

DUNSTON WITH COPPENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 14th May 2018 at Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village hall. This meeting followed the Annual Parish Assembly and started at 20.10 hrs.

Present;

**Parish councillors – Mrs G Diggett [chair]-Mr J Bagnall-Mr J Richardson- Mr G Pliva-
Ms S Court-Ms C Holden**

Clerk to the council- Mr D Jones.

One members of the public present.

01; Councillor Diggett was elected unanimously as chairman, and duly signed the Declaration of Office. It was proposed by Councillor Bagnall and agreed unanimously that Councillor Holden be elected to the post of Deputy chair.

02; Apologies had been accepted from; County Councillor-Mr M Sutton & District Councillor- Mr L Bates

03; No Interests were declared or dispensations requested by any councillors in relation to any agenda items.

04; Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 29th November 2017.

The minutes having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record. No further comments were made regarding the minutes.

05; Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 1st February 2018

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

06; Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the minutes;

Weekly bus service to Stafford; the shoppers bus as it is now called leaves Coppenhall at 09.45 and returns via Hyde Lea at 13.20. The meeting thanked Councillor Holden for her work in distributing of leaflets advertising the service. Unfortunately to date it is understood that there has been a poor take up from the Coppenhall residents.

General Data Protection Regulations; clerk reported that a government amendment to the Data Protection Bill has exempted all parish & town councils from the requirement to appoint a Data Protection Officer. Appointment of an officer is discretionary and may be regarded as good practice.

Councillor Bagnall proposed, and the councillors agreed, that in advance of formal request that the clerk hold their personal details.

Clerk reported on seminar delivered by Mazars on the revised Annual Governance & Accountability Return.

Phone Box, Church Close, Dunston; is now owned by the parish council as the contract has been received from BT. It was agreed to hold a meeting with residents to agree future maintenance and responsibility for the box.

07; Finance;

A; Approval was given for payment of the following invoices-

C Heelis [audit fees]	£25.00	cheque No 40023
SPCA [annual membership]	£179.00	cheque No 40024
Came & Co [insurance premium]	£285.60	cheque No 40025
D Jones [salary & expenses]	£234.80	cheque No 40026
P A Y E	£50.60	cheque No 40027
Community Transport	£500.00	cheque No 40028

B; Annual accounts; were circulated at the meeting.

RESOLUTION: accounts were accepted unanimously.

C; Annual Governance Statement; Clerk explained the document to the meeting and the council's responsibility.

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

D; Accounting Statements for 2017/8 were explained.

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

E; The clerk explained the basis for a council to apply for a Certificate of Exemption from external audit.

RESOLUTION; council agreed unanimously to apply for Certificate of exemption.

08; Planning;

Turkey farm application will be considered by the South Staffs planning committee on 19th June 2018.

09; Highways;

There was an animated discussion about the general state of the roads and lanes in the parish and Highways apparent haphazard and indifferent approach to maintenance and repairs.

10; Correspondence;

Received by email;

Staffordshire County Council; Results of the Rights of Way consultation.

South Staffs District Council; news roundup [this is issued weekly].

County Council Highways; update on pothole repairs and other matters [this is issued weekly].

South West Library information.

South Staffs District Council; advert for the ceremonial suite in the council offices which is licenced for weddings.

By Surface mail;

Letter from Morfe Valley Arboriculture advertising their services.

11; Matters raised by members for information;

Rubbish in the layby on the A449; this was raised at the parish assembly and Councillor Bates agreed to deal with it.

HGVs on Levedale Road, are an increasing problem especially when the M6 is closed.

Some of the wooden sign posts in the parish area have rotted and need replacing. Apparently, the County Council will only replace with metal ones. The question was asked if the parish council replaced with traditional wooden signs , would Highways contribute towards the cost.

Next meeting is on Monday 2nd August 2018 at Dunston Village Hall;

Meeting ended at 21.50hrs.