

DUNSTON with COPPENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th November 2016 at Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village Hall.

Present;

Parish Councillors; - Mrs G Diggett [chair]-Mr I Collard [deputy-chair] Mrs H Jones- Mr J Bagnall- Mr P Thompson-Mr J Richardson- Mr G Pliva.

County Councillor; - Mr M Sutton; from 20.25; District Councillor; - Mr L Bates. [Left the meeting after item 07]

Clerk to the council; -Mr D Jones plus one member of the public

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

02; No apologies had been received.

03; No interests were declared or dispensations requested by the councillors on any agenda items.

04; Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 4th August 2016.

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed as a true record with the following amendment-paragraph 06-item relating to Broadband, Dunstan should have read Dunston.

Paragraph 10-tem relating to NHT team should have read completed and not competed.

05; Report on matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda; No issues raised

06; Chairman's report;

Councillor Diggett informed the meeting that she did not wish to stand as chairman for a further period after May but would remain a member of the parish council

07; Councillor Bates reported as follows;

No 1 Swan lane Dunston is subject to appeal against enforcement action following unauthorised construction of a barn.

Site Allocation Document; land in Dunston village is protected until 2022 this also includes a strip of land between Dunston & Coppenhall.

Small Business Saturday on 3rd December, part of national campaign.

Dog fouling; South Staffs District Council running a current campaign.

Good Life South Staffordshire Energy; Cost saving initiative for fuel usage, surgeries being run in various locations.

He was asked by the meeting if training sessions run by the council could be in the evenings which would be more convenient for those councillors who work

08; Councillor Sutton reported as follows;

The Spanish automotive supplier Gestamp has demonstrated its confidence in Staffordshire by expanding to a new site at Bericote Four Ashes. The car parts supplier is planning a new £56.3 million manufacturing facility with a £70 million investment in new equipment and fitting out. It will secure 800 jobs and the business rates will help boost the local economy in the county.

This is excellent news for our area, and further proof that Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire is a great location for businesses to grow and flourish – and it is a big vote of confidence in the UK economy.

Foster Parents Needed in Staffordshire; with children back at school, or teenagers off to university, we know that there will be parents out there looking to take on a new challenge. Our Fostering Service is now asking people if fostering could be for them and to get in touch.

We are always looking for foster families to come forward and provide a loving home for our looked after children and over the next three years we need to recruit around 150 more families. As often is the case, there is a particular need for carers for teenagers and sibling groups so again, if you think you could help out then please get in touch.

Most people can foster. You simply need to care about children, have good communication skills, have a spare room and be ready for that challenge. Foster carers always say what a rewarding thing it is to do and comment on the range of support they get from our staff too.

Fostering is making a real difference to the lives of hundreds of local children in Staffordshire every day, so if it's for you, then please get in touch with the service at www.care4child.org. [Request an Info Pack](#) **0800 169 2061**

Brewood library is now a community managed library staffed by volunteers. It is a three way agreement between the County Council, South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS trust (SSSFT) and the volunteers. The opening hours have remained the same and there are now over 30 volunteers but we are always on the lookout for more, so if you are interested in volunteering at the library please get in touch with me or contact SSSFT on 01785 783069 or e-mail libraryvolunteers@sssft.nhs.uk. I'm usually at the library on a Saturday morning so pop in and have a chat.

Employment; The number of people claiming job seekers allowance or universal credit in the ward is now at 1%. We don't have the figure for the parish. The Staffordshire figure is 1% compared to a West Midlands average of 2.3%.

09; Finance-

A) Payment of the following invoices was agreed;

PAYE	£49.60-	cheque no-500136
Clerks salary & expenses	£214.51-	cheque no-500137

B) The Parish Council bank account balance at 31/10/2016 stood at £5933.36.

C) Precept; the council agreed to request a precept of £2500 for 2017/8, the same as for the current financial year.

D) Comments from Grant Thornton regarding the annual governance statement were explained to the meeting

10; Planning; no current planning issues in the parish

11; Highways and other matters;

Fly tipping; it was noted and well received the news that a recent prosecution had been made for fly tipping in Church Lane, Coppenhall.

Removal of phone box in Church Close, Dunston; clerk explained that advice had been received from the District Councils Planning Department in late October that a number of phone boxes in the area would be removed by BT due to lack of use and high maintenance costs, including the one in Church Close. He had assumed that a notice would have been displayed in the phone box warning of this impending removal, which apparently did not happen. The clerk advised the meeting, from previous experience in Derrington that if a phone box is purchased it is stripped of lighting and apparatus and is then the responsibility of the purchasers to insure and carry out the ongoing maintenance. After a lengthy debate it was agreed to ask the District Council for more time to consult with residents and an article would be included in Contact explaining the issues.

Road problems; Councillor Jones complained again that the grid outside her property is still blocked and overflowing. Councillor Sutton asked for the report reference number so he could take matter up with Highways. Other issues included the ongoing problem with Chase View lane and HGVs using the country lanes as a short cut to the Busby Fruit farms, which is of particular concern to residents who live in the area of Church Lane / Butterhill farm due to the narrow lane adjacent to their property.

12; Correspondence; the following has been received since the last meeting-[all via email]

Standard & Resources Committee have a vacancy for a co-opted member from a parish council.
Parish summit is on 25th November.
Citizens Advice Bureau A G M on 21st November.
Smart meters press release to be issued by the Community Council for Staffordshire.
Weekly bulletin from highways advising pothole repairs.
South Staffs Community Volunteer Action e bulletin..

Parkers' wholesale plant catalogue [received via surface mail]

13; Matters raised by members for information;

Councillor Richardson advised that there is a vacancy for a governor at St Leonard's school.

14; meeting dates & venues for 2017 were agreed as follows [all meetings to start at 19.30hrs];

Monday 13th February –	Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village Hall.
Thursday 4th May-	Dunston Village Hall [AGM & Public meeting].
Monday 7th August-	Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village Hall
Thursday 2nd November-	Dunston Village Hall

Meeting ended at 21.35;

Derek Jones; clerk to the council -telephone 01785 780229