

YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday 10 November 2021
Yarnfield Park Conference Centre

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

Councillors:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Malcolm Beeston | Sally Parkin (Chairperson) |
| Brian Eyre | Brian Rushton |
| Stella Hughes | |

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

Public at the meeting: 0

Live on Facebook: 0

Apologies

21-637 Apologies were received from: Cllr David Beeston, Cllr Cromey, Cllr Nixon (SBC), Cllr James (SBC), Cllr Pert (SCC) and Simon Walch (CSW)

Declarations of Interest

21-638 There were no declarations of interest.

Public Question Time

21-639 Nil

Community Speed Watch Update

21-640 The Community Speed Watch report is attached at Appendix 1.

21-641 There continues to be a significant reduction in the number of vehicles passing the speed sign which fell from 60,000 to 30,000. This reduction is attributed to the closure of Yarnfield Lane.

21-642 The percentage of vehicles exceeding the speed limit has reduced from 7% to .3%. This reduction is linked to the closure of Yarnfield Lane which has meant it can't be used as a "rat run".

Reports from Borough and County Councillors

21-643 Representatives from the Borough and County Councils were not available to attend the meeting.

Update on the work of the Stone Rail Head Crisis Group (SRCG)

21-644 Kier has been appointed by HS2 Ltd to undertake the detailed design of 21 highway schemes across Staffordshire. These schemes include;

- Realignment of Yarnfield Lane
- Realignment of Eccleshall Road
- Junction amendments between Yarnfield Lane and the A34 at the Wayfarer Pub

- 21-645 Last week residents would have received notification that Kier intends to undertake some ground penetrating surveys to verify the location of buried services affected by these road schemes.
- 21-646 The surveys will not be intrusive but will involve lane closures and the use of temporary traffic lights. The works will take place in a phased way starting with Eccleshall Road on Monday 15th November. Yarnfield Lane will be affected for two weeks from Friday 19th November.
- 21-647 These surveys will find the high pressure gas main that runs along Yarnfield Lane.
- 21-648 In addition, HS2 Ltd has failed to admit to a 450mm water main which supplies Stone. This crosses the northern end of the Railhead, where HS2 will excavate to depths in excess of 10m. This will need to be diverted over a distance of at least 950m, which will cost £millions to divert.
- 21-649 These services were not mentioned in documentation produced in evidence by HS2 Ltd for the House of Commons Select Committee and it therefore included no costs. However, it falsely claimed that the alternative proposals at Aldersey's Rough would need the diversion of a 132kv overhead line, and other services that it claimed would cost £12 million plus a 40% contingency.
- 21-650 HS2 Ltd has returned to undertake further ground investigations in the area to supplement surveys done in 2019. The earlier surveys showed that ground conditions locally were very poor and affected by artesian water. SRCG has analysed the 2019 ground investigation results and consider that it will be very difficult and expensive to overcome the problems.
- 21-651 The Annual Extraordinary Meeting of the Transport Sub-Group will be held via Teams on Thursday 25th November and can involve up to two representatives from Parish Councils.
- 21-652 The format is controlled by HS2 Ltd who uses it as an opportunity to get across generic information about Phase 2a Transport issues. It will not allow site or parish specific topics to be discussed. Parish Councils have been invited to submit questions to be discussed at the meeting.
- 21-653 It is important that we have an accurate photographic record of the parish to demonstrate what has changed, and the impact that HS2 has had on the parish. This work could be supported by the community and by the local Facebook pages who regularly post photographs taken in the parish.
- 21-654 The parish councillors have been invited to a meeting with HS2 Ltd and their contractors to talk about the latest proposals for the construction of the Stone Railhead and IMB-R.
- 21-655 **Resolution;** It was resolved that:
- i. The Parish Council is represented at the Annual Extraordinary Meeting of the Transport Sub-Group by Mr Parkin and the clerk.
 - ii. The following question is submitted to the Annual Extraordinary Meeting.
- " Parish councils are a valuable resource, providing a vital link to communities affected by the HS2 proposals and have considerable local knowledge that could prove to be valuable to the contractors.
- We understand that HS2 Ltd has appointed Kier to carry out the detailed design of 21 road schemes through Staffordshire and that these include the realignment of Yarnfield Lane and Eccleshall Road, together with a new junction layout between Yarnfield Lane and the A34 at the Fillybrooks. Please can you tell us how Kier (and/or

HS2 Ltd) intends to consult with Parish Councils during the design process in order to both acquire local knowledge and provide reassurance that the impact on, and wellbeing of, local people and the environment will be at the core of the design process?"

