

BROWN EDGE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

For the Meeting Held on 19th August 2019 at 19:30

MEETING HELD AT:

Brown Edge Village Hall,
School Bank,
Brown Edge,
Stoke on Trent,
ST6 8TB.

PARISH COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

L Lea (Vice Chair), S Turner, P Turner, N Owen, N Hargreaves, R Corbett, J Sherratt, J Shufflebotham, P Woodward.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR PRESENT:

K Flunder

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR PRESENT:

J Porter.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:

15

Due to the absence of the Clerk, Councillor S Turner was appointed to take minutes of the meeting.

65:19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D Spooner (Family Commitments)

66:19 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public asked whether the footpath at the bottom of the Brown Edge allotments would be discussed. Vice Chair Lea advised that this would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

A member of the public asked whether there was an update to the neighbourhood plan, due to her perceived urgency in the building of affordable housing. Vice Chair Lea advised that we would be hearing an update from the Neighbour Hood plan Chair later in the meeting.

County Councillor Flunder reported that all items had been accepted onto the DHP, this would be discussed later on in the meeting as per the agenda.

District Councillor Porter reported that there was a grant available specifically for Village Halls, he wondered if Brown Edge Village Hall would benefit or be interested, and advised that the deadline was fast approaching.

District Councillor Porter also reported that he was in discussions with an organisation which provide a Youth Bus to sporting communities on a 1-2 week basis, to see if they may be interested in bringing this to Brown Edge.

67:19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Owen declared an interest in anything pertaining to maintenance. Councillor Lea declared an interest in anything pertaining to planning and the Luncheon Club.

68:19 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Councillor Woodward pointed out that a comment was missing from the previous minutes regarding insufficient notice for meetings. Councillor Turner moved that the minutes from the previous meeting were correct with the exception of the above point by Councillor Woodward.

69:19 MATTERS ARISING

Vice Chair Lea read out a resignation letter from Chair Alan Basnett. Councillor Turner expressed sincere regret at hearing this which was echoed by Councillor Lea. The entire council agreed what a huge loss this was to the Parish Council and Brown Edge. Councillor Turner moved that The Council very sadly accept the resignation, this was seconded by Councillor Owen. It was agreed that The Council should send out a letter of thanks to Chair Alan Basnett for his commitment and hard work for the village for such a long time. Councillor Turner moved that Vice Chair Lea act as Chair for the Council temporarily. Vice Chair Lea accepted this. Councillor Sherratt moved that Councillor Woodward take on the position of the Vice Chair. Councillor Woodward accepted this.

It was reported that Severn Trent have accepted responsibility for the blocked drain at Sandy Lane. They have explored the reason for the blockage by camera, and in the process partially cleared the blockage. The Parish Council has not received an update for 2 months, so it was moved that the Parish Council writes to Severn Trent Water to ask for an update on the situation. It was suggested that The Council request CCTV. County Councillor Flunder asked if he could be CC'd into the communication so that he could move this forward from his end also.

It was reported that no meeting had been arranged to discuss the footpath between Cross Edge and Willfield Lane. It was suggested that this item go on the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime, Councillor Woodward, Councillor Hargreaves and Councillor Spooner would find out information for the members of public who had expressed concerns about the footpath.

It was reported that there were overhanging bushes along St. Annes Vale which were restricting the highway. It was moved that The Council write to the County Council and ask them to inspect this further. It was also mentioned that the same is true on the footpath between Fiddlers Bank and St Annes Vale. County Councillor Flunder asked for the footpath number, so that he could follow up with this.

Chair Lea reported that she had thoroughly researched the history into Quarry Road and Church Road and then written to the residents affected by the Church Road Sign. She has given them the opportunity to write or call to discuss further and will take further action depending upon the response given by the residents.

Chair Lea has spoken to the Divisional Commander and it was advised that a PCSO sergeant will monitor drinking at the Hollybush Hedge, which has been temporarily closed. The landlords are monitoring the situation.

Chair Lea reported that a letter of thanks has been sent to Mr Winkhill for his much appreciated help with the memorial damage. Further damage to the memorial was reported and has now been passed to the police for their assistance.

The Council sanctioned the payment of a cheque for £39.60 which had been sent to Kompan Ltd. for the repairs to the compound which had now been completed.

The Council decided that a letter of thanks should be sent to Mr. Adderley for the work undertaken, free of charge, for renewing the safety matting to the slide, especially the night before the Brown Edge Carnival & Well Dressing.

