

# MINUTES OF A PATTINGHAM AND PATSHULL PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018 AT PATTINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

---

Present: Councillors: R Lines (Chairman), D Billson (Vice Chairman), T Mason, M Finch, J Dyas, Mrs A Davies and J Tomlinson.

Members of the public present: David Roberts, Ollie Billson, Roy Wilby, Colin Ringrose, Susie Tonks, Abbey Costegan, Julie Wood, Sharon Simmons and Carol Rolader

## 1. **Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs S Hubble and Mrs S Hughes sent their apologies for the meeting due to a prior commitment.

Cllrs W Hurford and G Deane were not in attendance.

## 2. **Minutes of the previous meetings held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 were agreed as an accurate and true record of that meeting.

## 3. **To discuss any matters arising from the previous Annual Parish Meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

Parish Connector - Cllr Mike Finch at the APM last year raised with the public that he had a new role, if members of the public required his help to contact him, as of this time, there have been no contact from the public re the post.

With reference to the over 65's Christmas Lunch and the legacy payment from Seisdon Rural District Council of £50 being withdrawn. Councillor T Mason reported that he had looked into the reasons why this payment was withdrawn which were due to lack of documentary evidence and the nominal amount of money involved.

## 4. **Report of the Chairman**

### Chairman's Annual Parish Meeting Report 2018

Major projects undertaken by the Parish Council in the last financial year included a replacement CCTV system installed at the village hall, a new centrepiece oak framed bus shelter replacing the damaged brick structure, and a new single lane improved skate park that replaced the original equipment that was in extremely poor condition.

Other projects involved replacing the kissing gate from the playing fields onto the millennium walks, and replacing the hand rail & fence on the PRow steps off Clive Road. The changing rooms had some maintenance jobs attended to, including the installation of a new Steibel Eltron shower unit.

We completed a new 15-year lease on the Burnhill Green Recreation Ground which now includes the village green and some sections of highway, and successfully lobbied for an Accompanied Horse warning sign to be installed on the Wolverhampton/Pattingham Road.

Finally, we have continued to develop the Parish Council website as a source of information and added a Facebook page that has over 260 followers.

5. **Presentations to individual parishioners for their service to the community**

The Chairman made 2 presentations;

David Roberts received a Pattingham Shield, and collected one on behalf of his Father, John Roberts, for their sterling work in keeping Pattingham's roads accessible during periods of heavy snow in December and February. Without their efforts, early morning commuters would not have been able to exit the village.

The Chairman also presented Ollie Billson with a £50 gift voucher as a thank you for his volunteer litter picking on the Pattingham Playing Fields. Ollie had litter picked every Sunday morning for one year as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. He was thanked for his efforts in keeping Pattingham Tidy.

6. **Parish Reports**

**6.1 Report on Pattingham Village Hall Management Committee 2018**

Background: The Pattingham Village Hall is an independent, privately owned facility run by a management committee made up principally of volunteers. It owns the site on which it stands. There is now just one caretaker/cleaner for the Hall (Caroline Clark) and there is a paid booking clerk (Sharon Simmons) who also acts as Secretary at our management meetings. In the past the Hall has had to arrange a number of fundraising activities to make its finances balance. As the Hall utilisation has increased, the need for fund raising has diminished. We only need to raise money for re-decoration and any major improvements.

Tight financial management and a great deal of voluntary maintenance work, completed at material cost only, have meant that we have been able to keep our rental charges down. Despite galloping increases in our oil, electricity and waste disposal costs, the Hall rental charges have been kept very competitive for the benefit of the village organisations and families that use the Hall. We no longer receive a precept from the Parish Council but it may be necessary in the future for there to be one.

The committee accepts their responsibility to maintain the facility for the village's benefit. As you will see from the Treasurer's report we have considerable reserves. Whenever we have a surplus, it is ploughed back into the Hall's reserves.

