

BLITHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting dated 02.03.2023

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

23.03.01 Apologies: for Absence: No apologies were received.

The Chairman welcomed the councillors to the meeting

23.03.02 Minutes of last Meeting held on 12.01.23 were resolved and signed.

23.03.03 To receive declarations of interest by members in respect of items on the agenda. Cllr Hulme declared an interest in planning application P/2023/00131.

23.03.04 Matters Arising from the Minutes

a) Unregistered land adjacent to B5013 and reservoir – A meeting has been arranged on this land with Richard Whiting of S.Staffs Water and the Admaston Councillors.

b) The Jubilee and Coronation Oaks – The commemorative plaques are ready to be attached to the tree guards.

d) Coronation – a Coronation planning meeting has taken place, the celebration will take place at Admaston Village Hall commencing from 3pm with childrens' games, crafts and a best crown competition. This will be followed by a hog roast and entertainment by Lola Lamour.

e) Parish Gateways – some research has been carried out into these and it is felt that at present they are financially unviable for this Parish.

23.03.05 Clerk Update

a) Civility and Respect Pledge – the councillors adopted NALC's Dignity at Work Policy in addition to the Code of Conduct already adopted 03.03.202.

b) Elections – the clerk has attended an online course in preparation for the upcoming local elections on 04.05.2023. In addition she will attend ESBC election briefing online on 07.03.2023. Information on becoming a parish councillor will be posted on the village notice boards. Nomination documents will be circulated by the clerk to anyone who requests one including existing councillors.

c) Change of date for May meetings – due to the elections and the Coronation the Annual meeting and the May Ordinary meeting will be held on Thursday 18.05.2023

d) Mailing lists – the clerk would like to create a comprehensive parish mailing list for emailing news briefings and other items of interest to residents. However there are still some email addresses which are held by the local neighbourhood watch representatives which are not on the parish mailing list. Due to data protection laws, these addresses cannot be shared. Residents who are not receiving emails directly from the parish council are to be asked to contact the parish clerk if they would like to be added to the parish email list.

e) Replacement of Diamond Jubilee Oak which has died. This will be replaced when the saplings being grown by a local resident are ready to be planted.

23.03.06 Public Participation. No members of the public were present.

23.03.07 Upgrade of Broadband in the Parish nothing to report.

23.03.08 To receive oral report from Borough and County Councillors. No councillors were present, however it was reported that Cllr Philip Atkins had been very helpful regarding the S59 signs on the B5013.

23.03.09 To receive Chairman's reports. The Chairman is looking into ways we could use online banking. For ticket sales for the Coronation, it was agreed we would change the current account to read-only access.

23.03.10 To receive report from SPCO Tim Leathers. A report has been uploaded to the website. Blithfield Reservoir remains a hotspot for anti-social behaviour. He feels the S59 signs are beginning to have an effect. He also patrols in an unmarked vehicle which is now known to the culprits who do largely disperse when he is around.

The Chairman had also contacted SPCO Tim Leathers regarding an incident on Newton Hurst Lane recently. He is concerned that full details of a violent attack had not been communicated to the Neighbourhood Watch in the area, and in particular, elderly residents living alone should be made aware of ways of making their property more secure and themselves safer.

23.03.11 Speeding Cars and Motorbikes. The S59 signs have now been installed, however the one in Abbots Bromley Parish has been damaged. The County Council are currently looking into new materials which are harder to damage, for the replacement.

23.03.12 Planning

New

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 COMMENT

P/2022/01394 Erection of fencing. Location: Cloister House, Blithfield Hall Drive, Blithfield Hall, Admaston, Staffordshire, WS15 3NL. Grid Ref: 404487 323918 NO COMMENT

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/2022/00719 Installation of two N2 vehicle impact barriers to a height of 1.1m to provide protection around two existing gas governors and kiosks. Location: Land off Uttoxeter Road, Admaston, WS15 3NH Grid Ref: 406202 323973 CONSENTED

P/2019/01105 Leaway Lea Lane Newton PERMITS The parish councillors are very disappointed by the elongated saga of this planning application and the eventual outcome. The fence is too high and mounted on a false bank. The clerk will write to the planning department to express their feelings and concerns at how this has been dealt with.

23.03.13 Highways and Lengthsman

- a) Admaston Lay-by - pressure from the Chairman is to be applied.
- c) Admaston telephone box - Cllr K Massey will repair this when the weather is better.
- d) Booth Lane – the request to clean out the gulley opposite Lower Booth Farm has been classed as non-urgent by Highways.

23.03.14 Finance. a)

| Ref/Cheque | Item | Amount |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| 553 | SPCA clerk training | £36.00 |
| SO | Fiona Shipley Parish Admin | £203.32 |
| A/c Balance 30.01.2023 | A/c 054 £6656.37 | A/c 575 £2501.61 |

- b) The asset register for 2023/2024 was ratified.
- c) Any profit from the Coronation will be donated to Admaston Village Hall.

23.03.15 Defibrillator training has been arranged for 14 April 2023 in Admaston Village.

23.03.16 The next meeting will be held on 18.05.2023

The meeting closed at 8.10pm