

MINUTES OF A PATTINGHAM AND PATSHULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2020 AT PATTINGHAM VILLAGE HALL AND VIA ZOOM

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

Also present Mrs J Neal – Clerk,

Members of the public present: Sam Woolley, Nicole Pugh, Mrs Billingham, Ramona Billingham, Rufus Billingham, Thomas Slade, Mr and Mrs Gregory, Mrs Smith, Emma Smith, Mr and Mrs Hughes, Mrs Ray, Mrs Raye.

95/20. Apologies for Absence.

Councillor A Freeman sent his apologies and was not in attendance due to work commitments. This was noted and agreed.

County Councillor K James also was not in attendance as he is unable to connect virtually to the meeting.

96/20. To record members Declarations of Councillors' Interest.

None were declared.

97/20. Public Forum - Democratic fifteen minute period / public question time. (including Best Kept Garden / hanging baskets and sunflower competitions)

For note: The public participation is for the public to address the Parish Council on matters that they wish to. The Parish Council cannot comment or resolve action on any points raised at this time. If the item requires information being sent from the Council, the Clerk will do this following the meeting. If it is a matter for further discussion it may be added to a future agenda. All meetings are recorded and any member of the public not wishing to be recorded should advise the Chairman. Standing orders were raised

The Chairman made the following presentations:-

Winners of sunflowers for Pattingham are

1st place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place
Sam Woolley	Sam Woolley	Nicole Pugh

Winners of sunflowers for Burnhill Green are

1st, 2nd and 3rd prize to Rufus and Ramona Billingham

Pattingham

Best Garden:

1. 48 Letchmere Close	2. 1A Moor Lane	3. 23 Letchmere Close
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Baskets/Pots

1. 41 Letchmere Close	2. 10 Yew Tree Road	3. 15 Moor Lane
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Burnhill green

Best Garden:

1. Lower Snowdon Cottage

2. No 6 The Old Post Office

3. Walnut Cottage

Baskets/Pots

1. 22 Snowdon Road

2. Walnut Cottage

3. 42 Snowdon Road

Councillor L Billingham left the room.

Mrs Ray addressed the Council with regard to the state of footpaths and expressed her concerns over the safety of pedestrians around the village, in particular to parking on the pavements – pedestrians have to walk in the road to get around the cars, over grown hedges from private properties covering pavements and vehicles parking and blocking visibility at junctions. The Chairman informed Mrs Ray that these matters were not the responsibility of the Parish Council, however we would raise the areas of concern with the local PCSO's and relevant authorities.

She also raised the problem of weeds growing in the verges and drains being blocked, councillor T Mason reported that the weeds spraying is the responsibility of the County Council and the road sweeper is the District Council. He has already raised a request for Pattingham to be visited.

Standing orders were re-instated.

98/20 To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th July 2020.

The minutes of the meeting detailed above were agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings with the exception that Cllr M Finch sent his apologies for the previous meeting as he was continuing to shield due to COVID-19.

The Chairman reminded members that as parish councillors we are summoned to attend meetings. Shielding is not a valid reason not to attend the meeting when participating remotely has been facilitated. While it is recognised that some councillors will not necessarily have the facility to engage fully with 'Zoom' or similar means by which a council may choose to arrange remote meetings, failure to 'attend' simply because they don't wish to phone in (something which Zoom enables), despite having that relatively limited facility available to them, should not, in the opinion of the NALC Legal Team, be deemed to be an acceptable reason for absence.

99/20. To receive the County / District Councillors report / address to the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish

District Councillor T Mason reported that a boundary review is taking place, and will be completed before the next elections. It is to review if the councillor / parishioner split is still correct in light of the number of houses built in South Staffordshire since the last review took place.

A consultation is taking place on whether to make Staffordshire a Unitary Authority, and the result of this consultation will be published at the end of the year.

Councillor K James sent the following email to members prior to the meeting:-

From: Firkins, Diane (E,I&S) <diane.firkins@staffordshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 25 August 2020 14:29

To: James, Keith (County Cllr) <keith.james@staffordshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Drainage issue sites

Dear Keith

I have been asked to compile a list of drainage issue sites for each Cllrs areas, for your area I have the following listed:

1. West End Cottage Chesterton Road – issue with carriageway water entering rear garden - gully by dwelling not plotted on SCC system and therefore not cleansed in years, job raised to cleanse 3 gullies in vicinity
2. A454 Bridgnorth Road Trescott – Beany drains require cleansing – one section complete outstanding task to cleanse the rest
3. Clive Road junction with High Street - gullies on junction 100% silted at school crossing location – job to cleanse gullies around junction

Would you please confirm if you are happy with the list compiled, we are not to list single gully issue sites. If there are any other sites that you know to that require adding then please let me know and I can make sure they are added.

I need confirmation from yourself you are happy with this list by Thursday afternoon please so I can submit the full South Staffs area list by Friday morning.