1. Our thanks go to the Committee for their work done in support of the Hall.
2. Our regular costs have been controlled well.
3. The Committee may decide to make an inflationary adjustment to its prices for the next financial year. We feel the increased Hall bookings indicate we are competitive at the moment.
4. Regular activities like art classes, Mothers and Toddlers, Yoga, Brownies, the Monday and Friday evening table tennis and bowling on Monday and Tuesday afternoons are enjoyed by parishioners and a few neighbouring community members who appreciate the facilities we have to offer. The mothers and toddlers; are asked to ensure that they keep the toilets clean, flush the toilets before leaving and keep the toy storage area in the cage tidy.

5. There are regular short mat bowling matches against local villages such as Worfield, Kingswinford, Albrighton and Claverley. Home matches are held on Monday nights, the quietest evening from a Hall booking point of view. We are unbeaten at home and occasionally win our away matches. A good time is had by all at these matches.
6. We show four films each year with "Flicks in the Sticks" as it has been popular. As a Committee we should encourage more people to attend these evenings then we would need less financial support from the Council each time.
7. Live and Local came to the Hall again. We get reasonable audiences, the Drama Group and Ken Clive are to be thanked for selling tickets for both "Flicks in the Sticks" and Live and Local. Please support these events, bring along your friends, they do not have to be villagers.
8. The financial success of the Hall depends on the continued support of the villagers for the activities arranged by village organisations such as the Drama Group, Chad Singers, the Flower Club, Bowling, Table Tennis, Flicks in the Sticks, Live and Local, the Friday Art class, the Dog Training sessions, Carols and Turkey evening and regular exercise groups like Tuesday Trekkers, Yoga and Ballet Fitness. Please support these groups and any other village organisations that use the Hall and that bring in much needed revenue.
9. The utilisation of the Hall is increasing and the Hall looks well set to survive no matter what ever happens nationally. We are able to maintain the very reasonable hire charges to help everyone run successful events.
10. The Hall is in good shape and we have no borrowings. We are very grateful to everyone who helps keep the Hall running so successfully.
11. Anna Mazoni Davies did a great job supervising the re-modelling of the front door area and access ramps. Claims for doing this work have been submitted.
12. I shall retire at the AGM. Thanks to the committee for their support and I wish the Hall well for the future.

It was noted that the Village Hall are always looking for new members to join their team.

Colin Ringrose, Chairman

15<sup>th</sup> April 2018

#### 6.2 Report to the Pattingham Parish Council on PSYCO, the Friday night Youth Club's activities in 2017/2018

1. The objective of the Club was to maintain the social links that the children established whilst they were at St. Chads First School. When they go onto middle the schools or opt out of the 3 tear system, we are trying to help them maintain friendships made here in the village by meeting every Friday evening during term time and having a good time.
2. Sadly the Club has closed due to no one being prepared to take over the Supervisors Rota management role I had been fulfilling.
3. There is almost £4000 in the bank waiting for someone to take on this role.
4. Any volunteers please?

5. Thank you.

Colin Ringrose, Chairman

10<sup>th</sup> April 2018

### 6.3 Pattingham & Patshull Over 65 Christmas Lunch

Report to Annual Parish Meeting April 2018

The Annual Christmas Lunch was held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at Pattingham Village Hall. It is open to all residents of Pattingham & Patshull who are 65 and older.

108 [136 previous year] residents sat down to the meal, which was excellent, served by Plyvine. The Children from St Chad's did another super Christmas presentation, and we finished with a seasonal sing along . We presented the school with the new Guinness Book of Records.

The Raffle made £343.00, which covered the cost of the organist and drinks.

It was agreed at a previous meeting that no gifts would be sent to sick or housebound people who could not attend the meal.

We received £2,500 Grant from the Parish Council.

At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 we have £7710.94 in the Santander accounts. It has cost £2,177.28 to put the meal on which is £20.16 per head. This is a 12p increase from 2016. (of which as you know £5000.00 is in trust.)

The Committee is very grateful to the Council, as we could not put this event on without your help.

The Annual Return for the Charity Commission will be sent.

