YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday 13 April 2022 Yarnfield Park Conference Centre

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

Councillors:

Brian Eyre

Sally Parkin (Chairperson)

David Beeston

Brian Rushton

Stella Hughes

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

Also in attendance: 0

Public at the meeting: O

Live on Facebook: 3

Apologies

22-136 Apologies were received from: Cllr Cromey, Cllr Malcolm Beeston, Cllr Pert (SCC) and Cllr James (SBC)

Declarations of Interest

22-137 There were no declarations of interest.

Public Question Time (30 minutes)

22-138 Question 1

Ref Green behind Greenside/Stream - still damaged due to cattle getting out. Also damaged due to tractor tyres and still no cutting grass up to stream, falling short again.

State of the grass verge going out of Yarnfield passed the Wellbeing Centre and beyond.

Please can this be looked at again.

Response

22-139 The issues raised will be covered by the clerk's report.

22-140 Question 2

Just wondering what it takes to get the SCC and Biffa to accept their responsibility for the amount of mud being deposited on the road by the 8 wheel tippers leaving the contaminated soil treatment at Cold Meece.

I complained endlessly when this operation first started up, yes they have supposedly installed wheel washing but the fact that they also need to employ a road cleaning vehicle as well just goes to prove the ineffectiveness of the facility.

This is the state of our car from today's journey down from Swynnerton. It's not just the dirt on the car, anyone on 2 wheels that suddenly has to take avoiding action from the many speeding

vehicles or the tippers exiting the site would find themselves as a minimum in hospital or worse on the mortuary slab.

This situation is totally unacceptable, why is the facility allowed to continue with such pollution of the road and what can the community do to get this resolved once and for all. Will it take the death of a cyclist or motor cyclist for someone to listen?

Response

22-141 The clerk was asked to contact BIFFA, Cold Meece to discuss what arrangements were in place to minimise the problem of mud getting onto the road from lorries leaving the site and whether these were adequate.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 March 2022

- 22-142 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 March 2022 were approved as a correct record of the meeting.
- 22-143 To consider any matters arising from the meeting held on 16 February 2022 not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

Minute number	Minute	Action
22-75	Cllr Nixon was asked to follow up an outstanding promise by Streetscene to replace three trees that had been removed from land behind the bus shelter on Yarnfield Lane with 3 bird cherry trees.	Cllr James is waiting for a response from SBC - Streetscene
22-78	The offer of a meeting by the HS2 Engagement Officer is accepted.	Meeting took place on 12/04/22
22-78	Details of the HS2 Ltd meetings will be posted on the Parish Council's Facebook page with a link to the council website for further information.	Details posted
22-88	Contact is made with the Staffordshire CSW to arrange for them to visit the parish to undertake risk assessments on new sites.	On hold pending meeting with CSW Team and confirmation from Staffordshire County Council about adoption and from the Deputy Police, Fire and Crime
22-88	Contact is made with the Deputy Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, to press for a change in the approach to enforcement on 20mph roads. Commissioner about enforcement on 20mph roads.	
22-92	The area manager for the Stonegate Pub Partnership is invited to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council.	Outstanding

22-133	Stone District Liaison Group - Cllr Mrs Hughes to circulate her notes	Circulated on 11/04/22	*** **** *****************************
	about the activities of the group.		

Reports from Borough and County Councillors

22-144 Cllr Nixon (Stafford Borough Council)

- The complaint about the replacement trees has been referred to Stafford Borough Council and arrangements made for a Streetscene officer to contact the clerk.
- Continues to press the planning team at Stafford Borough Council for a meeting with the parish council about the Meecebrook Garden Village.

22-145 Cllr James (Stafford Borough Council)

- Covid-19, while it may be low on people's agenda, it is still important that people take appropriate precautions to prevent a recurrence of the problems we all faced last year.
- Staffordshire County Council are consulting on traffic management orders for:
 - Whitmore Road Hanchurch to introduce 40 mph limit
 - Stone Road Lower Hatton 11th to introduce 40 mph limit

Any representations need to be sent to Staffordshire County Council by 11 May 2022.

- Cheese and Food Festival - 1 & 2 July at the County Show Ground.

HS2 - update on proposals

Meeting with Kier and HS2 Ltd

- 22-146 Parish councillors met with representatives from the HS2 contractor, Kier, and HS2 Ltd staff on 5 April 2022.
- 22-147 The contractors provided an update on their work and time scales for the next phase of the project.
- 22-148 Councillors reaffirmed basic requirements:
 - They reinforced the need for Yarnfield Lane to remain open throughout the project.
 - That clear, concise and honest communication is needed that can be rely on and shared with residents.

