YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

14th July 2020 at 7.30pm Virtual Online Meeting

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

Councillors:

David Beeston Stella Hughes
Brian Eyre (Chairman) Sally Parkin
Frank Cromey Brian Rushton

Also in attendance: -Cllr. Nixon (SBC), Cllr. James (SBC) and Cllr. Pert (SCC)

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

Public at the meeting: - 8 (viewing on Facebook Live)

Apologies

20.115 Apologies were received from Cllr. Malcolm Beeston.

Declarations of Interest

20.116 Nil

Public Question Time

20.117 Nil

8 Maple Close, Yarnfield: application to enter onto Parish Council land to undertake building work.

- 20.118 In September 2019, the Parish Council considered a planning application for 8 Maple Close,
- 20.119 A request has been received from the builder employed to undertake the work to grant permission to enter onto the village green to assist in the building work.
- 20.120 **Resolved**: It was resolved that permission be granted to:
 - Dig a single trial hole on the village green to establish how deep the footings for the proposed extension will need to be, and,
 - ii. to place scaffolding on the village green during the construction.

The permission is granted subject to:

- i. A copy of the builder's current Public Liability Insurance being sent to the parish clerk before commencement of any work.
- ii. The trial hole will be back filled, and the turf replaced, immediately after the Building Inspector has agreed the depth of the foundations.
- iii. The start date for the construction work is communicated to the parish clerk.
- iv. No delivery of building material will be made to the site across the village green.

- v. As much of the building work as possible will be undertaken from steel trestles, thereby reducing the time needed for scaffolding on the site.
- vi. The vehicle bringing and then removing the scaffolding will not drive onto the village green. The scaffolding material will be carried by hand both to, and from, the site.
- vii. The site adjacent to the village green will be securely fenced to prevent unauthorised access.
- viii. All debris is removed from the village green on completion of the building work to the satisfaction of the Parish Council.

Community Speed Watch: to receive an update on the ElanCity speed sign

20.121 The ElanCity Evolis radar speed sign was installed on Yarnfield village green on 19th June 2020 after which the device was left running between 20th and 30th June 2020.

20.122 June 2020 statistics:

	Total Traffic	Percentage of vehicles exceeding 31mph
Incoming vehicles - from Meece	9,223	3.56%
Outgoing vehicles - from Stone	9,787	8.54%
Total traffic flow	19,010	6.12%

20.123 Resolved: It was resolved that:

i. A programme is put in place to evaluate the benefit of the ElanCity speed sign:

Month	Direction of radar sign	Mode of operation
July 2020	West	Radar sign displaying vehicle speed
August 2020	West	Radar screen should be turned off to capture a baseline data point
September 2020	East	Radar sign displaying vehicle speed
October 2020	East	Radar screen to be turned off to capture a baseline data point
November 2020	East	Radar sign displaying vehicle speed

Reports from Borough and County Councillors

20.124 Cllr Pert

- Staffordshire County Council recognise there may be a need for local lock-downs in order to keep the R number for the virus under control and prevent further escalation in the number of cases.
- Work has resumed on consultation and it is hoped the double yellow lines consultation will be started soon.

A drawn-up design has now been agreed to change the road markings on the junction of Highlows Lane and Yarnfield Lane. The visibility at this junction, from all directions, is poor and it is recognise that this work needs to be considered as part of a package of improvements. The real solution is to remodel the junction, but the cost for this would be prohibitive and if it were to happen will need to be done as part of a wider scheme for the repair of pavements.

The work the Parish Council is doing with the owners of the hedge, which contributes to the problem of poor visibility at the junction, will help to improve safety and hopefully will be completed by the end of July.

The edge of the highway has been identified and it is clear that the bank under the hedge has encroached onto the road by 300 - 400mm. County Council highways staff will be asked to provide advice on how to resolve this problem.

20.125 Cllr James reported

- Work at the Borough Council is now coming back online, and they are starting to get back on track following the difficulties caused by Covid-19.
- Residents need to be aware that next year the Borough Council will be charging for the brown bin service.

