



**Gnosall Parish Council  
(Including the Wards of Moreton and Knightley).**

**Minutes of Gnosall Parish Council Meeting  
held via zoom on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30pm**

**Present.**

Councillor G Gregory (in the chair apart from where stated), Councillor P Alker, Councillor A Mills, Councillor G Payne, Councillor S Powell, Councillor M Booth, Councillor T Simkin, Councillor J Tomkinson, Councillor R Greatrex (from 7.55pm), Councillor J Archer, Councillor D Webb, Councillor S Bishop, Councillor J Lammin, Councillor K Ingram, Councillor C Emsley, Councillor G Symons, S Ridgewell, Council Support Officer and Jayne Cooper, Clerk.

Along with Stafford Borough Councillors M Smith and P Farrington and Staffordshire County Councillor M Winnington

**Public Open Forum.**

Two members present neither wanted to comment. Also one representative from Staffordshire Newsletter was present.

**21/001 To Receive Apologies and Record Absences.**

None received.

**21/002 To Receive any Declarations of Interest.**

Cllr Archer declared an interest in any discussion about the Grosvenor Centre and Youth Club, Cllr Alker declared an interest in any discussion about the website, Cllr Emsley declared an interest in discussion about Rosebuds nursery and Cllr Simkin declared an interest as her mother is an employee at the Parish Council.

**21/003 To Receive and Confirm Minutes of the Meeting Held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020.**

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

**21/004 To Consider any Matters Arising not Elsewhere on the Agenda.**

There were no matters arising.

**21/005 To Receive the Following Reports:**

**a) Clerk's Report.**

A report, previously received, gave an update on outstanding action for each of the committees, Cllrs were asked to note the list of outstanding jobs and contact the Clerk if they could assist. Further work had been carried out on the budget and precept for 2021/22 and discussed at a Resources Committee meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December.

The Clerk reported that the Community Christmas meal had been very successful with over 60 meals delivered to local people. The raffle proceeds and other donations amounted to almost £1000 some of which had been distributed to local volunteers cooking meals for the elderly and vulnerable during the Covid pandemic and third lockdown. Other funds would be retained for the foreseeable future as may be required for other Covid related matters.

It was noted that a GFest21 meeting would be held virtually on 20<sup>th</sup> January at which the dates for GFest21 would be set.

The Clerk informed cllrs that it may be necessary to send out a third leaflet with details of the hotline and help available during the third lockdown including help with transport to the County Showground for local people to have their Covid vaccinations.

Cllr Winnington responded to this in that it is likely that in the coming weeks people will be able to choose a more local NHS location for their vaccinations.

**\* Cllr Gregory, as a result of technical difficulties, left the meeting. Cllr Alker took the position of Chair.**

## **b) Borough and County Councillors Reports.**

### **Borough Councillors Report.**

It was reported that the Borough Council had received a local Government Settlement which had helped with the Council's financial position. Council tax would still be increased but the Borough Council would not have to use reserve funds as anticipated.

There had been some technical issues with the online payment for brown bin collections as the take up had been greater than anticipated but this had been resolved. Alternative options to pay for this service are being considered by the Borough Council including payment by direct debit.

### **County Councillor Report.**

Cllr Winnington responded to correspondence sent by the A518 Dangerous Roads Action Group (DRAG) via the Parish Council's Facebook page and by email. Questions had been asked about how Staffordshire County Council is planning to deal with the widespread issues across the parish; the state of roads, the constant flooding, widespread potholes, decaying road surfaces, worn out and dirty signs etc. Cllr Winnington had been asked to outline specific, tangible and meaningful actions on how the issues would be addressed.

Cllr Winnington spoke about the work carried out on the A518 since 2005 focusing on safety measures that had been implemented and the work carried out by the Community Speed Watch Team. He confirmed that Knightley Road was his priority road in the parish for work to be carried out.

There was no detailed response to the specific issues raised by the A518 Action Group however Cllr Winnington offered to meet with members of group to discuss the issues further. The Clerk would contact the Action Group and offer to arrange some meeting if they felt it would be useful. It was suggested that it may be beneficial to invite some landowners with land adjacent to some of the most damaged roads (Knightley Road for example).