- iii. That an approach is made to social media administrators in the parish to save photographs of the area.
- iv. Arrangements are made for a face to face meeting with HS2 Ltd and their contractors.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 October 2021

- 21-656 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 October 2021 were approved as a correct record of the meeting subject to the correction of a number of typographic errors in the draft document.

Matters arising from the minutes of 15 September 2021

- 21-657 **Minute 21-549: provision of disabled access at the Labour in Vain.** Further efforts need to be made to establish what can be done to provide disabled toilets.
- 21-658 **Minute 21-556: meeting with Borough Council officers about the proposed Garden Village project.** A decision on this is not expected until December 2021.
- 21-659 **Minute 21-560: Motocross Events, Cold Meece.** Evidence of future activity on the site is to be collected by the Parish Council and then sent to the planning officer to consider whether any breaches of planning rules are taking place. No further action to be taken until an event is planned for the site.
- 21-660 **Minute 21-561: Yarnfield Park Residents Group.** The proposed meeting of the group has been affected by Covid-19 infections and a new date for the meeting is to be arranged.
- 21-661 **Minute 21-568: Police firing range.** Stafford Borough Council to be asked to provide an update on proposals for the firing range.
- 21-662 **Minute 21-571: West Midlands Ambulance Service.** The Ambulance Trust assures the Parish Council that the Trust takes delays very seriously and it has measures in place to advise crews about diversions and these are being reiterated to crews and control centre staff. The operational model used by the Trust means crews coming to the parish are likely to be based in Stafford or Stoke on Trent. The mapping system used by the Trust does not always have the latest information about road closures and diversions.
- 21-663 Concern was expressed about the suggestion that ambulance crews attending 999 calls in the parish will be coming from either Stafford or Stoke on Trent. It was thought that, while this may be true, the crews in the ambulances may have been rostered to these ambulance stations from other parts of the West Midlands.
- 21-664 It was felt that with the potential for further significant disruption to the parish from the HS2 proposals it is important that the seriousness of this issue is not lost.
- 21-665 **Minute 21-589: Greenside play area.** The willow tree overhanging the playground equipment has been cut back. It is hoped further work on other trees along the stream can be undertaken at the

same time as the work that needs to be done to restore damage cause by Severn Trent contractors.

- 21-666 **Minute 21-603: Network Plus repairs.** Network Plus need to be held to the commitment they gave at the outset of the project to reinstate the damage to the verges on Yarnfield Lane.

Annual Parish Assembly

- 21-667 Number of people attending = 15 (including 6 councillors)
- 21-668 The Parish Assembly is used to help the Parish Council set its future work programme. The timetable for the preparation of the Parish Plan, budget and precept for 2022 was agreed.
- Draft Parish Plan 2022 prepared 8 December
 - Parish Plan approved 15 December
 - Draft budget and precept 5 January 2022
 - Budget and precept approved 12 January 2022
 - Stafford Borough Council precept confirmation 31 January 2022

Queen's Jubilee

- 21-669 The combined group working on the celebrations includes, Parish Council, Fete Committee and the Village Hall Committee.
- 21-670 Events being planned:

| When | What |
|--|---|
| Friday 3 rd June - (evening) | Talk about the parish during the Queen's reign. (Ticketed - free) |
| Saturday 4 th June (afternoon) | Picnic on the village green <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bouncy castle and other children's attractions - Ice cream van - Hog roast - Other catering stalls to be confirmed |
| Saturday 4 th June (evening) | Party in the village hall (Ticketed - cost to be confirmed) |
| Sunday 5 th June (afternoon) | Strawberry tea in the village hall (Ticketed - cost to be confirmed) |

- 21-671 The amusements and catering stalls are being secured on the basis of no cost to the combined group. The Parish Council's insurers, BHIB, will be approach for advice on insurance liabilities, risk assessments and the cost of including these events in the council insurance.
- 21-672 Promotion of the events will start in the new year.
- 21-673 The cost associated with the Queen's Jubilee celebrations will be met by the combined group.
- 21-674 A budget will need to be set to cover the cost of promotion for the event and potential additional insurance premiums once details have been confirmed.

