

BROWN EDGE PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4th. February 2019 at Brown Edge Village Hall, School Bank, Brown Edge, Stoke on Trent.

Present: Councillor A. Basnett (Chair).

Councillors G. Cooper, C. Holdcroft, L. Lea (also District Councillor), J. Shufflebotham & P. Turner.

County Councillor K. Flunder.

Six Members of the Public.

170:18. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N. Owen (Ill), J. Sherratt (Ill), D. Spooner (Family), S. Turner (Ill) & P. Woodward (Engaged) & District Councillor C. Jebb.

171:18. Adjournment of Meeting for Public Participation.

A member of the public from the Clay Lake Crossing Action Group gave an update on their deliberations on the matter.

County Councillor Flunder reported that various options for the Clay Lake problem were being investigated and agreed to work with the Action Group. Chairman Basnett re-iterated that the Parish Council could possibly help with any signage etc.

County Councillor Flunder reported that extra funding was being made available from the Government and this had gone through the first stage. More information would be available for the next meeting.

He also reported that the School Crossing Patrols would continue to be funded by the County Council.

He also gave details additional funding for member's budgets. He suggested that a list of projects for funding assistance should be prepared.

District Councillor Lea reported there was a continuing consultation on the future of the Moorlands Hospital, although there was to be additional doctors available with the minor injuries unit continuing.

172:18. Declarations of Interest.

Councillor Basnett declared an interest in matters pertaining to the Holly Bush Inn car park.

Councillor Lea declared an interest in matters pertaining to planning.

173:18. Confirmation of Minutes.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th. January 2019 had been circulated and they were duly approved and signed as a true record although District Councillor Jebb reported that she had also attended the meeting at Endon regarding School Crossing Patrols mentioned in the minutes.

174:18. Matters Arising.

The delivery of the large concrete flower tubs was awaited but it was reported that the site for the tubs on Bank End Common had been marked out.

As was reported above confirmation had been received that the School Crossing Patrols would continue to be funded by Staffs. County Council.

Information had been obtained from a suitable maintenance company regarding inspections on the state of the three defibrillators but the figures quoted for the service were rather excessive. As each machine had its own indicator of its status, it was agreed to approach a responsible person to undertake periodic checks on these indicators.

No contact had been able to be made with the owner of the damaged seat near to the site of the removed conifers. Efforts would continue.

The Clerk reported that the playground equipment inspection which had been ordered had not been carried out. The firm in question had been contacted and had apologised for the mistake and had offered a new inspection at a reduced rate.

It was reported that:

the request for a litter / dog waste bin had been forwarded to Staffs. Moorlands District Council.

175:18. Reports & Actions.

The Cemetery Recorder reported that there had been one purchase of grave and interment and one headstone fee.

The Contracts & Maintenance Committee had met to discuss the maintenance contract for the coming year. It was agreed to recommend that additional work, namely cutting the hedge between Cross Edge and the private drive / public footpath and also grass cutting of the small areas at the top of Marshall Avenue be included. As there was an option of a third year on the contract N & J Tree Services would be approached to see if it was prepared to take on the additional year's work with the extras. These recommendations were accepted.

It was reported that the family of a recently deceased gentleman in the village had offered to cover the cost of the replanting of the screen hedging in the cemetery in the sum of £1,049.50 (excl. V.A.T.) from his estate.

Councillor P. Turner, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee reported that he could no longer undertake the role and would be resigning. A meeting of the Committee would be called.

176:18. Planning.

There was no business under this item.

177:18. Finance.

It was agreed that the renewal of the Council's Fixed Term Bond which had matured should be deferred again.

Estimates for 2019 / 2020.

Statements of (1) Anticipated end of year balances and (2) Estimated funds required for 2019 / 2020 together with figures allowed for the current year were presented to the meeting.

Information received from Staffs. Moorlands District Council showed that there was no Grant available this year and that the Tax Base had increased to 814 from 811.

After studying the figures it was proposed, seconded and agreed that, in order to keep the reserves increasing for the provision of the new cemetery, the Total Precept Requirement be set at £21,572.00. This would increase the total Band D charge from £25.24 to £26.50 per year, an increase of £1.26 or 5.0%.

It was reported that:

The fees for the Cemetery were due to be reviewed under the normal time scale period. It was agreed that the Cemetery Committee should meet to consider the matter.

178:18. Orders for Payment.

It was agreed that the following items be paid:

Adrian J. Mason.	£ 80 – 00.	Litter Picking Fee.
Staffs. Moorlands D. C.	£ 822 – 70.	Election Charges (Final Instalment).
N. & J. Tree Services Ltd.	£ 536 – 40.	New Cemetery Fencing Rails & Posts.
N. & J. Tree Services Ltd.	£ 192 – 00.	Cutting Cross Edge Hedge.
N. & J. Tree Services Ltd..	£ 684 – 49.	November Maintenance.
N. & J. Tree Services Ltd.	£ 684 – 49.	December Maintenance.

179:18. Correspondence.

A request for a grit bin had been received from a resident of Greenfield Avenue. It was agreed to forward this to Staffs. County Council.

Notice had been received of a road closure of St. Anne's Vale on 14th. February 2019.

Notice of A.G.M. of the National Allotment Society and Magazine – Issue 1 - 2019.

80:18. Matters to be Discussed on Notice.

There were no Notices of Motion received.

181:18. Matters for the District Council.

There were no items for the District Council.

182:18. Matters for the County Council.

There were no items for the County Council.

183:18. Items to be raised at the Next Meeting.

Lawn Cemetery Fees.

184:18. Items for the Website.

There were no items for the web site.

185:18. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS.

It was reported that no further information had been received from Staffs. Moorlands District Council regarding plans for the building on the Holly Bush car park.