

GNOSALL PARISH COUNCIL

(INCLUDING THE WARDS OF MORETON AND KNIGHTLEY)



Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 13th January 2020 at 7.30pm In the Grosvenor Centre, Gnosall

Present: Cllr P Alker (in the chair) Cllr J Archer Cllr S Bishop

Cllr M Booth Cllr C Emsley Cllr R Greatrex
Cllr K Ingram Cllr V Kessey Cllr J Lammin
Cllr G Payne Cllr S Powell Cllr Simkin

Cllr J Tomkinson Cllr D Webb Jayne Cooper, Clerk

Along with SBC Cllr M Smith (from 8pm) and 2 members of the public

20/001	Public Open Forum	
	No matters were raised. One member was present to observe council and the other was purchasing a property in the village and was interested in the work of the Parish Council.	
20/002	To receive any apologies and record absences	
	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Gregory, Cllr Mills, SCC Cllr M Winnington, SBC Cllr P Farrington	
20/003	To record any Declarations of Interest	
	Cllr Archer declared an interest in any discussion about GG's youth club Cllr Simkin declared an interest in item 20/013	
20/004	To receive and confirm the minutes of the last meeting of council held on 9.12.2019	
	The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	
20/005	To consider any Matters Arising not elsewhere on the agenda	
	19/148 and 19/137 (November council meeting) SCC Cllr Winnington had responded to concerns raised about speeding along Brookhouse Road and Newport Road confirming both matters	

would be discussed at the next Divisional Highway Programme (DHP) meeting with the Community Highway Team. He added there are many competing demands for the DHP to fund and given the limited numbers that can be prioritised each year, those considered to be of lower priority would not be progressed for some time.

Cllr Winnington also responded to a previous matter raised by a parishioner via the Parish Council regarding the lack of maintenance to keep pavements clear of vegetation in Coton. Cllr Winnington response stated: The funding available for clearing undergrowth, moss, weeds etc had reduced and therefore Highways do not have the resources available to carry out any additional ad-hoc visits. There is a weed spraying treatment regime in place; these are Rural, for roads with a speed limit of 40mph and above and Urban, for roads with a speed limit of 30mph and below. Work to promote self-help for roadside maintenance activities is ongoing within our local communities. Should there be capacity within the community via self-help or a community group, the Parish are welcome to get in touch with us and we can offer them further advice

19/153 Inconsiderate parking at the top of Audmore Road, near to a new development site – although the situation had improved during December, inconsiderate parking has now worsened with parking on bends making visibility very difficult for passing traffic. Further reports to be made to the PCSO.

Inconsiderate parking at Glendower Close – no positive action taken as parking on pavements continues.

20/006 **To receive the following reports**

Clerk's Report

Details of committee meetings held in the past month were contained in the Clerk's report as well as a reminder to cllrs about a Quality Training event to be held on 21st January. The last Quality meeting was held in October 2017 prior to the Council achieving Quality Gold status in December 2017. Work to seek reaccreditation as well as review of council practices would be the focus of the Quality Training event.

The Clerk also informed Council that the Ambulance Service had reported difficulties in finding some addresses on the Linden Homes estate and had asked the council to make enquiries about better street signage. The Clerk had contacted Linden Homes and is awaiting a return call.

A review of the young driver's course held in October had been received and details had been circulated to all parish councillors. The evaluation would help shape the young driver content being developed for Staffordshire Fire and Rescue's Safe Sound programme.

The Clerk reported that approximately £4000 had been received from various funding sources for the Sensory Garden project. A meeting of the working group would now be arranged to commence this project. Cllrs were informed that as a result of £500 being awarded from Gnosall