22-149 Keir confirmed that:

- A change order was going to be issued by the Secretary of State that will require safe cycle and pedestrian routes along the realigned lane.
- The width of the realigned Yarnfield Lane will be 6.8m plus a 3.0m wide NMU (Non-Motorised Users)

On-line Training Event

22-150 HS2 Ltd are hosting an online engagement event on the Phase 2a Traffic and Transport - 'Keeping Communities Moving' - Wednesday 27 April, 6pm - 7pm

Meeting with Staffordshire County Council

- 22-151 Staffordshire County Council have now appointed a new Engagement Officer to support work on the HS2 project.
 - Staffordshire County Council stated position is that they still oppose H52
 - Additional technical staff have been appointed to oversee the Schedule 17 permitted development applications.
 - Section 61 applications by HS2 to vary working arrangements are likely to be opposed by the County Council. The Borough Council's approach to these applications has yet to be established.
 - It was agreed that the engagement officer be invited to a future meeting of the parish council.

Safe Cycle Route

- 22-152 The parish council has previously discussed the need to have a safe cycle route and footpath connecting the parish with Stone. It would assist progress with this work if a firm commitment was made to support this proposal.
- 22-153 Resolution: It was resolved:
 - i. That the council endorses the proposal to provide a safety cycle and footpath connection between Yarnfield and Stone.
 - ii. That the Staffordshire County Council and neighbouring parish councils are contacted to secure their support.
- 22-154 Parish Clerk's report:

Budget - update and schedule of payments

- 22-155 Schedule of Payments:
 - i. Payments made up to the 31 March 2022 = £5,388.33. All payments relate to items previously approved by the council.
 - ii. Schedule of payments since 1 April = £1,072.03
- 22-156 Stafford Borough Council has paid the first instalment of the precept and concurrent grant amounting to £13,890.
- 22-157 Reserve Account balance = £4,000 + interest.
- 22-158 Resolution: It was resolved that:
 - i. The schedule of payments made up to 31 March 2022 set out in Appendix 1 were noted.
 - ii. The schedule of payments for the period 1 April 13 April set out in Appendix 2 were approved.
 - iii. A transfer of £2,000 is to be made to the Reserve Account.

Trent Grounds Maintenance (TGM)

22-159 TGM have been asked to review the work required on the village green and to price for work to reinstate edges f the village green to increase the cut area of the green.

Labour	£625.00
Grass seed	£75.00
Waste removal	£75.00

- Total
- 22-160 In January the council agreed to renew the ground maintenance contract based on a 2.5% increase in costs. Given the dramatic changes in prices and increase in inflation rates TGM are unable to maintain the contract at the agreed price. They have made a request to receive a £15.00 increase in the cost of each cut:
- 22-161 The additional cost would amount to an increase of £315.
- 22-162 Resolution: It was resolved that:
 - i. The price for the additional work on the village green is accepted.
 - ii. The request for a £15.00 increase in cost is approved, but the need for the increased cost is closely monitored.
 - iii. The budget for Ground maintenance contract is increased by £1,100 from reserves.

Update on actions taken

- 22-163 Spring Clean: this year's spring clean has been arranged for the 9 April 2022. Posters have been circulated and the event promoted on Facebook and the parish notice boards.
- 22-164 It was proposed that the flower bed opposite The Furlong is seeded with wild meadow flowers.
- 22-165 **Resolution**: It was resolved that Cllr. Hughes be authorised to buy wildflower seeds at a cost of £49.50 + postage and packing.

Defibrillator

- 22-166 An additional cost has been identified by the contractor employed by AED Donate at a cost of £430 + VAT. AED donate standard installation cost allocation is £150 + VAT per site. A request has been made for the parish council to fund the additional work.
- 22-167 The legal agreement to site the defibrillator on the Ashdale Park open space has been received from Stafford Borough Council.
- 22-168 Resolution: It was resolved that:
 - i. The parish council make a contribution of £280.00 to AEDdonate
 - ii. The Clerk sign the agreement with Stafford Borough Council

Training course

- 22-169 To support work on the village green project and improve the clerk's knowledge about common land it was agreed that he attend a webinare bing hosted by the Society of Local Council Clerks.
- 22-170 **Resolution**: It was resolved to pay for the Clerk to attend a webinar about common land run by the Society of Local Council Clerks at a cost of £30 + VAT.

Community Action Group Meeting

22-171 The next Community Action Group meeting will be held on 19 April 2022.