20.126 Cllr Nixon reported

- No further complaints have been received about the noise problems discussed at the last Parish Council meeting in June 2020.
- A small discretionary grant has been made available by the Borough Council for small businesses.

Update on HS2 from the Stone Rail Head Crisis Group (SRCG)

- 20.127 Since the last meeting of the Parish Council SRCG continues to work on the project and challenge HS2 Ltd.'s plans.
 - The House of Lords petition proceedings will restart using video conferencing on Monday 20th July 2020. Ten petitioners have elected to participate in this process. However, as the parish council's preference was for a "face to face" meeting the date of their appearance has been deferred until after Parliament's summer recess. It is hoped that by this date the House of Lords will allow the Parish Council to give evidence in person.
 - H52 Ltd has responded to the parish council's letter of 7th May 2020. The key points made by
 H52 Ltd in the letter were:
 - It provided a cross-section of a typical construction of a haul road proposed for the development. This does not meet the minimum standards required by the Health and Safety Executive.
 - It has committed to providing the Parish Council with a copy of the factual report relating to ground investigations. This has still to be provided.
 - The request to receive a copy of the HS2 Ltd Transport Logistics Profile for the Stone Railhead construction sites remains unanswered.

- Based on a 25-year old structural survey of the existing Yarnfield Lane M6 overbridge, provided by Highways England, it has confirmed that the bridge is structurally capable of handling the number of HGVs that HS2 Ltd wants to put across it.
- Provided Details of speed surveys undertaken on Yarnfield Lane in 2015 and 2016.
- SRCG's technical team remain busy working on technical reports and is preparing a response to HS2 Ltd.'s letter of 16 June 2020.

Approval of the published draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16 June 2020.

20.128 The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th June 2020 were approved. As a result of the Covid-19 restrictions on public meetings the minutes will be signed at the first available opportunity.

Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda

- 20.129 Matters arising:
 - The asbestos panel at the top of Yarnfield Parkway has been removed by Swynnerton Estate staff.

Proposed amendment to the Council's Standing Orders: recording of on-line meetings

- 20.130 The review of the Standing Orders in May 2020 approved the arrangements for holding on-line meetings of the Parish Council. The review provided that on-line meetings be simultaneously broadcast on the Parish Council's Facebook page.
- 20.131 Standing Orders required the recording is removed from the Facebook page at the end of the meeting. This has been criticised by some residents who wanted to watch the meeting but were unable to do so when it was taking place.
- 20.132 Allowing access to the recording after the meeting has closed would allow a wider audience to be reached. There is no guidance available on the best approach to be taken. Ultimately it will be for the council to decide how long the recording should remain available.
- 20.133 Resolved: It was resolved that the Standing Orders be amended, with immediate effect, to allow recording of Parish Council meetings to be available on the Facebook page until the draft minutes of the meeting are published on the Parish Council website.

Greenside playground: to receive an update on steps taken to reopen the playground

- 20.134 To assist local councils to prepare for the reopening of playgrounds the Government published advice on the controls that needed to be put in place. Based on this guidance:
 - A Covid-19 risk assessment was carried out to assess what measures needed to be put in place.
 (Appendix 1A)
 - A safety inspection of the equipment was undertaken.
 - Signs were prepared and displayed on the site to help inform users about the controls and what they needed to do to stay safe. (Appendix 1B)
 - Detailed advice on use of the site was posted on the Parish Council website (Appendix 1C)
 - A weekly site inspection programme was introduced.

- 20.135 The re-opening of the Greenside playground was allowed from 04 July 2020. The decision to reopen the site was published on the Parish Council website and Facebook page.
- 20.136 The location of the Greenside playground, which allows access to the play equipment at any time, means that it is not feasible to provide the following:
 - Provision of stewards
 - Arrange a booking system
 - Relocate equipment to ensure social distancing
 - Clean equipment daily
 - Provide cleaning equipment
 - Create entrance and exits
- 20.137 One item was identified in the site inspection that needs to be addressed related to the outstanding issue of the repair of the safety matting.
- 20.138 Resolved: It was resolved that:
 - i. That the report is noted.
 - ii. That the action relating to the safety matting is addressed as a matter of priority.

