

**MINUTES OF THE KEELE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Wednesday 13th August 2014 at 7.00pm at Keele Village Hall, Keele**

Attendees: Parish Cllrs: Ms Newman (Chair), Cllr G Bibby, Cllr W Naylor (Vice Chair), Dr Harrison, Dr R Studd, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Abercrombie, Mrs Studd, Mr Hindmarch and Cllr Downing.

Mrs Simpson (Clerk)

Guests: A member of the public from Keele University was present but left before agenda item 8.1

Ref		Action
14/050	<b>Public Open Forum</b> No items discussed.	
14/051	<b>Apologies received through Clerk</b> Apologies received from Mrs Corfield	
14/052	<b>Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</b> None	
14/053	<b>Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2014</b>	
	1. <b>To approve</b> The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	
	2. <b>Matters arising not on the agenda</b>	
	<i>Mrs Hughes to arrange a time for Mrs Abercrombie to attend a future meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee regarding LAPs Matter now closed-see update on 6:2 below.</i>	
	<i>Clerk to check that the planners received the request to revert back to paper for planning applications sent on 17<sup>th</sup> June. Paper copies received for 13<sup>th</sup> August meeting.</i>	
	<i>Ms Newman to speak to Mr Downing about the trees by the school. Not discussed yet-leave on agenda. Next governors meeting in September. Further letter to be written to the governors requesting action.</i>	<b>VN Clerk</b>
	Meetings in the Library now confirmed.	
	<i>Clerk to request Neighbourhood Highways Team to carry out repairs to trip hazard on pavement outside the Management Centre, along the old A525 (Keele Road), Pepper Street from Quarry Bank towards bypass, Station Road to bypass, top section of Pepper Street (Safer route to school) and towards Madeley Heath-Pavement in very poor state. Mrs Naylor to write to David Greatbach in Staffordshire County Council and Cllr D Huckfield, County Councillor to take action.</i>	<b>WN</b>
	<i>Cllr Naylor will bring leaflets from the Crime Commissioner to the next meeting. Link to web site also needed. It was noted that a leaflet holder at the Village hall would be a useful feature. Mrs Hughes to take the request to the next meeting of Village Hall management Committee.</i>	<b>WN SH</b>
	<i>The Clerk to instructed Mr Hough to carry out the weeding work to the church wall using Groundclear under the Lengthsman scheme. Substantive work was completed but there is still dead vegetation to remove and Buddleia to be cut.</i>	<b>VN</b>
	<i>The Clerk asked Mr Summerfield to carry out hedge cutting to Keele Road and Three Mile Lane-this needs to be kept under review.</i>	<b>Clerk</b>

Ref	Action
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Dr Studd, Mrs Naylor and Cllr Hindmarsh attended the Peer Planning Review at Newcastle Borough Council (NBC). Parish Councils appeared to share the same concerns. A report on the findings of the review is due to be published.

Sub group looking at the planning matters of The Hawthornes to also include Cllr Bibby in addition to Ms Newman, Mrs Hughes, Cllr Hindmarch, Dr Studd and Mrs Naylor.

Clerk had ascertained legal requirements for Mrs Corfield.

14/054 **5.Reports**

**1. Chairman's report Ms Newman**

Consultation under way to look at all out Council elections at Newcastle Borough Council. Parishioners are invited to comment as individuals. Link to be put on the website.

VN

Work commenced on Keele Drive on 4<sup>th</sup> August. Chairman has asked for regular updates from the contractor.

Horizontal fencing still not agreed with Local Authority. High kerb would prevent most cars from mounting it. Concern had been expressed by a local resident as to access to his farm with heavy machinery. Chairman to contact Graham Wheeldon to check whether he had spoken with the resident.

VN

The Drive will be closed 3-5<sup>th</sup> September to improve the current Zebra Crossing at the end of The Green. Buses will be rerouted. Chairman to ask Graham Wheeldon re revised route.

VN

In a meeting with the University, Chairman had found out that there is a new bus service-number 3 instead of 25. The bus now travels to Leighton Hospital and UHNS. Currently running a 10 minute service during the vacation.

Litter picking was discussed and it was suggested that the new Chairman of Students Union be approached to see whether Student Volunteers could be used.

VN

It was noted that parking would be worse from Autumn once restrictions start on Quarry Bank.

