

HYDE LEA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 12th May 2010 at Hyde Lea & Coppenhall village hall.

Those present;

Parish councillors; Mr J Eaves [chair] Mr W Mason [Deputy-chair] Mr R Edwards
Mr C Bayford Mr R Pitt
Mr M Winnington[Borough/County Councillor]
Mr D Jones [clerk]

3 members of the public-

1/ The Chairman welcomed those present and the meeting commenced at 19.30hrs.

2/ Apologies; had been received from Borough Councillor R Sutherland and P C Bishop, community officer for Burton Manor.

3/ Chairman's summary of last years Parish Council work;

The council contacted the owners of the derelict land at the end of Orchard lane with a view to leasing it and providing the village with allotments, this was unsuccessful initially but we will try again. Sewerage problems in Bradley Lane and Orchard Lane were resolved by Severn Trent but will be monitored in case of any further issues. The trees on one side of the bank have been cut by the County Council, but we are trying to get the other side of the road done as well. The progress with some form of traffic calming through the village has been thwarted as the Highways do not consider there to be a problem. The County Council introduced the idea of Community gangs whereby a team from Highways will be allocated to a parish for a designated period to carry out minor road works. This has been utilised by the Parish, has proved successful and hopefully will be continued during the coming year. The Council has donated funds to local charities during the year including Contact magazine. We have also provided and stocked the planter outside the village hall as well as funding Neighbourhood Watch notices throughout the village. The highly popular civic amenity rubbish collections are also funded by the Parish Council and we have arranged a similar programme for the coming year. A new notice board has been ordered to replace the old one by the bus stop. This will be provided by the Parish but available for all residents to use. Anti social behaviour in the land adjacent to Barn Bank Lane has been an ongoing problem for some time. The council, residents and police have done their best to combat this and some measure of success has been made. Plans are in place for the Highways Agency and County Council to carry out work on the Rainbow Bridge and provide some form of barrier to prevent access by motor bikes. We have recently completed a survey of the footpaths through the parish and will ask the County Council to carry out any necessary repairs. Councillor Eaves finished by thanking councillors Parish & Borough for their support during the year..

4/ Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman for coming 12 months.

The meeting elected Councillor J Eaves to serve as Chairman and Councillor W Mason to serve as Deputy Chairman for the coming 12 months. There will be Parish Council elections in May 2011.

5/ Councillors to represent parish council on local bodies.

Councillors R Edwards and R Pitt agreed to represent the Parish Council on the Village hall committee. They expressed concern that as there was not a set timetable of meetings they could not always attend due to short notice being received.

6/ Matters raised by the general public;

The members of the public present did not raise any issues.

7/ Confirm minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th March 2010;

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record.

8/ Report on matters arising from the meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda;

- Burton Bank Lane; Chris Mitchell of County Council Highways had contacted the clerk to say that the Highways Agency has accepted that the bridge over the M6 and footpath at the top of the steps on the Burton Manor side are their responsibility. As part of extensive planned maintenance works on the bridge they have agreed to install an "A Frame" barrier with a railing to the front to cause significant difficulties for motorbikes but still enabling disabled access. Other environmental works will be carried out on the Burton Manor side to improve the area. The ownership of the old road is still not clear. John Mills the agent for Bostock Estate is of the opinion that after a period of disuse the road will have reverted to the owners of the land on either side of it and will try to establish if this is correct, an opinion not shared by the Burton Manor Sports Club. Chris Mitchell of the Highways is of the opinion that the road is still the responsibility of the County Council. The meeting discussed the provision of a steel gate at the Barn Bank Lane end of the lane to prevent vehicles using it. Councillor Mark Winnington promised £500 from his fund towards this. It seems that the problem with the bike users is slowly disappearing as they are moving elsewhere.
- Neighbourhood watch; a meeting had been held with a disappointing attendance of only 7. Nick Garrett, the organiser, has promised to put an article in Contact reporting the meeting and calling for more volunteers in the local area.
- Trees on Hyde Lea bank; one side has been cut; clerk has asked Highways when the other side will be cut. Still ongoing
- Notice board has been ordered.

9/ Financial matters;

a. Payment of the following invoices was agreed;

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| • Clerk's salary & expenses-- | £368.48 |
| • Grant to St Lawrence Church- | £350.00[agreed at July 2009 meeting] |
| • Trent Grounds Maintenance- | £116.80[cleaning road signs] |
| • S P C A- | £145.00[annual membership] |
| • Community Council of Staffordshire- | £26.84[annual membership& photocopying] |
| • Mrs J Williams- | £70.00[audit fees] |

b. Acceptance of annual accounts.

The accounts had been circulated with the agenda. The meeting accepted them unanimously. The Clerk reported that the Councils finances were sound and that we had surplus funds in the bank for any local needs.

c. Grants to local charities-

It was agreed to donate the following amounts to the nominated charities;

Samaritans- £ 350.00;

Air Ambulance -£ 350.00

10/ Planning matters;

Application 10/13409/FUL relating to a storage shed at the Grammar school was considered. The meeting made no comments.

Stafford & Rural Homes have written to the council enquiring if there was any land available within the parish areas for the construction of low cost housing.

South Staffs District Council had sent details of their Local Development Framework policy choices consultation as it concerns Travellers and Gypsies. Although this does not directly affect the parish details of their overall proposals on their web site at www.sstaffs.gov.uk.

11/ Correspondence;

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting was handed to councillors.

12/ Roads, Highways& Footpaths;

- Community gang; timetable of visits for 2010 required.
- Footpath Survey; the results of the surveys were discussed. Footpath 11 at the Drumbles has been half stepped with hand rails; when will the rest be completed? Other matters identified by the survey will be passed to the County Council for attention.
- Village festival; takes place from 3rd to 18th July. Meeting agreed to refill planter outside Village Hall, Councillor Pitt offered to organise. Council will pay invoice.

13/Items for consideration at next meeting which will be held on 14th July 2010;

To agree annual return for the District Auditor