Parish Notice Boards

- 22-172 The cost of installation of the three notice boards will be £330.
- 22-173 Installation of the boards will be completed by 25 April 2022.
- 22-174 Resolution: It was resolved that;
 - i. The installation cost for three notice boards is approved.
 - ii. The Village Hall Committee is asked if they could use any of the old boards.

Network Plus list of outstanding issues

22-175 The survey of Yarnfield Lane, from the Meece Road junction to Moss Lane has been completed and a report of outstanding issues sent to Network Plus.

Annual audit and governance submission

- 22-176 The internal auditor has now withdrawn for personal reasons and a new auditor will need to be found.
- 22-177 Internal Audit and Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2020-21 timetable:
 - 15th June 2022 Signed off by the Parish Council.
 - 17th June 2022 Start of Public Rights examination period
 - 30th June 2022 deadline for submission of the AGAR.
- 22-178 **Resolution**: It was resolved that the Clerk contact Staffordshire Parish Council's Association to find and appoint a replacement auditor.

Correspondence

- 22-179 A letter was sent to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) about the parish council's continuing concern about delays in finding a solution to the problems caused by the Police Firing Range at Cold Meece.
- 22-180 An assurance has been received from the PFCC that work is being done to resolve the problems and that this is a priority for him and will be discuss with the chief constable on a regular basis.
- 22-181 Fly Tipping on land in the parish: Stafford Borough Council has confirmed that they have started an investigation into the problem.
- 22-182 Drake Hall: the resettlement officers at the prison have been contacted to renew the links with the community team and to agree work that can be done this year.

Community Development Officer

- 22-183 A proposal has been received from Support Staffordshire to appoint a jointly funded community development officer to work alongside the parish council.
- 22-184 The position would be for a 12 month appointment working for up to 2 days per week.
- 22-185 The Support Staffordshire contribution for the scheme would be up to £4,000.
- 22-186 The proposal would enable the Parish Council to:
 - Develop greater community engagement with existing groups in the parish
 - Mapping of existing groups
 - New needs identified
 - Enhanced volunteering
 - Funding opportunities to support community groups delivered.
- 22-187 Possible options would be for a twelve month project, but with an initial period of 6 months to review. The opportunity to joint fund a project was encouraging but further details will be needed to make a decision,
- 22-188 Resolution: It was resolved that:
 - i. The Clerk work with Support Staffordshire to develop a scheme that is beneficial to the parish council up to a limit of £2,000.

ii. That a further report on the scheme is prepared for a future meeting of the parish council.

NALC Smaller Councils Committee - request for topics of interest

- 22-189 NALC's Smaller Councils Committee has invited parish councils to put forward issues of relevance to them that they would like the committee to address and the services they would like NALC to provide.
- 22-190 Resolution: It was resolved that two suggestions be sent to NALC:
 - i. Practical issues arising from small councils with limited resources
 - ii. Development of the role between parish, borough and county councils.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee - to receive an update on the celebration events

- 22-191 Cheques for £100 have been received from the Fete Committee and the Village Hall Committee.
- 22-192 The order for the inflatable devices has been placed with Bouncy Bouncy Boo.
- 22-193 Advertising for the events has now started and a promotional programme prepared.
- 22-194 The offer to run the beer tent is proving to be problematic and still needs to be resolved.
- 22-195 Volunteers to help with the event are being encouraged to contact the clerk.

Neighbourhood Plan - update and next actions

- 22-196 The 2021 end of year report has been sent to Groundworks. This identifies an underspend of £47.50 which will need to be repaid.
- 22-197 The latest round of grant application funding has recently been opened. Urban Vision has been asked to help prepare an application for the next stage in the preparation of the plan.
- 22-198 The Staffordshire Wildlife Trust data has been posted on the council's website.
- 22-199 The Neighbourhood Plan map of policies has been circulated. Two issues have been raised:
 - The map of policies should include a reference to both elderly and disabled accommodation
 - The map of policies should identify employment land in the plan.
- 22-200 The building regulations set out legal requirements for specific aspects of building design and construction and so no explicit reference to disabled accommodation is needed.
- 22-201 The ability to identify Class E employment land in the plan would provide continuity and local employment opportunities.
- 22-202 **Resolution**: It was resolved that:
 - i. that a Neighbourhood Plan policy map is approved and should include a reference to Use Class E activities employment land. (Appendix 3)

Archiving of document - proposal to share key documents with the Staffordshire Records Office

- 22-203 An invitation has been received from the Staffordshire Records Office to act as a repository of key documents of the parish council. This would allow records to be available for public inspection in the future. The papers would include minutes and agendas but could also include papers relating to the parish council's work on HS2.
- 22-204 **Resolution**: It was resolved that the Staffordshire Records Office are contacted to establish what records could be transferred and the preferred format for documents.