Also on another item you asked for Westbeech Road to have a visit from the roadmaster as part of your DHP budget, I have been informed that we are carrying out pre surface dressing patching work here in the next 2 weeks as this is programmed work you will not need to use your budget on this items. Therefore I have proposed that you spend this money instead on the gully wagon attending the West End Cottage gullies, the gullies on the junction of Clive Road/High Street and there is a gully 100% silted gully outside Blacksmith Cottage on the High Street too. Would you confirm if this is in agreement with your DHP spend please.

Kind regards

Diane Firkins
Community Highway Engagement Officer

The Chairman had already responded to the email asking if the gullies in Moor Lane could be added to the DHP work programme.

This was noted.

Councillor L Billingham returned to the meeting.

100/20. To discuss any progress on outstanding items relating to County and District

With regard to the speed limit on the Burnhill Green Road of 40mph, Councillor L Billingham reported that the consultation had ended and the next stage should be the order granted and signage installed.

No further item updates were provided.

This was noted.

101/20. Update on Millennium Walks/Repair of Stiles

The Chairman reported that the new permissive paths agreement was returned and a counter-signed copy returned for our records. The land owners had agreed to do the bulk of the grass cutting and agreed to repair stiles once they have some staff on the estate.

This was noted.

102/20. Update on the installation of the War Memorial benches

The new benches have been installed on the front of the Village Hall along with the new bin.

Correspondence from Rev Maureen Hobbs has been received to ask for support in using the top field for a Harvest Festival service. She would also like to plan for a Remembrance Day service on the front car park of the Village Hall on the 8th November. Councillor Mrs A Davies agreed to liaise with the relevant people to ensure no hall bookings or grass maintenance was done on that morning.

103/20. Update and further action to be discussed on access to St Marys Church

Councillor L Billingham reported that Patshull Park Hotel & Leisure had been sold. The Chairman agreed to contact the owner to discuss the access to the Church and report back to the next meeting.

104/20. Update on the reinstatement of the Burnhill Green traffic bollard

A bollard has been reinstated by the Post Box, but the installation of a single bollard on the build out at the entrance to the recreation ground has been delayed due to unsuitable ground. Two bollards could be installed, one at each end of the build-out where the ground is softer. It was agreed to purchase 2 further bollards at a cost of £120.00 and use the other bollard to replace one of the original bollards that is rotten.

105/20. Update on installation of the Community Noticeboard

The community noticeboard has been installed. The installation was quite complicated and messy and thanks were given to Councillor Mrs A Davies for help in cleaning the board ready for use, and managing the notices. This was noted.

106/20. Update on the #2minutelitterpick Board

A brief summary, the board was dispatched last year without a proof being agreed. The company were contacted, and it was agreed that a new overlay would be sent which could be stuck on the board. The Company offered to have the board back and do this for the Council, but it was agreed that we could place the new stickers on to save the cost of sending the board back and forth. However, the stickers have arrived, and they are creased as they were folded and posted not put into a tube. The Clerk has contacted the company again, to ask them to resend the overlay stickers in a tube, have the board back and they do the overlay or cancel the order. A response is awaited.

107/20. To agree the installation costs of a mini electric column for the Christmas Lights at Burnhill Green

The cost to install lighting supply next to the beech tree is £940.00. This would allow the lights to be safely placed on the tree without the need to have cabling from lamp posts crossing any roads. This was agreed.

It was noted that due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the PTFA will not be organising a Christmas light switch on this year. It was therefore resolved at Pittingham that the lights will be set on timers and come on, on Friday 27th November.

Cllr Billingham hopes to still organise a reduced switch-on event at Burnhill Green and distribute selection boxes on the car park of the Dartmouth Arms. But no buffet etc will take place again due to Covid-19 restrictions. This will happen on Saturday 5th December.

Permission has been asked for additional lights to be hung between and attached to the lampposts on the green from E-ON.

108/20. Update on Speed sign downloading of data

The Clerk reported that she had received training on site to get the data from the sign. It was cleared on Tuesday 11th August and downloaded. It was agreed that the Clerk download the data every month for 3 months, so as to see the traffic speed pattern for vehicles entering the village, then following that time the sign be rotated for 3 months to monitor traffic speeds of vehicles leaving the village.

Councillor T Mason agreed to have a look at the data and software to see how to use the data analysis.

109/20. Update on PRow grass cutting at Burnhill Green

After reporting the issue to Savills (agents collecting rent for the Crown Estate at Patshull) the footpaths have been cut back by the current tenant farmer. Councillor L Billingham will ask them to cut back the hedges also on their land which the Council has received complaints about. The land owner has also removed asbestos that had been dumped within a week and a half of being asked.

110/20. Update on the cutting back of over-hanging trees on Westbeech Road

A quote for the sum of £1375 has been received from South Staffordshire District Council to cut back the tall overhanging trees. The Clerk has asked for a joint funded operation with the District Council as the land is within their ownership. They have requested a copy of the lease on the land which has been sent to them, but the lease does not mention the trees.

