



Minutes of the Meeting of Gnosall Parish Council

held on 10th January 2022 at 7.30pm in The Grosvenor Centre

Present: Cllr G Gregory (in the chair), Cllr C Emsley , Cllr G Symons, Cllr T Simkin, Cllr M Holmes, Cllr D Webb, Cllr R Greatrex, Cllr M Booth, Cllr A Mills J Cooper Clerk

Along with County Councillor M Winnington

Public Open Forum

One present but had no questions to ask. Was present as an observer.

22/001 To receive apologies and record absences

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Tomkinson, Cllr Lammin, Cllr Alker, Cllr Ingram, Cllr Payne, Cllr Powell, CSO S Ridgewell and SBC Cllrs M Smith and P Farrington.

22/002 To receive any Declarations of Interest

Cllr Simkin declared an interest in any personnel related discussions as her mother is an employee of the Parish Council. Cllr Emsley declared an interest in Grosvenor Centre discussions as a relative of his works at Rosebuds Nursery.

22/003 To receive and confirm the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Council held on 13th December 2021

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

22/004 To consider any matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda

The Clerk to chase responses from S J Barge and Tomkinson's Egg Farm regarding large vehicles travelling through the village.

22/005 To receive the following reports:

a) The Clerk's report

The Clerk's report gave a summary of the very successful Christmas events including Christmas meals and letters to Santa. Donations had supported these events and a healthy float remains for Christmas events in 2022.

Remote meetings

The request for the return of virtual meetings had been rejected by Government therefore despite Government messages to work from home to slow down the spread of the omicron variant of Corona virus, parish councils are expected to meet face to face to conduct business.

Rosebuds Nursery - a lease had been signed by the new owners and countersigned by the Clerk and Chair of Council.

Any reports from Parish Councillors on meetings/courses attended

Cllr Booth had issued a report following the most recent meetings of the Public Rights of Way Group. After a question was asked at a recent Parish Council meeting, County Councillor Mark Winnington kindly offered to provide information from Staffordshire County Council's (SCC) Legal Department about the recording of historic paths. Details were shared within the report circulated.

Three representatives of the group would be attending with one speaking at the online Government Conference on Maintaining and protecting Public Rights of way to be held on 27th January.

A meeting to explore the possibilities of creating a "Golden Triangle" circular walk across 3 parishes and Newport had been arranged with representatives from each of the parishes invited as well as the Chair of Newport Town Council/

Cllr Holmes reported back on meetings and research into why Gnosall Tow Path (the parish council adopted stretch) had not had the work carried out as promised at a meeting held with the Canal and River Trust (CART) and The Parish Council in May 2019 and had, it seemed been omitted from further funding that other tow paths in Stafford Borough had received. There were no satisfactory reasons for the lack of maintenance by CART and therefore it was suggested a meeting is arranged with the County Councillor to ascertain whether any funding could be sourced or indeed any progress made. Cllr Winnington confirmed he would be happy to meet and suggested Veolia is contacted about funding. The lack of action by CART does not distract from the regularly maintenance work carried out by local volunteers twice weekly in keeping the tow path clear and tidy which is very much appreciated.

Cllr Mills informed Council that he would be attending Staffordshire Police Independence Advisory Group meeting on 15th January.

As it was an opportune time, Cllr Winnington was asked whether there is any planned maintenance on the Millennium Way. Cllr Winnington wasn't aware of any planned maintenance and when asked if he was happy with the standard, it is being maintained said he was not and suggested that the Parish Council contact the Cabinet Member for Leisure and request a meeting to discuss this. The planned Golden Triangle Project includes part of the Millennium Way and therefore should a meeting be arranged; it would be sensible to include the representative from Newport Town Council as both ideas are linked.

When asked if Staffordshire was expecting any "levelling up" funding from the Government, Cllr Winnington response that it is probably not and should Gnosall wish to obtain funding for recreation areas, a request should be made to Borough Councillors to consider reserving some S106 funds for Gnosall projects.

Reports from Borough and County Councillors

There were no Borough Councillors present.

