

DUNSTON with COPPENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 7th May 2007
at HYDE LEA & COPPENHALL VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillor P G Lawrence
 H S Jones
 J K Bagnall
 I Collard
 I O'Reilly
 J W Richardson

District Councillor G Spandler
County Councillor V Downes

in attendance Clerk: D W Wright

2 members of the public

- 07.23. Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman
Hazel Jones was elected as Chairman of the Parish Council. She then signed the Chairmans' declaration of office. Jeff Bagnall was elected as Vice Chairman.
- 07.24. Declarations of office
The Councillors present all signed their declaration of acceptance of office and agreement to abide by the Dunston with Coppenhall Parish Council code of conduct. It was agreed that a declaration of office would be accepted from Gill Diggett at or before the next meeting
- 07.25. Appointments & Nominations
Dunston School Governor : J Richardson
Dunston Village Hall: J Richardson
Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village Hall: H Jones
- 07.26. Apologies
Apologies were received and accepted as a valid reason from G Diggett due to absence on holiday.
- 07.27. Declarations of Interest
H Jones declared a personal interest in the Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village Hall donation request.

Public participation

The meeting was adjourned at this point to allow members of the public to raise issues: Concern was expressed about the state of road drainage in Coppenhall. The planned resurfacing of the road had been taken out of the current plans because of the gas main works. The flooding at the crossroads raises a question of where the rain is supposed to go. The district council will asked to excavate to determine if the drains are broken. It was asked if we could have a drawing of the drain system at the cross roads.

The meeting was then resumed

- 07.28. Minutes
The minutes of 6th March 2007 had been circulated.
Amendments: Item 7.17. There had been no further correspondence from Castle Homes in respect of their proposals for Beech Lane.
Clerk to request Planning Department to insist on compliance with conditions of the planning application for Drayton Manor Farms.
Item 7.20 A response should be sent to the comprehensive letter from P Brown on Dunston problems.
- The amended minutes were then approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 07.29. Matters Arising
a) Activity at the Moat. Concern about gatherings and problems with syringes. A letter will be written from the Parish Council to the police stating that we have

received reports of unsuitable activity. The Moat is actually in the parish and therefore covered from Penkridge.

07.30. Chairman's report

Things had been relatively quiet. A more detailed report covering the year had been given in the Annual Parish Assembly.

07.31. Employment

The Council discussed the performance of the Clerk and reviewed the proposal to increase the Clerks' contractual hours.

Resolved: That the Clerk's contractual weekly average hours be increased from 2 to 4 hours from 1st April 2007 at an increased annual salary of £1700.

07.32. Subscriptions

Stafford Parish Councils Association £160.00 Agreed

Community Council of Staffordshire £ 20.00 Agreed

Allianz-Cornhill Insurance £285.33 Agreed

The scope of the insurance and a Risk Analysis is to be considered at the next meeting

07.33. Finance.

a) The Accounts for the year 2006/7 were presented. The Council's expenditure for the year was significantly lower because there were no by-elections. The balance had increased from £504.08 to £1020.60. The Council approved the accounts. They will now be submitted to the internal auditor before presentation to the External Auditor. Notification of availability of the accounts for inspection by any elector will be posted in June.

b) The Accounts for the year to date were presented and approved. The first instalment of the increased precept £1750 had been received. The bank balance was £ 2770.91 and there were no un-presented cheques.

c) Accounts for payment were presented.

Clerk's salary (April-May)	£ 283.33
SPCA subscription	£ 160.00
Allianz-Cornhill Insurance	£ 285.75
HL & C Village Hall	£ 14.00
Community Council	<u>£ 20.00</u>
Total	<u>£ 763.08</u>

The Council approved the above accounts for payment and cheques were signed for the above. Cashbook balance £ 2007.83

d) Grant application – Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village Hall

The Council discussed the grant application at length. It was decided to not to make any donation for grounds maintenance.. The Council would generally prefer to make donations towards capital expenditure rather than running expense. The Clerk to respond to Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village Hall explaining the Council's decision.

07.34. Planning:

Applications determined.

07/00170/FUL Coppenhall Farm, Church Lane. Detached garage. Refused:

07/00221/TEM Heath Farm Cottage, Whittamoor Lane Levedale. Temporary Caravan. Approved with conditions

07/00234/FUL The Granary, Church Lane, Coppenhall. Two storey extension Approved with conditions

07/00278/FUL 4,Coppenhall Mews, Coppenhall. Erection of garden gazebo.
Approved.

Applications pending.

07/00258/FUL Coppenhall Barn, Church Lane.Coppenhall. Stable, loose box and tractor store building.

07/00402/FUL 1,Coppenhall Mews, Coppenhall. Summer house.

07/00499/FUL Land adjacent to Peel House, School Lane, Dunston Heath.
Detached dwelling, new vehicular access and amendment to planning consent
05/291/FUL.

The planning documents had not yet been received. The Council had objected vigorously to the previous application.

07.35. Correspondence.

- a) There had been no relevant correspondence to circulate.
- b) Correspondence was presented from:
 - SPCA : Courses.-New Councillors & Chairmanship. It as agreed to pay fees for any councillors wishing to attend. It was likely that G Diggett would attend.
 - NALC: Briefings on Model Code of Conduct.
 - SSDC : Notification of Assessment of Air Quality and Housing Needs.
 - Communities & Local Government: Code of Conduct 2007.
- c) The Standards Board had written to Councillors Diggett and Bagnall and the Clerk stating that they had rejected an appeal against the dismissal of the complaint relating to the planning application for Drayton Manor Farm.
- d) The draft Code of Conduct 2007 for parish councillors prepared by SSDC was presented for acceptance by the Council. It was agreed to consider the documents and discuss at the next meeting.

The Council noted the correspondence.

07.36. Matters raised by Members

Newsletter. Cllr O'Reilly asked what is going into the next newsletter and who is going to do it. Information on the highways progress could be included. I O'Reilly and J Bagnall will progress the next issue.

If there is a village event similar to the opening of the Village Hall this year, the Parish Council could be represented. This will added to the next meeting agenda for discussion.

Cllr Bagnall noted that there had been little information in the Contact Magazine. To be contacted and put in dates of Parish Council meetings. The possibility of a website for the parish Council was raised and some proposals will be made.

The Headmaster of Dunston School is now due to retire after many years of service. It was suggested that some act of recognition should be considered on behalf of the Parish Council. This will be added to agenda for next meeting.

The Chairman and Councillors expressed their thanks to the District and County Councillor for their efforts on behalf of the parish.

Items for the Next Agenda

- a) Risk Analysis and Insurance Cover – Noticeboards, Bus Shelter, Councillors
- b) Capital expenditure
- c) Planning procedures
- d) Donations

07.37. Next Meeting: **Monday 2nd July 2007** at Dunston Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The meeting was closed at 9.50pm