It was agreed that a maximum budget of £1375 be set for the cutting back of the trees on the grounds of highway safety. The Clerk to continue to negotiate the best agreement possible with the District Council using the 3 tier working together partnerships, and their responsibility as a landlord.

111/20. Update on the repair to perimeter fence on the playing fields

The repairs have taken place at a cost of £440.00, this was more than the original agreed sum of £250, set by the Parish Council.

However, when the fence was being repaired it was noticed that the kissing gate needed to be welded as the uprights were corroded through at the base, so this was added to the job. It was agreed to agree the extra expense retrospectively. Thanks were given to Councillor D Billson for painting the fence where it had been repaired, and a section of fence further along Westbeech Road.

112/20. To review and accept a co-option policy for the Council (copy attached)

It was proposed by Councillor J Tomlinson and seconded by Councillor L Billingham to accept the Co-Option Policy. On a vote this was carried.

113/20. Proposal to replace rustic benches on the lower playing field

The Chairman circulated to members photographs of the benches on the lower field. One has been damaged by a disposable BBQ and many are looking in need of replacement. They have been in place for over 30 years. It was agreed to set a maximum budget of £2500 to allow the benches to be replaced with rustic benches of a similar style.

114/20. To discuss ASB in Forest School Area of Playing Fields

An email has been received from a concerned resident over the ASB in the former Forest School area. The ASB is happening both night and day. The residents are calling 101 and reporting the problem to the police. The area is in the responsibility of the Parish Council and action is required to help alleviate the problem.

It was agreed to set a maximum budget of £2000 to engage a contractor to remove branches and trees to open up the area and clear paths as it used to be, before it became overgrown. Our Lengthsperson can then maintain the paths for the benefit of parishioners.

The Clerk to contact the person that has complained and update them of this situation.

115/20. To discuss Football pitch maintenance

The football pitch is in need of reseeding in places and repair due to rabbit damage. It was agreed to set a budget of £500 for this work to be completed immediately to give the seed time to germinate and grow before winter. On a vote this was agreed.

116/20. To receive the report from the Clerk.

Football

Many requests have been received to ask to use the football pitch for one-off matches – discussed with the chairman and appropriate responses sent informing them that we contract to two clubs on season-long agreements and are not set up for casual hire.

Complaints received

Complaint received re dogs in the tennis court – a sign has been put up on the gate to say no dogs allowed.

Complaint re youths in youth shelter and antisocial behaviour, with regard to swearing and physical violence to younger children. This has been reported to the Police. The complainant also requested that the youth shelter is removed from the park, however it was felt that it is better for the youths to have a place to gather and have CCTV surveillance for their safety. It was noted that a future discussion may need to take place to repair / enhance the shelter to help promote respect for the amenity.

Illegal parking outside the Crown, reported to County Council

Complaint received re football ASB (foul language) – Chairman has spoken with the relevant football team and asked them to take action as necessary to be more considerate to local residents.

Complaint re dog fouling on the millennium walk, we have had requested some dog fouling signs on the drive leading to Woodhouse. We have some in stock which we can install at no cost it was agreed to put signs up in that area.

Consultations

Circulated Local Plan update

Misc. Items

The District Council will install hand sanitiser units in the village, locations are needed. It was agreed to request 4 units for the village, to be located by the park, shops and village hall.

It was agreed to order 2 wreaths for Remembrance Day.

117/20. To receive the accounts for payment.

Cheque	Gross	Organisation	Details
723243	£411.00	SPCA	annual subs
723270	£145.00	A Horton Gardener	gardening April
723278	£145.00	A Horton Gardener	gardening May
723285	£145.00	A Horton Gardener	gardening June
723289	£4,128.00	Fosse Contracts	Resurfacing tennis courts
723293	£167.25	Inland Revenue	July
723294	£634.68	Administration	July
723298	£250.00	Robert Lines	chairman's allowance
723299	£258.00	Neat - N - Tidy	Lengths mans work
723300	£634.68	Administration	August
723301	£167.25	Inland Revenue	August
723302	£145.00	A Horton Gardener	gardening August
723303	£440.00	Paul Woodall	Repair to fence
723304	£120.00	Neat - N - Tidy	Lengths mans work

723305	£472.50	Dittons	Grass Cutting
723306	£167.25	Inland Revenue	September
723307	£634.68	Administration	September
723308	£987.91	John Teague	Works to Burnhill Green and Pattingham
723309	£145.00	A Horton Gardener	September
dd	£78.28	Water Plus	rates
dd	£50.88	British Telecom	phone bill
dd	£40.69	EE Limited	mobile
dd	£32.62	Utility Warehouse	rates
reversal	-£411.00	SPCA	annual subs chq cancelled
	£9,989.67		

118/20. Items for future Meetings

Village map / park sign replacement

Damaged Millennium Walks Sign – stored in Drama Group garage – Cllr M Finch previously agreed to action cleaning/repair of the sign.

ASB in the park area.

119/20. Dates of Next Meetings –

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 rooms

19/4/21 - APM Pattingham Village Hall

10/5/21 - AGM, Pattingham Village Hall