

**YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday 23rd July 2019 at 7.30pm
Yarnfield Village Hall
Minutes**

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

David Beeston

Stella Hughes

Frank Cromey

Sally Parkin,

Brian Eyre (Chairman)

Brian Rushton

Officer in attendance: - John Fraser- Clerk to the Parish Council

Also in attendance: - Trevor Parkin (SRCG), Patrick Wright (PCSO)

Public at the meeting: - 7

19.45 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Michael Beeston, Cllr Pert, Cllr Nixon and Cllr James

19.46 Declaration of Interest

Nil

19.47 Public Question Time

(a) What effects will the suggestion that the Government may consider building HS2 in the north of the country first?

This was not considered to be a serious proposition as it was based entirely on newspaper speculation.

19.48 Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Nil

19.49 To receive an update on HS2 from the Stone Rail Head Crisis Group (SRCG)

The SRCG has been busy since the last meeting:

- 3rd July: Met HS2 Ltd with residents of Newcastle Road Hanchurch. HS2 responded by undertaking a site visit on 15 July and its engineers were greeted by many residents.
- 8th July: Met Highways England's Regional Director and team. Followed on 12 July with detailed six-page letter and a 54 slide presentation to highlight problems for M6 and A500 at Hanchurch and Stone
- 13th July: SRCG stall at Yarnfield Fete
- 15th July: Third reading of Phase 2a Hybrid Bill passed by the House of Commons
- 16th July: Met Ashley PC about its proposed Phase 2b Railhead/IMB-R
- 21st July: SRCG update and AGM
- 22nd July: Yarnfield & Cold Meece Parish Council meet HS2 reps

In August the SRCG is scheduled to meet with Newcastle Under Lyme Borough Council and Staffordshire County Council.

The High Speed Rail (West Midlands - Crewe) Bill has now passed to the House of Lords for consideration. This provides the Parish Council with an opportunity to petition against the provisions of the Bill. It was agreed that a petition should be drafted and that an Extraordinary meeting of the Council be arranged.

Resolved:

- (i) That the Clerk liaises with the Stone Railhead Crisis Group to prepare the text of a draft petition.
- (ii) That an Extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council be held to approve the wording of a petition to the House of Lords before the deadline for submission on the 16th August 2019.

19.50 Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on the 25th June 2019 (as previously circulated)

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 25th June 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

19.51 To consider any matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

- (a) The new parish signs will be available by the end of July 2019. This will then allow renovation of the notice boards to be completed. [Minute No 19.35(e)]
- (b) Yarnfield Forum's application to the Staffordshire Road Safety Partnership has been approved with a grant of £2,477.58 being awarded to the Forum. The grant, which will pay for the speed awareness sign, does not cover the cost of installation. It was suggested that the Forum confirm the cost of installation with a view to them making a request to the Parish Council to contribute to the cost. The Forum has also approached Cllr Pert (SCC) to see if he is able to fund part of this cost. [Minute No. 19.35(h)]
- (c) Neighbourhood Plan -The proposed meeting with representatives of Urban Vision and the Forward Planning Team has been delayed. An update will be provided to the next meeting of the Parish Council. [Minute No. 19.38]
- (d) Footpath 34 - an email has been received from the County Council's Principal Rights of Way Officer confirming that "we are not proposing to take enforcement action to open the path's definitive line until we know the outcome of the appeal against the decision of the Countryside and Rights of Way Panel. This appeal is currently with the Planning Inspectorate". The Inspectorate is due to publish the decision by the end of September.
- (e) Himalayan balsam - A group organised by the Yarnfield Forum has removed the balsam growing along the bank of the stream. It is likely further work will be needed during the summer as more flowering balsam plants appear.

19.52 Parish Council Clerk's Report:

- (a) A contract to improve the drainage of the village green is to be awarded by the Borough Council's Steetscene Service. This work is left over from the time of Swynnerton Parish Council and was put on hold until after the split of the two Parish Councils.


A quotation for the work dated 6th November 2018 was supplied by Mark Stubbs Contractors & Plant for the value of £5,889.06 (plus VAT).

It is understood that section 106 money from the Walnut Tree Farm development will be used to pay for this work.

Streetscene has been approach to establish when the work on the village green will be started.

- (b) The competition brief to produce a letterhead for the Parish Council was circulated.

Resolved: that the competition brief be sent to local catchment schools, community groups and promoted throughout the parish.

