

Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held in the Brearley Room on Monday 8 September 2014 beginning at 7.30pm

Present	Cllr R Greatrex (in the Chair)	Cllr S Wallis
	Cllr G Payne	Cllr D Watson-Jones
	Cllr P Alker	Cllr K Ingram
	Cllr D Willetts	Cllr M Deegan
	Cllr J Cook	Cllr M Hughes
	Cllr K Abbott	Cllr T Simkin
	Cllr M Booth	
	Cllr J Tomkinson	Miss J Cooper, Clerk

Along with Cllr Ken Williamson and Cllr Mike Smith (Stafford Borough Council), PC Karl Green (Staffordshire Police) and 5 members of the public

14/103	<p>Public Open Forum</p> <p>Mr Prichard asked whether the Parish Council would be making representation to the Department of Communities and Local Government's consultation regarding the planning system. The Clerk replied that this would be discussed at the next Planning Committee meeting.</p> <p>Mrs Keeley said she was attending solely to hear the report from Wendy Woodward regarding leisure and recreation in Gnosall, specifically in relation to the swimming pool.</p> <p>Cllr Williamson passed on a request from a resident for a rubbish bin on the corner of Sellman Street near to the bench. The Clerk would follow this up.</p> <p>Cllr Smith reported on an overgrown hedge on Newport Road that is making walking on the pavement dangerous – he had seen a lady with a pushchair having to step into the road to get past. PC Green agreed to take this up and liaise with Highways and the owner of the property.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>PC Karl Green</p>
14/104	<p>To receive apologies, record absences</p> <p>Apologies received from Cllr Green, Cllr Cowie and SCC Cllr Mark Winnington</p>	
14/105	<p>To record any declarations of interest</p> <p>Cllr Alker declared an interest in agenda item 14/110 c)</p>	
14/106	<p>To receive and confirm the minutes of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the last regular meeting of the Council held on 14th July 2014 b) the Annual Assembly held on 25th May 2014 c) the Council meeting held on 1st September regarding the proposed wind farm <p>Three sets of minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meetings.</p>	

14/107	<p>To consider any matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda</p> <p>14/099 High Street signage Advice from Highways was noted - It is not possible to have signs that state “No HGV’s” but it would be acceptable to have signs that state “Unsuitable for HGV;s” . Therefore 5 signs would be erected at the end of 2014 at the bottom of the High Street, at the top of Audmore Road and Glebe Lane.</p> <p>14/095 Speed Assessment on Wharf Road Cllr Ingram felt the location of the speed detection device was not appropriate as it meant cars had to slow down to pass the device which defeated the purpose of identifying speeding traffic. The Clerk to pass this comment to Highways.</p> <p>14/099 Chickens on Station Road It was reported that chickens freely walk on Station Road as they are not securely retained on land on Station Road. PC Green agreed to contact the land owner.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>PC Karl Green</p>
14/108	<p>To receive a report from Wendy Woodward, District Commissioning Lead - Stafford District on a proposed review of Sport, Recreational and Leisure in Gnosall and an update on current library consultation.</p> <p>Cllrs had received a draft report from Wendy Woodward (District Commissioning Lead - Stafford District) outlining possible next steps in relation to Sport, Recreation and Leisure in Gnosall. She explained the proposed steps are to commence a review of the leisure provision in Gnosall starting with existing provision to then produce an implementation plan prioritising development requirement to meet local need and future housing development. Information would also be gathered from Staffordshire County Council with respect to demographic data to aid the production of the review, Stafford Borough Council’s Local Plan and Gnosall Parish Council’s Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>Parish Councillors raised their concerns about this project as the Council is well aware of the needs of the village and this knowledge is being supported by data coming out of Neighbourhood Plan questionnaires. Most of the facilities needed are being taken away such as the swimming pool, library, and youth club. Therefore it would be counteractive for a consultant to be employed to report findings that are already known. The Chairman reminded Ms Woodward that Cllr Winnington, at a previous meeting had agreed to set aside a piece of land for a period of time for parishioners to consider using for a replacement swimming pool. It was also felt that if the County Council could hold back on developing land to look at leisure needs this would show a more genuine partnership.</p> <p>As parish councillors were unsure about this proposal, it was agreed they would meet informally to discuss this in more detail then a decision would be made formally at a future council meeting to which Mrs Woodward would be invited.</p>	<p>Cllrs</p>

