

Butterton Parish Council

Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 11th October, 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

1. Apologies from Cllrs Karen Salt and Antonia Parr

Present- Cllrs Jenny Land (Vice Chairperson), S. Kinneir, Bruce French and Mike Stone

Also attending – Maggie Risby (Clerk) Councillor Gill Heath and Mary Raftery, SCC.

2. Cllr Heath and Mary Raftery were welcomed to the meeting having been invited to answer some questions including the procedures involved in getting roads repaired. Basically 'demand outstrips funding'. Potholes are graded according to potential risk hazards. Some will be filled in a short time span but others could take up to two months. Unfortunately a proportion of Butterton's road problems are caused by drainage issues and blocked ditches could be the landowner's responsibility.

There is now a facility where potholes can be reported online and Parish Councils receive a weekly update detailing work done. Each reported pothole is given a Reference number and is not ignored. After further discussion it was agreed that a walk round the village to assess the extent of the damage to our roads would be undertaken by Cllr Heath and Dave Rushton from the local Highways Dept accompanied by Parish Councillors Sarah Kinneir and Mike Stone.

Cllr Heath was then asked about the intention to withdraw the Village Lengthsman Scheme as from 2017. It is suggested Parishes 'take ownership'. The Neighbourhood Highways Team is now not in a position to continue non safety related activities thus there is a limit to the work they can undertake.

Cllr Heath then proceeded to discuss a letter sent to her by a parishioner. Included in the letter was a request to implement a speed restriction in the Middle of Town area. The outcome of this discussion was that it was highly unlikely that the plan would get considered as e.g a Traffic Order costs at least £4,000 and this does not include gathering of evidence and a full consultation. Parish Councils can erect their own advisory speed restriction signs BUT they must not IN ANY WAY resemble a Highways sign and they MUST be erected on private land and NOT Highway controlled verges etc.

Although the prognosis is bleak, Cllr Heath and Mary Raftery are committed to do all they can in an advisory capacity. They were thanked for their attendance.

3. Minutes from the previous meeting on 7th June were signed as correct. It is noted that due to absences the Council was not quorate for 19th July and 30th August.

4. Matters Arising

*It was reported that no one has come forward to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council despite pleas being made in the Newsletter plus some 'face to face enquiries'.

*Cllr French reported all the lamps had now been painted.

*There is a definite improvement re amount of deposits of dog poo in the Middle of Town. However, the problem has now shifted to the area near the Village Hall and Wetton Road.

* Grant Thornton have returned the Annual accounts and they had no queries.

* It was decided to obtain further guidance regarding Land Registry issues.

* Cllrs Sarah Kinneir and Mike Stone plus the Clerk will complete the paperwork necessary to include them as signatories on the Barclays Bank account asap.

Business items

5. Lengthsman's Update- Some areas of concern were discussed ie mud on the road in the Middle of Town and the overgrown and untidy pathway from The Nook to Back Lane. **Clerk to contact Andy Hall.**

Soil has been delivered to the verge (free of charge) near the Limekiln Site. This was requested after Openreach left the verge in a bad state after the installation of the two green boxes.

6. Clerk Update- There was a brief discussion when the Clerk produced worksheets as asked for by the Councillors at the time when the Clerk's hours were increased from two to three hours a week.

7. Finance-

Payments received- £40 Land Registry: £2,375 SMDC Precept: £3.52 (Petty cash paid in on advice of Internal Auditor)

Payments requested- £40 Land Registry: £120.00 Play Equipment Inspection Co: £1,217.66 Clerk's Pay: £304.40 HMRC: £770.88 Lengthsman's Pay:

Another reminder has been sent re Malbon rent.

8. Asset maintenance- A new flag is needed. **Clerk to order.** Three of the four noticeboards are in a poor state. They need sanding down, re-staining and varnishing. **Clerk to ask via Newsletter for volunteers**, PC to supply all materials. **Clerk to ask Andy Hall** if he would be interested in submitting a quote.(3 quotes are needed)

Butterton Parish Council

Correspondence

9. **Peak Park**- Nothing to discuss
10. **Severn Trent**- Nothing to discuss
11. **Highways**- Nothing further to discuss
12. **Staffordshire Moorlands District Council**- Nothing further to discuss
13. **Staffordshire County Council**-Nothing further to discuss
14. **Staffordshire Parish Councils Association**- nothing to discuss.
15. **Staffordshire Moorlands Parish Assembly**- Cllrs Karen Salt and Sarah Kinneir are the nominated representatives but are unable to attend the next meeting on 13th October.
16. **Other Correspondence** – None
17. **A.O.B**- Sadly, another Councillor is leaving us. Bruce French has resigned due to work commitments.

The next meeting is.....

Tuesday 22nd November, 2016 at 8 pm in the Village Hall

EVERYONE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

2016 dates- Jan 19th, March 8th, April 26th (APM), June 7th, July 19th, Aug 30th, Oct 11th, **Nov 22nd**
2017 dates will be announced asap.

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