

MINUTES OF A PATTINGHAM AND PATSHULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2018 AT PATTINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: Councillors R Lines (Chairman), Councillors D Billson (Vice Chairman) T Mason, S Hubble, S Hughes, J Tomlinson and Mrs A Davies

Also present Miss J Cree – Clerk

Public Forum

Best Kept Village Competition presentation:-

Hanging Baskets – Pattingham

1st - Bake House, High Street

2nd - 1 Rudge Road,

3rd - 10 Moor Lane,

Pattingham Gardens

1st – 23 Letchmere Close

2nd – 39 High Street

3rd – 9 Hall Close

Pattingham Sunflowers

1st – 10 Hall End Lane – 117”

2nd – 112 Sandringham – 111”

3rd – The Nook, Broadwell Lane – 106”

Hanging Baskets Burnhill

1st - Old Walnut Cottage, Albrighton Rd

2nd - Snowdon Road

3rd - The Old School, Snowdon Road

Burnhill Green Gardens

1st - Lower Snowdon Cottage

2nd – 6 Snowdon Road

3rd - 42 Snowdon Road

Members thanked Cllr Mrs A Davies for taking the time to organise the judging, get the prizes and organise the collection and engraving of the trophies.

A resident asked if the Parish Council could look into problems with a farm in Burnhill Green that appears to operating all night, they have generators and lights running through the night which is causing issues for residents that live opposite. It was noted that this be referred to the Burnhill Green Councillors to have a look into and report back to the Council.

115/18. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies of absence were received from J Dyas, K James and G Deane.

Councillors M Finch, W Hurford did not send their apologies for the meeting.

116/18. Declarations of Councillors' Interest.

None were declared.

117/18. To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 30th July 2018.

The minutes of the meeting detailed above were agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

118/18. County / District Councillors to address the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish

County Council Report for Pattingham Parish Council on Monday, 10th September 2018.

A Meeting of the County Council Highways Portal Contractors was held at Stafford for members to hear a review of the work carried out by them and to discuss and receive questions. The content of the presentation concerned the schedules for repairs in Staffordshire and the priorities that exist in carrying out these including the emptying of gully clearances. Local members asked for better workmanship to prevent the regular recurrence of potholes. We were assured that the Contractors would follow up these items and added that improved methods of tarmac laying were being used.

The Highways and Countryside Paths Panel met to deal with issues that concern the use of Rural rights of way. Their ownership and any diversions applied for and to receive any evidence pertaining to their existence and other matters relating to any obstructions or damage to paths and bridleways that run through Staffordshire.

The County Council are looking at the financial situation for the next two years and beyond with a Forward Plan to tackle the budget requirements from the reduced Grants that will affect services and costs that are currently maintained. In this respect it is expected that Parish Councils will together with District Councils can assist in filling the gap by taking on local work where possible to keep their Villages in good condition.

Keith James. Member for the Perton and Pattingham Division of Staffordshire County Council.

Report from Cllr T Mason

There is little to report as the month of August has little council business undertaken by councillors due to the holiday period. Meetings start again in earnest this week.

You may have read in the press that the West Midlands Strategic Rail Interchange has been given the go ahead. This is not correct. It has merely been accepted that a valid application can be submitted and the correct fees have been paid. We are now expecting the submission of detailed plans for consideration by the Secretary of State. These will be subject to the normal consultations and South Staffs Council will be making it's views known regarding the impacts likely on our roads, green belt and housing needs. Despite views that it is a done deal, this is not the case but, unfortunately, the decision is not in local hands.

There is a Skills and Jobs Fair being held at the Council Offices in Codsall on Wednesday 26th between 10am and 2pm. At the last count there were 26 employers attending all with vacancies and apprenticeships available.

The Parish Summit is being held on Friday 28th between 9am and 3pm and details have already been forwarded by the clerk.

This was noted.

119/18. Outstanding matters from the County Council

The following items are still outstanding:-

Broken left hand bend warning sign at Nurton Bank, Wolverhampton Road ref #4102489 - Status is 'waiting for inspector to visit site' **6 MONTHS - AND THE INSPECTOR STILL HASN'T VISITED THE SITE?**

Gritting – email from Helen Fisher

“Good morning Jenny

The winter operations are currently undergoing a review and I'm sure when this is complete Mark will inform you if there are any changes locally.