Updates from Parish Councillors

- 22-205 Meeting with HS2 contractors reported under minute number 22-146
- 22-206 Meeting with Staffordshire County Council reported under minute number 22-151

Forward Plan - to approve the meeting timetable for 2022/23

22-207 A copy of the forward plan for council business is attached at Appendix 4

Planning - to consider any planning applications in the parish

21/35323 - Land adjacent to Highwinds Yarnfield Lane, Yarnfield, Outline application for detached bungalow, garage and new vehicular access

22–208 Resolution: It was resolved that the following comment is sent to the Borough Council.

That the parish council is sympathetic to the proposed development as it would resolve a long standing issue with a piece of land in the centre of the village that has been neglected for many years. The parish council has 3 issues with the application that it will want to see addressed:

- i. That problems with access to the site from Yarnfield Lane is resolved to the satisfaction of the County Highways Department. The parish council note the submission of an amended visibility plan and would seek assurances that the amendments meet the requirements of the Highways Authority;
- ii. That the trees on the site subject to Tree Preservation Orders are preserved.
- iii. That the construction work does not affect the root systems of the trees included in the Tree Preservation Order.

21/35369/HOU, Gorsty Hill Farm Yarnfield Lane Yarnfield Stone ST15 ONJ, extensions, alterations & refurbishment of existing detached dwelling

- 22-209 Gorsty Hill Farm is an old farmstead in Yarnfield of considerable age. The work proposed in the planning application will have a significant impact on the external appearance of the building.
- 22-210 The Plan for Stafford and the National Planning Policy Framework place great emphasis on heritage assets and the protections that they must be afforded through the planning process.

Reasons for the parish council decision:

- 22-211 The parish council recognises that Gorsty Hill Farm is not listed.
- 22-212 There remains a question of whether the local planning authority has identified the building as a heritage asset.
- 22-213 The parish council has received a neighbour request to oppose the application.
- 22-214 The parish council is concerned that the application in its current form:
 - Fails to take account of the historic nature of the building as a valuable asset in Yarnfield and the location it occupies within the village.
 - That the proximity of the proposed development, in particular the car port, interferes with Ashgate House.
- 22-215 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the following comment is sent to the Borough Council.

 That the application is called in, by the ward councillors, to be considered by the Stafford Borough Council Planning Committee:

- i. to consider the historic value of Gorsty Hill Farm and the impact the proposal will have on the existing building and the surrounding area;
- ii. Layout, scale, design of the proposed development That the construction of a carport/garage on the boundary of the site and within 2 metres of a principal window of the neighbouring property will have a detrimental effect on Ashgate House.

Date and time of next meeting

11 May 2022 at 7.30pm

Signed

Chairperson of the Parish Council

Date: 30 May 2022

Meeting closed 9.25pmm

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council Schedule of Payments - 31 March 2022

Date	Ref/Chq no	Payee	Description	NET	VAT	RECEIPTS	Payment
21-Mar	116	ВНІВ	Annual insurance premium	539.90			539.90
21-Mar	119	Clerk	Salary pay award correction	239.24			239.24
21-Mar	220	HMRC	HMRC - pay award correcton	59.80			59.80
30-Mar	121	Notice Board Co Ltd (Cumbria)	Notice boards x 3	2,223.00	444.60		2,667.60
30-Mar	122	Support Staffordshire	Safeguarding training	160.00			160.00
30-Mar	123	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust	SER - Plan evidence	500.00	100.00		600.00
30-Mar	124	Urban Vision	Neighbourhood plan	787.50	157.50		945.00
30-Mar	125	AED Dotate	Definrillator pads	38.99	7.80		46.79
30-Mar	126	Eddy's Building Services	Bench installation	130.00			130.00
				4,678.43	709.90		5,388.33

Chairperson:

Date:

31-Mar-22

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council Schedule of Payments - 13 April 2022

Date	Ref/Chq no	Payee	Description	NET	VAT	Payment
13/04/2022	127	Clerk	Salary	561.26		561.26
13/04/2022	127	Clerk	Office expenses	41.31	5.22	46.53
13/04/2022	128	HMRC	HMRC - PAYE payment	140.20		140.20
13/04/2022	129	Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association	Annual subs	216.04		216.04
13/04/2022	130	Village Hall Committee	Meet room charges	84.00		84.00
13/04/2022 13:	131	SLCC	Common Land Webinar	30.00	6.00	36.00
	Approximation of the second					1,084.03

