

## HYDE LEA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village Hall, This was the combined Annual Parish Assembly and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

Present; Parish Councillors-Mr J Eaves [chair]-Mr N Clarke- Mr R Pitt-Ms J Wilkes.

Borough Councillor Ms E Carter & Clerk to the council Mr D Jones;

No residents of the parish were in attendance.

### Part 1; Annual parish assembly.

1; Chairman's welcome those present and the meeting started at 7.00pm.

2; Apologies for absence received from Borough Councillor Mr J Rose & Parish Councillor Mr G Denny.

3; Chairmans report on last year's council activities.

This parish council is one of the smallest in England. The number of councillors remains at 5 and the quorums for meetings is 3.

We continue to be supported by our county councillor (Mark Winnington) and 2 borough councillors. (Emma Carter and Jack Rose) Thank you for your support.

The 2 civic amenity visits arranged during the year continue to be well used and feedback is very positive.

This is a facility provided by the parish council which in my opinion should continue. The landlord of the village public house provides off street parking for the refuse vehicle so there is no disruption to road users. There has been some problems with surface water drainage on the main road through the village and it has been necessary for the council to commit financial resources to solve the problem. This has resulted in the highway drains on the bank being emptied by a contractor employed by the parish council. The council understands that the highway authority programme for such work is only every 4 years.

The defibrillator on the wall at the village hall is provided, and maintained by the parish council and checked weekly.

The council cannot function without a Responsible financial officer who in our case is also the Clerk to the Council. I would like to thank Derek for his dedication to the role.

Last, but not least, my thanks to my fellow councillors for their support during the year

4; Councillor Carter;

A new mayor has been selected and will shortly be sworn in. Council committees will restart mid-May, She also explained how to contact them and raise questions.

## Part 2: Annual meeting of the Parish Council.

1; Election of chairman; It was proposed by Councillor Pitt and seconded by Councillor Clarke that Councillor Eaves remain as chairman for the next 12 months

2: Apologies had been received from Borough Councillor J Rose & Parish Councillor Mr G Denny.

3; No interests declared or dispensations required relating to items on the agenda.

4; Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024 were accepted and signed as a true record.

5; Matters arising.

Community Speed watch signage. It was agreed that the group purchase the necessary signs which the parish council will pay for.

Burning of waste; comments had been received about activities at a premises on Green Lane including the burning of waste materials. Councillor Wilkes reported that the land around Grange farm were there had been previous problems , appeared to have been cleared

6; Financial matters;

A] payment of the following invoices was approved.

Hyde Lea village hall	£456.00	Cheque No 1250
SPCA	£159.00	Cheque No 1251
Burntwood Road Sweepers	1200.00	Cheque No 1252
Stafford B C	£326.00	Cheque No 1253
M Kidd	£50.00	Cheque No 1255
Information Commissioner	£40.00	Cheque No 1256
Grant to Contact	£250.00	Cheque No 1258

N B ;Cheque No 1257 was cancelled.

B] The annual accounts for 2023-2024 had been circulated prior to the meeting

RESOLUTION; accounts accepted unanimously

C]The Annual Governance statement for 2023/2024.The clerk explained the document and the council's responsibility

RESOLUTION; councillors agreed the statement and it was duly signed.

D]The Annual Accounting Statement for 2023/2024 was explained to the meeting.

RESOLUTION; councillors accepted the statement and it was duly signed.

E] The clerk explained that as the council's turnover was less than £25000 for the year ended March 2024 the council can consider themselves exempt from external audit.

RESOLUTION: councillors agreed to submit a Certificate of Exemption.

7; Planning issues; 2 recent applications for Barn Bank Manor & Burleigh House had been considered by the council, there were no objections

8; Highways matters;

Footpath by Grammar School is covered in weed growth. After a brief discussion it was decided to take no action.

Councillor Wilkes raised the problem with various footpaths and bridleways around the village that are overgrown and, in some case, unusable. To establish responsibility for the upkeep.

Mr Neil Simpkin was mentioned and the council are very appreciative of his litter picking efforts on behalf of the community.

9; Correspondence.

Weekly SPCA bulletin which is circulated.  
Bulletins from Staffordshire Fire & Rescue.  
Weekly notes from Support Staffordshire  
Copies of Borough Council press releases.

10; Village hall matters ;Advice had been received that they now charge £13 per hour for use of the hall

Meeting ended at 7.50pm.

Next meeting is on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at Hyde Lea village hall, starting at 7.00pm.

Derek Jones, clerk to the council