

MINUTES OF A PATTINGHAM AND PATSHULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 20TH JULY 2020 AT PATTINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: Councillors R Lines (Chairman), L Billingham (Vice Chairman), A Freeman, D Billson, N Hill, J Tomlinson, Mrs C Clarke, Mrs A Davies, N Land.

Also present Mrs J Neal – Clerk,

67/20. Apologies for Absence.
Councillor M Finch sent his apologies for the meeting.

County Councillor K James also was not in attendance as he is shielding.

It was noted that Councillor M Finch had not attended a meeting since the 2nd March 2020, he will be disqualified from being a councillor on the 2nd September 2020. The Parish Council is not scheduled to meet again until the 7th September. It was proposed by Councillor R Lines and seconded by Councillor Mrs A Davies to grant a dispensation to the 7th September so Councillor Finch can attend the next meeting either in person or via zoom. On a vote this was carried with 8 votes for and 1 abstention.

68/20. Declarations of Councillors' Interest.
None were declared.

69/20. To fill Co-Opted vacancy on the Council

Councillor R Lines proposed and Councillor Mrs A Davies seconded that District Councillor T Mason is co-opted onto the Parish Council. On a vote this was unanimous.

70/20. Public Forum - Democratic fifteen minute period / public question time.
There were no members of the public present.

71/20. To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th July 2020.
The minutes of the meetings detailed above were agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

72/20. County / District Councillors to address the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish
District Councillor T Mason reported that only essential meetings are taking place at District using Teams software. The offices at Codsall are starting to open alternating the days with floors in the offices. They will be opening to the public in the next 2 weeks by appointment only.

73/20. Outstanding items relating to County and District

There 3 outstanding items are:-

- School Transport Policy
- Flash Flooding on Clive Road / High Street
- Adding Wolverhampton Road to the Primary Gritting Network

No progress has been made on the above 3 items.

Burnhill Green speed limit reduction – the speed limit reduction has been consulted on and should hopefully be in place shortly. A Community Speed-watch group will be set up when the limit is reduced and then village gateway markers installed to highlight the speed limit reduction. Councillor L Billingham is waiting for the new speed limit to be in force and will then be liaising with neighbouring councils to look at working with them and Shropshire Council Highways to reduce the limit on more sections of the of Burnhill Green Road.

74/20. Update on Millennium Walks (inc stiles and new land owner update)

The new land owner (Harlaston Packington) for part of the Millennium Walks has contacted the Chairman and presented a new permissive paths agreement. The Chairman advised that the wording of the new agreement is based on the previous Crown Estate agreement that expired on the 17th July 2020. It is a one year (rolling) agreement with licensor option to terminate with 3 months notice prior to July each year. The agreement was signed by the Chairman, Councillor's J Tomlinson and A Freeman, and witnessed by the Clerk.

There are 2 stiles that need replacing on the Rifle Range walk and the Chairman will discuss this with Harlaston Packington after the agreement has been returned.

Hamley Park walk (aka Copley Wood) is still owned by the Crown Estate and they have not responded to requests to renew the permissive path agreement.

Sale of Burnhill Green Farm and adjacent land, including the recreation ground leased by the parish council, is delayed. The parish council have approximately 12 years remaining on the lease.

75/20. Update on the installation of the War Memorial benches

Installation was delayed due to covid-19 and they will be installed as soon as practicable.

76/20. Update on Moor Lane flooding

The Chairman met with Mr Chris Inett and Mr John Inett, the farmers for the land at the rear of properties in Moor Lane. They agreed to create a 30 metre section of ditch and build up the bank at the rear of the gardens in the lowest point. The ditch should act as a catchment pool for flash flooding. It won't prevent flash flooding in Moor Lane itself, an upgrade of the storm drains would be necessary for that - as would apply to numerous other roads. But it should help prevent any surface flooding being exacerbated by water off that particular field. Members asked the Clerk to write and thank John and Chris Inett for their help in this matter.

77/20. Update and further action to be discussed on access to St Marys Church

Councillor A Freeman reported that he had prepared an update of everything that has happened in relation to St Mary's Church, Patshull since March 2nd (our last Meeting when the Church was discussed):

On March 23rd the Government announced a full lockdown, this saw the whole site of Patshull shut and our plans for St Marys Church suspended until it is safe.

Since July 4th there has been a gradual relaxation of restrictions in England resulting in the reopening of the first 150 Churches in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust. The charity

has made plans to open all of their Churches by 1st August in line with other heritage/cultural sites.