	<p>Library Mrs Woodward provided an update on the current position of Gnosall library.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Staffordshire libraries are under consultation until 7th October. • Gnosall is the lowest used building based library in the county • The mobile library is well used • The proposal would probably be for a “library local” – resourced and run by the community <p>Mrs Woodward was thanked for attending and then left the meeting.</p> <p><i>The meeting adjourned at 8.35pm for 10 minutes</i></p>	
14/109	<p>To receive the following reports:</p> <p>a) The Clerk’s Report</p> <p>The report gave a detailed update on large scale development sites within the village including:</p> <p>Knightley Road (Bellway) - work is progressing. Meetings had been held with residents and Bellway to air any concerns. Notes of the first meeting with Bellway had been circulated. The main issue is the request from residents to remove the boundary hedge however Bellway had refused this request as the retention of the hedge is part of the planning application and would, therefore, require another application as well as significant costs to remove the hedge and replace with fencing. The next meeting would be held on 11th September where this would be discussed.</p> <p>Audmore Loop development – a public consultation meeting would be held on 11th September from 3.30pm in the Grosvenor Centre where details of the proposed application would be on show. Details of a meeting held with Richborough Estate had been circulated to Cllrs</p> <p>Staffordshire County Council had, at the end of August, submitted an appeal against the decision to refuse the planning application for 150 houses on land off Stafford Road and this would be heard at a public inquiry. It was agreed the Clerk should request permission for GPC to speak as an objector.</p> <p>Burial Ground – Cllrs were informed that the plans for the extension were not progressing quickly therefore the Clerk would be liaising with SCC’s legal team to try and speed up matters to a satisfactory conclusion.</p> <p>Wind Farm application – the Clerk would circulate the draft response to Cllrs for comment on 9th September.</p> <p>Best Kept Village competition 2014 – it was noted Gnosall had been Highly Commended.</p> <p>Tour of Gnosall Cycle Event, Sunday 19th October at 10am – this event would be arranged by the Parish Council and supported by Staffordshire Police and Staffordshire County Council to attract families to use the cycle route (Route 55) and to encourage safer cycling. Cllrs were asked to consider funding to meet the attendance</p>	<p>Cllrs Greatrex, Ingram & Clerk</p> <p>Cllrs</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>fee of £200 of Liam Holohan, a nationally recognised cyclist. It was proposed and seconded to meet these costs as it was felt this would attract more visitors to this event. A vote was taken with 13 cllrs voting to accept the proposal with one abstention. The Clerk to arrange.</p> <p>b) Any reports from Parish Councillors on meetings/courses attended</p> <p>i) Report from Cllr Hughes following inspection of Parish Council deeds Cllr Hughes raised two queries following inspection of the deeds relating to land next to The Wold. The legal wording within the deeds was not clear therefore it was agreed the Clerk would seek clarification from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).</p> <p>c) Any reports from Borough and County Councillors Cllr Smith reported that Stafford Borough Council would be seeking legal advice on how it can help prevent the maternity unit of Stafford Hospital being closed. Cllrs Smith and Williamson both reported on the recent appeal lodged by Staffordshire County Council regarding development of land off Stafford Road. Stafford Borough Council would be meeting with Staffordshire County Council to request the application is withdrawn completely.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
14/110	<p>To consider committee/working group issues:</p> <p>a) Matters relating to the Planning Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes of the meetings held on 7.8.14 and 28.8.14 were accepted. • Cllr Greatrex had previously reported on the Grasscroft Inquiry (development on Knightley Road). Cllrs had accepted his report and now agreed that the Clerk should write to SBC asking why reference was made to Audmore Loop (The Horseshoe) as a potential alternative and more suitable site for development when the discussion should have been on the Knightley Road site. Clerk to action. <p>b) Matters relating to the Open Spaces Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The notes of debrief meeting following the Fun Weekend were accepted. Cllrs agreed that this event, including the fun fair on the Village Green had been successful. • The Chairman and Vice Chairman of Open