Parish Clerk's report:

Budget

- 21-675 The schedule of payments since the last meeting is £1,415.27
- 21-676 The Parish Council's bank reconciliation balance on 10 November 2021 was £23,629.56
- 21-677 The second precept and concurrent grant payment amounting to £13,440.00 has been received.
- 21-678 The Parish Council's projected budget commitment on 10 November was £16,386
- 21-679 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the schedule of payments in Appendix 2 was approved.

Review of printing costs

- 21-680 The Parish Council's printing is paid for through an HP Instant Ink contract which allows for the printing of up to 300 pages each month at a cost of £9.99.
- 21-681 There has been a substantial increase in the volume of printing following the return to face to face meetings. This has resulted in additional printing costs. It was proposed that the contract be revised to allow for the printing of 500 pages each month at a cost of £16.49.
- 21-682 **Resolution:** It was resolved to upgrade the HP Instant Ink contract to £16.49,

Update on actions taken

- 21-683 Bank application form - the move to an online community bank account has been suspended pending further enquiries with NatWest bank to establish what charges will apply to the account.
- 21-684 Parish notice boards - Noticeboards Online Ltd has offered a £100 discount on the price of each notice board. The cost of each board including the discount will be £741
- 21-685 **Resolution:** It was resolved that:
- i. Three Storm Guard post mounted notice boards with header panels are purchased at a cost of £2,223;
 - ii. that Eddy's Building Services is approach to provide a price for the removal of the old boards and installation of the new boards.
- 21-686 Greenside play equipment - the spring on the four way rocker has broken and the damaged equipment removed from site. A replacement spring will cost £194.00 + VAT and postage.
- 21-687 **Resolution:** It was resolved that a new spring is ordered.
- 21-688 Greenside Playground - removal of the willow branches hanging over the play equipment has been completed by Trent Ground Maintenance.
- 21-689 Walking for health - the final training evaluation session took place on 9 November 2021. The event was a very successful and there was a good turn out for the event. Discussions will now take place to arrange another walk before the end of the year
- 21-690 Safeguarding training - to be arranged with Support Staffordshire.
- 21-691 Remembrance Day arrangement - meeting at the Rose Garden Sunday 14 November at 11.00am.
- 21-692 Network Plus - the application for an unmetered supply for the defibrillator on Ashdale Park has been received and completed. An installation date is now being arranged.

21-693 Autumn Clean up - high viz vest have been ordered and received.

Correspondence

21-694 The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner - the commissioner has launched a public consultation on the plans for the police and fire services in Staffordshire. The plans and consultation have been promoted on the Parish Council's Facebook page.

21-695 At the last meeting it was decided to comment on the cooperation and support received from the PCSOs.

21-696 The Parish Council, together with the Community Speed Watch (CSW), has been campaigning to get the speed limit on Yarnfield Park set at 20mph. While this is not relevant to the PFCC the issue of enforcement of the speed limit is. Current police policy is not to enforce 20mph limits. The effect of this is that the CSW are not allowed to operate on these roads.

21-697 **Resolution:** It was resolved that a response to the consultation is sent to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner asking for:

- i. A change in the enforcement policy on 20mph roads.
- ii. Greater use of the speed camera vans in the parish, especially with the introduction of the buffer zones and 40 mph limit in Cold Meece.

21-698 Footpath 10 - confirmation has been received from Staffordshire County Council that the Footpath 10 Diversion Order has been made.

21-699 Staffordshire County Council Vacant Seat Scheme - Stone Parish Council Liaison Group, has raised concern about the Staffordshire County Council suspension of the Vacant Seat School Transport Scheme. It is understood Staffordshire is one of two county councils that will not provide transport for 16+ children.

21-700 The scheme enables children to travel to out of catchment schools and sixth form pupils to occupy vacant seats on school buses. The County Council charged £400 per year to use the scheme.

21-701 The withdrawal of the scheme is having a detrimental effect on families living in the parish who must now make different arrangements for their children to get to schools in Stone.

21-702 The withdrawal of the scheme is affecting children living in the parish who attend out of catchment schools.