Parish Council Risk Register: to consider the quarterly review and note actions taken

- 20.139 The Parish Council's Risk Register was revised in May 2020. At that time, a request was made that a quarterly review of the Risk Register was reported to the Council.
- 20.140 The July 2020 review of the register has identified two changes:
 - to reflect changes needed to address Covid-19 restrictions and the impact on the Parish Council.
 - to enhance controls in relation to the Ground Maintenance Contract.
- 20.141 A copy of the revised Risk Register is attached at Appendix 2.
- 20.142 Resolved: That the revised Risk Register is noted.

Parish Priority Action Plan: to receive an update on progress

- 20.143 The Parish Priority Action Plan was reviewed in March 2020. While some work has been completed since the last review delivery of the priorities have been affected by the Covid-19 restrictions.
- 20.144 The focus of the Parish Council in the last three months has been to support residents through the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 20.145 A review of the plan has identified several priority actions that could be grouped into a single priority. By doing this there would be less duplication within the plan and greater clarity and therefore more manageable work programmes. A copy of the review is attached at Appendix 2.
- 20.146 One casualty of Covid-19 has been the Annual Parish Meeting, which was scheduled to take place in May 2020, is not now likely to take place until 2021. The review of the Parish Priority Action Plan will form a central part of the report to the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 20,147 Resolved: It was resolved that:
 - i. That the Parish Priority Action Plan update is noted.

- ii. That a review of the plan is undertaken during the summer recess.
- iii. That the Annual Parish Meeting is held as soon as realistically possible.
- iv. That a Newsletter is prepared detailing the work of the Parish Council over the last 12 months which can be sent to every household in the parish.

Village Sign: to consider a proposal to raise funds for a village sign on Yarnfield village green

The Chairman, Cllr Eyre, promoted the idea of having an ornamental sign on the village green. If this were to happen funds would need to be found to pay for the sign, possibly through a fund-raising exercise, and a suitable design would need to be created. It was recognised that other parishes in Staffordshire had erected ornamental signs. As this was a new proposal the Clerk was asked to make enquiries and report back to a future meeting about the feasibility of such a project.

Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council

Budget

- 20.149 The Schedule of Payments up to 14th July 2020 was approved and is attached at Appendix 3.
- 20.150 The current account balance on 9th July 2020 was £8,103.79 and the reserve account balance was £2,000 plus interest.
- 20.151 Invoices from the Borough Council for the 2019 local government election recharge and the cost of the civic amenity collection have not yet been received.

Correspondence and circulars

- 20.152 The following correspondence, circulars and issues were raised with the parish council.
 - a) The National Association of Local Councils has advised that local councils should not return to holding "face to face" meetings until further Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.
 - b) The problem of littering reported to the March 2020 meeting of the Parish Council resulted in the company involved, Flares Takeaway, Stone, receiving a fixed penalty notice, which they have now paid.
 - c) Severn Trent Water had hoped to complete the repair work on the VOSA site in Cold Meece in June 2020. Unfortunately, the work was delayed as the agreement with the landowner took longer to complete than expected. It is now hoped this work will start in July 2020.
 - d) A request has been received from the local Severn Trent Engineer to come and talk to the Parish Council at a future meeting.
 - **Resolved**: It was resolved that an invitation be extended to the local Severn Trent Engineer to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council.
 - e) The attendance at the Parish Council meetings of the local PCSO has been disrupted by the Covid-19 restrictions. It was felt the PCSO's should be invited if there are specific items on the agenda that would justify their presence.
 - f) Severn Trent Water have been asked to investigate the ponding of water at the top of the Village Green which may indicate the presence of a burst water main.

- g) OpenReach have agreed to undertake the repair of two damaged manhole covers on Yarnfield Lane close to the Wellbeing Park football ground.
- h) Safety matting the costs from contractors to repair the matting will be in the region of £1,000 per 5metre length. The alternative will be to purchase the materials needed and find a local contractor to carry out the repairs.

