



Gnosall Parish Council

(Including the wards of Moreton & Knightley).

Minutes of the Meeting of Gnosall Parish Council

held on Monday 9th September 2024 at 7.30pm in the

The Millennium Centre, Moreton

Present

Cllr Mills (in the Chair), Cllr Gregory, Cllr Payne, Cllr Pearson, Cllr Haycock, Cllr Symons, Cllr Beswick, Cllr Booth, Cllr M Nicholls, Cllr Webb along with J Cooper, Chief Officer and Borough Councillor Scott Spencer.

Public Open Forum - (10 minutes)

There were 13 members of the public present.

Flooding under Wilbrighton bridge was discussed. It was noted that communication had been received from Staffordshire County Council regarding the costs involved of installing a measuring gauge and the procedure that needs to be followed. This was felt unnecessary and a simple gauge fixed to the bridge wall would be suffice and would prevent further incidents of vehicles becoming stranded in deep water. One resident shared useful information with the parish council – he said there used to be three drains, work was carried out on gulleys and the drains were never reinstated. If they were, that would go some way in alleviating the flooding issue. He added that water comes from former railway embankment and a culvert on the railway may not be working as it should and this, along with a possible collapsed drain nearby, are a further two matters that if fixed, would help. This was noted and would be passed onto Staffordshire County Council.

Flooding in Outwoods

Residents raised concerns that despite many meetings, no action had been carried out to alleviate significant flooding. Highways had visited Outwoods during August at which residents had provided useful information but there was still no action plan. Residents shared their frustration that another winter is approaching and fear that some residents would have restricted access to their homes because of flood water (as experienced in the winter of 2023/24). This, they felt is unacceptable. The Chair of the Parish Council, who had attended meetings with residents, confirmed that the Parish Council continues to communicate with Highways and understands the frustrations and concerns being raised. Work is required before the winter sets in and certainly before 2025 which had been suggested.

It was recommended that residents write to the leader of Staffordshire County Council and the local MP and consider contacting news channels.

Borough Councillor Scott Spencer added that the Borough Council would be raising highway issues with County Council. He also agreed to support any further communication/meetings with Highways regarding flooding in Outwoods. This was welcomed.

24/092 To Receive Apologies and Record Absences

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Sullivan, Cllr Holmes, Cllr Alker, Cllr Ingram and Cllr Simkin

24/093 To Record Any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

24/094 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2024.

The minutes of the meeting were approved as a true and accurate record.

24/095 To consider any matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

There were no matters arising.

24/096 To receive the following reports:

Chief Officers Report

The report gave details of meetings held in the previous month. Residents present from Moreton, Outwoods, Bromstead were asked to consider joining the Parish Council to fill the current vacancy. Having representation from outside of Gnosall, would be advantageous.

Any reports from Parish Councillors on meetings/courses attended.

Notes of the most recent meeting of Public Rights of Way were circulated for information.

Any reports from Borough and County Councillors.

The Borough Councillor informed councillors that Stafford Borough Council would be addressing the state of the roads in the borough with relevant officers at Staffordshire County Council. He also spoke about the Local Plan and how it is being reassessed because of changes in Government.

Cllr Spencer spoke briefly about solar farms, he said there had been two recent planning applications one of which had been refused and one approved therefore should an application come forward in Gnosall parish then residents should be assured that each application is assessed on individual merit. He added that the updated Local Plan would have ideas for more appropriate locations for solar farms (brownfield rather than greenfield).

24/097 To report any highway issues.

As reported in public open forum, details received from Staffordshire County Council regarding the costs associated with arranging a measuring gauge to be fitted under Wilbrington bridge were discussed. It was felt costs in the region of £10,000, as reported by the County Council,

was totally unacceptable and Staffordshire County Council should be asked to respond with an explanation.

Communication to Staffordshire County Council from a resident regarding unresolved safety measures on the A518, and copied to the Parish Council, were noted. As the County Councillor was not present, this matter would be carried forward to the next meeting.

24/098 To receive minutes and reports from committee and working groups:

Matters relating to the Planning Committee

- Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July and 8th August were accepted. It was noted that there had been communication with Severn Trent Water regarding recent flooding in the village and whether a hydraulic exercise is required. STW had confirmed they believe their infrastructure is acceptable and that flooding issues are likely to be blocked, inefficient gullies, i.e. Highways matters.
- A recommendation from the planning committee to form a pre-project board with Wrekin Housing Group, to determine if a Project Board would be advantageous, was discussed. It was accepted there would have to be an agreed timeframe and it should be made clear that a pre project board does not commit the Parish Council to anything.