21-703 It is the view of Staffordshire County Council that they have been forced to withdraw the scheme because of the introduction of the Public Service Vehicles Accessibility Regulations (PSVAR) which applies to home to school transport networks.

21-704 To comply with PSVAR, vehicles with more than 22 seats must be wheelchair accessible and meet more general accessibility requirements.

21-705 PSVAR only allows seats to be sold on compliant vehicles.

21-706 The final parts of the Regulations came into effect in January 2020. This means operators and the County Council have had 20 years to prepare for the introduction of the new arrangements.

21-707 **Resolution:** It was resolved that a letter is send to Cllr Pert setting out the Parish Council's concerns about the withdrawal of the scheme.

21-708 Website administration - an invoice has been received from Staffordshire County Council for the annual fee for their maintenance of the parish website.

21-709 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the fee of £125.00 was paid.

Grounds Maintenance contract

21-710 The contract has worked well this year and a saving of about £900.00 has been made on this year's contract. The council now need to review the operation of the contract. However, uncertainty about the start date for the village green project and the discussion with the Borough and County Councils about the maintenance of road verges, means there is some uncertainty about the future requirements for the contract.

21-711 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the contractor is invited to provide a quote for two years for the Council to consider at the meeting in December.

Neighbourhood Plan

21-712 A public event is scheduled to be held in the village hall on Friday 12 November.

21-713 The first draft of the Housing Needs Survey, by the consultants AECOM has been received.

21-714 **Resolution:** It was resolved that Cllr Parkin; Cllr Hughes and the clerk review the text and work with AECOM to produce a final agreed version of the report.

Updates from Parish Councillors

21-715 Cllr Parkin has been invited to attend the investiture of the new Vicar at St Mary's Church.

21-716 Cllr Hughes to share a note on about the last meeting of the Stone Liaison Group with councillors.

21-717 Community Action Group meeting, which was held on 19 October, will be reported to the December meeting of the Parish Council.

Planning - to consider any planning applications in the parish

21-718 No planning applications received

Forward Plan

21-719 A copy of the forward Plan for parish council meeting is attached at Appendix 3

