



High Offley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held at 19:30 hours on Thursday 9th September 2021, at Woodseaves Village Hall.

Councillors Present.

E. Halls (Chair); D. Turpin (Vice-Chair); S. Celesia; R. Hockenhill; P. Mason; M. Smith; Stafford Borough Councillor P. Farrington and Staffordshire County Councillor Mark Winnington (from 19:56), together with the Clerk, S. Ridgewell and three Members of the Public.

Public Open Forum.

- i) Members of the Public from the Woodseaves Baby & Toddler Group presented their revised Safeguarding Policy (addressed at Item 21/110).
- ii) A Member of the Public highlighted that the website could not be fully accessed from a tablet device (addressed at Item 21/118).

Councillor Hockenhill also raised an issue that there was an apparent fault with one of the Defibrillators.

Action: Councillor Hockenhill to advise the Clerk of further detail, in order that the fault could be resolved.

21/104: To Receive any Apologies and Record any Absences.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor M. Turvey.

21/105: To Receive and Consider the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 12th August 2021.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 12th August 2021, were considered and it was noted that Councillor Mason was missing from the registered attendees. The Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record once the one amendment was made.

21/106: To Note any Declarations of Interest.

Councillor Halls declared an interest, as a Parent Governor at Woodseaves C of E Academy, in Item 21/111.

Councillor Turpin declared an interest as a local resident, in Item 21/113 (a).

21/107: To Receive an Update on the Post Box at Grub Street.

The Clerk reported that he had forwarded email correspondence to Councillor Farrington and respectfully requested that he contact Royal Mail concerning the post box. Councillor Farrington confirmed that he had made enquiries with the Royal Mail but had not, as yet, received any reply.

21/108: To Receive an Update on the Speed Signs and Speed Limit on Stafford Road.

The Clerk stated that he had not received any confirmation that the Public Consultation had commenced, although it appeared that it had from the comments made by a Member of the Public at the last meeting.

21/109: To Receive an Update Regarding the now Dissolved Woodseaves Pre-School.

The Clerk stated that he had not received any correspondence in relation to the Pre-School. Councillor Halls said that she understood that the transfer of funds would be forthcoming soon.

Action: Councillor Halls to make further enquiries with representatives of the Pre-School.

21/110: To Further Discuss the Grant to the Woodseaves Parent & Toddler Group.

A member of Public from the Woodseaves Parent & Toddler Group said that she had been in contact with the Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board and that the current draft of the Safeguarding Policy they had provided, had resulted from those conversations. It was accepted that the current draft of the policy would be reviewed subsequent to the meeting. The representative from the Woodseaves Parent & Toddler Group also agreed to pass the contact details of their contact at the Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board to the Clerk.

21/111: To Receive an Update on the Concept of a Further School Car Park.

Councillor Halls said that she had been in contact with the school and advised them that, should the school wish to pursue additional car parking, then they should liaise directly with the Member of Public concerned, who is known to them.

21/112: To Discuss Public Rights of Way Issues and Receive an Update on the PRow Group.

Councillor Halls updated council that the group was progressing well and that she had been in contact with Nigel Hopkins from Staffordshire County Council who has agreed to provide an input to the group.

21/113: To Discuss Highway Issues.

a) Correspondence with Diane Firkins Concerning the Low Bridge at Shebdon.

The Clerk said that he had liaised with Diane Firkins and that as the bridge at Shebdon was not the responsibility of Staffordshire County Council (Canal & Rivers Trust?) it would not be possible to put high level vertical chains across the road to warn of the danger. Diane Firkins had, though, forward the matter to Tim Buxton, Community Traffic Management Officer at Staffordshire County Council, for a review of the road signs.

***19:56:** Councillor Winnington joined the meeting.

Councillor Winnington stated that he had been in contact with Tim Buxton and discussed the signs warning of the low bridge. Councillor Smith stated that he would undertake a survey of the signs himself, as he had knowledge of what had been present previously.

Action: Councillor Smith to assess the local signs warning of the low bridge at Shebdon.

b) Correspondence with Melanie Langdown at Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership.

The Clerk informed council that had not received any further correspondence from Melanie Langdown and had sent a further email requesting an update.

21/114: To Consider Finance Matters.

a) Proposed Budget for 2022/23.

Councillors agreed to the Clerk modelling a proposed budget to reflect inflation of +2%. There was discussion around how the speed indicator signs could be purchased without a significant increase to the precept, if the funds anticipated from the dissolution of the Pre-School were not forthcoming.

b) Requested expenditure on the purchase of a Public Rights of Way book.

Councillor Halls reported that a member of the PRow Group had a copy of such a book that may be referred to and that no expenditure was now required.

21/115: Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

The Clerk stated that he had now received all notifications that Declarations of Pecuniary Interest reviews had been conducted by all councillors, except Councillor Celecia.

Action: Councillor Halls to assist Councillor Celecia with a review of her Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

21/116: To Discuss High Offley Parish Council's Involvement in Next Year's Celebration of Her Majesty, The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Councillor Halls stated that she had sent an email to the Headteacher that the school enquiring about the schools plans and awaited a reply. Further discussion centred around the possibility of a street party and tree planting.

21/117: Councillor Email Addresses.

The Clerk stated that he now had new email account logins for all councillors and that he would forward the details in due course.

21/118: To Receive an Update on Website Accessibility.

Councillor Halls said she would undertake a review of the Accessibility of the website and it was noted that there were issues to navigating the website from mobile devices.

Actions: Councillor Halls to undertake a review of Website Accessibility. The Clerk to liaise with Alan Baker concerning the issue with mobile devices.

21/119: To Request Items for the Next Council Meeting Agenda.

In addition to regular items, the Defibrillator, the forthcoming Parish Forum and Councillor Halls visit to the BIFoR FACE project at Norbury were requested for next month's Agenda.

21/120: To Confirm the Time and Date of the Next Council Meeting.

19:30 hours on Thursday 14th October 2021 at Woodseaves Village Hall.

The meeting was closed by the Chair at 21:34 hours.

S. Ridgewell, Clerk to Council. Sunday 19th September 2021.