reported that South Staffordshire Council were currently re-structuring their Directors from five to three to make savings, changes will be implemented after April 2017, further details to follow.

10.4 Parish Councillors reported that further planning applications are likely due to the M6 links and the A460 but there is a limit to how much traffic our roads and villages can take.

**RESOLVED:**

**That District Councillors investigate if there is still a Parking Committee at South Staffordshire Council, if there has been an increase in fly tipping and investigate joint working between South Staffordshire Council and Wolverhampton Council regarding litter issues around Moseley Old Hall.**

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**11. 01/03/244 – PLANNING**

11.1 17/00110/FUL – Land to the rear of 23a-25 Littlewood Lane, Cheslyn Hay.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Clerk inform South Staffordshire Council planning department that the Parish Council object to this planning application on the following grounds:-**

* **Infill - It is Parish Council policy to oppose any infill applications in Cheslyn Hay;**
* **Density Issues – over-development in the area;**
* **Residential amenity – This development is overbearing and out of character with the existing development in the vicinity, there are already issues with overburdening sewerage systems in Cheslyn Hay;**
* **Highway Safety – Vehicular access may be impacted due to the road layout of Windsor Road/Littlewood Lane.**

**12. 01/03/245 – FINANCE**

12.1 Report 1 – Payments – Payments proposed by Councillor P. Appleby, seconded by Councillor G. P. Keatley with Councillor P. Wilkinson as third signatory.

12.2 Councillor P. Wilkinson stated that once the funding has been settled for South Staffordshire Citizens Advice Bureau the mobile telephone contract can be investigated in order to make savings.

**RESOLVED:**

**That any outstanding payments be made in respect of those items listed on the green paper circulated at the meeting.**

**13. 01/03/246 – CLERKS REPORT**

13.1 Voting at Parish Council meetings – The Clerk distributed the National Association of Local Council’s guidance on ‘predetermination’ to all members present. The Clerk reminded members that information can be obtained through the Clerk or by contacting Staffordshire Parish Council’s Association direct on 01785 277499.

13.2 Talbot Public House ‘A’ frames request – Discussed at 8. above.

13.3 Playground Inspection reports and quotations – The Clerk reported that the Chairman, Clerk and Senior Groundsman had investigated all of the finding of the playground inspections for Low Street and Station Street. Most of the equipment is deemed ‘low risk’. A discussion was held regarding the financial viability of replacing or repairing the wooden play equipment on Low Street. The Clerk discussed the use of the section 106 funds for the multi-play safety surface.

13.4 Hanging Baskets – The Clerk reported that Stafford Borough Council will again be providing the hanging baskets for Cheslyn Hay and requested the choice of flowers/colours for Summer 2017. Members pointed out that there was too much foliage in last year’s baskets.

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13.5 The Clerk reported that the order has been placed for the new marble war memorial plaques, the removal should take place within the next two weeks.

13.6 The Clerk reported that a cherry tree had fallen in Station Street due to the high winds last week and the garage roof at the village hall had been blown into Campians Avenue.

13.7 The Clerk reported that the Football Association had visited today to look at possible grant funding for the Pavillion site. Councillor P. Wilkinson updated members on the options available, the funding can be used for machinery and well as cosmetic use in the Pavillion. Up to £10k is available every two years which must be match funded by the Parish Council. Time is of the essence as work needs to be completed in the football recess. Councillor Denson suggested the use of LPG and an alternative to tiling which will be easier to keep clean.

**RESOLVED:**

**Proposed by Councillor A. Pugh, seconded by Councillor B. Woolley that the Clerk order the multi-play safety surface before the end of the financial year, as funded by the section 106 grant.**

**That the Clerk arrange for quotations for the repair/replacement of any additional play equipment in order to decide on the financial viability. Any immediate repairs to be funded from the remainder of the 2016-17 play equipment budget.**

**That the Clerk enquire if funding had been received for repairs to Essington Parish Council play equipment.**

**That the Clerk inform Stafford Borough Council to plant the most healthy and vigorous plants available at the time, in one theme, to use throughout the village and inform them that too much foliage was in the baskets in Summer 2016.**

**The Clerk to ensure that the small war memorial plaque is also taken for replacement.**

**That the Clerk arrange for the remainder of the cherry trees in Station Street to be checked for stability.**

**That the Clerk request Mark Turner to look at options for the Pavillion site and get two quotations, prioritising the shower facilities, to facilitate the funding application.**

**14. 01/03/247 – CORRESPONDENCE**

14.1 Thank you letter from the Royal British Legion for making the Remembrance Parade in November 2016 such a success – **noted**.

14.2 Response from Albrighton Care home regarding the alleged parking complaint – **noted**.

14.3 Complaint from resident regarding the flooding in Landywood Lane.

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14.4 Complaint from Little Explorers Pre-School regarding the ‘turning circle’ at the bottom of Rosemary Road. Councillor A. Emery reported the issue of litter from ‘laughing gas’ canisters.

14.5 Complaint from resident regarding the trees, the gate and the cemetery wall in Cemetery Street.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Clerk forward the complaint regarding flooding in Landywood Lane to County Councillors Lawrence and Perry for action.**

**That the Clerk inform Little Explorers Pre-School that investigations are being made regarding the ownership of the ‘turning circle’ at the bottom of Rosemary Road and report the drug use to Staffordshire Police.**

**That the Clerk investigate the complaints regarding the cemetery gate and wall and request the tree surgeon to comment on the condition of the tree in question.**

**That the Clerk arrange for flowers and a card to be sent from the Parish Council to the centenarian who will be holding her party at the Village Hall next week.**

**15. 01/03/248 TABLED ITEMS**

15.1 Staffordshire Parish Council Association Bulletins – 16th and 23rd February 2017.

15.2 Staffordshire County Council Pothole Update – 20th and 27th February 2017.

15.3 Staffordshire Police Crime Prevention Poster – Theft from vans.

15.4 Rt. Hon Gavin Williamson MP Newsletter – February 2017.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Clerk email any appropriate documents to members after this meeting.**

**16. 01/03/249– CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

16.1 Councillor J. C. Davison wished Councillor P. Appleton a speedy return to health.

**17. 01/03/250 – SECTION 17 STATEMENT**

17.1 The Chairman read the Section 17 statement.

Items 10. And 14.4.

**18. 01/03/251 – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

18.1 Discussion regarding two legal issues.

**The meeting closed at 9.25 pm**

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