Date and time of next meeting

21-720 Wednesday 15 December at 7.30pm

Signed



Chairperson of the Parish Council

Date: 15 December 2021



Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council

Data up to and including October 2021

Y&CM PC ElanCity Radar – Traffic Count

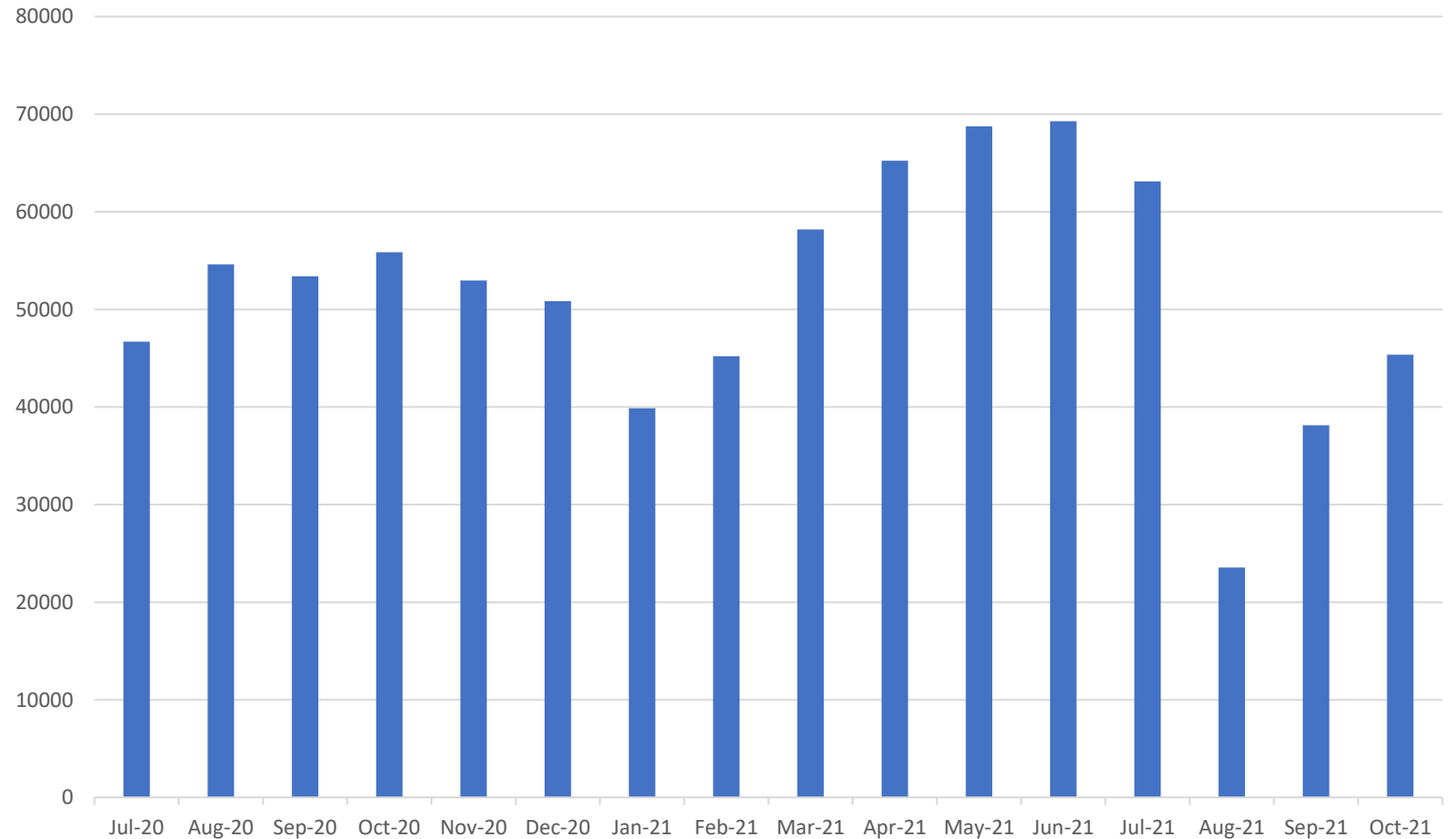
Headlines

June to August drop of 39,544

Aug to Sept increase of 14,566

Sept to Oct increase of 7,243

TOTAL Traffic Count

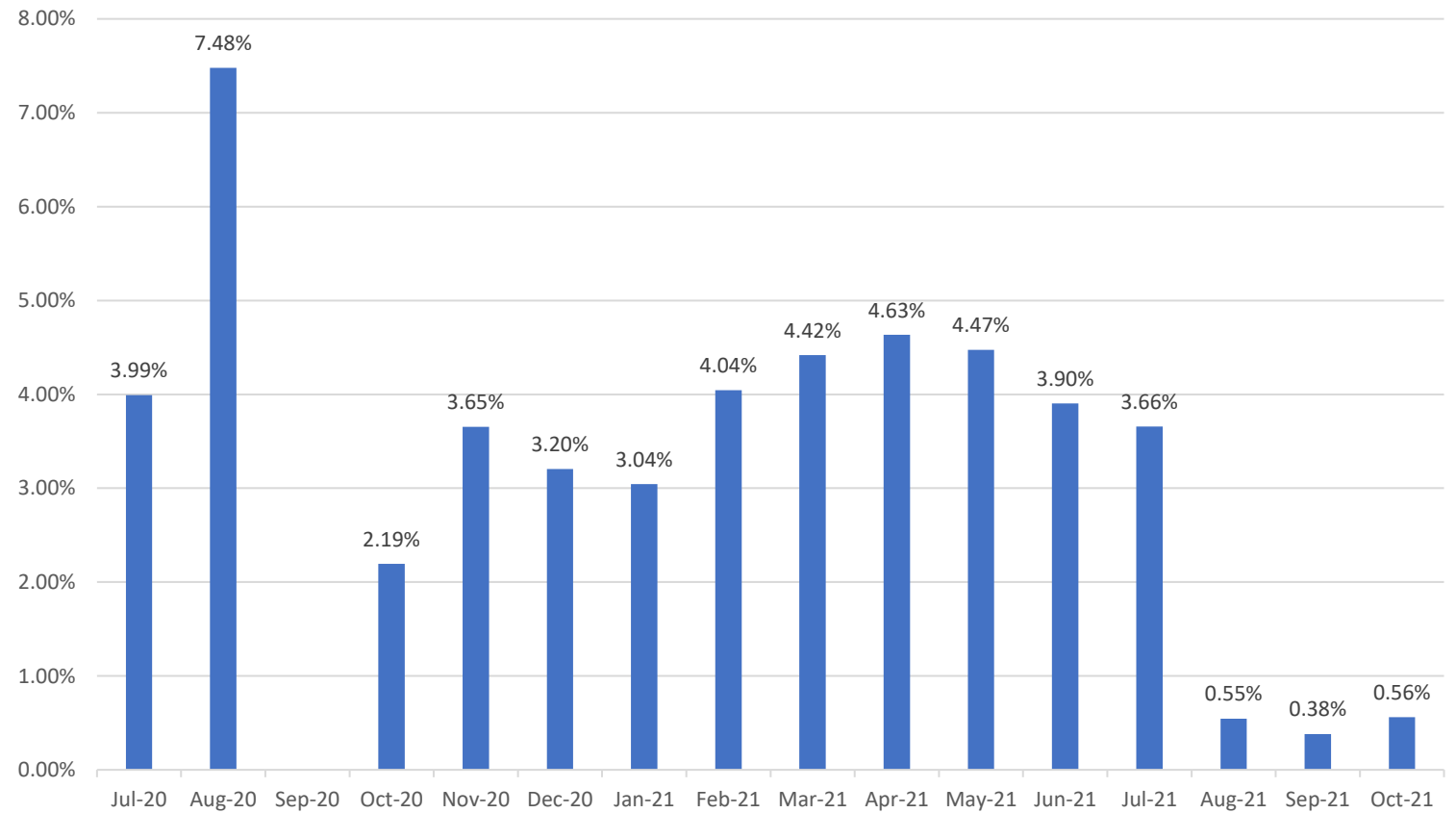


Y&CM PC ElanCity Radar – Speed incoming

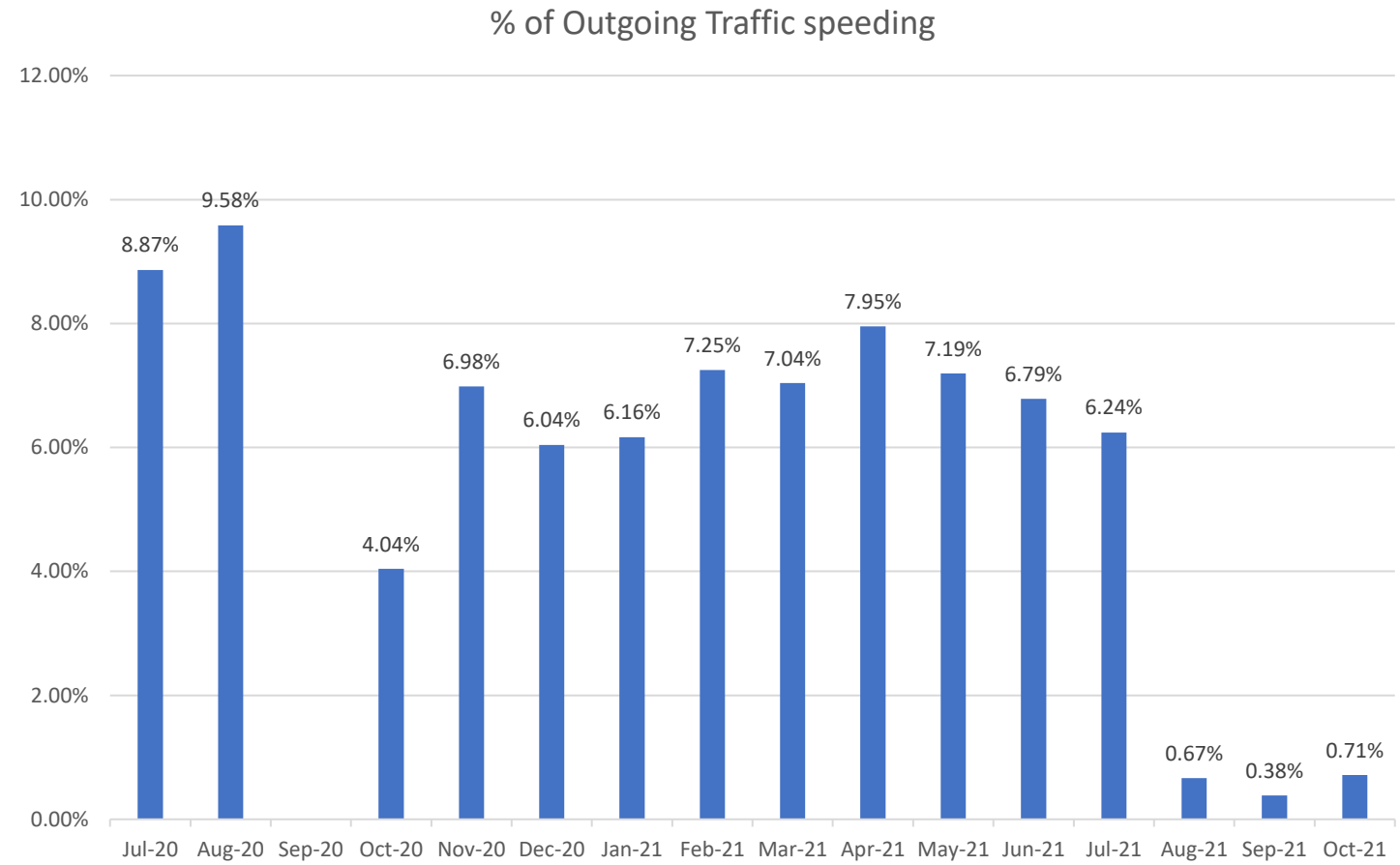
Headlines

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| July | 1,123 |
| August | 63 |
| September | 69 |
| October | 121 |

% of Incoming Traffic speeding



Y&CM PC ElanCity Radar – Speed outgoing



Headlines

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| July | 2,023 |
| August | 80 |
| September | 77 |
| October | 170 |

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council
Schedule of Payments - 10 November 2021