County Cllr M Winnington informed Council that he is asked frequently about work being carried out on land off Station Road and about the proposed gypsy site on Radmore Lane.

He also said despite recent wet weather, Knightley Road is in a better state this winter following repairs made in 2021. Cllr Greatrex reminded him that the work had been left unfinished with two gullies yet to be installed. A further road closure was expected but there had been no indication of this. Cllr Winnington felt the drainage work had been completed but would check with Highways.

22/006 To consider committee issues:

Matters relating to the Planning Committee

Draft minutes of the meeting held on 16th December were received.

Matters relating to the Open Spaces Committee

Draft minutes of the meeting held on 13th December were received.

To receive list of outstanding action for all committees and to consider the creation of an Events Committee

With the challenges Council had faced over the last 2 years, as a result of the Covid pandemic and the council having to refocus on different community needs, some of the committees had not met as frequently as they had previously and in some cases, some of the agreed action has been delayed. The Clerk had reviewed minutes of meetings held over the past two years and had compiled a list of outstanding action which would form the basis of discussion at the next meeting of each of the Committees.

Communications Committee

The Clerk asked Council to consider abolishing the Communications Committee as it had not had a need to meet as much of the work that falls under the remit of the committee happens naturally within the functions of the parish office - website updates, social media posts, GMK's, press releases etc. This was accepted and it was proposed, seconded and agreed to abolish this committee.

Events Committee

The Clerk asked Council to consider creating a new committee, an Events Committee which many other parish councils have to plan and manage events. The Clerk felt that the various working groups, for example Christmas and GFest, could fall under the remit of this new committee as well as any special events the council decides to be involved with such as the Platinum Jubilee. This was discussed and it was proposed, seconded and agreed to create an Events Working Party and in May 2022, at the Council's Annual Meeting, to change this to an Events Committee at which membership would be decided and Terms of Reference drawn up.

22/007 To receive a report on financial receipts for December and receive accounts for approval for January 2022

The accounts were approved for payment. The Clerk to action.

22/008 To report any highway issues

In addition to comments made previously regarding Knightley Road, the following issues were raised:

Brookhouse Estate - reported by member of post office staff to a councillor that some of the roads and pavements are in a poor state. Cllr Winnington added that he believes there is a small area within the estate that remains unadopted. He was asked to obtain further details and report back to the Clerk. The Clerk would request for Brookhouse estate to be inspected.

Junction of Ranton Road and Moorend Lane, deep pothole posing significant danger to motorists and cyclists. The Clerk to report.

It was noted that inconsiderate parking continues on Lowfield Lane and the estate opposite St Lawrence primary school. The roads had recently been adopted and it is hoped that some outstanding work within the estate would now be carried out to the expense of residents however now adopted, Highways could be approached about other measures that may alleviate the parking issue.

Cllr Winnington was asked whether it was possible to have average speed cameras in the village. He said he would like to see cameras in both Haughton and Gnosall however villages would have to fund them as Safer Roads Partnership would not and he had raised this with the recently appointed Police Crime Commissioner as he felt this was unfair.

22/009 To request items for the next agenda

Cllrs to inform the Clerk at least 10 days before the next meeting.

22/010 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting

14th February 2022 at 7.30pm

Gnosall Parish Council PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
253	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	Salary	GPC	E	648.61		648.61
254	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	Salary	GPC	E	2,230.21		2,230.21
256	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	NI&PAYE	GPC	E	1,250.47		1,250.47
257	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	Pension	GPC	E	1,182.88		1,182.88
255	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	Salary	GPC	E	483.42		483.42
258	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	groundswork	JWH Ground	E	510.00		510.00
260	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	Christmas Trees	Greenaway Timber	S	850.00	170.00	1,020.00
261	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	Handyman duties	P Prince	E	58.50		58.50
262	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	Handyman duties	P Prince	E	104.00		104.00
263	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	Handyman duties	P Prince	E	65.00		65.00
259	10/01/2022		Co-operative	BACS	Stationery	ESPO	S	48.20	9.64	57.84
Total								7,431.29	179.64	7,610.93