United Charities, to help meet the maintenance costs of parish defibrillators, the council's budget had not needed to be increased as much as previously thought. GG's Youth Club had agreed changes with both junior and senior sessions being run on Wednesday nights. Cllrs also noted the changes to the opening hours of the library as from January 2020. **Parish Councillor Reports** Cllr Payne had attended the Annual General Meeting of Staffordshire Parish Council's Association and gave a report on the main items discussed which included details of a new member of SPCA staff employed to deliver training to councils, that the annual subscription for 2021/22 remains the same as 2019/20 and that a further 5 parish councils had joined SPCA. **Borough Councillor Report** Stafford Borough Council had increased Council Tax by 1.9% for 2020/21, equating to £3.30 per year. Parish Councils would be invited to a parish forum to be held in February at which SBC's Local Plan for 2020-2030 would be outlined. would be changes to the settlement hierarchy with more categories (Stafford, Stone, and North Stafford, large, medium and small settlements) with proposed areas for further development. Cllrs could view paperwork on line and would be invited to attend the forum. 20/007 To consider Highway matters The Clerk was asked to report: Several potholes along Brookhouse Road Clerk Lanes flooded on bend near to Brough Hall Water pouring from man hole along Befcote Road Cllr Greatrex reported on a meeting with SCC officers and cabinet members to review the issues on Knightley Road. A plan of works had been agreed to alleviate some of the flooding which in places is making Knightley Road impassable and to address works being carried out without permission. **To consider Committee matters** 20/008 Matters relating to the Grosvenor Committee Minutes of the meeting held on met on 10th December were accepted A card payment facility is being considered and information gathered. Initial sketch proposals for alterations to the Grosvenor Centre layout had been considered and welcomed by all members. It was agreed to accept the quotation of £600 for a budget and costings to be drawn up by Rigby Thorpe on the proposals as presented. Rigby Thorpe had been instructed to meet with the architect and a follow up meeting would be arranged.

	To consider a request for additional CCTV cameras on the Grosvenor Centre site	
	To ensure the Grosvenor site is fully covered by CCTV cameras, cllrs were informed that two additional cameras would be required to capture any anti social behaviour at the front of the building. Protecting property is something homes and property owners are being encouraged to do by Staffordshire Police (as reported to council at the December meeting). The approximate cost for additional cameras is £149 each plus fitting. Cllr Archer and the Clerk to meet to look into this further making sure the Council is compliant with GDPR regulations.	Cllr Archer Clerk
	 Matters relating to the Planning Committee A verbal report of the meeting held on 9.1.2020 was received. Plans to convert Church Cottage off the High Street into a dental surgery had been considered carefully and cllrs had no objection to the proposed changes and a detailed response would be formulated. 	
	 Matters relating to the Resources Committee Minutes of the meeting held on 17.12.19 were accepted 	
	To consider the budget and precept for 2020/21 A draft budget with a precept of £93,171 was presented. This precept had been recommend by Resources Committee to reach a balanced budget and would be an increase of 21%, 78.7p per month per Band D property.	
	There was discussion about the need to increase the precept to cover additional costs, increased maintenance, new projects all detailed in the proposed budget.	
	It was proposed to accept the budget and precept of £93,171 and to continue to carefully monitor council's expenditure throughout the year. This was seconded and a vote was taken with all councillors voting in favour. The Clerk would respond to SBC.	Clerk
20/009	To consider the replacement of anti dog fouling signs	
	Council was asked to consider purchasing a new stock of anti dog fouling signs. The effectiveness of the signs was discussed and it was proposed that new signs should be purchased. A vote was taken with 13 cllrs in favour and 1 against.	Clerk Cllr Webb
	It was also suggested by the Borough Cllr that contact is made with SBC regarding new rules about dogs and play areas. This would be followed up by the Clerk and Cllr Webb.	Clerk Cllr Webb
20/010	To receive a report on financial receipts for December 2019 and receive accounts for approval for January 2020	
	The accounts for January were approved for payment. The Clerk to action.	Clerk

20/011	To request items for the next agenda Cllrs to request items no later than 10 days before the date of the next meeting.	Cllrs
20/012	To confirm the date and time of the next meeting 10 th February 2020 at 7.30pm.	
20/013	 Matters relating to the Personnel Committee To receive an update on the appointment of the Council Support Officer Details of administrative tests carried out in December and subsequent interviews carried out on 10th January were shared and discussed. Council approved the recommendation from Personnel Committee to appoint Mr S Ridgewell as the Council Support Officer. 	

The meeting	closed	at	9pm
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Chair	
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