

BLITHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting dated 5 March 2020

Present: Mr P Atkins (Chairman), Mr S Hulme (Vice Chairman), Mr A Vernon, Mrs P Massey, Mr K Massey, Mrs D Clarke (Clerk) and from the Parish Mr P Riley, Mrs P Atkins, Mrs F Shipley, Mr D Brown, Mr T Molineux, Mrs G Hampson, Mr N Brown, Mr C Woodward.

The Chairman welcomed Greg Hall, ESBC Councillor for Bagots Ward.

Minutes: Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting dated 9 January 2020 were agreed and signed.

Matters Arising

Colton Parish Council – Gulley emptying. After asking for an estimate of costs in joining them in sharing facilities, it was learned that at this stage it was just a general enquiry.

VE Day 2020 Celebrations – The Chairman updated the meeting of the arrangements made to date.

Planning Applications

P/2020/01105 Retention of 2 metre high fencing, static caravan and porta cabin, Leaway, Lea Lane, Newton, WS15 3NR – Greg Hall explained how planning applications were processed within ESBC Development Control Department. He subsequently answered questions from the floor. Blithfield Parish Council has a number of issues with this application, namely, that the fence appears to be more than 2 metres high and with an earth bank beneath makes it even higher; there is insufficient space left to plant a hedge as it would interfere with visibility and reduce the width of the roadway; has permission been granted for the three bedroom mobile home to be connected to a septic tank that is presently shared with the adjacent property; is a business being undertaken on the site as a number of commercial vehicles are parked there at night; complaints have been received by residents regarding the unsightly look of the site in such a rural area. Blithfield Parish Councillors unanimously objected to this application.

Financial

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Payments Made

Admaston Village Hall – Hire of Hall for meetings in 2019	262.50
ESBC – Cost of election in May 2019	1,725.32
Wel Medical – Two disposable batteries for the 2 parish defibrillators	395.94

Payments Due

Mrs D Clarke – Expenses to 29 February 2020	161.69
Mrs D Clarke – Six months' salary to 31 March 2020	875.16

Correspondence

Stafford Borough Council Plan – Draft Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document (via email) - this was noted

Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040; Issues & Options stage consultation (via email) – this was noted

Staffordshire Police – Staff Movements for Neighbourhood Policing Team (via email) – this was noted

Staffordshire Police – East Staffs Citizen Academy (via email) – this was advertised on the parish notice boards

Staffordshire Police – Bagots Ward Crime Reports for February and March 2020 (via email) – these were noted

Staffordshire CC – Grass Cutting and Weed Control (via email) – this was noted

Any Other Business

Outline planning for construction of houses on Hixon airfield site – The Chairman reported on a meeting he had attended which gave details of the proposed development. He raised concerns regarding the number of dwellings anticipated and the probable impact of increased vehicles travelling along the narrow lanes in Blithfield.

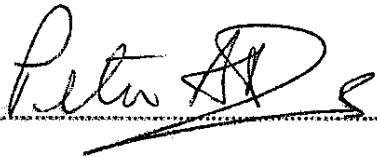
HS2 – It was agreed to invite a representative from HS2 to attend a future Parish Council meeting. Planning Application P/2020/00022 Crown Reduction of 7 Cherry trees and 2 Silver Birch trees to a height of 8.2 metres, Admaston Farmhouse, School Lane, Admaston – The Vice Chairman drew attention to the decision by ESBC not to allow this planning application to go ahead even though the Parish Council and the nearest neighbours had no objection. It was agreed to contact ESBC to establish why it had made this decision.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Blithfield Parish Council will be the AGM, followed by the Ordinary General meeting, scheduled to take place on Thursday 14 May 2020.

With there being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Signed



Date

11 June 2020