

DUNSTON with COPPENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 1st February 2018 at Dunston Village Hall.

Present; Parish Councillors; - Mrs G Diggett [chair] - Mr G Pliva-Mr J Bagnall-Mr J Richardson-Miss S Court-Miss C Holden.

District Councillor; Mr L Bates [left after item 7]. County Councillor; Mr M Sutton[from2030]

Clerk to the council; Mr D Jones-two members of the public.

01; Chairman's welcomed those present and the meeting started at 19.30

02; No apologies had been received;

03; Co-option of new councillors;

Following the resignation of the 3 councillors representing Coppenhall, the Elections Officer at South Staffs District Council had given permission to fill the vacancies by co-option. Councillor Diggett gave a brief explanation of the background of events that led to their resignations. The meeting agreed unanimously to accept Miss S Court & Miss C Holden onto the council as ward members for Coppenhall. Both new councillors signed the acceptance of office document.

04; No interests were declared, or dispensations requested by the councillors in any agenda items.

05; Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 2nd November 2017;

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

06; Report on matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

General Data Protection Regulations; clerk reported details of the recent seminar he had attended dealing with this new legislation which comes into force in May 2018. Final details have not been agreed regarding the role of the Data Protection Officer, but he will keep the council informed.

Community Transport; clerk explained that the bus that runs every Tuesday from Hyde Lea to Stafford and back will cease on 31st March 2018 due to the County Council withdrawing grant funding. The bus costs £36 per Tuesday to run and at a meeting with Graham Wright, the Community Link manager, ways of raising additional funding was discussed. Although the bus currently runs from Hyde Lea the literature issued by the County Council claimed that it started in Coppenhall, which it has not for some time. It is a valuable lifeline for the lonely and those elderly residents who do not have transport and every effort will be made to keep it running.

07; Councillor Bates reported as follows;

- Had noted the concerns of residents raised at the public meetings regarding the planning application for the turkey farm. Has taken these concerns to the planning officer, especially the issue of traffic using School Lane, in view of the school and difficult railway bridge. An independent traffic survey has been agreed. The application goes to the Planning Committee on 20th March. Staffordshire Wildlife Trust have raised several objections and have asked for an ecological management plan.
- The problem of rubbish on the lay-by on the A449 outside Dunston village was raised, which he promised to deal with.

08; Red Phone Box, Church Close, Dunston; The contract was discussed by the meeting & signed by the chairman.

09; Finance-

A; Payment of the following invoices was agreed;

PAYE	£- 50.60	cheque no-400020
Clerks salary & expenses	£- 234.24	cheque no-400021
D M Payroll Services	£ -30.00	cheque no-400022

B; Clerk advised the meeting that the current bank balance was £ 6639.81

The precept to be set for 2018/9 was discussed and it was agreed that £2500 be requested.

RESOLUTION; unanimous agreement to set the 2018/9 precept at £2500.

C; Change of Signatories on the bank account.

Following the resignation of the 3 Coppenhall ward councillors it was decided to update the signatories to the council's cheques. The following resolutions were agreed.

RESOLUTION; It was resolved that the Co-operative Bank plc. shall continue as our bankers in accordance with our original application.

RESOLUTION- that Mrs H Jones, Mr I Collard & Mr I O'Reilly be deleted from the list of signatories as they no longer serve on the council.

RESOLUTION- Mrs G Diggett & Mr J Richardson to continue as signatories and Miss C Holden to be included as an additional signatory.

D; Community Transport;

in view of the council's financial position it was agreed provisionally to donate £ 500 towards the running costs of the Community Bus providing it can be routed via Coppenhall.

10; Councillors Sutton reported as follows;

- Turkey Farm – he had driven the proposed HGV route with a representative from County Highways and pointed out the problems.
- There is a consultation on the future of libraries, which he promised to forward on to the clerk.
- Nominations are sought for the Queens Award for Voluntary service.
- School Lane drainage problems have been resolved to a point.

The following issues were then raised by the public and the council;

The library van had parked across residents drives on the last visit to Dunston and although the driver moved concern is that this will happen again.

Councillor Richardson raised the issue about AMEY clearing ditches which are his responsibility. This unauthorised work can cause farmers problems as ditches are the landowner's responsibility

Other points were raised about flooding on Long Lane although this is in the Penkridge parish it still is a problem for Dunston residents.

11; Planning Issues; the following planning applications were discussed by the meeting;

17/01123/FUL& 17/00124/LBC-Doxey Wood Cottage, Coppenhall

18/00091/FUL-Hawthorne House-Coppenhall

18/00087/HEDGE-Church Farm, Coppenhall.

The councillors decided that "No comments" be made in respect of these applications

It was also reported the appeal in respect of the agricultural barn at 1 Swan Lane, Dunston had been allowed by the Planning Inspectorate.

12; Highways and other matters;

It was commented that a number of road signs were broken or needed attention.

13; Correspondence; the following has been received since the last meeting;

Via email

- Fly a flag for Commonwealth day
- Safer Roads, grant funding will shortly be available.
- Crime prevention poster February 2018
- Council news roundup[this is a weekly publication]
- South Staffs infrastructure delivery plan consultation.

The next meeting is on Monday 14th May 2018 at Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village Hall.

This is the Combined Annual Parish Assembly & Annual Parish Meeting of the council.

Meeting Ended 22.00;

Derek Jones clerk to the council;

telephone 01785 604405