

# Butterton Parish Council

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 at 7.30pm

**1. Apologies-** None, as all present.

**Welcome** to Paul Rochfort and Stephen Jones

### Public Comments, Questions or Representations

Paul Rochfort, ROW Officer for S.C.C. gave an extremely interesting talk giving us a better insight of how his department works in order to maintain and uphold various aspects of footpath, bridleway, stiles and footbridges management. There is a newly published Definitive Map, 2021. A copy of this will be purchased by the PC. Paul explained that although the Community Footpaths Initiative grant is not now widely advertised, it is nevertheless still available, upon application, for small schemes. If there are issues that cannot be resolved by the PC and we feel we need the input of the ROW Team, then these issues now have to be reported via SCC Footpaths and Bridleways using the drop down menu. Paul explained that Landowners are responsible for some issues of maintenance and repairs and are able to contact SCC for advice and help. Any reports reaching the attention of the PC can hopefully be resolved but there is the option to ask SCC for advice in dealing with such matters. For 'historical' issues there is a legal services team or quite possibly Land Registry could assist.

A letter from parishioners enquiring as to the possibility of maintenance to a footbridge, will be advised that **Cllr Land will discuss the issue with the landowner.**

Cllr Jenny Land thanked Paul for attending the meeting.

As Stephen Jones was present, the councillors dealt with his Planning application at Back Lane.

Having listened to the reasons for development of the barn and looking at the plans, the councillors agreed to recommend this application. There have been no objections raised and the councillors could not foresee traffic to the site being a problem. The barn does not now serve an agricultural purpose thus its preservation would save yet another of the parish's small barns.

**2. Minutes of meeting** held on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 agreed by all present as correct.

### **3. Matters arising**

\* Cllr Land is **pursuing purchase of new tub(s)** as Stretton Oak Tubs (suppliers of present tubs) are out of stock. The Country Store at Ipstones has some in stock. It was suggested that a new tub could contain herbs.

\*The PC's concerns regarding the issue of development of holiday accommodation has received a response from Adele Metcalfe from Peak Park. She gave a generalised view that Butterton is one of many parishes with such concerns and that although PDNPA are aware of such issues there is no 'quick fix'.

\*A response has been sent to the parishioners who enquired about maintenance of verges.

\*The Ford area is still causing concern with unstable foot ways, damaged walls and issues with the footbridge and surrounding area. As the Highways department do not seem willing to become involved, Peak Park has suggested that the department for Cultural Heritage could assist. Our concerns have been forwarded to them.

### Business Items

#### **4. Wildflower Planting**

The verge at Butterton Woods has recently added a splash of colour to the area. All the seed has now been used and more will possibly be purchased for next year.

#### **5. Maintenance of the verges in the Parish**

Highways now attend to the verges only once a year. They are due in August. We await action. Dog Lane and Wetton Road in particular have proven to be tricky to navigate recently.

**6. Finance** **a. Payments received-** none **b. Payments requested-** SCC Updated Definitive Map- £9.50: Cllr Kinneir (plants) £59: Clerk Pay £1,012.04: Clerk expenses £148.88: HMRC £253.00 **c.** The Cllrs were advised of the balances in both bank accounts.

There was a discussion concerning the Scarecrow Festival to be held alongside the Wakes in August. This was considered to be a project that would 'Engage with the Community' and it was proposed the prizes would be funded by the PC to the tune of £100. All agreed.

### Correspondence

**7. PDNPA- General-** Nothing to report in addition to issues as mentioned above. **Planning- Back Lane Barn** (dealt with above), Fenns Farm- The Councillors agreed to support this application. As the extension is to the rear of the property, it would not affect the frontage and does not detract from the surrounding properties.

**8. Severn Trent-** Nothing to report

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**9. Highways** – Molten tar has been a hazard in recent days. Highways have ‘dusted’ the bad patches. A letter from a Parishioner has been received with concerns about the poor state of some of the road signs in the Middle of Town area. Also some signs are not positioned very well and could do with being moved. With increased traffic coming through the village en route for the Manifold Valley (in particular Thor’s Cave), it is suggested a sign pointing people in that direction could be put up. Discussion ensued as to the best place to put it. If it is a sign pointing to a site of specific interest then it would incur a charge. SMDC Highways to be contacted to hopefully meet on-site to discuss. **Clerk to send parishioner’s letter to SMDC** for their initial thoughts.

**10. Staffordshire Moorlands District Council**- Nothing to report

**11. Staffordshire County Council** – Nothing to report

**12. Staffordshire Parish Councils Association**- Nothing to report

**13. Staffordshire Moorlands Parish Assembly**- Nothing to report

**Other Correspondence**- All emails have been sent to Councillors as and when received by the Clerk.

**14. AOB** – None.

**[The next meeting is on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.](#)**

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