



MINUTES OF BROWN EDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4TH AUGUST 2021
BROWN EDGE VILLAGE HALL – 7.00PM

Present: Councillors – Cllr. Turner (Chairman), Cllr. Felton (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Woodward, Cllr. Turner-Holdcroft, Cllr. Sherratt, Cllr. Wright, Cllr. Hargreaves, Cllr. Owen, Cllr. Porter (SMDC), Cllr. Flunder (SCC)

Two members of the public were in attendance.

Minutes recorded by Mrs. D Wheat (Clerk)

1. Chairman's Welcome and Announcements:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

- Holly Bush. Documents have now been received by the solicitor from the vendor.
- Congratulations were given to new Olympic World Record holder and Champion Anna Hopkin of Brown Edge for her swimming performance in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics (Jul/Aug 2021). A letter of congratulations is to be published.

2. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr. Corbett – work commitment
Cllr. Lea (SMDC) - approved leave of absence

3. Parishioners Concerns: Parishioners attended to listen to items later on the agenda.

4. District Councillor Report: Cllr. Joe Porter

- **Rural Sports Initiative** – New fund now open for Specific sports projects in the Moorlands. Both Maintenance and New Projects Committee to look at the possibilities for the Village in repairing current equipment and ideas for new sports green space.
- **Green Recovery Fund** – To improve the eight Churnet Valley Nature Reserves.
- **Love Parks Week** – Staffordshire Moorlands in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy to focus on the Public Parks in the Moorlands.
- **Congratulations to local Nurseries - Proctors** – Winner of the Floral Display at Tatton Park.

5. County Councillor Report: Cllr. Keith Flunder

- **Vaccination Program** - updates of pop-up Vaccination locations are being sent by County to the Clerk.
- **D.H.P** – 4th August Cllr. Flunder has visited the village with Highways Officer Dave Rushton to look at reported problems.
- **Speed Indication Device** – Open areas are the best locations for the devices away from other signage and junctions.
- **Highways Report statistics** – 535 enquiries have been received across the County and 823 have been now closed. David Williams, County Cabinet Member for Highways has promised more updates on reports logged by members of the public to see progress on Highway issues.
- **Suicide Awareness** – links to training sessions and advice are available through the SCC website.
- **Children's Activities and Food Provision initiatives for the School Holiday** – Please check the Staffordshire Libraries website and social media for lots of events to get involved with.

- **Children’s Services** - to be invested in by the County Council to improve SEND provision.
- **Rural Bus Services** – A new committee has been formed to look at Rural Transport in the County.
- **Recycling** – Services will now be provided in house so improvements should be forthcoming.
- **Grants to Improve the Economy** – Following Covid grants will become available to improve business activity and for new ‘Start Up’ businesses.

The Chairman thanked the District and County Councillors and commented that a lot of work is being done at District and County levels, clear from the volume of activity in the reports received.

6. Declaration of Interests:

Cllr. Owen declared a pecuniary interest in the Maintenance Contract

7. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th July 2021** were approved and signed by the Chairman. (Appendix 1)
Proposed – Cllr. Sherratt – Seconded – Cllr. Felton – Motion Carried

8. Matters Arising from previous meetings:

a) Footpath & Bridleway

- A letter to be sent to SMDC about the Definitive Map not being available to view because the reception of Moorlands House was shut. Clerk to request an up-to-date copy. Joanne Bagnall is the person to contact.
- The Clerk reported on a meeting with Paul Rochfort the PROW officer who explained the classification of the footpaths into A, B and C routes and to concentrate on one project for the Grant application. All Brown Edge PROW issues have been logged onto the reporting system and are awaiting attention. The Clerk explained the reasons for leaving finger posts and arrows to the County Officers and Rangers who know the legal routes and can check the utilities underground. Volunteers should be encouraged to help by keeping paths clear of overgrowth. Clerk to chase the problems already reported for progress.

b) HGV Road Classification

(Appendix 2)

- The Clerk reported some research on the laws of Road Classification and explained that any questions to the County Council have a fee to be paid. Clerk to write and phone the Cabinet Member for Highways for clarification. A discussion was had about weight limits being enforceable by the police. HGV’s are allowed for access or concessions are allowed for agricultural vehicles.

9. Resolutions still being pursued: Committee Reports

a) **Legal & H.R. Committee** – the meeting scheduled for 3rd August 2021 did not take place as there was no quorum.

b) **Maintenance Committee** – Chairman Cllr. Wright, Cllr. Woodward and Cllr. Hargreaves.