Julie Wood and Sharon Simmons

### **Pattingham & Patshull Over 65 Christmas Lunch 2017 -2018**

#### Income

April	2017	Santander Interest	00.31
May	"	"	00.30
Jun	"	"	00.31
Jul	"	"	00.30
Aug	"	"	00.31
Sep	"	"	00.31
Oct	"	"	00.30
Nov	"	"	00.30
Dec	"	"	00.55
Jan	2017	"	00.63
Feb	"	"	00.65
Mar	"	"	00.59

Dec 07 Raffle	343.00
Dec 07 Donation John Fellows	10.00
Dec 07 Pattingham & Patshull Grant	2500.00
	<u>£ 2857.86</u>

#### Expenditure

Oct 17 Plyvine deposit	360.00
Oct 13 Guinness Book	10.00
Nov 07 Raffle tickets	1.00
Nov 22 Raffle tickets	7.97
Dec 07 Organist	50.00
Dec 07 Ann Raymond Raffle	24.00
Dec 07 R Lyon Drinks	193.21
Dec 07 Plyvine 100 meals less deposit	1656.00
Dec 07 Plyvine 8 meals	161.28
Dec 08 Village Hall Hire	109.96
	<u>£ 2573.42</u>

SURPLUS	£284.44
	<u>£ 2857.86</u>

It was noted that the Over 65's Lunch Club, have 2 bank accounts a current and a deposit account although the deposit account pays little interest.

They have reduced from 22 trustees to 4 to make the banking process easier.

The Group were formally called the "Old Peoples Welfare Group", and in previous years for those house bound, that could not attend the meal were given 2 chocolates. It was raised by the Parish Council that they felt a more substantial token should be given, such as a miniature bottle of spirits or a box of chocolates. This suggestion was put to the Committee and they voted to not give anything anymore to those that could not attend the meal, the Committee felt that if a worthwhile gift could not be given at this time, then no gift should be given.

#### 6.4 Report for Pattingham and Patshull Parish Council – 16.04.18 Pattingham and Baby Toddler Group

Our Baby and Toddler group continues to run every Tuesday in term time at the Village Hall and has gone from strength to strength with your support over the past year.

With the closure of the Village Pre-school 3 years ago, we remain the only voluntary group in the village to cater specifically to the under three age group. At least 15 children attend each session, with up to 35 arriving on occasions! It is sometimes so busy that we have been considering implementing a waiting list for new members. It is especially refreshing to see a more diverse group of carers attending; there is a now a small group of fathers who bring their children regularly, as well as a number of grandparents and childminders.

We continue to have the support of a committed volunteer every week to assist the parents who run the group and our volunteer now makes toast for everyone, which is appreciated by all (and healthier for the children than the biscuits we used to provide!)

We have forged close links with St Chad's First school and have organised joint activities with their children – for example, a craft activity morning with the nursery children and carol singing for the toddlers at Christmas by Year 4 children. This has been very beneficial in terms of positively promoting the school in the surrounding area, encouraging parents from outside the village to consider St Chad's as an option for their children. The sustainability of the village school at the heart of our community is vital to the continued prosperity and vibrancy of the village.

Each week, there is free play, with an optional craft activity. We sometimes have special activities such as a demo or taster session or a photography session. Activities are often themed according to the season – for example, we organised an Easter Egg hunt, made Diwali lanterns and held a Christmas party where each child received a small gift. A hot drink is provided for parents and carers and there is always singing at the end of the session.

We have been lucky enough to have several Early Years teachers and teaching assistants on our committee this year and they have advised on how best to build our resources and schedule activities to provide a stimulating and exciting environment for our pre-schoolers. We have replaced and purchased additional resources including ride-on toys, play tents, books, role play equipment, threading and modelling games and sensory activities for the youngest babies. We have also been able to use the outdoor grassed area when the weather allows and have purchased some outdoor toys for the children to use.

We have received regular positive feedback about the impact of our group. Within the last month alone, we have been told by one dad that 'this is the best playgroup we have ever come to' and several new members have commented on how friendly everyone is.

It continues to be a really important service to promote the development of young children from in and around the village and to provide a supportive space for parents and carers to meet together and provide mutual support.