Resolved: It was resolved that efforts are made to identify a local contractor

- i) Yarnfield Park Multi-use play area maintenance of the litter bin is the responsibility of the owner of the site, Hackberry Properties Ltd. As a good will gesture the bin has now been emptied by the Yarnfield Park Conference Centre staff. Further efforts are needed to find a permanent solution to the problem.
- j) Yarnfield Park s106 agreement The Borough Council planning department has been asked to address concerns that the Parish Council has with the application of the s106 agreement in relation to grounds maintenance and the awarding of shares in the maintenance company that the Developer is required to set up. Once this advice is received from the Borough Council residents on the site will probably need to set up their own residents' association. The Parish Council will be happy to provide leadership and support to the residents of Yarnfield Park to resolve this issue.

This work was first considered by the former Parish Council who had met with residents,

Resolved: It was resolved that:

- i. Swynnerton Parish Council is asked to supply minutes of their meetings covering this work,
- ii. That the Borough Council be asked to address the Parish Council's concerns.
- k) Walking the July 2020 meeting of the Parish Council received a request to set up circular walks in the parish.
 - There are a few routes in the parish that could be used to form a circular walk. However, some of these follow routes that are not designated public footpaths and for this reason it would not be appropriate to use these routes. Contact has been made with the Borough Council to see what support can be provided to set up a walking for health group that could operate in the parish.
- 1) Footpath No. 10 (Yarnfield to Cold Meece) discussions have taken place with the manager for the Swynnerton Estate about the route of footpaths in the parish and in particular about the Council's ambition to improve Footpath No. 10. Any work on the footpath, which is in multiple ownership, will require the support and involvement of all the landowners, and their tenants. The Swynnerton Estate would be prepared to support a scheme of improvement but would want to approve any plans first. The Parish Council has set aside a budget of £2,000 for this work and will also apply to the County Council's Community Paths Initiative Grant.

Date and time of next meeting.

20.153 15th September 2020 at 7.30 pm

Chairman of the Council

Date 15th September 2020

Meeting Closed 9:45pm

Planning matters:

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

Reference	Address	Outline	Decision
Nil			

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council COVID-19 Specific - Play Area Risk Assessment

COVID-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways and is caused by a virus called Coronavirus. The symptoms can be mild, moderate, severe, or fatal.

Name of Assessor: John Fraser, Parish Clerk

Assessment Date: 03/07/20

Review Date: 03/2021

What are the hazards? Spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Who might be harmed	Controls Required	Risk Assessment	Additional Controls	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done
 Employees Children Vulnerable groups elderly, those with existing underlying health conditions Anyone else who physically comes in contact with the play equipment and/or Outside gym equipment 	Cleaning Frequently cleaning and disinfecting objects and surfaces that are touched regularly particularly in areas of high use. Parents, Guardians and users of the gym equipment should be encouraged to clean the equipment before and after use by way of signage	The Greenside playground is open on all sides. Access to the site cannot be controlled by the Parish Council. Closure is not therefore an option. COVID-19 controls will rely on user support in relation to separation distances, hygiene control to reduce risk of infection spread and overcrowding.	Posters, leaflets and other materials are available for display. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidanceto-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19 Regular checks should be carried out to ensure signage is in place. Weeks 1 & 2 - daily visits	JRF	03/07/20	✓
	Social Distancing Social Distancing - Reducing the number of people to allow a	Controls will rely on signage advising users what to do. It is not feasible to provide the following: • Provision of Stewards	Weeks 3 & onwards - weekly visits for the duration of the outbreak or until a material change in the risk assessment.			

