



## BROWN EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

### Meeting Minutes

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024

### 7.00pm at Brown Edge Village Hall

Vice-Chairman Cllr. Anthony Bedson	Cllr. David Gerrard	Cllr. Joe Porter (Parish & District)
Cllr. Neil Hargreaves	Cllr. Marilyn Marathe	Cllr. Margaret Hunt
Cllr. Christina Jebb (District)	Cllr. Keith Flunder (County)	Cllr. Kate Oberholster
Cllr. Phil Berrisford		2 members of the public

Minutes – Miss V Johnson

- 1) **Chairmans Welcome:** Cllr. Bedson welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2) **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Felton, Cllr. Woodward, Cllr. Shufflebotham and the Clerk Hayley Harrison and RFO. Denise Wheat
- 3) **Parishioners Concerns:** None to report
- 4) **PCSO Report: PCSO Sara Staples sent apologies, she had planned to attend but had been called to an incident at the abandoned house on Stanley Road. Written report sent** Fireworks being set off by children on High Lane had been dealt with. Request for the noise at the LAC house to be put on the next agenda as it may be breaking the planning application, this detail to be forwarded to Cllr. Flunder. Cllr. Hargreaves reported cyclists are on High Lane with no lights or helmets. Cllr. Porter suggested a police safety campaign re: night cycling.
- 5) **County Council Report: Cllr. Keith Flunder**
  - **Children in care:** Links to businesses are being made to assist children in care into employment as there is a responsibility to the age of 25 for care leavers. There are issues with finding accommodation for them.
  - **Recent Budget effect:** Extra funding will be available for road maintenance and repair.
  - **Trading Standards:** Efforts are being made to prevent dangerous toys being sold on markets. Efforts are also being made to remove illegal vapes.
  - **Household Support Fund:** Biddulph has 90-95% coverage of services and resources, Leek has 60% and Cheadle has none. A Working Group is being set up to meet weekly and to make those in need aware.
  - **Grant List:** It is 8 pages long but quite restrictive and has a closing date of 20<sup>th</sup> November.
  - **Community Fund:** Cllr. Flunder's Community Fund is now closed.
  - **School streets:** Cllr. Flunder is finding out more about safety on roads around schools. Urban areas are currently the priority. Funding is available until the end of 2026 when the current Labour Government will be looking at alternatives.
  - **Sandy Lane:** There is now a sign at one end of the lane but the other end needs addressing. Cllr. Flunder expressed his disappointment this had not been done by 28<sup>th</sup> October as planned.
  - **Devolution:** The LGA are discussing a 2 tier local government which has happened in other areas of Britain so they are attempting to force it on England. There is a tight timescale so it will be an issue within the current Parliament. The LGA have stated 'status quo is unlikely to be an option'
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## 6) District Councillor Reports:

### Cllr. Jebb:

- **Sandy Lane Centre:** The Christmas Fayre will be taking place on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 5pm – 8pm. Greater improvements on accessibility have been made and heating.
- **First Responders:** The remaining First Responders are downhearted as training is based in the West Midlands which requires a very early start or an overnight stay which is off putting for potential new recruits. People are booked for training in January, but if there is no success overall consideration is being given to what to do with the vehicle.
- **Defibrillators:** Sandy Lane is £785 short as donations have gone astray between the funeral directors and AED. First Responders have offered a donation.
- **Climate Action:** There are a large number of projects and organisations in existence. Councillors are having training and a strategy is needed to connect the right people and to ensure that planning complies with biodiversity. Cllr Flunder is bringing Parish Councillors and the Lengthsman into the training and to look at flash flooding.

### Cllr. Porter:

- **Devolution:** This needs to be constantly monitored to ensure that the Moorlands does not join Stoke on Trent.
- **Brown Edge Luncheon Club:** Increased transport costs are a problem. Cllr. Porter has given £100 from his Community Fund, Cllr. Flunder is also giving some from his and grants are being investigated. ***The Lunch Club is to be placed on the next Agenda.***
- **Litter pick:** A good litter pick took place on the playing field with lots of children involved. ***The Lengthsman is to collect the metal appliances dumped in the corner of the field.***
- **Winter Fuel Payment:** Cllr. Porter and Cllr. Linda Malyon made a presentation to full Council which Cllr. Garvey and all Labour Councillors put forward in support of reinstatement. SMDC are united on this matter.
- **SMDC Boundary Review:** This has not been done for 20 years so it is due for review and will take place over the next year with all parties working together. It will include reviewing Parishes and will consider Councillors all serving the same number of residents. It will be a lengthy process and will include multiple rounds of public consultation. Cllr. Flunder emphasised that the Parish boundaries will not change but boundaries within Parishes will.
- **St Anne's churchyard:** The wall around the churchyard collapsed a couple of years ago, and SMDC Grounds Maintenance are inspecting it following a resident's request.
- **Remembrance 2024:** There will be services at Brown Edge and Endon. The Lunch Club and St Anne's are organising refreshments. Cllr. Porter has made a contribution from his fund for the soldier signs on lamp posts. Clarification was sought re: the carnival queen laying a wreath and where it would be sourced from.
- **Severn Trent:** Karen Bradley MP has been asked to write to the Chief Executive of Severn Trent to make an official complaint about the poor service received from Severn Trent.
- **Breach Road to Brown Edge:** The Lengthsman is to be asked to clear the weeds around Rock Cottage.