Regards

Helen”

In addition there are problems at the Traffic lights from Pattingham to Perton where water gathers due to block drains, blocked storm drains at the top of Westbeach Road and the promised site meeting with Mark Keeling had not taken place.

Members agreed that the Clerk should send the outstanding items to Cllr K James, and remind him before the next meeting, so as he can bring an update for the members on these outstanding matters.

120/18. Bus service update

No further updates have been received since August, when the question has been asked by a resident and the Parish Council as to why there are increased bus journeys in the week, but the Saturday service was being discontinued.

The Clerk will chase this matter up again.

121/18. Signage for the Tennis Courts and related matters re court use

It was noted that the signage erected on the Tennis courts earlier this year, was purchased at a cost of circa £80. Cllr M Finch agreed to supply the Clerk with the wording required, but unfortunately this did not happen and generic signs restricting cycles, scooters and skateboards were ordered by the Clerk. It was agreed not to add any further signs at this time.

We have received a request from a local person to request the use of the tennis courts for adult cardio fitness sessions, along with coaching sessions for adults and children, the emails received are detailed below:-

Original request email:-

“Good Afternoon, I am Sally Nicholson from total tennis midlands, I received this email address from Veronica Attwood who i know through coaching. I coach at Wombourne, Worfield and Linden Lea tennis club and are also associated with the Wolverhampton wanderers academy. I'm a level two qualified coach with a full DBS and first aid trained. I have been coaching for over three years now and really want to bring this into Pattingham.

I would like to run morning cardio sessions for adults which is a high energy fitness activity that combines the best features of the sport of tennis with cardiovascular exercise, delivering the ultimate, full body, calorie burning aerobic workout.

It is a very social and fun class for players of all ability levels. If you've never played tennis before it is a great way to be introduced to the sport and if you are an experienced high level tennis player it is the best way to train for tennis. A cardio tennis workout is typically 6-8 players per court, with off court drills, Cardio balls (red and orange tennis balls) which players can hit up to 50 balls in one session. With good fitness music playing Cardio Tennis is a fun group activity for anyone at any playing level looking for a fun way to burn calories & interact with others outside of the gym.

In the School holidays i would like to give the juniors the opportunity to take up tennis by doing either squad sessions or camps at the club. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and keep fit at the same time!.

I understand it's a busy place and you may already have other activities taking place there I just wanted to enquire and see if this could be possible.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Kind Regards. “

From the Clerk

“Hi Sally

Thank you for your email, before we can go any further would you mind giving us a little more information...

What arrangement do you have with Wombourne, Worfield, Linden Lea tennis clubs regarding hiring courts? (if any)

We are interested - but we don't have a tennis club as such - just a 2 x court facility - so keen to understand the details of cost per person/ per session for adults and children (half term week).

How will you promote the event?

Thanks

Jenny”

Response from Sally

“Good afternoon Jenny, thank you for your response.

The arrangement we have at Worfield, Linden Lea and Wombourne is that we are head coaches and contracted to coach the juniors and adults at the club and increase membership. There is no court hire, just that we do the above to the best of our ability and run events therefore increasing revenue for the club.

We know the courts as we used to play there as children and have hired them a few years ago with Bruce Attwood.

We would promote the event /sessions with a; open day, flyers, local advising and going into the local school.

How would you like this arrangement between Total Tennis Midlands and Pattingham Parish Council? Once we know how you would like the arrangement then we can find a good competitive cost for adults and juniors so we can get as many of Pattingham taking part and playing tennis.

Kind regards.”

Members agreed to allow the use of the tennis courts for this purpose, members asked that if possible a youth session is organised for the upcoming October half term holiday. The Council will review the agreement during March 2019.

The Council are happy to display flyers on their web and facebook pages.

122/18. Usage of the football pitch update

The two teams have signed the agreements to play and one has paid for the full season and the other has paid half of the seasons costs in advance. The first games have been played and the caretaker from the Village Hall has agreed to clean the changing rooms. The pitch was laser marked out in August, however grass cutting and heavy rain at the end of the month nearly removed all the markings and the Chairman repainted the lines in by hand.