				Apper	Idix IA
distance of 2 metres,	 Arrange a booking system 				
where possible, as	 Relocate equipment for 				
recommended by the	social distancing				
Public Health Agency	 Clean equipment daily 				
https://www.gov.uk/gove	 Provide cleaning equipment 				
rnment/publications/covi	 Create entrance and exits 				
d-19-guidance-on-social-					
distancing-and-for-	Full details of the guidance to be				
vulnerable-people	displayed on the Parish Council				
	website.				
Wearing of Face Masks					
Should be encouraged					
but would be difficult to					
police		Signs to remind users that	JRF	03/07/20	✓
		the virus is still active			
Signage					
To advise parents and					
users that the					
equipment needs to be					
sanitised before and					
after use.					
Reminder regarding					
socially distancing.					
Reminder to wear a mask					

Appendix 1A

			Apper	ndix 1A
Booking system				
Instigate a booking				
system for the				
equipment - only feasible	:			
if the equipment is				
under total				
control/supervision of				
council i.e. an indoor play				
area				
One Way System				
Consideration should be				
given to installing a one				
way system around the				
equipment if this is				
feasible				
Refuse				
Increase the number of				
refuse collections (or				
increase the number of				
receptacles) to ensure				
that there are adequate				
facilities for people to				
dispose of their litter				
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Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council Greenside Playground Open from 4th July 2020

Parents, carers and playground users: You are responsible for following the guidance to keep us all safe.



Make sure you maintain 2m distance between yourself and others.



Sanitise your hands before, during and after using the playground especially after touching the play equipment.



Wash your hands thoroughly, for at least 20 seconds, when you get home.



No food or drink to be consumed at the playground.



If the playground is busy please wait or come back later.

Further information about the use of the playground and Covid-19 guidance can be found at: www.ycm-pc.org.uk





@ycmparishcouncil



Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council Greenside Playground Open from 4th July 2020

Parents, carers and playground users: You are responsible for following the guidance to keep us all safe.



Scientific advice suggests that the COVID-19 virus can survive for up to several days on some hard surfaces. The risks are reduced when outdoors, where surfaces may be subject to UV light and/or rain. Whilst all possible practical measures have been put in place the users of this equipment does so at their own choice and risk.

It is not feasible to provide the following:

- · Provision of Stewards
- Arrange a booking system
- Relocate equipment for social distancing
- Clean equipment daily
- · Provide cleaning equipment
- · Create entrance and exits

Parents, carers and users are encouraged to:

- Clean any touch points such as swing rockers, see saws, or equipment handles
- · Bring hand sanitiser gel or wipes to clean their children's hands
- Carry out regular hand hygiene by washing/sanitising hands more often than usual, for 20 seconds using an approved gel and foam sanitiser, particularly at the beginning and end of play
- Not touch their faces, and to cough or sneeze into a tissue or arm when a tissue is not available
- Remember not to put their mouths on equipment or their hands in their mouths
- Remember the need to maintain social distancing at all times

In addition:

- Follow the current social distance guidelines when visiting and encourage your children
- The consumption of food or drink in the playground area is banned
- All litter including any used protective wear such as face coverings or gloves must be placed in a litter bin or taken home
- If the playground is busy, consider coming back at a later time

The Parish Council will monitor Government guidance and reserves the right to make changes to these arrangements or to close the Greenside playground.

National Guidance:

https://www.eov.uk/eovernment/oublications/covid-19-enidance-for-managine-playerounds-andgutdoor-gyms/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-playgrounds-and-outdoor-gyms



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Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council July 2020 Assessment of risk

Risk is an uncertain event or condition that, if it occurs, will have an effect on the achievement of an authority's objectives. Risk management is the process whereby authorities methodically address the risks associated with what they do and the services which they provide. The focus of risk management is to identify what can go wrong and take proportionate steps to avoid this or successfully manage the consequences. Good risk management allows stakeholders to have increased confidence in the authority's corporate governance arrangements and its ability to deliver its priorities.

The assessment of potential impact and likelihood need not be any more complex than assigning a simple numerical score, say 1 - 3, and multiplying the two scores to arrive at a risk assessment for each risk of high, medium or low. The risk assessment enables the authority to decide which risks it should pay most attention to when considering what measures to take to manage them.