## **c) Public Rights of Way.**

On behalf of the Public Right of Way group, Cllr Booth requested Staffordshire County Council give greater priority to remedy defects in the rights of way network through increased provision of funding and staff. The effects of the COVID pandemic has resulted in much greater use of local paths and bridle ways and as a result more reports being received of unsafe stiles, obstructions or overgrown

routes and unfortunately many of the issues reported are not being resolved. Cllr Winnington asked for this request to be sent to him in the form of an email.

### **21/006 To Receive Proposals From the Resources Committee:**

#### **a) To consider the budget and precept for the year 2021/22.**

A draft budget with a precept of £97,330 had previously been received by councillors. This precept had been recommended by Resources Committee following a thorough review with realistic forecasting of the council's financial position. With an uncertain 12 months ahead with anticipated loss of other income, many budget headings had been reduced and projects would have to be suspended with only essential maintenance taking priority. The recommended precept would be an increase of 3.4% on the previous year.

It was proposed to accept the budget and precept of £97,330 as presented. This was seconded and a vote was taken with all councillors voting in favour. The Clerk would respond to SBC. The Clerk would be meeting with the Chair and Vice Chair of Resources Committee to review funds held in Reserves and would present revised figures to council at a future meeting.

#### **b) To Approve Recommendations to Award a Donation to Katherine House Hospice.**

The recommendation from Resources Committee to donate all but £50 of the remaining funds held in the donation budget was approved.

#### **c) To Approve the Appointment of the Internal Auditor.**

The recommendation from Resources Committee to appoint Mrs V Evans was approved.

#### **\* Cllr Gregory re-joined the meeting and resumed the position as Chair.**

### **21/007 To Receive Feedback from Councillors Regarding Regeneration of the High Street.**

Following discussion at the November 2020 Council meeting, Cllrs were asked for their views on ways to regenerate Gnosall's High Street. Some councillors were supportive of pursuing the idea of a farmers market and suggestions were put forward to liaise with Gnosall W.I for a list of suitable contacts and also Mr Robert Simpson at Stafford Borough Council who is involved with farmers markets in the Borough. Cllr Lammin offered to help with this gathering information and future discussion would be held as to the feasibility of arranging a market in Gnosall.

### **21/008 To Discuss Highway Matters.**

The Clerk was asked to report:

- Grange Road - serious flooding across the entire road
- Gnosall Road - edge of road is disintegrating and has been the cause of accidents and cars flipping over
- Moorend Lane - road around drain/grid was breaking up
- Newport Road - road breaking up around grids
- Coton End Lane - many large potholes
- Lodge lane, Knightley - entrance to Knightley Hall Farm, the road is impassable.

**21/009 To Accept Accounts for Approval for the Month of January 2021 and Receive Details of Receipts for the Month of December 2020.**

The accounts were approved as presented.

**21/010 To Agree the Date and Time of the Next Meeting.**

8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.46pm.

### Gnosall Parish Council PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
247	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Handyman duties	P Prince	E	312.00	0.00	312.00
248	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Handyman duties	P Prince	E	169.00	0.00	169.00
257	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Salary	GPC	E	634.72	0.00	634.72
259	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Salary	GPC	E	474.35	0.00	474.35
250	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Lottery licence	Stafford Borough Council	E	20.00	0.00	20.00
253	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Parish hotline expenses	J Archer	E	20.00	0.00	20.00
260	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	NI&PAYE	GPC	E	1,210.11	0.00	1,210.11
261	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Pension	GPC	E	1,153.72	0.00	1,153.72
254	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Donation to Katherine	GPC	E	650.00	0.00	650.00
251	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Photocopying	Ricoh	S	255.13	51.03	306.16
256	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	BKV materials	Newport Engravers	S	120.00	24.00	144.00
249	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Christmas Tree batteries	Greenaway Timber	S	1,190.00	238.00	1,428.00
255	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Handyman materials	Huws Gray	S	22.71	4.54	27.25
252	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Audit fees	Mazars	S	400.00	80.00	480.00
258	11/01/2021		Co-operative	BACS	Salary	GPC	E	2,178.94	0.00	2,178.94
<b>Total</b>								<b>8,810.68</b>	<b>397.57</b>	<b>9,208.25</b>