Members were concerned that there was no increase in litter from football activity. It was noted the agreement signed by both clubs has rules regarding litter removal including plastic bottles and sock tape.

123/18. Update on Cutting back / crown lifting trees on the park

The Chairman has been in discussions with the District Council to agree who is responsible for the maintenance of the trees on the Playing Fields.

Email from Lorraine Fowkes:-

“Dear Rob

I have met with Andy and again reviewed the lease. I would refer you to Schedule 2 Second Part and in particular Clause 3 (keep in good repair and condition), Clause 6 (maintain the land in good condition) and Clause 7 (need for written consent to undertake works to trees).

Whilst I acknowledge that Clauses 3 and 6 do not make specific reference to the maintenance of trees, it is my view that the obligation to maintain the land includes a requirement to maintain the trees on the land. This is reinforced by Clause 7; there would be no requirement to seek District Council’s consent to undertake works to trees if there was no requirement to maintain the same.

Andy Cousins is happy to meet you (or your representative) on site to agree any proposed works. Please contact Andy direct on 01902 696407 or a.cousins@sstaffs.gov.uk .

Regards

Lorraine”

Email to Lorraine Fowkes:-

“Thank you for your email dated 7th September 2018. Whilst lease clauses 3 and 6 are not relevant as you suggest, I completely disagree with your view regarding your interpretation that they include maintenance of trees. They are very specific clauses relating to (3) Hedges & Gates, (6) Land & Turf. Clause 7 is purely a covenant to prevent felling of trees, removal of hedges, plants or bushes. I disagree with your interpretation that there would be no requirement to seek the District Council’s consent to undertake works to trees if there was no requirement to maintain the same. Clause 7 is a rule against removing trees, hedges and plants - nothing else. While we have different interpretations of these clauses, they are all completely irrelevant now because the 1965 lease has been replaced by a new 60 year lease agreed in 2015. Unfortunately, the new lease has even less detail in relation to maintenance responsibilities because it is based on a standard style property lease more specific to bricks and mortar.

My case to the District Council, is based on one of precedence whereby tree maintenance has been carried out by you in the past. It is my view that you are trying to absolve your responsibility for tree maintenance. I would add that the current lease agreement allows us to remove any trees without your permission - so we won’t be requiring Andy Cousins to agree any proposed works if you are no longer willing to accept responsibility for carrying out the duties.

I will discuss this with the full council tonight and you will hear from me again if we decide to pursue this matter further.

Regards

Rob Lines”

Members asked the Chairman to continue with trying to resolve this issue.

124/18. Speeding in the Village (including Burnhill Green) – Update from Cllr J Tomlinson

It was noted at the June meeting Councillor J Tomlinson appeared to be critical of the lack of Parish Council response to this issue. It was explained that he was being critical of the issue over many, many years with multiple authorities involved. This was noted.

Councillor J Tomlinson reported that he had requested at the Police meeting that the speed camera van visits Pattingham, to help with the speeding problems in the Parish, it was noted that Burnhill Green also has issues on Snowdon Road with vehicles travelling through to Beckbury.

The Parish Council has been contacted by 2 local residents expressing their concerns over speeding cars.

The Clerk will contact PCSO Sian Fryer and Helen Marshall to request that the speed camera van is sent to Pattingham Parish as soon as possible.

Councillor T Mason reported the Policing teams are changing and they are returning to have a local policing team. In addition the PCSO's if on duty should strive to attend Council meetings and provide crime statistics for each meeting.

With regard to issues at Burnhill Green the 2 Councillors from Burnhill Green to look into the problems of speeding and report back at the next meeting.

125/18. Highways Grant – Cllr J Dyas to report

The Parish Council have previously agreed to purchase a Speed Indication Device with the Highways Grant and Councillor Dyas agreed to review the options available and make a recommendation. As Councillor J Dyas had sent his apologies for the meeting, this item was deferred until the next meeting.

126/18. Litter Issues on the Playing Field

Councillor J Dyas asked for this to be on the agenda, he was concerned over the litter that is being dropped in the area of the youth shelter on the field. Councillor Mrs A Davies, will canvass the volunteer litter pickers to ask how they are finding the litter picking that they are undertaking.