As a result of the Phytophthora Ramorum (Sudden Oak Death Oak) outbreak in Keele Woods, Larch trees and rhododendron bushes will have to be felled. Re-planting could start straight away. The University were looking for ideas on how Keele Wood could be used. Councillors suggested Hire Wires, educational purposes and possible burial ground. Agreed to put ideas down and send to the Chairman for the next meeting.

**All,Next  
Agenda**

The woods will be closed to the public with some areas closed longer than others. Information to be scanned in and put on the web site. Felled wood cannot be used in a domestic setting.

VN

A Horse Chestnut tree by The Hawthornes has canker and needs to be felled. A 5 day notice period will be given.

Work on the Library access road has commenced.

**2. County & Borough Councillors Cllr W Naylor.**

Attended a meeting where the Protocol for Gypsy, Roma and Travellers was discussed. Protocol to be sent to the Clerk for information.

**Clerk**

Public meeting to be held on 27<sup>th</sup> August with Community Groups. It will be a scoping meeting to look at the temporary potential uses of Keele Golf Club. Newcastle Borough Council keen to ascertain

whether anyone wishes to run activities on it. Checking to see whether there are any objections to the work on the footpath by The Yew Tree-work is in advance of the installation of broadband by BT.

**3. Staffordshire Parish Councils Association** Cllr W Naylor Information had been received from SPCA. Cllr Naylor to look at it in more detail **WN**

**4. Borough Standards Committee** Cllr W Naylor Next meeting to be held on 27<sup>th</sup> September

**5. Borough Sports Council** Mr Downing Nothing to report. The next meeting will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> September

**6. Betley, Keele and Madeley Locality Action Partnership** Mrs Abercrombie

Mrs Abercrombie attended the meeting on 14th July 2014. The Upcycle project held an open day on 8th July. Bikes can be repaired free of charge by appointment. The project is looking for donations of any push bikes from within the community. The Health & Well-being Roadshow took place on the Thursday 24th July where there was a wide range of information stalls including First Community Responders, Police, Home Safety Advice, Healthy Eating and the local Dog Warden.

The police confirmed they are aware of the increase in petrol theft and the recent theft of a quad bike. At the next meeting discussions will take place on how to promote a "shop local week".

**Next agenda**

Clayton LAP are supporting a project called North Staffs LinkLine which is a FREE telephone befriending and support service to engage lonely people, the service is open to all Newcastle Borough. The Service is run by volunteers who are police checked. Leaflets were distributed.

14/055

**6. Amenities**

**1. Rural Runabout update - Mrs Studd**

Attended a meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> August. New operations manager in place. Two applications for the use of the Rural Runabout had been refused as they did not meet the criteria. Next meeting in two months time.

**2. Village Hall Management Committee Mrs Hughes**

Five external funding sources had been looked at. There was discussion regarding the potential refurbishment of the kitchen. Lettings had increased with more regular clients. On 23<sup>rd</sup> September 10:30-12:00 there will be a fund raising coffee morning. An external sign and a notice board were needed. Remedial repairs had been carried out on the window. It was suggested that Le Farge funding was approached again. **AA**

**3. Heritage Lottery Bid – Stone Walls Mrs Abercrombie**

Meeting planned for 31<sup>st</sup> July. Did not take place. Further one to be rearranged. Need a project manager to run the project. Stone source identified from a builders merchant in Tunstall.

**4. War memorial Repair quotes**

Nettlebanks declined to supply a quotation. Two quotations received from Churchman, Fenner and Brown and A Walker and Sons were at great variance. It was noted that funding was available via Louise Wallace, Conservation Officer, NBC. Three quotations would be needed. Clerk Madeley Parish Council to send details of contractor who quoted for **Locum Clerk Clerk**

