

Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held in the Brearley Room on Monday 12th October 2015 beginning at 7.30pm

Present	Cllr. P Alker (in the Chair)	Cllr. J Cook
	Cllr. G Gregory	Cllr. S Green
	Cllr. K Abbott	Cllr. K Ingram
	Cllr. M Deegan	Cllr. R Greatrex
	Cllr. D Webb	Cllr. C Emsley
	Cllr. M Booth	Cllr. S Powell
	Cllr. S Wallis	Jayne Cooper, Clerk

Along with Kerry Ashdown, Staffordshire Newsletter and County Cllr M Winnington (from 7.40pm)

The Chairman reminded councillors about the policy of Recording Parish Council meetings

15/120	Public Open Forum None present	
15/121	To receive apologies, record absences Apologies received from Cllr G Payne, Cllr T Simkin, Cllr J Tomkinson, SBC Cllr K Williamson, and SBC Cllr M Smith. Apologies were accepted.	
15/122	To record any Declarations of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Alker declared an interest in any discussions about the website. Cllr Green declared an interest in discussions about the possible illumination of the Multi Use Games Area on The Acres. 	
15/123	To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2015 The minutes of the meeting were proposed, seconded and agreed as a true and accurate record.	
15/124	To consider any matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alarm for Workshop – The Clerk to action as soon as possible. Minutes of Heron Brook Leisure Centre Meeting – Cllr Powell gave the Clerk a copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 12th September. Conservation area – Cllr Greatrex had studied the proposed changes to the conservation area around the canal and felt some of the changes could conflict with the Neighbourhood Plan. It was also noted that work on clearing the tow path in Gnosall parish had started and a planning application had been submitted for the removal of some dangerous trees on the tow path Dog Fouling Campaign – it was noted that a recent press article had reported that Gnosall dog owners were not behaving responsibly when in fact the report should have said they were. This had been rectified in the next edition of the council's GMK 	Clerk

	<p>newsletter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countryside Estate Review – the 12 week consultation would commence in November, not October as previously reported. • Queen’s Commemorative Plaque - press coverage to be arranged. <p><i>Cllr Winnington joined the meeting.</i></p>	
15/125	<p>To receive the following reports:</p> <p>a) The Clerk’s Report</p> <p>The Clerk’s report gave details of the Borough Council Parish Forum at which Gnosall Parish Council had asked the Borough Council to consider giving parish councils the right to speak either for or against a planning in application at Borough Council Planning Committee meetings. SBC had responded saying <i>“For each item presented to planning committee, equal time is allocated for speakers both in support of and in opposition to a proposal. The council cannot therefore be considered to be showing bias to either side. Parish councils are able to register to speak either in support or objection. If the suggested third slot was allocated, the Council could be considered to be providing an unfair advantage to whichever viewpoint the Parish Council chose to deliver”</i>. The Clerk had acknowledged the response and asked SBC to consider this at the next annual review of its constitution as other district councils do give parish council’s this right. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to confirm this request.</p> <p>The Clerk and Chairman had attended a SPCA Training course on budgets, precept and the Annual Return.</p> <p>The Clerk, Chairman and Vice Chairman would be meeting with Staffordshire County Council on 5th November to discuss library changes in Gnosall as well as issues raised by parishioners about super fast broadband. A meeting with local people interested in volunteering to work in a community led library had also been arranged for 12th November.</p> <p>Cllrs were reminded that a tour of the parish as part of the induction for new councillor’s would be held on 2nd November followed by a Quality meeting on 3rd November to which all councillors were invited.</p> <p>It was noted that PCSO Brewis would be joining the team of PCSO’s for this area and had expressed an interest in helping to get a youth club established. This was welcomed.</p> <p>Reports of committee and working group meetings were also included in the Clerk’s report.</p> <p>b) Any reports from Parish Councillors on meetings/courses attended including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance at Whitmore Parish Council to discuss Neighbourhood Planning Cllr Abbott had attended this meeting to give advice on how to 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk/Cllr Alker/Cllr Deegan</p> <p>Cllrs</p>

