

Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held in the Brearley Room, Grosvenor Centre
on Monday 13th January 2014 beginning at 7.30pm

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| Present | Cllr. R Greatrex (in the Chair) | Cllr. T Simkin |
| | Cllr. K Abbott | Cllr. S Green |
| | Cllr. M Cowie | Cllr. D Watson-Jones |
| | Cllr. J Cook | Cllr. J Tomkinson |
| | Cllr. M Hughes | Cllr. M Deegan |
| | Cllr. D Willetts | Cllr. K Ingram |
| | Cllr. P Alker | Cllr. M Booth (from item 14/006) |
| | Cllr. G Payne | Miss J Cooper, Clerk |

SBC Cllr Ken Williamson
SBC Cllr Mike Smith

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| 14/001 | Public Open Forum (5 members present) Mr and Mrs Stanford explained they are not residents of Gnosall Parish and are interested in purchasing a property in the parish. They are aware of the proposal for the wind farm at Knightley Hall Farm that would be near to the property they are interested in buying. They asked the Parish Council for details. The Chairman replied that no application had been submitted and the Parish Council had met with representatives from neighbouring parishes that would be affected. A public exhibition had been well attended in this parish and 2 neighbouring parishes. Further information is awaited prior to any application being submitted that the Clerk would pass on to Mr and Mrs Stanford. SBC Cllr Smith had some information that he shared. | Clerk |
| 14/002 | To receive apologies, record absences There were no apologies or absences. | |
| 14/003 | To record any declarations of interest Cllr Alker declared an interest in item 14/008 regarding the Council's new website. | |
| 14/004 | a) To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 9.12.14 The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record. | |
| 14/005 | To consider any matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda Swimming Pool/Community Asset – Cllr Alker had made enquiries with Staffordshire Parish Council's Association and Stafford Borough Council regarding the process and in particular whether the Parish Council would be liable for any financial implications. She had been informed both verbally and in writing that as the Parish Council is a Local Authority, there would not be any financial implications. The first part of the process is to register the pool on a 'nomination of an asset' form and a decision would be made by SBC within 8 weeks once they receive it as to whether the nomination can go on the asset register or not. | |

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| | <p>It was also reported that a follow up meeting regarding the future of the pool was held on 9th January to which about 35 people had attended who had previously expressed an interest in saving the pool. Notes of this meeting were circulated to councillors. Cllr Alker who attended the meeting had made it clear that the Parish Council probably would help with a questionnaire but at no cost to the Parish Council. The Clerk to follow this up in writing. Further meetings are planned once running costs are established.</p> <p>The Clerk and Cllr Alker would progress with nominating the pool as a Community Asset.</p> | Clerk PA |
| 14/006 | <p>To receive letters of interest in becoming a parish councillor, to interview candidates and co-opt to fill the current vacancy</p> <p>All Councillors had previously received copies of a letter from Mrs Mary Booth expressing an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor.</p> <p>The Chairman explained the procedure that would be taken following the guidelines from Stafford Borough Council. Mrs Booth was asked a number of questions from councillors. Councillors were happy with the answers given and all voted in favour of appointing Mrs Booth back on to Council.</p> <p>Mrs Booth signed the declaration of acceptance of office and joined the rest of the meeting as a councillor.</p> | |
| 14/007 | <p>To receive the following reports:</p> <p>a) The Clerk's report The report, previously circulated, included details of all committee meetings held in the past month as well as an update on Grosvenor Committee and Open Spaces projects.</p> <p>The report also included an update on Neighbourhood Planning. Cllrs were informed that questionnaires had been prepared and already distributed to each household in Gnosall. The Clerk asked for assistance in distributing questionnaires to Moreton, Outwoods and Bromstead. Questionnaires would be analysed by the Working Group at the next meeting on 11th February.</p> <p>With regards to affordable housing on Lowfield Lane, the Clerk had received information from Stafford and Rural Homes that all properties had been completed and all rented properties occupied. Countrywide Estate agent had been appointed to market and sell shared ownership properties and an Open Day is planned for early February.</p> <p>Reports from Stafford Borough/County Councillors There were no reports.</p> <p>Reports from Parish Councillors There were no reports.</p> | |
| 14/008 | <p>To consider committee issues:</p> <p>a) Matters relating to the Planning Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of the meeting held on 12.12.13 were received. | |

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| | <p>Any Other Reports from Committee Chairman</p> <p><i>Cllr Alker left the meeting.</i></p> <p>Communications Working Group – Cllr Deegan informed Council that 3 quotations had been received to redesign the website as well as an excellent presentation. A recommendation from the Communications Working was to accept the quotation from Mr Alker. Cllrs asked several questions about the changes to the site and were satisfied with the explanations given by members of the working group and the extensive work applied by the group on this project over the last 12 months.</p> <p>Cllr Wallis proposed to accept the recommendation. This was seconded and all councillors voted in favour. The Clerk to action.</p> <p><i>Cllr Alker joined the meeting</i></p> | |
| 14/009 | <p>To receive a report on financial receipts for December 2013 and receive accounts for approval January 2014</p> <p>The accounts were reviewed then proposed, seconded and approved for payment. Clerk to action.</p> | |
| 14/010 | <p>To report on any road and footway matters within the parish, including reports of any previous matters reported that have been repaired</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large pothole at the bottom of Cowley Lane • Potholes in Knightley Road many of which are filled with water. Flooding issues also on Knightley Road • Many potholes from Befcote Road to the County boundary – some have been marked for repair and some had not. • Wilbrighton Road to the A518 – several pot holes especially at the junction with the A518 • Flooding at Hollies Common • Newport Road, Gnosall – following resurfacing, grit is being blown onto the pavement and is creating a hazardous surface to walk on • Inconsiderate parking on Lowfield Lane that prevents pedestrians and large vehicles passing, especially on Sunday mornings. • S J Bargh milk containers still using the High Street and travelling at speed. | Clerk |
| 14/011 | <p>To consider correspondence and other communications, received (list enclosed for parish councillors, available to residents on application to the Clerk)</p> <p>The list of correspondence was noted.</p> <p>The Clerk asked Council to consider a letter received from Newport Food Bank asking whether the Parish Council would issue food vouchers.</p> <p>This was discussed and it was felt it was not appropriate for the Parish</p> | |

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| | Council's to be involved with this scheme. Cllrs felt it would be better handled by the services that are aware of the people in need – maybe the Health Centre or Social Services. Handing out vouchers to anyone who asked could leave the Council and its staff open to abuse. The Clerk to respond accordingly. | Clerk |
| 14/012 | To request items for the next agenda Cllrs to contact the Clerk 10 days prior to the next meeting with agenda items. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Wallis asked for Notice boards to be on the agenda | Cllrs Clerk |
| 14/013 | To confirm the date and time of the next meeting This would be held on 10 February 2014 in the Brearley Room. | |

The meeting closed at 8.30pm