

BLITHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting dated 18.05.2023

Present: Cllr P Atkins (chairman), Cllr Vernon (vice chairman) Cllr P Massey, Cllr S Hulme, Cllr K Massey, Mrs F Shipley (clerk)

From the Parish: Ms S Oliphant, Ms S Brown, Mrs P Nelson, Mr S Reeves

23.05.01 Apologies: for Absence: ESBC councillors Cllr B Ashcroft, Cllr J Jones, Cllr V Gould, Mr P Riley.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

23.05.02 Minutes of last Meeting held on 02.03.2023 were resolved and signed.

23.05.03 To receive declarations of interest by members in respect of items on the agenda. There were none.

23.05.04 Matters Arising from the Minutes

a) Unregistered land adjacent to B5013 and reservoir – A meeting took place between Cllr P Atkins, Cllr K Massey and Cllr S Hulme with Mr Steve Whiting of South Staffs Water on 22.03.2023. South Staffs do not claim ownership of the land.

b) Coronation Event – The Coronation celebration took place on 8 May 2023 at Admaston village hall. Approximately 140 people attended. Grateful thanks to all those who helped to make this such a successful event, enjoyed by so many.

The parish council are very grateful to Cawarden Brick and Tile Company Ltd for a donation of £500. Not all the financial transactions have been completed and the clerk will give a financial report at the next meeting.

Consideration will be given to organising an annual parish get together in future years.

23.05.05 Clerk Update

a) Insurance – It was agreed to use Zurich to insure the council for the coming year at a cost of £214.

b) Mailing lists – the clerk would like to create a comprehensive parish mailing list for emailing news briefings and other items of interest to residents. The holders of the Neighbourhood Watch and Church Mailing lists have now emailed a note to those on their lists asking them to let the clerk know their email address if they would like to receive information from the clerk. The clerk now has about 82 email addresses on her list.

c) The parish notice boards - at Newton and Dapple Heath require some repairs. The lengthsmen will attend to these.

d) Defibrillators - Rob Stevenson (Community First Responder) carried out some training at Admaston Village Hall on 14 April 2023. Thanks goes to Rob Stevenson for organising this. Some members of the parish could not attend on that date so it is hoped another session can be arranged in the Autumn.

e) Eric Roy - It was agreed to renew the hosting of the website and support for another year at a cost of £120.

f) Application to the Community Fund for a grant towards our Coronation Celebration – this is not appropriate for Blithfield Parish Council's event.

g) Agree meeting dates for the coming year – 06 July 2023, 24 August 2023, 02 November 2023, 11 January 2024, 07 March 2024 and 09 May 2024.

23.05.06 Public Participation. No members of the public spoke at this point.

23.03.07 Upgrade of Broadband in the Parish nothing to report.

23.05.08 To receive oral report from Borough and County Councillors. No councillors were present, reports from both the borough and county councillors have been uploaded to the website and circulated to the parish councillors.

23.05.09 To receive Chairman's reports. The chairman has attended a meeting at Stowe-by – Chartley where members of the parish are very unhappy about a second application for a solar farm at Drointon. It is understood that approximately 40 objections have been sent to Stafford Borough Council's planning department. He believes that it is likely that such an application could be made in this parish. We should be in a position to ascertain how members of the parish feel so that the parish council can act appropriately.

23.05.10 To receive report from SPCO Tim Leathers. A report has been uploaded to the website.

23.05.11 Speeding Cars and Motorbikes. At least one arrest as a result of the S59 signs has been reported to us. There does seem to have been a down turn in anti-social behaviour in the area although some vehicles seem to be using the Admaston lay-by as a turning circle and racing back down the straight road towards Rugeley.

23.05.12 Planning

New

P/2023/00543 Location: Blithfield Forge, School Lane, Admaston, Staffordshire, WS15 3NH Grid Ref: 404984 323235. Reduce height by 4 metres and width by 2 metres of one Yew tree and reduce crown by 2 metres of one Yew tree (A1 of TPO 60)

P/2023/00459 Location: Cloister House, Blithfield Hall Drive, Blithfield Hall, Admaston, WS15 3NL
Staffordshire, Erection of fencing and gates. Grid Ref: 404487 32391

Pending

P/2022/00738 St Stephens Hill Farm, Steenwood Lane, Admaston, Staffordshire, WS15 3NQ Grid Ref: 406074 323038 Prior Approval for the conversion of existing barn to form a dwelling.

Decisions

P/2023/00193 Location: The Hayloft, Stansley Wood Court, Newton Hurst Lane, Dapple Heath, Staffordshire, WS15 3PH Grid Ref: 405369 324789 Erection of a single storey rear extension, porch to the North Elevation, installation of replacement windows and doors and installation of photovoltaics to South Elevation roof slope (part retrospective) (Revised Scheme)PERMITS

P/2022/01394 Erection of fencing. Location: Cloister House, Blithfield Hall Drive, Blithfield Hall, Admaston, Staffordshire, WS15 3NL. Grid Ref: 404487 323918 PERMITS

P/2023/00131 Prune back to main limbs to 2 Acer (T1 and T2) and crown reduction by 3m, prune and reshape to one Oak (T3) Location: Sedge Cottage, School Lane, Admaston, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 3NH NO OBJECTION

P/2019/01105 Leaway Lea Lane - the compliance of the planning consent will be monitored by planning enforcement.

23.05.13 Highways and Lengthsman

- a) Admaston Lay-by - pressure from the Chairman is to be applied.
- c) Admaston telephone box - Cllr K Massey is about to start work on this.
- d) Booth Lane – The clerk will report this issue again.

23.05.14

Ref/Cheque	Item	Amount
555	Fiona Shipley - Clerk Expenses	£398.85
556	Communicorp Cor' - Mugs	584.40
557	Fiona Shipley - back pay	208.00
554	SPCA - Clerk training	36.00
SO	Fiona Shipley - Parish Admin	203.32
560	Majestic Event Hire - Marquee	389.11
A/c Balance 30.03.2023	A/c 054 £4633.37	A/c 575 £2504.06

The precept payment of £2383.00 was received on 21 April

23.05.15 to discuss any other business including items of the agenda for the next meeting.

The chairman had received a request from a member of the public that the council suggested setting up a WhatsApp group and or a Facebook Page . Ms S Oliphant kindly came to explain the details and technicalities to us. It was generally felt a Facebook page was the better option. Further thought will go into this.

23.05.16 The next meeting will be held on 06.07.2023

The meeting closed at 8.05pm