

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting in Bushley Village Hall on Tuesday 18 February 2020 at 8pm

1. Present: Councillors Nigel Nicoll (Chair), Sean Ceres Jason Kinghorn, Jenny McDonagh.

In attendance: Clerk Vicky Fowkes

Apologies: Cllr. Lesley Hirons; District Councillor Bronwyn Behan Not Present: Cllr. Chris Miners.

2 No declarations of interest.

3. Comments from the Public No members of the public present

4 The Minutes of the meeting on 19th November 2019 were approved by councilors present and signed by the Chairman

5 Matters arising:

- a.** (Minute 4a) Panning application 19/016535/LB. Mr Alan Taylor circulated before/after photographs of the replaced windows. Councillors had no objection and the Clerk will advise MHDC Planning Dept of this fact.
- b.** Churchyard Mowing Contract 2020. Funding has been requested for this scheme in the Precept. The Clerk will draw up the Contract and send to 'Worcestershire Fencing' **Action: Clerk**

6. Projects Progress Updates addressing all relevant matters arising

a. Openreach WCC Broadband. Cllr Nicoll to write to our MP, Harriet Baldwin with an update of 'no progress'.

Action: N.Nicoll

b. Lengthsman: All work progressing as contract. Lengthsman to be asked to repair 'Wood Street sign'

c. Clerk reported broken bollards and rails on Mythe Bridge to GCC
Reported kerb drains along A438 to WCC (flooding/blocking issues)

d. Churchyard Mowing Contract. Hours not worked in bad weather conditions are added to sessions in the Spring and Summer months:

e. Village White Gates. no update

f. Police Safer Neighbourhood Team – email update relevant to Bushley has been printed in the March BN.

g Tree Projects.

i. Future projects in the village to include the road down to the Oxhey. Several opportunities to apply for free trees so will return to the project at future time.

ii. There is potential for wildflower projects around Bushley Green – to be further considered.

iii. A request from Charles Whitney Delivered to the Clerk on 18.02.2020

Charles Whitney and family would like to present Bushley Village and Bushley Green with an Oak sapling to be planted in a place mutually agreed by the Parish Council and ourselves. We would like to offer this for the following reasons:

1. To mark Anne's life in a place where she lived for longer than anywhere else and where she enjoyed the valued friendship of many in the community.
2. AS a response to several authorities who have said in recent months that we should be planting more trees than we are in the current climate situation.
3. IJ the knowledge that Anne was a Biologist and Environmentalist who would, we are sure, be wholly in favour of the idea.
4. As a gesture of thanks to the whole community for their wonderful and much appreciated support to the family at the time Anne's final illness and subsequent death.

It is envisaged that there will be a small plaque, identifying it as 'Anne's Oak', together with her name and dates.

Proposed by Cllr. Nicoll and all Councillors present fully in agreement. Clerk will report back to Revd. Whitney.

7 Climate Change and Environmental Issues

a. BPC Climate Change and Environmental Policy – the way forward. Cllr Nicoll had put together a 30page booklet: 'Parish of Bushley Climate Change Handbook', which had been circulated with the February Bushley News. In her absence Cllr. Hirons had requested that the Clerk ask the following: Who formed the sub-

committee that prepared the document and was the document brought to the Parish Council for comments? (read out by the Clerk)

b The Chairman confirmed that the document was taken from 'The Footpaths Community Carbon Reduction', produced by Transition Leicester and was part of a national initiative.

c. Cllr. Nicoll will visit Cllr Hirons to discuss the issue and apologise for the lack of consultation. **Action: N.Nicoll**

d. Councillors present agreed that the document is comprehensive, but in order to engage with residents, a clear set of 'manageable strategies' in familiar language need to be developed with the Bushley Village Working Group, yet to be established.

e. **Climate Emergency Action Day** is being held on Thursday 26 March. This will be attended by 2 Councillors, 2 residents and the Clerk. The day includes:

- o an introduction to the climate science, the national and international policy background and the scale and pace of changes needed;
- o a positive visioning exercise helping attendees think about a future in which appropriate changes have been made so that their community is zero carbon and resilient;
- o practical action presentations covering topic: tree planting; energy efficiency, community engagement, fundraising and Q&A session;
- o an action planning session, giving attendees a highlevel climate action plan for the parish.

8. Financial Report Lloyds Bank Treasurers A/C Transactions to 18.02.2020

a) The current account is the only funding stream used by the Parish Council

Date	Cheque no	Details	Out	In	Balance
29.11.19					5,903.93
02.12.19	000717	Poppy Wreath payment to RBL	60.00		5,843.93
17.12.19		Lenghtsman repayment from WCC		350.00	6,193.93
23.12.19	000718	The Tree Shop (Trees on Green)	297.60		5,896.33
24.12.19	000716	Lenghtsman(Oct/Nov)	297.65		5,598.68
22.01.20		Worcs.CC (DC grant)		560.00	6,159.28
22.01.20	000720	Worcs. Fencing (4 months)	1,299.95		4,859.33
20.01.20	000719	Meeting room hire 2019	196.00		4,663.33
20.02.20	000722	Clerk Payment (2 Months inc. expenses)	1,158.00		3,504.83
24.02.20	000.721	Worcs Fencing	259.99		3,244.84
27.02.20	000724	Communiicorp Magazine)	12.00		3232.84
27.02.20				BALANCE	3232.84

b) MHDC precept of £10,000 for 2020-21 granted

c. Youth Group fund currently stands at £200.

9. Planning update: ENF/19/0278: Oxhey Dog Park: Alleged Breach of Planning Control: MHDC Case Officer has updated Clerk that this property does not comply with MHDC regulations. An Enforcement notice will be served.

10. Councillors' Reports.

a). Councillor Latter will plan another Litter Pick when the weather improves

b) Village Hall Report – Councillor Kinghorn

- i. 6 committee members attended the last meeting.
- ii. The bookings look healthy
- iii. There will be a Defibrillator training session on 29.02.2020

11. AOB: The Clerk said that she will be retiring and moving within the next 2/3 years.

Clerk salary has been £10/per hour for 10 hours per week since she took up the post in 2013.

Actual hours worked and claimed between 10/15 hours weekly.

This funding is identified within the annual precept. A separate sum of £476.00 is allocated for expenses: paper printer ink, travel, postage, phone (no home working allowance claimed).

The Clerk advised Councillors that when recruiting in the future there will probably be an expectation of candidates to be paid according to the NALC Clerk pay scales. Paperwork to be circulated at next meeting.

With no other business the meeting closed at 9.35ppm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 17 March 2020 at 8pm in Bushley Village Hall.

Please send any apologies in advance