| Date | Ref/Chq no | Payee | Description | NET | VAT | Payment |
|-----------|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 20-Oct-21 | 084 | Panda Press | Assemble printing costs | 38.00 | | 38.00 |
| 10-Nov-21 | 085 | Eddy's Building Services | Memorial bench part payment | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 10-Nov-21 | 086 | Trent Grounds Maintenance | Grass cutting contract | 290.90 | 58.18 | 349.08 |
| 10-Nov-21 | 087 | Mr G Rogers | Memorial silloutes | 126.88 | | 126.88 |
| 10-Nov-21 | 088 | Clerk | Salary (November 21) | 530.40 | | 530.40 |
| 10-Nov-21 | 088 | Clerk | Expenses (October 21) | 97.26 | 16.05 | 113.31 |
| 10-Nov-21 | 089 | HMRC | HMRC period 08/12 | 132.60 | | 132.60 |
| 10-Nov-21 | 090 | Support Staffordshire | Annual subscription | 25.00 | | 25.00 |
| | | | | 1,341.04 | 74.23 | 1,415.27 |

Chairperson:



Date:

10-Nov-21

YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL - WORK PROGRAMME 2021 - 2022

| Meeting date | Start Time | Meeting | Venue | Purpose |
|--------------|------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| 2022 | | | | |
| 5 January | 10:30am | Informal meeting | Village Hall | |
| 12 January | 07:30pm | Parish Council Meeting | Yarnfield Park | Set precept & budget Grounds Maintenance Contract |
| 18 January | 07:30pm | Community Action Group | Village Hall | |
| 2 February | 10:30am | Informal meeting | Village Hall | |
| 9 February | 07:30pm | Parish Council Meeting | Yarnfield Park | Community Action Group minutes |
| 2 March | 10:30am | Informal meeting | Village Hall | |
| 9 March | 07:30pm | Parish Council Meeting | Yarnfield Park | Audit preparation Insurance renewal |
| 6 April | 10:30am | Informal meeting | Village Hall | |
| 13 April | 07:30pm | Parish Council Meeting | Yarnfield Park | |
| 19 April | 07:30pm | Community Action Group | Village Hall | |
| 4 May | 10:30am | Informal meeting | Village Hall | |
| 11 May | 07:30pm | Annual Meeting of the Parish Council | | Appointments |