Spaces had met with the Clerk to progress many OS matters including a review of the ROSPA inspection reports. It was reported that money from the OS budget may have to be spent on replacing safety surfacing at a number of locations within the play park including around the new climbing frame. This was accepted. <p>c) Matters relating to the Communications Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes of the meeting held on 22.7.14 were accepted. • It was noted that the group had agreed a new format for the quarterly newsletter and there had been some positive changes to the website 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>OS Committee</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee would be making budget proposals to the Resources Committee for 2015/16 The committee would be formulating a Communications Strategy with guidelines for press articles, PR and Social Media. <p>d) Matters relating to the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The notes of the meeting held on 3rd September would be circulated at a later date It was noted that a Call for Sites had been agreed and would be displayed around the village and in newspapers during October and November. A public presentation event had been planned on 16th October to gauge the interest of residents, report on the key findings obtained from the questionnaire and inform parishioners of the next stages and approximate timescales. There would also be a structured question and answer sessions focussing on areas where more information is required. Cllrs to attend to support the working group. 	<p>Comms Cttee Comms Cttee</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllrs</p>
14/111	<p>To consider arrangements for elections in 2015 and to support campaign to encourage more people to come forward</p> <p>Cllrs had been informed via the Clerk's Report that Local Council elections would be held in May 2015 the same day as the general election and NALC had launched a campaign to encourage more people to stand.</p> <p>Based on this, it was agreed to include details in the GPN from November 2014 up to May 2015 about the parish council, the role of parish councilor and include excerpts from the Good Councilors Guide.</p>	
14/112	<p>To receive a report on financial receipts for July and August 2014 and to receive accounts for approval for September 2014</p> <p>The accounts were reviewed and approved for payment.</p>	
14/113	<p>To report on any road and footway matters within the parish</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to report the following issues to Highways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trip hazard as paving slabs had become uneven in front of bus stop on Newport Road (opposite Royal Oak) Blocked drain outside Wharf Road shops Potholes on Wilbrighton Road Large pot hole on Knightley Road (near to Hollies Common entrance) that had been filled with broken bricks therefore dangerous Water on road by Wilbrighton Manor near to T-junction with Gnosall Road– could be a leak Very large lorries (possibly travelling to Lower Reule Farm) using the Knightley Road - these lorries are too large for country lanes. The Clerk was asked to find out whether signs could be erected along the railway line near to farms encouraging people to keep dogs on leads (following a recent incident of a dog chasing sheep). The Clerk was asked to find out from the Site Manager on the Knightley Road development why signage for the construction site 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>had been removed.</p> <p>Cllrs were informed that the allotment road would be resurfaced on Friday 19th September. Work had been arranged by Gnosall Allotment and Gardens Association with a donation from Gnosall Parish Council. Cllr Greatrex informed councillors that Norbury Park estate had appointed contractors to resurface some of the estate's roads and he felt the contractors could be asked to quote for the resurfacing of the allotment road and play area car park when this work is considered in the future (as phase 3 of the Acres project). This was accepted.</p>	Cllr Greatrex
14/114	<p>To consider correspondence and other communications, received (list enclosed for parish councillors, available to residents on application to the Clerk)</p> <p>Cllrs Payne and Greatrex agreed to attend the Highways event on 25th September at which details of a new partnership with Amey would be shared.</p> <p>The Clerk would be attending Stafford Borough Council's Parish Forum on 25th September.</p>	<p>Cllrs Payne and Greatrex</p> <p>Clerk</p>
14/115	<p>To request items for the next agenda</p> <p>Cllrs to request items for inclusion at least 10 days prior to the next meeting.</p>	Cllrs
14/116	<p>To confirm the date and time of the next meeting</p> <p>13th October 2014 at 7.30pm</p>	

The meeting closed at 9.40pm