Ref		Action
	<p>Madeley Heath War Memorial to Chairman. Clerk to contact Conservation Officer at NBC for advice on how to apply for funding.</p>	
	<p><b>5. Lengthsman scheme – consideration of works (budget £1249)</b>            Quotation for Quarry Bank Road, and for Pepper Street from Quarry Bank towards the lay-by received by Clerk at a cost of £260.            It was <b>resolved</b> to place this order under the Lengthmans Scheme.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p>14/056</p>	<p><b>6. Lamppost at Quarry Bank Road.</b>            Application from Keele Conservation Group to the Community Chest for £420 was refused by Newcastle Borough Council. Needs to be adopted by Parish Council. It was noted that it had been erected in the first place in 1970s by Keele Parish Council but funding had not been available to light it. Mrs Naylor to question Sara Shuker further re the understanding of the issue of ownership and non connection to the mains services.</p>	<p><b>WN</b></p>
	<p><b>7. Grants</b>  <b>1. To consider application for Community Chest funding from Keele Conservation Group for the refurbishment of a historic lamp post (current balance is £1040)</b>            Discussed in 6.6 above.  <b>2. To consider applications for the Grants Programme (balance is £300)</b>            This was noted.</p>	<p><b>Next Agenda</b></p>
<p>14/057</p>	<p><b>8. Planning applications – to provide comments on the following:</b>  <b>1. APPEAL <a href="#">Proposed student accommodation with carparking (Keele Campus) and proposed residential development of 92 dwellings with school drop off point, shop and linked areas of greenspace (The Hawthorns).</a></b> The Hawthorns And Keele Campus Keele Newcastle Staffordshire Ref. No: 14/00014/REFUSE  <b>2. APPEAL <a href="#">Demolition of existing buildings (The Hawthorns)</a></b> The Hawthorns And Keele Campus Keele Newcastle Staffordshire Ref. No: 14/00015/REFUSE</p> <p>Items 1 and 2 were discussed together. It was noted that “Common Ground” documented facts in agreement between NBC and the Appellant. There will be 3 statements of case-NBC, appellant and Keele Parish Council. Changes to the original application cannot be made-it is as it stands. Inspector will hold a 4 day public enquiry.</p> <p>KPC has the right to call people to give evidence on its behalf. Cllr Hindmarsh currently going through all of the objections that had been lodged. It was agreed that the sub group currently working on the project would return to the Parish Council with proposals for comment and approval.</p> <p><b>3. <a href="#">13/00970/OUT Residential development on land north of Pepper Street, Keele</a></b> Chair thanked everyone for their contributions. It was noted that there were 37 conditions to be met by 5<sup>th</sup> October. Concern was expressed as to what monitoring was in place and if the conditions were not fulfilled, and the application fell, what were the plans to extinguish the underground fire? It was agreed that Cllr Harrison and Mrs Hughes would draft a letter to send to the Clerk.</p>	<p><b>SH, CH</b></p>

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4. [14/00518/FUL Construction of enclosed fire escape to the Dorothy Hodgkin Building at Keele University.](#)

Clerk

Materials as far as possible to be in sympathy with the surrounding buildings.

14/058

**9. Other matters for consideration:**

**1. Staffordshire County Council Libraries consultation**

Drop in consultation to be held at Silverdale Library on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 3-6pm. KPC wish to write a representation to support Silverdale Library and oppose any cuts to resources.

All Clerk

**2. Lymes Road Gating Order.**

Waiting for comments from NBC Anti Social Behaviour Officer. Information needed prior to the next KPC meeting. Mrs Naylor to chase up.

WN

**3. Informal network of Volunteers.**

It was agreed to remove this from the agenda.

**4. Pepper Street-illegal occupied caravan.**

There had been further complaints from Parishioners. Matter had been to enforcement several times as recently as April 2014. Clerk to write to NBC to enquire why no enforcement had taken place.

Clerk

**5. Hollywood Fencing Issue.**

It was agreed to remove this from the agenda.

**6. Local Listed and Listed Buildings.**

It was agreed to remove this from the agenda.

14/059

**10. Clerk's Reports**

**1. Correspondence**

Nothing further to note. Phytophthora **Rramorum** Outbreak discussed in item 5:1

**Financial Statement - To approve payments/orders, receipts and transfers**

Conclusion of the Accounts and Annual Return following the External Audit 2013/14 was noted.

Payment schedule was approved at Appendix 1.

14/060

**11. Any Other Business for Future agendas.**

It was noted that 8:1 and 8:2 were to remain on the agenda for the foreseeable future. There been no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting closed at 9:10pm.

**Dates and venues of future meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Weds of every month):**

10<sup>th</sup> September – Keele Village Hall

8<sup>th</sup> October – Keele Village Hall

12<sup>th</sup> November – Library

10<sup>th</sup> December – Keele Village Hall