The issue over accessibility to the Church took a new turn in mid June with local media reporting that the owners of Patshull Park and Golf Course were not only looking for a new buyer but had warned its members of the possibility of liquidation. In early July, the inevitable sadly occurred ' A spokesman for Path Business Recovery, the company handling the liquidation, confirmed the lakeside resort in Pattingham had been shut down. He said: "Directors have commended to place the company into liquidation. "Unfortunately the business is ceasing to trade and all staff have been made redundant as of July 9' <https://www.expressandstar.com/news/local-hubs/staffordshire/south-staffordshire/2020/07/10/staff-to-be-made-redundant-as-patshull-park-hotel-closes-for-good/>

With the above in mind, the issue of accessibility to the Church has come into sharper focus, the friends of St Mary Patshull have agreed to:

- Organise an 'Open Afternoon Weekend' possibly in late July/early August at the Church to promote it to local residents
- Create a list of all people who have access to the key, and ask the CCT to update their procedures so that residents can open and close the Church at more regular times - crucially not needing to go to the Hall to collect the key.
- Design posters promoting the Church being open and the work it is doing locally

All three are at good stages and I hope will soon be completed

Councillor L Billingham has been looking into the access to the Church and liaising with the Revd Maureen Hobbs. He has contacted the firm appointed as liquidators for the Pattingham Estates and will continue to pursue this matter.

It was noted that if the land is to be sold for development in the future then the Parish Council could discuss with the new owner a s106 agreement to keep the access open and possible improvements to the Church.

78/20. Update on the fly tipping Blue Bell Wood

The Chairman reported he had received the following email from Cllr R Lees:-

"On 4 Mar 2020, at 16:47, Councillor Roger Lees <r.lees@sstaffs.gov.uk> wrote:

Good afternoon Rob,

Thank you for your email and as you infer I am consulting on your request for a camera.

The new year has seen a significant increase in fly tipping all over South Staffordshire, where fly-tipping figures for January with 224 fly tips being removed, a 30% increase on last year. We have been successful on several prosecutions and four fly tipping cases have been logged for investigation. One dump was of Asbestos which needed specialists to remove, many of these were also at hotspots. However we only have a limited amount of cameras.

Bluebell Wood carpark is on the list and a camera will be allocated in due course.

Regards

Roger
Roger Lees”

79/20. Update on the reinstatement of the Burnhill Green traffic bollard

The bollards have been ordered and are awaiting delivery / installation. Councillor L Billingham will organise the installation of the bollards by the play area, he will also fit a small bollard by the tree that has been knocked over.

The Chairman will liaise with John Teague to remove the old bollard stump and concrete by the noticeboard.

80/20. Update on delivery / installation of the Community Noticeboard

The Community Noticeboard has now been delivered and is awaiting installation with a post box for members of the Community to put notices in for display. Councillor Mrs A Davies will be responsible for checking the post box daily.

81/20. Update on the 2 min Litter pick Board

The #2minutelitterpick board was delivered last autumn, however the art work had not been agreed before the frame was shipped. They are sending out a new overlay for the board with the correct artwork.

This was noted.

82/20. To note latest information relating to the Crown Estates sale of land

As detailed in item 74/20.

83/20. To discuss and agree the installation costs of the Christmas Lights and any additional ideas for Burnhill Green

It was agreed that the Councillor L Billingham and the Clerk liaise to put forward a proposal for powering the lights at Burnhill Green following difficulties with connecting the power supply to the large Beech tree.

84/20. Play area update / review with regard to reopening due to the Covid 19 pandemic

Many local councils have been put off due to rather intimating guidance issued by Government and insurance companies. Limited staffing resources, hygiene concerns and liability fears are the main issues councils have not reopened outdoor play parks. The Clerk prepared an amended risk assessment based on advice from the Parish Councils Association. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs A Davies and seconded by Councillor L Billingham to accept the risk assessment and open the play areas with suitable signage. On a vote this was agreed.

85/20. Update on Speed sign downloading of data

The Clerk will endeavour to have this item resolved by the September meeting.

86/20. To discuss the current land owner for farm land at Burnhill Green – re cutting footpath

The land around Burnhill Green Farm has not been sold and is being farmed by two tenant farmers. The walks in the area are over grown and a resident has cut part of the path to clear it. Councillor L Billingham will discuss the possibility of them cutting more of the path and follow up with the selling agents to establish who is responsible for keeping the paths clear?

87/20. Update on the trimming back of over hanging trees on the playing fields

The Clerk has contacted South Staffs District Council and asked if they will review cutting back the trees over hanging the road with part funding from the Parish Council's budget a maximum of £1000. The Clerk to chase Andrew Aston for an update.

88/20. To discuss and agree the repair to perimeter fence on the playing fields

Councillor D Billson reported that there were several broken fence pieces that needed to be welded, and repainted. The Chairman agreed to forward to him a contact number for a mobile welder previously used to repair the railings. The Parish Council set a maximum budget of £250 for the work, and Councillor D Billson agreed to repaint the fence once it was repaired.

89/20. Confirm authorisation of signatories for Cheques.

The current cheque signatories were agreed to be kept the same, as the Clerk, Councillors, R Lines, T Mason and A Davies

90/20. Report from the Clerk.

The Clerk reported that she had received a complaint about the park being closed by a local resident on the day it was re-opened, and she had responded appropriately.