127/18. Patshull Estate update on areas leased by the Parish Council

The Chairman has emailed the Crown Estate representatives 3 times regarding the sale of the estate and the future of the Millennium and Jubilee permissive footpaths and land leased by the parish council. To date he has not received a response. He will keep trying to get the Crown Estate to acknowledge the correspondence and also write to the selling agents Knight Frank.

128/18. Completion of external Audit

The audit has been completed, and the only comments were made that the Bank reconciliation was difficult to follow and suggested using their template next year.

The completion of audit notice has been displayed on the noticeboards and online.

129/18. BKV Completion 2018 (including report from judges)

Pattingham have come third in this year's Best Kept Village competition. They are in the large village category with Brewood, Kinver and Wombourne.

The Clerk will forward the comments from the BKV competition judges to the Church magazine so the parishioners are aware of what needs to be improved for next year's competition.

130/18. Amendments to model standing orders

Standing order 17d (ii)

to the Council the accounting statements for the year in the form of Section 2 of the annual governance and accountability return, as required by proper practices, for consideration and approval.

Change from section 1.

Model Standing order 21 and 15 (b) (ix)

Further to the Government's decision to exempt local councils from the definition of "public authority" for the purposes of the general data protection regulation the previous reference to "shall appoint a Data Protection Officer" in model standing order 21 (a) has been changed to "may appoint a Data Protection Officer". Model standing order 15 (b) (ix) as also been changed to confirm to the new position.

Model Standing order 18

Model standing order 18 © has been changed to include the words "unless it proposes to use an existing list of approved suppliers (framework agreement)" and now reads:

A public contract regulated by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 with an estimated value in excess of £25,000 but less than the relevant thresholds in standing order 18(f) is subject to Regulations 109-114 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 which include a requirement on the Council to advertise the contract opportunity on the Contracts Finder website regardless of what other means it uses to advertise the opportunity unless it proposes to use an existing list of approved suppliers (framework agreement).

The above amendments were proposed by Cllr T Mason and seconded by Councillor J Tomlinson and will be voted upon at the next meeting.

131/18. To discuss providing a defibrillator for Burnhill Green

We have received a request from a member of the public to consider locating a unit at Burnhill Green. The costs are circa £2000 with a secure outdoor locked cabinet.

It was noted as a request and for the Burnhill Green Councillors to look into this and previous items raised and report back on the outstanding items.

132/18. To discuss future events in the village

A resident has written to the Clerk suggesting ideas for events in the village, and in particular, a medieval themed event. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to write back to the parishioner and state that they have no issue with anyone, or any groups, wishing to organise events in Pattingham.

133/18. Report from the Clerk.

Community Innovation fund.

The submission process for the South Staffordshire Community Innovation Fund opens Monday 6 August 2018; applicants will have until 5pm on Friday 28 September 2018 to submit a completed application. Please ensure you have read the guidance notes before completion.

Grants up to £1,000 are available for all Community and Voluntary Sector organisations in South Staffordshire, including those registered to the South Staffordshire Community Lottery.

Please return your completed application to:

Post:

Policy and Partnerships
South Staffordshire Council
Wolverhampton Road
Codsall
South Staffordshire
WV8 1PX

134/18. Accounts for Payment.

Ratification list for August - September

Chq No.	Payee	Description	Amount (inc VAT)
722982	P Davies	Pant for fencing	31.99
722893	Royal British Legion	Silent soldiers x 2	500.00
722984	Pattingham Village Hall	Room Hire	76.00
722985	Viking Direct	Stationary	22.06
722986	BKV	Prizes	180.00
722987	Mazars	Annual Audit	360.00
722988	A Horton	September	135.00
722989	J Cree	September	582.45
722990	Inland Revenue	September	£154.27
722991	Pitch Marking exp.		£35.08
DD	EE	Monthly charge	£28.16
DD	Utility Warehouse	Monthly charge	£11.60

DD BT Monthly charge £46.08

£2,162.69

135/18. Items for future Meetings

Speeding in the Parish, Highways Grant parking outside school, pot holes, items from Councillor K James and outstanding items relating to Burnhill Green, Christmas light switch on Burnhill Green.

136/18. Dates of Next Meetings –

15 th October 2018	Crown Rooms, Burnhill Green
19 th November 2018	Precept - Patingham Village Hall
3 rd December 2018	Patingham Village Hall