-  (c) Budget - a copy of the July 2019 budget position was circulated and the schedule of payments approved and signed by the Chairman. *A copy of the schedule of payments is included at Appendix 1.*

- (d) VE Day commemoration 2020 - the May bank holiday in 2020 will move from Monday 4 May to Friday 8 May to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day. Given the role that Yarnfield and Cold Meece played during the Second World War this anniversary will provide an opportunity to commemorate the part the parish played and ensure that today's residents can mark this important event.

Resolved: That the Parish Council establish a working group that will;

- include representatives from the Yarnfield Forum, Village Hall Committee and Fete Committee to develop the timetable and scale of any events,
- agree the scope of the commemoration events and commit to organise the events, and,
- identify any budget required.

Correspondence and circulars

- (e) The Borough Council is consulting on a draft "Stafford Borough Economic Growth Strategy 2019-2024". Priority 3 of the strategy, "Unlocking the economic growth opportunities in our rural areas" sets out the main area of interest for the Parish Council. The Borough Council recognises the need to build sustainable communities and sees this as "providing affordable rural homes, encouraging tourism and supporting the mix with a better public transport offer". The Parish Council believe:

- (i) The strategy does not address the important question of support for existing services which are at risk of closing and the essential role that these services play in underpinning the viability of a rural community.
- (ii) There needs to be a clear recognition in the strategy of what makes an economically sustainable rural community. This should recognise the value of improved communication and local services and an assessment of the current state of rural communities.
- (iii) The strategy should be underpinned with clear actions that need to happen to support and maintain rural communities.

The parish council recognises the role that it can play and would hope that it can assist in the development and delivery of the strategy by encouraging local involvement.

Resolved: that the comments of the Parish Council are sent to the Borough Council.

- (f) Staffordshire County Council is responsible for determining planning applications for minerals and waste development (e.g. quarries or waste recycling facilities). The Statement of Community Involvement sets out how they will consult and engage with people and organisations to gain their views on planning applications. They are now inviting comments on this document.

Resolved: that no comment be made on the consultation

19.53 Parish Assembly work programme, update on the five areas of work

The lead for each of the five areas of work provided an update on the work being done.

19.54 Staffordshire County Council, Highlows Lane Feasibility Report

A report outlining four options that will help to improve the safety of vehicles manoeuvring around the HighLows Lane/Yarnfield Lane junction has been received from Cllr Pert.

Resolved: that further work is undertaken to establish whether the proposals will improve road safety at the junction.

19.55 To consider arrangements for a combined Parish/PCSO drop in clinic

Preliminary dates for the Parish Council/ PCSO drop in surgeries have been agreed:

- Thursday 26 September
- Thursday 24 October
- Thursday 21 November

- Thursday 19 December
All will be between 10am and 11am

19.56 Reports from Parish Councillors on meetings/courses attended.

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on the 22 July 2019 with HS2 Ltd staff. The meeting provided an opportunity to express the Council's ongoing concern about the HS2 proposals and to confirm that the Council will be submitting a petition to the House of Lords against the provisions of the HS2 Hybrid Bill.

A visit is to be arranged by HS2 Ltd to the Swynnerton Ground Investigation compound.

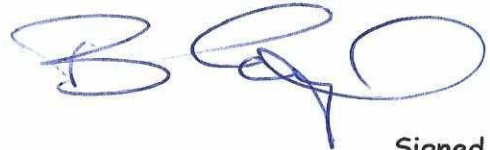
19.57 Article for inclusion in the Parish magazine and the Newsletter's Community News

An article on the letter head competition should be included in both the Parish Magazine and Newsletter's Community News.

19.58 Date and Time of Next Meeting

10 September 2019 at 7.30pm in Yarnfield Village Hall

Meeting Ended 9:45pm



Signed
Chairman of the Council
Date: 10 September 2019

Planning matters:

To discuss and confirm responses in respect of the following application:

Reference	Address	Outline	Decision
Nil			

Yarnfield and Cold Meece - Schedule of Payments

23 July 2019

	Invoice No/date	Amount	Cheque No.
John Green - 30 June 2019	30/06/19	456.00	000005
SPCA - Local Councillor Training	19/285	75.00	000006
Barlaston Parish Council - training	15/06/19	50.00	000007
Yarnfield Village Hall - room hire	17/07/19	72.00	000008
P & M Edwards - Bury Bank Nursery	23/7/19	100.00	000009
Clerk - office expenses	23/7/19	160.88	000010
Clerk's salary	23/7/19	1,213.70	000011
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