Please see separate unapproved minutes on the BEPC website – dated 3rd August 2021

- A report was given by Cllr. Woodward to the Council. Cllr Woodward requested to move at the September meeting to authorise the repairs to be made of all the Play Equipment issues.
- Quotations to be gathered for the Blacksmith work to be done on Play Equipment including Cemetery post and chain.
- Signage to be ordered from Graphix for the Sytch Well to discourage drinking and feeding of wildlife and for the age recommendations for the Play Equipment.
- Hooping Wall Culvert blockage – Clerk to re-report to SCC.
- Bus Shelter – Ideas for a living wall were discussed. Decision made for Clerk to progress with the insurance claim first.

Proposed – Cllr. Owen – Seconded – Cllr. Hargreaves – All in favour

- New Cemetery Notice Board – The Committee members will fit this when it arrives if reimbursement can be authorised for materials. Clerk to arrange with Mr Bourne for board to be stored at Cemetery ready for fitting.
- Cemetery Car Park – Thanks were given to Phil Beresford who has offered to draw up a specification plan for the work for re-surfacing and installing a turning area and disabled parking space. The contract for this work can then be put out to tender.

c) New Projects Committee – Chairman Cllr. Felton, Cllr. Turner-Holdcroft and Cllr. Sherratt.

Please see separate unapproved minutes of this meeting on the website dated 3rd August 2021

- **Community Archive** – Clerk asked to arrange collection of documents so that the size and quantity of the files to be stored can be assessed. The Committee are gathering quotations for possible digital archiving.
- **The Holly Bush project** – The Committee asked for this item to be on the September Agenda for a full update to the Council.
- **All other items in progress to be developed by the committee over the coming months and brought to full council when financial authorisation is required.**

d) Highways Working Group report – The Chairman reported that a meeting had been held on Saturday 17th July at 2pm at Brown Edge Village Hall and a summary of the issues raised, recorded by Cllr. Turner was read out as follows:

Representatives from Hill Top, The Breach, School Bank, High Lane and a former resident of Norton Green. These include a Driving instructor and the Chairman of the Governors at St Annes.

Two Councillors also attended, and one gave his apologies.

The idea is to gather some evidence of problem areas so that we can put these points for “experts” to advise us what can be done, and then for us to lobby whoever to make this happen.

We were careful not to devise our own solutions.

The major areas of concern are

- *B5051 its entire length. (Speed)*
- *Boardmans Bank and School Bank (parking and children collection obscuring junctions)*
- *Hill Top 2 recent severe accidents (cars on Roof indicating speeding in 30 mph and blocked roads on single track roads caused by HGV)*
- *Cars parking on the Level by top Chapel Lane*
- *Junction of Hough Hill and Sandy Lane.*
- *Parking on Footpaths (obscuring view and passage)*

We understand that a traffic survey has taken place between Broad Lane and The Breach and we wondered if that information could be made available.

Speed Surveys on High Lane actually in the village, on Barries Bank, Annatt’s farm and just before Broad Lane are required.

10. Reports and Actions of Parish Councillors undertaking business/actions on behalf of the council:

- **Thelma Avenue** – Clerk apologised for this item appearing in the wrong section on the Agenda. She reported that a letter has been sent to the resident with the overgrown hedge and a discussion then took place to determine which department was responsible for the clearance work of the whole area. The Clerk was asked to report the issue to the County Council.

11. Planning Applications and Related Issues:

SMD/2021/0460 – 3 Spring Crescent, Brown Edge – Proposed refacing of External Walls with brickwork - **Decision: No objection**

SMD/2021/0463 – 17 North View, Station Road, Endon – Rear Extension and Alterations – *Address not in Brown Edge Parish. Decision: No comment*

SMD/2021/0405 – St Anne’s Cottage, Church Road, Brown Edge - Proposed reconstruction of existing stone rear elevation external wall and raising the rear bedroom roof level to match the adjacent existing house roof; new first floor ensuite extension and raising of the existing garage flat roof level; improvements to rear vehicle access and new frontage vehicle access – **Decision: No objection to the plans to extend the rear of the property but a decision to object to the alterations to the front of the property for Aesthetic and Safety reasons.**

SMD/2021/0335 – Knypersley Mill Farm, Judgefields Lane, Brown Edge – Extension of existing 'Certificated Site' Campsite to accommodate 11 caravans, 4 shepherd's huts, 1 Vardo style caravan and new hardstanding – Decision: **No objection**