It was proposed to accept the recommendation to form a pre project board with representatives from Wrekin Housing regarding development on land off Knightley Road with membership from the Parish Council, residents and local groups. This was seconded and a vote taken with 8 councillors voting in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

- A verbal update following the most recent meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group was received. A meeting was held in August with the Leader of Stafford Borough Council and a Cabinet Member to discuss housing, flooding, drainage and changes to be expected because of the new Government. As a result of that meeting, some work of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group is now on hold, including the questionnaire which is postponed until the spring of 2025. The working group would continue to meet to review policies with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Matters relating to the Resources and Personnel Committee

- Minutes of the meeting held on 17th July were accepted.
- A Council Support Officer and Deputy Cleaner had been appointed. A Finance Officer had not been appointed.

Matters relating to the Grosvenor and Events Committee

- Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July were accepted.
- Plans for Christmas lights switch on, to be held on 30th November, had been discussed as well as dates for GFest 2025.

Matters relating to GG's Youth Club

The youth club committee met on 25th July. Since opening there are now 40 children registered with approximately 20 members attending each week. Youth club reopens on 11th September and membership would be extended to include children in year 7. The Mayor of Stafford will be visiting the youth club on 25th September to meet the children, staff and volunteers.

Cllr Spencer left the meeting.

24/099 Finance related matters

Receipts received in the months of July and August were noted. The accounts for September 2024 were approved.

24/100 To request items for the next agenda

Councillors to inform the Clerk of agenda items at least 10 days before the date of the next meeting.

24/101 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting.

The next meeting would be held on Monday 14th October 2024 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

Gnosall Parish Council

10 October 2024 (2024-2025)

PAYMENTS LIST

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
188	Phone and Broadband	02/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Phone and broadband	BT	S			
224	Phone and Broadband	02/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Phone and broadband	BT	S	123.18	24.64	147.82
222	IT maintenance	02/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		IT Maintenance	Alan Baker System	E	39.00		39.00
223	Water - Grosvenor	02/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Water bill	Waterplus	E	239.20		239.20
191	CFest/Tow Path	03/09/2024		CFest		CFest expenses	C Hutton-Ashkenny	E	40.00		40.00
201	Employment Costs	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		salaries/NI&PAYE/Pension	GPC	E	7,031.62		7,031.62
189	External Audit Fee	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Audit fees	Mazars	S	630.00	126.00	756.00
190	Contingencies - General	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		youth club maintenance	Paul Thacker	E	300.00		300.00
195	Cleaning/windows/sanitary	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Cleaning materials	ESPO	S	71.00	14.20	85.20
209	Allotments	09/09/2024		Allotments		Allotment maintenance	JWH Ground	E	80.00		80.00
192	Fire Alarm Tests	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		fire alarm service	ABC Fire & Security	S	190.00	38.00	228.00
193	youth club	09/09/2024		Youth Club		youth club DBS checks	SCVYS	E	55.00		55.00
194	ROSPA Inspection	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		RoSPA inspection	Rospa	S	320.00	64.00	384.00
202	Grass cutting - Village	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Grass cutting - Village	JWH Ground	E	180.00		180.00
203	Grass cutting - The Acres	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Grass cutting Acres	JWH Ground	E	310.00		310.00
204	Grass cutting - Moreton	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Grass cutting Moreton	JWH Ground	E	60.00		60.00
205	Grass cutting - The Wold	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Grass cutting The Wold	JWH Ground	E	78.00		78.00
206	Grass cutting - Chippy	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Grass cutting Chippy	JWH Ground	E	80.00		80.00
207	Grosvenor Centre Grass	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Grosvenor gardening	JWH Ground	E	90.00		90.00
208	Burial Ground maintenance	09/09/2024		Burial Ground		Grass cutting - Burial	JWH Ground	E	870.00		870.00
210	Open Spaces	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Handyman duties	Roger Arrowsmith	E	212.99		212.99
211	Grosvenor	09/09/2024		Gnosall Parish		Handyman duties	Roger Arrowsmith	E	195.00		195.00
239	youth club	09/09/2024		Youth Club		youth club equipment	Amazon	S	145.40	29.08	174.48
Total									11,340.39	295.92	11,636.31