70:19 OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

County Councillor Flunder reported on the meeting at Endon regarding the road safety and crossing at Clay Lake and Broad Lane, which was also attended by Councillor P Turner and Councillor A Basnett. The Council also saw the Consultation Summary document which included a speed limit reduction to 30mph from Brown Edge to Endon, a crossing point at Broad Lane and a further crossing on the Brown Edge side. Providing the suggestions were approved by the Brown Edge Parish Council, the timeline of events would see the works be completed by March 2020. Councillors commented on how pragmatic the solution has been, but made a comment that The Council need to somehow ensure that people don't ignore the 30mph. It was moved that the Council supported the proposal with all Councillors in agreement. The Council thanked County Councillor Flunder for this solution and the hard work that he has put into this so far. County Councillor Flunder also presented to the Council the recent data on pot hole filling times, which have reduced by 2/3rds and is now an average of 23 days from report to filling.

It was agreed by The Council that the discussion around the website and notice for meetings would be moved to next month's agenda when they had more information about the structure of moving forward. Councillor Turner talked about the Openness Policy of Small Councils and advised that he would re-circulate the guidance to all Councillors ahead of the next meeting.

71:19 REPORTS & ACTIONS

It was reported that there had been one internment fee and one headstone fee.

It was reported that The Amenities Committee meeting had been cancelled.

The Neighbourhood Plan Committee Chair reported that there are new requirements from the Committee and in light of this, some clerical assistance is needed as well as more input from the Council. It was reported that this clerical need is creating a delay in moving the Neighbourhood Plan along. Chair Lea reported that she has a meeting scheduled and during this meeting would explore the possibility of this and extra funding.

72:19 PLANNING

The below planning applications were discussed and it was agreed to forward no objections subject to normal planning guidelines, for:

- SMDC/2019/0382 Proposed demolition of existing building yard sheds and the erection of 2 single storey residential properties at Newfold Farm, Sytch Road, Brown Edge.
- SMDC/2019/0432 Second Storey side extension and single storey rear extension at 11- High Lane, Brown Edge
- 158, High Lane, Brown Edge.

The below planning application was discussed, and The Council agreed to object to this proposal on the grounds of overdevelopment, lack of car parking space, loss of car parking for the existing property as well as safety concerns due to the proximity of the property to the junction. The Council agreed to state to SMDC that if SMDC decided to pass the plans, the footway adjoining Leek Road must be improved and widened.

- SMDC/2019/0404 Outline planning permission, with some matters reserved (exemption of access, layout and scale) for a single bedroom bungalow with 1 / 2 parking spaces and screen fence along existing stone boundary wall on Leek Road at 2 Breach Road, Brown Edge.

A late planning application was received for Fairview at Bank End. The Council moved that this planning application be discussed at the next meeting.

73:19 FINANCE

Council members reviewed the Accounts which were accepted by all Councillors.

74:19 ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

It was moved by The Council that the below items be paid:

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| • Adrian J Mason | £80.00 | Litter Picking Fee |
| • Water Plus | £20.88 | Cemetary Supply |
| • N&J Tree Services | £743.60 | Maintenance Contract 4 th Visit |
| • N&J Tree Services | £743.60 | Maintenance Contract 5 th Visit |
| • British Gas | £10.52 | Playing Field Electricity Supply |
| • Inform Com Office | £40.00 | Registration Renewal Fee |
| • Shaw & Sons. | £46.50 | Cemetery Receipt Books. |
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75:19 CORRESPONDANCE

The Council received Allotment magazine and Fly the Red Ensign Magazine.

76:19 MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED ON NOTICE

There were no matters to be discussed on notice

77:19 MATTERS FOR THE DISTRICT

There were no matters for the District

78:19 MATTERS FOR THE COUNTY COUNCIL

There were no matters for the County Council

79:19 ITEMS TO BE RAISED AT THE NEXT MEETING

It was proposed that pot holes at Fiddlers bank be discussed at the next meeting, with a strong letter to the County Council being actioned immediately. Council members were all in agreement.

It was proposed that the possible damage to the manhole in Sytch Road be discussed.

It was proposed that the Clark's salary be proposed in accordance with the annual requirement

It was proposed that parking on the verges at Breach Road be discussed.

80:19 ITEMS FOR THE WEBSITE

No items for the website

81:19 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

A confidential meeting took place to discuss an ongoing HR issue.