Proposed Cllr. Turner-Holdcoft - Seconded Cllr. Woodward – All in favour

12. Finance & Governance:

a) Mazars External Audit Report

Notes for improvement for next year on the dates of publication of Public Rights were explained by the Clerk.

b) **Nat West Mandate** – Cllr. Turner and Cllr. Wright checked and signed the Mandate Change form.

c) **Authorisation of Payments** - It was moved to pay the following items:

Clerk asked for permission for retrospective permission to authorise the booking of Pest Control following consultation with the Chairman, to remove a wasp’s nest on Parish Council land adjacent to Overland Drive following a report by a resident. **All in favour**

The Clerk asked for an amendment to Urban Vision Invoice request from the published Agenda from £1842.00 reduced to £1835.00 caused by an estimated VAT difference on the cheque payment charge of £35.00 with estimated VAT of £7.00 which was then removed. **All in favour**

Mrs D Wheat Clerk Salary & Expenses (June) (phone, zoom, mileage)	Chq No. 001025	£526.65
Cheque incorrectly written out (cancelled)	Chq No. 001026	£0.00
HMRC PAYE (£10.60 to be deducted from overpayment) £394.64	credit £384.04	£0.00
N&J Tree Services Maintenance Visit 4 (July)	Chq No. 001027	£800.72
Urban Vision Enterprises CIC (Neighbourhood Plan)	Chq No. 001028	£1835.00
Pop Fishers Bar (TV Monitor - presenting Digital Documents in Meetings)	Chq No. 001029	£279.00
Mr J Boulton (Pest Services)	Chq No. 001030	£50.00
JP Agri Services (Wildflower Meadow)	Chq No. 001031	£250.00
DIRECT DEBITS Water Plus Cemetery (June - August)		£31.92
British Gas – Electricity to Playing Field (July)		£13.53
British Gas – Electricity to Cemetery (July)		£13.12

Proposed – Cllr. Sherratt – Seconded – Cllr. Turner-Holdcroft – Motion Carried

b) **Finance Received** – No bank statement had arrived to report finance received to date for July.

c) **Cemetery Recorder** – Mr Bourne.

NatWest Current Account - Cemetery receipts (July) £1,410.00

13. Correspondence:

a) Fiddlers Bank

The Clerk has received notification from Staffordshire County Council that the job has been inspected and now closed. Cllr. Flunder reported that the Highways department have delegated him to organise a survey to determine how the residents and council can work together to overcome the issues. The Council discussed that a proper response should be issued from Highways. The Clerk was asked to chase a response to previous County correspondence on Village Highways issues.

b) Meadow Road

The Police have phoned to say they have inspected the problem, but due to more than 10 cars being parked on the pavement they were unable to enforce the removal of vehicles obstructing the footway. A discussion was had. It was resolved to write to the Superintendent to ask the PCSO's to visit the properties involved to find out why people are not parking on their drives. The Clerk was asked to invite the PCSO's to a future meeting.

c) SID battery Meeting with Endon Clerk and Morlock for Breach Road

Meeting postponed. Cllr. Flunder will rearrange for future date and store the spare Battery in Endon.

d) Memorial Bench

A resident request for a bench has now been withdrawn.

e) Notice of a Diversion of Traffic from Sandy Lane – 9/8/21 – 13/8/21 –

A discussion was had about display of Highways notices on the Parish Council social media to make the information more accessible to the public.

h) Notice of Road Closure – 6/9/21 – 8/9/21 – Severn Trent works between Leek Road and Edgefield Lane

i) Notice of Road Closure – Amey works – Gorsey Bank to Woodhouse Lane – 28/9/21 – 1/10/21

14. Items on Notice:

a) Tree Planting in various locations

Cllr. Hargreaves moved to plant and care for some new trees supplied by his family in various locations around the Village.

Proposed – Cllr. Hargreaves – Seconded – Cllr. Woodward – All in Favour

16. Items for the attention of other local authorities:

a) Matters for the District Council: Liaison with the PCSO's to help with parking problems in the Parish.

b) Matters for the County Council: To progress Highway solutions.

17. Matters Pertaining to Issues in the Parish for the Next Agenda:

Overgrown shrubs on the Playing Field, New Cemetery field and other Council locations.

18. Meeting was closed by the Chairman

Meeting Ended at 21.05

Next meeting of Brown Edge Parish Council – Wednesday 1st September 2021 at Brown Edge Village Hall – 7.00pm

I hereby state this is a correct account of the monthly meeting held by Brown Edge Parish Council.		
Signed: (Chair)	Councillor	Date: