

Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held in the Brearley Room on Monday 8 October 2012 beginning at 7.30 pm

Present	Cllr. R Greatrex (in the Chair) Cllr. G Payne Cllr. P Alker Cllr. T Simkin Cllr. P Boston Cllr. D Willetts Cllr. M Hughes Cllr. J Tomkinson	Cllr. J Wilkes-Reading Cllr K Abbott Cllr. M Cowie Cllr. M Deegan Miss J Cooper, Clerk SBC Councillor M Smith
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12/128	Public Open Forum 1 member of the public present 1 member of the press No matters were raised.	
12/129	To receive apologies, record absences Apologies received from Cllr A Bevington, Cllr S Wallis, Cllr Cook, Cllr Watson-Jones and Stafford Borough Councillor K Williamson	
12/130	To record any declarations of interest No declarations of interest were received	
12/131	To receive and confirm the minutes Meeting of the Council held on 10 September Subject to one minor amendment, the minutes were proposed, seconded and agreed as a true record.	
12/132	To receive any matters arising Monks Walk Development – it was agreed that a letter be sent to homes affected by the development thanking them for their patience during the building works.	
12/133	To receive the following reports: a) Reports from County and Borough Councillors Cllr Smith, on behalf of Stafford Borough Council, gave an update on the Local Plan. The Planning Forum planned for 23 October would give more information on this as well as Neighbourhood Planning. Cllr Greatrex and Cllr Abbott would be attending. b) Courses/meetings attended by councillors Patients Forum – Cllr Alker reported that significant savings had been made at Gnosall Surgery by changing the way the urgent care is delivered and reducing the visits to A&E. It was also noted that Gnosall Surgery has been voted the best practice in Staffordshire. Partners In Action – Cllr Boston reported that Gnosall is the only remaining project group and a further meeting is planned for 22	Cllrs Greatrex and Abbott

	<p>October. Following this meeting an update would be given.</p> <p>Cllr Boston had also attended on behalf of GPC, the Battle of Britain Parade and the Stafford and Rural Homes Walk About.</p>	Cllr Boston
12/134	<p>To receive the Clerk's report</p> <p>The Clerk's report, previously circulated was noted.</p> <p>An update was given regarding the St John Ambulance lease which is yet to be agreed with SJA solicitors. The Clerk to pursue.</p> <p>An update was also given regarding the Village Green and the need for a Scheme of Management (legal document). It was hoped that a draft document would be sent to GPC in the next month to review and accept. The Clerk also reported that a funding application to Staffordshire Environmental Fund for financial assistance towards bollards and a gate on the Village Green had been successful. A separate meeting would be held to look at the funding criteria and calculate the parish council's contribution.</p> <p>The Clerk's report was accepted.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
12/135	<p>To consider committee/working group issues</p> <p>Matters relating to the Planning Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes of the meeting held on 20 September were accepted <u>Affordable Housing, Lowfield Lane</u> - It was reported that Highways had responded to Housing Plus that the erection of safety railings would impact on visibility issues for traffic leaving Lowfield Lane. The railings had been requested by GPC and St Lawrence School to ensure the safety of school children and pedestrians. Highways had suggested that bollards would be a better alternative. Cllr Payne, as school Governor, had attended meetings about this and requested the Clerk writes to Highways asking for reconsideration and suggested that the railings are put back towards the footpath which would allow adequate visibility and ensure the safety of children. This was agreed. <p>Cllr Payne also reported that there would be several days of disruption to traffic prior to contractors working on site with sewerage works on the A518 and Lowfield Lane. Liaison with the developer continues and it is hoped that some of this work could be carried out over the Christmas holidays when school is closed.</p> <p>Matters relating to the Open Spaces Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £15000 of funding from LEADER had been confirmed for Phase 2 of The Acres Project. The application to Staffordshire Environmental Fund had been placed on a reserve list therefore alternative funding sources are being investigated should the SEF application not be successful. Cllr Deegan and Cllr Simkin were thanked for securing the funding from LEADER It was agreed that a draft response to Gnosall Allotments and Gardens Association, previously circulated to Cllrs to comment, be sent. The Clerk to action. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>Matters relating to the Communications Working Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The notes of the meeting held on 26 September were accepted. It was noted that three GMK's would be printed each year and Cllrs would be asked to help with the contents. The next GMK would be arranged this autumn. A new home page for the website had been designed; this would be circulated to all Cllrs for comments prior to the next meeting on 7 November 2012. <p>Matters relating to the Christmas Working Party</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The notes of the recent meetings held were circulated. The scouts had confirmed that they would be pleased to sell hot drinks outside as a fund raising exercise, all entertainment had been booked, hot food would be sold outside to prevent overcrowding in the coffee lounge and the Christmas card competition would be arranged with St Lawrence School again. The next meeting would be held on 7 November. <p>Matters relating to the Burial Ground Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was reported that in line with procedure, the public notices had been displayed for the required amount of time and the planning application had been submitted to the Borough Council. At the Burial Ground Committee on 15 October, consideration would be given to maintaining the new land (subject to planning approval) and alternative uses for this land prior to it being used for burials. The Health and Safety Check carried out on 1 October had resulted in fewer loose headstones than in previous years. Notices would be displayed regarding to the loose stones asking for family members to get in touch with the Parish Council <p>Matters relating to GFest 2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The notes of the meeting held on 19 September were circulated. A draft programme had previously been circulated. Work would continue on GFest plans at the next meeting to be held on 14 November. <p>Gnosall United Charities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Payne reported that the Charity currently has a one bedroom house to rent on Stafford Road and any queries should be passed to the Clerk of United Charities 	<p>Cllrs</p> <p>Cllrs</p> <p>Burial Ground Cttee</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>GFest Working Gp</p> <p>Cllrs</p>
	<p>12/136 To receive any information for circulation around the community via press releases/website</p> <p>This would be a standing agenda item as agreed at a recent Communications Meeting.</p> <p>To assist with circulation and publishing information about the work of the Parish Council, Councillors were asked to bring written information to meetings or pass to the office for editing prior to publication.</p>	Cllrs
	<p>12/137 To receive a report on financial receipts for September and to receive accounts for October 2012</p> <p>The accounts were reviewed then proposed, seconded and accepted.</p>	

