

BRINDLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2022 AT THE WHITE HOUSE, MARQUIS DRIVE, BRINDLEY HEATH

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: P. Adams (Chairman)
R. Turville
Mrs S. Pearson

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs T. Williams (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors: D. Cotton, M. Sutherland, A. Pearson and Mrs M. A. Turville

Apologies were also received from County Councillors P. Hewitt & Dr J. McMahon

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Type</u>
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No interests were declared.

3. POLICE REPORTS

Police officers were not in attendance at the meeting.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

5. MINUTES OF LAST MEETINGS

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2022 be approved as a correct record.

The draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 26 July 2022 were noted.

6. UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cannock Chase District Council Electoral Review

An email had been received from the Boundary Commission for England on 16 August 2022 thanking the Parish Council for its representation and adding that it would consider the comments carefully.

Public Spaces Protection Order – Control of Dogs

The Parish Council noted a Cannock Chase Council press release issued on 21 September 2022 stating that the Council's Cabinet had approved a new Dog Control Order, revoking and replacing the existing Order.

Chairman's Initials

17/2022-23

The Council commented on the fact that dogs seem to be allowed to many more places than used to be the case such as shops and supermarkets. For example, water was made available at the Mill Green Outlet Village for dogs to drink.

Rugeley Road, Hednesford TRO 40mph Speed Limit Consultation

An email had been received from the Senior Transport Planner on 26 August 2022 thanking the Parish Council for its response to the County Council's proposal to set a 40mph speed limit on a section of Rugeley Road (between Walkers Rise and Fallow Park) and acknowledging its suggestion that the speed limit should be reduced further to 30mph.

The Senior Transport Planner advised the Parish Council that the County do not believe the speed should be reduced to 30mph as the road environment does not support the reduction and was not in line with the Department for Transport Guidance. A link was given to the Department for Transport guidance on the setting of speed limits.

The Council concluded that a reduction in the speed limit from 60mph to 40mph was a positive move but it was also disappointing that the Community Speed Watch Scheme would not be able to operate at this speed. If the speed limit had been set at 30mph the stretch of road would have benefited from streetlighting.

Commons Consent

A letter to Stakeholders from Staffordshire County Council on 8 September 2022 advised that the County will be applying for consent from the Planning Inspectorate to construct works on Milford Common/Green and Brindley Heath under Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006. In Brindley Heath the work involves 1115 metres of ditch and bund which was a mixture of reinstating and extending the existing ditch in the location identified on the accompanying plan. The work was needed to prevent unauthorised vehicle access which had become an increasing problem over recent years as the ditch and bund system had been eroding away.

Road Markings on Stafford Brook Road

The report references for repainting the road markings on Stafford Brook Road at the junction with Wolseley Road is 4289304 and on the bend at Fosters Farm 4289443.

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had no report.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Items of Post

Death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II

The Parish Council noted with sadness the commemorative events that had been held in the district in recognition of Her Late Majesty's dedicated service, and also the Proclamation of King Charles' reign.

The Council asked that a letter of condolence be forwarded to King Charles on the loss of his mother, Her Late Majesty The Queen.

Road Traffic Order in Shooting Butts Road

Information on the temporary closure (circulated by County Councillor Sutherland) of Shooting Butts Road was noted. The Order comes into operation on the 17th and the works completed by the 21st October 2022.

The Hedgehog Highway Project

An email from Hedgehogs R Us on 9 September 2022 was noted. The Council did not wish to participate in the purchase of a box of hedgehog highway surrounds to be made available to residents as the project was geared toward urban areas rather than rural.

Funding availability from Cannock Chase Council for local businesses affected by Covid-19

The Council noted a Press Release on 17 August 2022 advising local business who did not qualify for payment from the Government to help them get through COVID-19 pandemic that they could apply for new rate relief support as part of a further allocation of money received by Cannock Chase Council from the Government.

The details on how to apply were available on Cannock Chase Council’s website.

b. Consultations

There were no public consultations for consideration.

9. PARISH ISSUES – CHASE SIDE

No issues were discussed.

10. PARISH WARD ISSUES – BRINDLEY VILLAGE

No issues were discussed.

11. CANNOCK CHASE FOREST

a. Cannock Chase AONB

The Parish Council noted an email from the AONB Land Management Officer at Cannock Chase AONB Partnership inviting Councillors to a free field-based training day to record trees to the Ancient Tree Inventory at Wolseley Park plantation, with the Woodland Trust. A map accompanied the information showing the location of the conservation sites.

b. Commonwealth Games

The Parish Council concluded that the Commonwealth Games biking event went off without any issues. The only problems related to people who parked on surrounding roads. The Traffic Order apparently referred to no stopping rather than no parking which was not helpful.

c. Ironman Competition

The Ironman Chief Executive Officer’s offer to join Councillors at a future meeting or to answer questions by email if not in person had not been taken up while the Chairman was unavailable to attend meetings.