Chairperson

Date: 13-Apr-21

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan - Map of Policies

	Themes	Decision / actions
Y1: Housing	Support housing in settlement boundary Support for smaller dwellings and suitable for elderly Flexible, including homework, and rooms to meet national space standards Screened storage for bins Secure storage for cycles and personal vehicles High speed broadband infrastructure	Map of settlement boundary required.
Y2: Community Facilities	Protect existing facilities Support new facilities	List of facilities needed. Building and land-based.
Y3: Employment	Yarnfield employment site to remain in employment uses. Use Class E activities supported on the site (not general industry or distribution). High speed broadband infrastructure, including for dwellings, as in housing policy.	Do we want Yarnfield site to remain in employment use? Map of site required.
Y4: Sustainable Design and Character	Development to complement scale, height, pattern of gardens, etc. Support local, recycled, green materials. Retention of trees and hedgerows. Characteristics of each settlement. Pedestrian safety, convenience. Landscape and planting. Promote/support green design	Provide key characteristics for each settlement – height/scale, setback from road, boundary treatments, palette of materials, architectural diversity, etc.
Y5: Local Heritage	Preserve, enhance non-designated heritage, including features and setting. Where demolished, replacement to compensate for loss of character,	Report on non-designated buildings/assets. Any other locally distinctive features?

	embodied energy, architectural quality, simple forms, etc.	
Y6: Landscape and Biodiversity	Protect habitats and biodiversity. Specific designated and sensitive landscapes or habitats (to be informed by SWT report).	Ensure report focuses on values for landscape type and threats. Map of landscape required.
Y7: Local Green Space	Designate LGS. Protect LGS.	To prepare report applying NPPF criteria to each space. Map(s) of spaces required.
Y8: Sustainable and Active Travel	No harm to footpaths and cycleways. Opportunities to improve links and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. Electrical charging points, including for all new dwellings. Screened storage for cycles and personal vehicles, including for all new dwellings.	
Y9: Flooding	No adverse impact on surrounding land and properties from surface water run-off. Hard surfacing to be permeable. Specific areas that have flooded	Check existing policies in Local Plan. Map of flooding required.
Y10 Priorities for infrastructure monies		To name priorities – footways and cycle route to link settlements?

Date	Start	Meeting	Venue	Key issues and decisions
				2022
6 th April	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
13 April	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	- Audit and AGRA timetable
19 April	7.30pm	Community Action Group	Village Hall	
4 May	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
11 May	7.30pm	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council	Village Hall	 Appointment of chair and vice chair. Review of the Community Action Group terms of reference and appointment of chair and vice chair Appointment of Councillors on outside bodies
11 May	7.45pm	Parish Council	Village Hall	- Review of council key policy documents - Minutes of Community Action Group
30 May	8.00pm	Annual Parish Assembly	Village Hall	 Report of the Parish Council Looking forward – proposals from the community Looking forward – parish council elections 2023
8 June	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
15 June	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	 Internal audit report Approve the Annual Governance and Accounting Statement. Public rights date Community Speed Watch Report

Date	Start	Meeting	Venue	Key issues and decisions
6 July	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
13 July	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	- Neighbourhood Plan Policy statement
19 July	7.30pm	Community Action Group	Village Hall	
7 September	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
14 September	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	 External Audit Report - AGAR completed Community Speed Watch Report Minutes of Community Action Group Safeguarding Policy review
5 October	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
12 October	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	- Half year budget
18 October	7.30pm	Community Action Group	Village Hall	
9 November	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
16 November	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	- Draft budget proposals 2023 – 2024 - Minutes of Community Action Group
7 December	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
14 December	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	 Community Speed Watch Report Playground annual inspection report

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Date	Start	Meeting	Venue	Key issues and decisions
				2023
4 January	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
11 January 18 January	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	- Budget and Precept approval
17 January	7.30pm	Community Action Group	Village Hall	
8 February	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
15 February	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	- Minutes of Community Action Group
8 March	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
15 March	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	- Community Speed Watch Report
5 April	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	
12 April	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	
18 April	7.30pm	Community Action Group	Village Hall	
4 May (Provisional date)	-	government election oourhood Plan refere		
8 May (Provisional date)	10.30am	Informal briefing	Village Hall	- New Councillor briefing

Date	Start	Meeting	Venue	Key issues and decisions
10 May (Provisional date)	7.30pm	Annual meeting of the Parish Council	Yarnfield Park	 Inaugural meeting of the new council Appointment of chairperson/vicechair

10 May	7.45pm	Parish Council	- Minutes of Community Action Group
(Provisional date)		Meeting	

John Fraser
Parish Clerk Yarnfield and Cold Meec