91/20. Accounts for Payment.

The accounts for payment were detailed agreed as detailed below:-

Date	Chq No	Payee	Description	Total
11/05/2020	723281	Zurich	Insurance	1226.18
11/05/2020	723282	Dittons	Grass cutting	472.5
13/05/2020	723283	Redwood Bank	Transfer	25000
13/05/2020	723284	Festive Lights	Light bulbs	957.6
10/06/2020	723285	A Horton	Village hall Grass cutting	145
02/06/2020	723286	Neat N Tidy	Lengths mans work	72
02/06/2020	723287	J Neal	Wags June	634.68
02/06/2020	723288	Inland Revenue	June payment	167.25
10/06/2020	723289	Fosse Contracts	Line painting and resurfacing	4128

22/06/2020	723290	SPCA	Annual subs	411
30/06/2020	723291	Neat N Tidy	Lengths mans work	84
06/07/2020	723292	A Horton	Village hall Grass cutting	145
10/07/2020	723293	Inland Revenue	July	167.25
10/07/2020	723294	J Neal	July	634.68
				34245.14

92/20. To receive the accounts up to 6th July 2020.

The accounts up to the 6th July 2020. Were noted and agreed as set out as appendix 1 to these minutes.

93/20. Football Pitch Maintenance and match fees

It was agreed that the Chairman continues to discuss with the football teams when the time is appropriate to use the pitch / changing rooms again for this year for both Trysull Tigers and Wombourne Pool Bar (inline with Covid guidelines) it is looking probable that the season may be able to restart in October.

93/20. Items for future Meetings

Garden and sunflower competition prizes / presentations

Update on footpath access

94/20. Dates of Next Meetings –

7/9/20 - Pattingham Village Hall

12/10/20 – Pattingham Village Hall

16/11/20 - Precept, Pattingham Village Hall

7/12/20 - Pattingham Village Hall

18/1/21 - Pattingham Village Hall

1/3/21 - Crown Room, Burnhill Green

19/4/21 - APM Pattingham Village Hall

10/5/21 - AGM, Pattingham Village Hall

Financial Summary - Cashbook

Summary between 01/04/20 and 06/07/20 inclusive.

Balances at the start of the year

Ordinary Accounts

Santander £9,000.86

Short Term Investment Accounts

	Redwood Bank	£30,000.00
Santander Deposit account	£26,594.12	
Total	£65,594.98	

RECEIPTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Council	£28,874.93	£0.00	£28,874.93
Total Receipts	£28,874.93	£0.00	£28,874.93

PAYMENTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Council	£11,582.21	£1,228.40	£12,810.61
Total Payments	£11,582.21	£1,228.40	£12,810.61

Closing Balances

Ordinary Accounts

Santander £25,044.31

Short Term Investment Accounts

Redwood Bank	£55,000.00
Santander Deposit account	£1,614.99
Total	£81,659.30

Signed

Chair

Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer

Financial Budget Comparison

Comparison between 01/04/20 and 06/07/20 inclusive.

Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/20

	2020/2021	Actual Net	Balance
INCOME			
Council			
100	Donations	£0.00	£0.00
101	Precept	£24,395.00	-£24,395.00
103	Football Income	£0.00	-£1,300.00
104	Misc Items	£0.00	£0.00
110	Interest on Santander deposit acc	£20.87	-£39.13
Total Council	£50,150.00	£24,415.87	-£25,734.13
Total Income	£50,150.00	£24,415.87	-£25,734.13
EXPENDITURE			
Council			
1	Administration	£67.13	£932.87
2	Audit Costs	£250.00	£300.00
5	Best Kept Village Competition	£0.00	£500.00
8	CCTV	£127.20	£622.80
9	Chairman's Allowance	£0.00	£250.00
10	Play Park Loan	£0.00	£1,500.00
12	Christmas Lights	£798.00	£4,202.00
14	Clerks Salary	£2,405.79	£6,844.21
15	Defibrillator	£0.00	£100.00
16	Elections	£0.00	£1,000.00
17	Footpath Maintenance	£0.00	£2,000.00
18	Gardening	£435.00	£1,315.00
19	Insurance	£1,226.18	£73.82
25	Playing Flds Maintenance	£4,228.33	£3,771.67
28	Grants / Other exp	£0.00	£9,750.00
29	Subscriptions	£411.00	£89.00
30	Training	£0.00	£500.00
34	STORAGE AT THE VILLAGE HALL	£0.00	£150.00
36	FOOTBALL EXPENDITURE	£0.00	£700.00
37	VILLAGE MAINTENANCE IMPROVEMENTS/LITTER	£156.00	£5,444.00
Total Council	£50,150.00	£10,104.63	-£40,045.37
Total Expenditure	£50,150.00	£10,104.63	£40,045.37
Total Income	£50,150.00	£24,415.87	-£25,734.13
Total Expenditure	£50,150.00	£10,104.63	£40,045.37
Total Net Balance	£0.00	£14,311.24	