

BROWN EDGE PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Re-convened Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th. December 2019 at Brown Edge Village Hall, School Bank, Brown Edge, Stoke on Trent.

Present: Councillor L. Lea (Chair), also District Councillor.

Councillors R. Corbett, N. Hargreaves, N. Owen, J. Shufflebotham, P. Turner, P. Woodward & K. Wright.

County Councillor K. Flunder.

Eight Members of the Public.

The Chair apologised that the meeting arranged for Wednesday 4th. December 2019 had had to be cancelled due to insufficient notice being issued on the website and notice boards.

136:19. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Sherratt (Prior Engagement), D. Spooner (Work), S. Turner (Work) & District Councillor J. Porter.

137:19. Adjournment of Meeting for Public Participation.

County Councillor Flunder gave a report on the Clay Lake crossing scheme. He reported that the scheme had been estimated to cost £55,000.00 but it was anticipated that both Endon & Brown Edge Parish Councils would need to contribute towards the cost.

He would bring back the exact details at the next meeting.

He also reported that the last meeting of the Moorlands Parish Assembly had gone quite well.

138:19. Declarations of Interest.

Councillor Lea declared an interest in matters pertaining to planning and the Luncheon Club.

139:19. Confirmation of Minutes.

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 6th. November 2019 had been circulated and they were duly approved and signed as a true record.

Minutes of the Confidential Meeting held on 19th. August 2019 were still awaited.

140:19. Matters Arising.

Chair Lea reported that she was still awaiting any action from Karen Bradley M.P. regarding the flooding in Sandy Lane and Breach Road. This was probably delayed due to the General Election.

Councillor Woodward reported that the residents of Fairfield Avenue were happy with the outcome of the meeting regarding the unregistered footpath over the adjacent land.

Two quotations for the painting of all of the seats in the cemetery had now been received. One in the sum of £450.00 and one in the sum of £725.00. It was agreed that the cheaper of the two, from Peter J. Whiston, be accepted.

Ideas for future Climate Change projects were again mentioned. Wild flower seeds would be obtained with the bottom field on the allotment being mentioned. Councillor Owen volunteered to look into the matter and bring suggestions to the next meeting. It was reported that a local business man had also offered his services with any project.

The issues with giving reasons such as "holiday" etc for Councillors apologies for absence would be addressed by the Working Group which would be studying possible changes to the Council's Standing Orders. The revised Standing Orders would be available for the next meeting.

An acknowledgement had been sent the Staffs. Parish Councils' Association for Councillor's onsite training. However exact dates would be arranged after the changes in the Standing Orders had been studied.

It was reported that the defibrillator sited on Keith's News had now been re-sited at the Holly Bush Inn in High Lane by the local contractor.

141:19. Other Matters for Discussion.

After some discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed that future meetings of the Council should continue to be held on Wednesday evenings in Brown Edge Village Hall.

Advice had been received from Staffs. Parish Councils' Association on Councillor's use of Social Media and this had been circulated to all Councillors. However it was agreed to approach the Association again specifically on the use of the Whatsapp social media system.

The issue of Dementia was again mention but this item was deferred until the next meeting.

The Chair reported that after this meeting she would be unable to continue with the position of Chair due to health issues. She would inform the Council officially and the election of a new Chair would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

142:19. Reports & Actions.

The Cemetery Recorder reported that there had been three purchases of grave and interment at double fees and one headstone fee received.

The Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee gave an update on recent activities of the Committee. The last meeting of the Committee had been well attended. Hard copies of the Declarations of Interest Forms were now required and the site selection criteria would need to be studied.. AECOM had suggested four dates for a meeting and it has been agreed that its representative would be meeting with the Committee on Tuesday 17th. December 2019.

143:19. Planning.

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

SMD/2019/0491 Proposed Material Changes to Use of Coach House to Create a Residential Annex with Associated Alterations & Enlargement to Extend & Convert the Building at The Old Vicarage, Church Road, Brown Edge.

SMD/2019/0619 Proposed Conversion of Loft into Bedroom, Single Storey Rear Extension & Alterations to Window & Door Openings at 158 High Lane, Brown Edge.

The Council agreed to OBJECT to the following planning applications:

SMD/2019/0710 Proposed New Detached Dwelling on land adjacent to Southview, Sandy Lane, Brown Edge on the following grounds:

Over development of the small site.

The land is currently used for the parking of vehicles from two adjacent properties. There appears to be no mention of the continuing parking of these vehicles. This area would then be lost.

Over development of the site and causing additional traffic on an already overloaded adjacent road.

Not all adjacent properties have been consulted.

The location plan is not up to date as it does not show adjacent properties in course of construction.

SMD/2019/0707 Outline Planning Permission, with some matters reserved, (Approval for Access, Layout & Scale) for a Single Bedroom Bungalow with 1/2 Parking Spaces & Screen Fence along Existing Stone Boundary Wall at 2 Breach Road, Brown Edge on the following grounds:

Dangerous access on corner of Breach Road and the entrance to the Breach Road estate,
The proposed screen fence on top of the existing stone wall would reduce visibility even more than at present for vehicles emerging onto the main Breach Road near to a blind bend.

Over development of site. The proposed dwelling would appear cramped within the site and would be materially harmful to Nos. 2 & 4 Breach Road.

Insufficient parking for adjacent properties.

Should the application be approved, a stipulation should be that the adjacent footpath on the main Breach Road should be widened to a more appropriate width for the safety of pedestrians.

144:19. Finance.

The necessary forms to update the banking mandate with the Council's bank were being completed.

145:19 Orders for Payment.

It was agreed that the following items be paid:

Adrian J. Mason.	£	80 – 00.	Litter Picking Fee.
British Gas.	(£	24 – 39.	Playing Field Electricity Supply.
	(£	8 – 41.	Lawn Cemetery Electricity Supply.
N & J Tree Services Ltd.	£	743 – 60.	Maintenance Contract – 9 th . Cut.
Linda Lea, (Chair's Expenses).	£	425 – 47.	(Plants for Tubs, Bouquet of Flowers, (Remembrance Wreath. Remembrance (Refreshments, Gas for Beacon, Photocopying (etc etc.

146:19. Correspondence.

Information received included:

Message from the District Council Chairman.
Invitation to support the Local Electricity Bill – no action.
Staffs Moorlands District Council's Revised Code of Conduct.
Staffs. Moorlands Christmas Bin Collection Dates.
Climate Change Lectures at SMDC on Monday 17th. December 2019.
Review of Local Bus Services by Staffs. County Council.
Staffs. Moorlands District Council's Corporate Plan – Priorities for the District until 2023.

147:19. Matters to be Discussed on Notice.

There was no business under this item.

148:19. Matters for the District Council.

There were no items for the District Council.

149:19. Matters for the County Council.

There were no items for the County Council.

150:19. Items to be raised at the Next Meeting.

Clay Lake Crossing Scheme.
Climate Change Projects.
Standing Orders.
Social Media.
Dementia.
Election of Chair.

151:19. Items for the Website.

Staffs Moorlands Bin Collection Dates.

152:19. Confidential Items.

Councillor P. Turner gave a report on the ongoing assessment of the Holly Bush car park project.

A review of the Clerk's and Cemetery Recorder's salaries took place. It was agreed that the Cemetery Recorder's salary be increased by 4% with immediate effect. The question of the Clerk's salary was again deferred until the next meeting.