## 7) Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024 meeting were approved as a correct record.

***Proposed Cllr. Gerrard – Seconded Cllr. Porter***

## 8) Declaration of Interests on the forthcoming Agenda:

Cllr Porter: NHS, Carnival Committee

Cllr. Bedson: Planning SMD/2024/0416

## 9) Matters arising from previous meeting:

- a) **'No HGV' signs** progress: This has been partly completed.

- b) **Kings Coronation field Bees, Stile/Kissing Gate, Sycamore Gap sapling:** Permission for the Kings Coronation field Bees is still pending, the Clerk is to chase up on this. ***The Stile/Kissing Gate and the Sycamore Gap sapling are to be moved to the next Agenda.***
- c) **Orchard Sign:** ***To be moved to the next Agenda.***
- d) **Bank End Garden working party:** This was very successful with lots of children working together. Proctors donated all the plants and ornamental rocks and bark and space has been left for bulbs. Cllr. Porter suggested a plaque saying 'Sponsored by Proctors'. Grants need to be found to ensure future maintenance. Some trees have died in the Community Orchard and need replacing. ***Cllr. Porter is to investigate the costs and apply for a Moorlands Climate Change grant for 5 replacement trees.***
- e) **Drop kerb on The Breach:** The farmer has put hardcore down. ***Dave Rushton is to monitor this.***
- f) **Update on The Bush car park working party meeting:** The current owners/operators of The Bush are reluctant to make a contribution for the car parking spaces. The garage wants 6 spaces, residents want 5 spaces. The Bush are keen to have a lease purchase agreement and have made a formal offer. An EGM is to be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November open to parishioners.  
***Proposed Cllr. Bedson Seconded Cllr. Hargreaves***

#### 10) Planning Applications and Related Issues:

	Property on Sandy Lane	Query on dropped kerb and landscaping	Cllr. Flunder and Dave Rushton to inspect
SMD/2024/0472	Meadowbank, Willfield Lane, Brown Edge	Proposed First Floor Extension Above Existing Ground Floor Structure With Balcony	No objection

#### 11) Items on Notice:

- a) **Brown Edge Assets:** A list of assets for anything of monetary value is required and moving forward this should be done annually. ***Cllr. Flunder will liaise with the Planning Department re: The Bush. The Clerk will seek advice from SPCA and send a letter to Cllr. Flunder asking for advice.***
- b) **St Anne's Primary School:** Mrs Rossen explained that residents are complaining about parents picking up/dropping off children for school. ***Cllr. Porter will contact Mark Stanway and also Air Aware for information and advice.***
- c) **Bollards on Banks End:** Rocks are to be considered as they are more decorative and cost effective. ***Cllr. Porter and Cllr. Hunt will speak to residents to seek views.***
- d) **Amendment to Allotment Tenancy Agreement:** ***To be moved to the next Agenda.***
- e) **Sytch Well:** It was noted that BMX bikes are making tracks. ***To be reviewed in the Spring.***
- f) **Playing Field improvement:** Public consultation provided a lot of good ideas but until The Bush situation is sorted out no funding is available to see them through. Funding opportunities/match funding are to be investigated. ***Place on the Agenda in Spring.***

#### 12) Finance and Governance:

- a) **Payments were Authorised for October 2024**

	Payee	Description	Net	VAT PAYE	TOTAL	Chq. No.
1	Mrs H Harrison	Clerk Salary 10 hours p/w (Month 7)	£605.37		<b>£605.37</b>	1308
2	Miss V Johnson	administration & travel expenses	£60.00		£60.00	1309
3	N&J Tree Services Ltd.	Invoice 7th Visit (Year 2)	<b>£808.50</b>	£161.70	£970.20	1310
		TOTAL PAYMENTS			<b>£1,635.57</b>	

***Proposed Cllr. Bedson – Seconded Cllr. Gerrard***

- b) **Cemetery Recorders Report and other income received: *Move to next Agenda.***
- c) **Month 7 Budget report: *Move to next Agenda.***

**13) Reports and Actions:** Councillors undertaking business/actions on behalf of the council:

- a) **Neighbourhood Plan:** All peoples names associated with green spaces land have been identified, titles of pieces of land need amending then letters can be sent out. 3 dates have been chosen for consultation and the original signage is available for use again.
- b) **Kings Coronation project:** Trees need replacing, the oak tree is doing well and the pathway will need mowing in March/April.
- c) **Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day plans:** Refreshments will be served in the Village Hall. £50 available in the budget has been spent on a wreath. Cllr. Hargreaves donated £50 for the refreshments. Cllr. Porter and Cllr. Oberholster will decorate the Village Hall. The church service starts at 10.15am followed by refreshments and Cllr. Porter will post all details on Facebook.
- d) **EV Charging update:** Cllr. Berrisford has details of what chargers are being installed but does not have an installation date yet.
- e) **Parking Permit update:** Nothing to report.
- f) **Cemetery quotes for improvement:** 3 contractors have been identified. Cllr. Berrisford has identified the work required to be done, and will email the Clerk to ask for quotes to be obtained.
- g) **Action log: *To be moved to the next Agenda.***

**14)Correspondence:**

- a) Mrs Rossen has received clarity re: Safeguarding at the Educational Allotment. No children will be left unattended and a properly qualified person will be with the children at all times.

**15) Items for the attention of other local authorities:**

- a) Matters for the District Council: None
- b) Matters for the County Council: Cllr. Berrisford has a list of potholes to be sent to Cllr. Flunder for information when he meets with Dave Rushton.

**16) Matters Pertaining to Issues in the Parish for the Next Agenda:**

New items raised by Councillors will be carried forward to the agenda of the next meeting.

- **Luncheon Club – Finances and transport issues.**

***Meeting Ended: 21.10***