

Butterton Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 8th March, 2016 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

Apologies from Cllr Antonia Parr.

Present- Bruce French (Acting Chair), Cllr J. Land , Cllr K. Salt, Cllr S. Kinneir and Cllr M. Stone

Also attending – Maggie Risby (Clerk) and Mr G. Bartley

2. Minutes from the previous meeting on 19th January were signed as correct.

3. Matters Arising

*Highways- The Reactive Inspector had already visited Butterton before a request could be made to ask that a Councillor accompany him on his inspection. Since the recent bad weather, the roads are in a terrible state. **Clerk to contact Dave Rushton again to discuss possibility of some repairs.**

* Lane House Farm Planning Application has been withdrawn.

*Cllr Stone's recent communications with Superfast Staffordshire have resulted in the announcement that Superfast is practically 'ready to go'.....

*WPD Project- There was a lengthy discussion re the lighting in the Middle of Town. Ideally 1 more lamp is needed but unfortunately financial restrictions prevent this from being a possibility in the near future. Questions were raised re painting of the lamps, moving one of the lamps and the possibility of replacing the 6 old lamps with new LED lamps. Another supplier needs to be found as the company that provided the existing lamps is no longer in existence. **Cllr French to further research these matters.**

Business items

4. The position of Lengthsman for the Parish.

The Parish Council has finally come to a decision regarding the position of Lengthsman. Peter Frost has held the position for many years and expressed a desire to retire a while ago. He very kindly offered to continue on a reduced scale until a new Lengthsman could be appointed. Andy Hall from Warslow has agreed to take on the position as Lengthsman. **Cllr French and the Clerk will finalise details and Cllr Land and Clerk will visit Peter.** This should ensure a smooth changeover. The Council wish to convey their gratitude and thanks to Peter for his long service to the Parish.

5. Clerk's hours and responsibilities.

The present weekly hours for the Clerk = 2 hours. This is now under review. It was decided to increase the hours to 3 hours per week with monitoring to take place over the next 4 months for Transparency purposes.

6. Website.

Cllr Stone informed the Council of the costings in order to update the website to encourage more people to visit it. It was agreed to proceed with this and a new contract was not envisaged as being a problem.

7. Transparency Code

Cllr Stone has researched the implications of the Transparency Code in regard to the website. Parish Councils have become more accountable and the publishing of certain information is now compulsory. **Cllr Stone to liaise with the Clerk to ensure all relevant information is added to the website.**

8. Butterton Wood

Cllr Kinneir continues to liaise with Richard Claxton re the future of the area. A 3 year plan will be compiled re the maintenance of the site. Now the site is cleared, it is hoped that this will be minimal. Plans to include bat and bird boxes have been put forward. **Clerk to speak to M. Wigglesworth** of Brook House re his future plans for the rear wall.

9. Gritting.

At present the Gritting lorry's route is Butterton Moor Bank to the Village Hall corner. **Clerk to ask Dave Rushton** if the lorry could grit at least as far as Wint's Yard. Previous requests for missed grit piles have been resolved.

10. Finance-

Nil payments received.

Payments requested- £50 for Parish Newsletter: Peter Frost Pay- £693.49 : Peter Frost expenses- £34.70: HMRC- £133.60: £20 for Councillors attendance at a Planning meeting at Aldern House.

11. Peak Park.

To ensure that in future no correspondence is missed, paper copies of planning applications will now be posted to the Clerk. Councillors were advised to regularly log on to the Peak Park Planning Portal for updates.

Butterton Parish Council

12. Severn Trent- Nothing to discuss

13. Highways- Nothing further to discuss

14. Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Notices are required to be posted for the Councillor vacancy. After the due date the Council will be informed by SMDC of the result. If nil response, the Council will be free to co-opt a member.

15. Staffordshire County Council

Final notices re Footpath 17 have been advertised in the Leek Post and Times. The Council will be updated after the due date.

An application form will be filled by Cllr French re a possible second grant from Community Footpaths Initiative Scheme.

16. Staffordshire Parish Councils Association- nothing to discuss.

17. Staffordshire Moorlands Parish Assembly- nothing to discuss

18. Correspondence

A letter from WACFR has been received which details future financial problems re restocking of items for the defibrillator. It was agreed they get in touch with the Council for funds as needed. Clerk to reply to WACFR.

13. A.O.B

The ongoing problem re Dog mess was again discussed. Nothing has changed.....It was agreed the Clerk to contact SMDC for assistance and yet another plea be made via the Newsletter. Clerk to sort.

The next meeting is.....

Tuesday 26th April, 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall for the

Annual Parish Meeting

followed by Parish Council meeting at 8pm.

EVERYONE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

2016 dates- Jan 19th, March 8th, April 26th (APM), June 7th, July 19th, Aug 30th, Oct 11th, Nov 22nd

Clerk-Maggie Risby, 01538 304115

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