The Chairman suggested asking the Chief Executive Officer whether the route could be varied so that residents of Brindley Heath are not subject to the inconvenience of road closures on every event day each year.

The Chairman also suggested asking Staffordshire County Council for the costs of hosting the Ironman event.

12. INVITATION TO MEETINGS/EVENTS

The following upcoming (external) meetings/ invitations were noted:

- Standards Committee Meeting on 10 October 2022 is cancelled.
Remaining scheduled meeting dates: Monday 16 January 2023 & Monday 24 April 2023
- SPCA AGM on Monday 5 December 2022 and nominations to the Executive Committee
Nominations are being accepted for election of representatives to the SPCA Executive at the Association's AGM on the evening of Monday, 5th December 2022 (one vacancy in Cannock Chase).

Member Councils are also invited to put forward motions for debate at the AGM to be held at Staffordshire Place One.

- Staffordshire County Council's Climate Change Conference on 28 September 2022
Includes an invitation to an online Workshop at The Post House, Stafford. The event is a chance to network with community groups, parish councils, charities and schools, apply for funding of up to £3,000 and receive practical advice.

The Chairman advised the Council that he would like the Vice-Chairman to receive all future invitations to events.

13. REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

The Chairman reported that he had attended meetings relating to Etching Hill Playing Fields, Etching Hill Allotments and Longdon Alms-houses for which he didn't have new information.

The Council discussed the arrangement for nominating representatives to outside bodies and it was agreed that the process should be reviewed to improve understanding of the term of representation and the role the representatives are expected to play, whether this be as volunteer or a trustee.

14. COUNCILLOR REPORTS

No Councillor reports were given.

15. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Financial Position of the Council

A breakdown of income and expenditure for the financial year to date was given in the Clerks Report (dated 21 July 2022). The budget statement showed the current financial position of the Council with reserves totalling £15,918.13.

Resolved: To note the financial position of the Council.

b) Parish Notice Board

This item remains ongoing.

c) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Allocation Process – Request for information from Cannock Chase Council

Chairman's Initials

20/2022-23

The Parish Council noted an email sent to Cannock Chase Council (dated 12 August 2022) updating the district council on its plans for spending its CIL neighbourhood funds which will primarily be on a community notice board.

The Parish Council also noted the response from the District Council saying there was no issue in allowing the Council to retain CIL monies beyond the five-year period to allow the project to be completed.

d) Correspondence from SAAA Ltd

A communication from SAAA Ltd on 9 August 2022 informed the Parish Council that whilst all smaller authorities are opted into the central procurement of external auditors by default, any authorities who do not wish to be part of the SAAA arrangements must formally notify SAAA that they wish to opt out within 8 weeks of this communication but no later than 28 October 2022. The decision to opt out must be communicated to SAAA via e mail to admin@saaa.co.uk.

Resolved: That the Council do not wish to opt out of the next five-year appointing period (2022-23 to 2026-27) for the procurement of auditing services under the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

e) To authorise cheques for payment

100207	The White House	£25.00	Donation for use of room for parish meeting on 27 September 2022
100208	Trudy Williams	£50.41	Hover – five-year domain name renewal (October 2022 to October 2027) for use of www.Brindleyheath-pc.org.uk
100208	Trudy Williams	£202.00	Annual subscription of Squarespace website template tool. Renewal due on 22 October 2022
Direct Debit	Information Commissioner’s Office	£35.00	Data Protection renewal for year from 14-09-2022 to 13-09-2023

Resolved: To authorise payment of the cheques listed.

The Council noted the renewal of the domain name for the next five-year period to 2027 and the annual renewal of the Squarespace subscription. The Clerk informed the Council that the website’s design could be updated by considering a different template, or the Council could in the future look to a different service such as a company that specialises in the design of parish council websites or perhaps utilise the more universally used WordPress.

16. ANY OTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

A Parish Online interactive map has been uploaded to the website with map layering showing administration boundaries, location of parish defibrillators, postcodes, Green Belt boundaries, SAC and SSSI land designations. Additional layers are also available to add.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is to be determined.

The Chairman thanked everyone present for their attendance.

Signed.....

Chairman, Mr P. Adams

Date.....