We really appreciate your continued support of our group. Your funding of the room hire costs leaves us free to use creatively the money paid in in members' subs to put on engaging activities for the children and to replace and renew our equipment.

One of the new mums that has joined the group, spoke to members to say how welcome she had felt in coming to Pattingham, by having the Mums and Toddlers Group she had made many new friends for both herself and her daughter and the facilities were excellent.

The Parish Council gave the Mothers and Toddler Group their grant cheque at the end of the evening.

## 6.5 St Chads Allotment Group Annual Report

Due to the Lease extension of 20 years which has been negotiated with the Church Trustees and assistance of the Parish Council Chairman Mr Rob Lines. The lease extension increases

the rent from £240 to £325 per year with a C.P.I increase every 5 years. Due to the group taking a 20 year lease we had to register the land with the land registry at a legal cost of £280. Insurance costs have risen significantly to £290 pa which we did not pay in previous years. The Parish Council paid insurance liabilities previously. The group is now obliged to pay liability cost for the Church Trustees and we looked at the cover for the group itself ie Trustees, Committee and Members liabilities. The members pay £25 for a full plot £12.50 for a half plot and £6.25 for a raised bed which covers water and the use of mowers, rotavator, wheelbarrows and Membership of NASLA. Other costs are grass cutting, hedge trimming and general maintenance of the site. The group received a one off grant of £400 from South Staffs District Budget, thanks to Cllr Mason. I hope this gives you an overview of income and expenditure for the year.

It was noted that Perton Parish Council had been in touch to see how things have been organised in Pattingham, as they are potentially getting investment money from a developer to build allotments for Perton residents. If they do make allotments it won't have too much impact on the Pattingham Group, as there are only a few from Perton (4 approx.), and once an allotment is established people tend to stay with that plot. At present there is only 1 ½ plot vacant. Without extra legal costs from the renewing of the lease with the Church, the Group break even with the running costs vs their income.

The Parish Council gave the Allotment Group their grant cheque at the end of the evening.

#### 7. **Matters raised by the public present**

Mrs Carol Rolader addressed the meeting with her concerns over the bus service. She has previously attended the Parish Council meetings to raise her concerns of the bus not turning up or being late. The service is 2 hourly and if a bus fails to turn up the period between each service can be 4 hours. This is a major problem for public transport users. Many times there are people stranded and they have to get together and get a taxi back to the village or to a joint destination.

At the previous Council meeting, Mrs Rolader had been advised to contact County Councillor Keith James as soon as she is made aware from other users that the service has not arrived, or she has experienced the bus not turning up. As he can take the matter up straight away with the County Council as they contract with Arriva. She was advised not to try to complain directly to Arriva, but go directly to Councillor Keith James or the County Council. This again was reaffirmed as the correct course of action to take.

District and Parish Councillor T Mason reported that there is a meeting with Cabinet Member Helen Fisher from the County to discuss transport and road issues at Codsall on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May. If Mrs Rolader can contact him directly with details of poor service, he will submit this in advance of the meeting.

Councillor M Finch is going to write to Councillor Keith James to express his concerns on the matter and ask if there is a report Arriva have to supply to the County Council regarding failure to fulfil the timetable.

Mrs Rolader also expressed her concerns over there being no seat in the Bus Shelter. The Chairman informed her seating was included in the order for the new bus shelter, however it is still awaiting installation as there has been a problem with materials.

Mrs Sharon Simmons raised concerns over Moor Lane being closed for several days without warning, meaning she could not drive to her house, Councillor T Mason reported that this was an emergency repair by Severn Trent so was an unplanned repair so no warning was given.

There was also concern expressed over a sign that has been erected for a few weeks stating road closure for this week on the Wolverhampton/Pattingham Road, but online the road repairs are scheduled for June.

It was noted that several members of the public had come forward to assist in litter picking and Councillor Mrs A Davies is coordinating the volunteers. The Council are providing litter pickers, hoops, gloves and bags for the volunteers.

8. **Date of next APM meeting –**

The date of the next meeting will be held in April 2019 tbc.