	Impact			
Likeli		Negligible (1)	Moderate (2)	Severe (3)
ihooc	Unlikely (1)	Low (1)	Low (1)	Medium (3)
73	Possible (2)	Low (2)	Medium (4)	High (6)
	Highly likely (3)	Medium (3)	High (6)	High (9)

Strategic Risk 1	Closure of	Closure of commercial premises in the parish									
	Responsibility	Councillors/Clerk	Likelihood	3	Impact	2	Total Score = 6 (High)				

Consequence of Risk

- Closure of commercial premises in the parish resulting in the parish becoming less viable.
- Loss of Key Service Village status
- Significant increase in problems of rural isolation for residents of the parish
- Increased reliance on public transport links

Key Controls in Place

- Open lines of communication with the businesses concerned
- Maintain dialogue with business
- Work with Staffordshire County Council to identify grant/business opportunities

Strategic Risk 2	HS2 - Rai	lhead and Infrastr	ucture Mainte	nance	e Base - R	Rail	
	Responsibility	Councillors/clerk	Likelihood	3	Impact	3	Total Score = 9 (High)

Consequence of Risk

- Extensive disruption to village life
- Travel arrangements to and from the parish severely limited resulting in delayed travel time for school, work, emergency services and other users that need to travel on Yarnfield Lane
- Risk of environmental disruption due to construction work; noise, dust and light.

Key Controls in Place

- Petitioning against the HS2 Ltd proposals to construct a Railhead/IMB-R on Yarnfield Lane
- Work with Stone Rail Head Crisis Group to challenge the HS2 Ltd proposals
- Work with Chebsey Parish Council and Stone Town Council

Operational Risk 1	Data loss cause	due to IT failure	2			
	Responsibility	Parish clerk	Likelihood	2	Impact	Total Score = 2 (Low)

Consequence of Risk

- Inability to comply with statutory requirements
- · Running of council business compromised
- Financial systems lost

Key Controls in Place

• All data automatically backed up to Microsoft OneDrive

Operational Risk 2	Damage to/	accident Greensic	le Play Equipn	nent (Covid-19	update	2)
	Responsibility	Parish clerk	Likelihood	2	Impact	2	Total Score = 4 (Low)

Consequence of Risk

- Injury to third party
- · Loss or damage of equipment
- Unplanned for cost
- Loss of valuable play facility for children in the parish
- Spread of infection

Key Controls in Place

- Weekly inspection of Covid-19 arrangements
- Playground Inspection Report revised to include Covid-19 arrangements
- Monthly safety inspection of play equipment
- Annual safety audit undertaken by independent inspector
- Insurance policy maintained

Operational Risk 3	Loss of Grou	unds Maintenance	contractor				
	Responsibility	Parish clerk	Likelihood	1	Impact	2	Total Score = 2 (Low)

Consequence of Risk

- Maintenance of the village green put at risk
- Loss of reputation
- Budget risk due to increased cost

Key Controls in Place

- Robust tendering process
- Regular liaison with grounds maintenance contractor
- · Liaison with neighbouring parish councils
- Review of the contract requirements scheduled for October 2020

Operational Risk 4	Loss of council website							
	Responsibility	Parish clerk	Likelihood	2	Impact	1	Total Score = 2 (Low)	
nsequence of Risk								

- Communication compromised
- Loss of ability to publish minutes and agenda
- Loss of reputation

Key Controls in Flace

- Service level agreement with Staffordshire County Council Digital team
- Website hosted by Staffordshire County Council
- Training in maintenance and use of the website

John Fraser Parish Clerk 08th July 2020

Yarnfield and Cold Meece - Schedule of Payments 14 July 2020

Detail	Date	Amount	Payment Method / Cheque No.	VAT	Section 137 payment
Clerk's salary (June 2020)	02-Jul-20	516.13	Bank transfer	-	
HMRC (Period 3)	02-Jul-20	129.00	Bank transfer	-	
Trent Ground Maintenance - Invoice No 4	17-Jul-20	979.56	Bank transfer	163.26	

1,624.69

163.26

Chairman Cllr. Eyre

Date:

13.4.2