12/138	<p>To report on any road and footway matters with the parish, including litter, graffiti, street lighting</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to report the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Overgrown hedges on Newport Road which makes walking on pavement impossible. Clerk to contact the home owners and politely request them to cut the hedge and if they do not, to contact Staffordshire County Council. ➤ Blocked drain at Chapel Court/Willey Lane ➤ Inconsiderate parking opposite the petrol station on Station Road. ➤ Dog fouling on Lowfield Lane. Cllr Smith commented that if this problem is ongoing, times and precise locations should be reported to SBC's Environmental Department and Enforcement Officer would visit ➤ Illuminated sign at the bottom of High Street that was knocked over in July, still not fixed. <p>The Clerk reminded Councillors that the Neighbourhood Highway Team would be in the parish for four days from 30th November and jobs are required. Cllrs to pass details to the Clerk.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllrs</p>
12/139	<p>To agree a street name for the new affordable housing site in Lowfield Lane</p> <p>Several suggestions were put forward and the favoured name was Heron Brook. A vote was taken with 9 voting for and 1 against. The Clerk to respond.</p>	Clerk
12/140	<p>To consider correspondence and other communications, received</p> <p>The list of correspondence was noted.</p>	
12/141	<p>To request items for the next agenda</p> <p>Councillors to inform the Clerk at least 10 days prior to the next meeting.</p>	
12/142	<p>To confirm the date and time of the next meeting</p> <p>This would be held on 12 November at 7.30pm in the Brearley Room.</p> <p><u>To exclude members of the press/public</u></p>	
12/143	<p>(a) Matters relating to the Personnel Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A verbal update of the meeting held on 17 September was accepted. The Meeting had been held to discuss the increase in the national minimum wage, the reduced hours of the Handyman and the arrangements for the relief Caretaker/Cleaner. <p>(b) Letter of Complaint</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter from the secretary of Gnosall Lions regarding the trees for the village green had been received and was circulated. It was agreed that there had clearly been a misunderstanding and the Clerk was asked to respond to this effect. 	Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.40pm