	<p>produce a Neighbourhood Plan. Whitmore Parish Council would be using Gnosall's Neighbourhood Plan as a template and were very interested to hear how Gnosall Working Group had developed its plan.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that she had, along with the Chairman and Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, been invited to the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum count on 22nd October at 10pm. Results of the Referendum would be published in the press and the next edition of GMK.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPCA Executive Committee <p>Cllrs accepted the resignation of Cllr Booth from the SPCA Executive Committee. Cllr Payne would continue to be the Parish Council's representative on this committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Research Meeting <p>Cllr Alker had attended a data research meeting in Gnosall, organised by Stoke City Council at which randomly invited parishioners had been asked whether they were satisfied with information shared by Gnosall Parish Council. Those attending replied that they were happy with communication from the Parish Council but raised issues about planning details printed by The Borough Council in local newspapers about planning applications. A report of this research had been requested.</p> <p>c) Any reports from Borough and County Councillors</p> <p>Cllr Winnington confirmed he would be attending the Broadband meeting on 5th November with the Clerk and Chairman and that the situation had not changed with the target of 95% of Staffordshire being able to access superfast broadband by the end of 2016.</p> <p>He said the consultation on the Countryside Review would commence soon and would include the Greenway (national cycle route 55) in Gnosall. He confirmed the review is not about selling assets but about working with partners, including parish councils, about the management of a number of locations. He suggested the parish council consider the Greenway and how this could be enhanced to benefit parishioners.</p> <p>It was noted that the new school build is progressing quickly. Cllr Gregory, in her capacity as a school governor, said the lack of safety barriers is an ongoing concern.</p>	<p>Clerk Cllr Alker, Cllr Deegan</p>
15/126	<p>To consider Committees/Working Group issues:</p> <p>Matters relating to the Open Spaces Committee Allotment Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing work had commenced • A secure area for tenants' belongings would be created • Plans of proposed work would be submitted to the Environment Agency in the next few days. • Realignment work is scheduled for November/December 	<p>OS Committee</p>

	<p>Boardwalk - Alternative options are now being considered to raise the sunken area.</p> <p>Matters relating to the Grosvenor Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd September were accepted • A new Designated Premises Supervisor may be appointed as a local parishioner who runs a mobile bar and had expressed an interest in being the DPS for the Grosvenor Centre once her personal license is approved. • A Risk Assessment of the Centre had been carried out • A recommendation to purchase a storage trolley to store the PA system was approved at a cost of £150. It has been decided not to hire out the equipment to centre hirers but alternative options would be considered by the committee • The new Village Steering Group would be looking at plans for a new village centre/refurbishment of the Grosvenor Centre. <p>Matters relating to the Communications Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of the meeting held on 8th October were accepted. • In 2016/17 three editions of GMK would be printed to keep within the allocated budget • The next GMK would be ready for distribution at the beginning of November. Cllrs were asked to help with distribution. • A new router had been obtained in the parish office that should mean better wi-fi coverage in the Grosvenor Centre. This would be monitored. • Meetings with editors of local newspapers would be arranged. • The website had been updated. Shenstone Parish Council had contacted the Clerk about Gnosall's web design as it was considered a very good parish council website. <p>Matters relating to the GFest 2015 Working Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of the meeting held on 5th October were accepted. • Discussions had been held whether GFest should be community driven or led by the Parish Council and it had been agreed it should continue to be Parish Council led. There would be designated roles to share the work load. • Dates of GFest 17 are being considered. It would be a 9 day festival. • From profits received, 5 local organisations had requested grants and the committee had agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £600 to Gnosall Players £700 to Best Kept Village £600 to Christ Church Knightley £150 to Sustrans £300 to Gnosall Heritage Group And £500 would be retained for GFest 17 <p>Matters relating to the Christmas Working Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes of the meeting held on 8th October were accepted. • Plans are in hand for the Lights Switch on to be held on Saturday 28th November and arrangements detailed in the minutes. • Cllrs to help wherever possible. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllrs</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllrs</p>
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15/127	<p>To receive a report following the meeting of the Steering Group held on 28th September regarding village facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first meeting was held on 28th September independently chaired by Ian Mobley. • 3 parish councillors were present and 6 residents, representing local organisations. • The group would begin with evaluating what facilities currently exist in the village and what is needed. • The group would need to meet regularly to progress with this project. The Clerk to help coordinate meetings. • A copy of Heron Brook's Business Plan would be useful for members of the group to have before the next meeting. Cllr Powell to provide copies. 	<p>Clerk Cllr Powell</p>
15/128	<p>Gnosall Heritage Group</p> <p>To receive and accept the Governing Document of Gnosall Heritage Group</p> <p>Subject to minor amendments the Governing Document of the Heritage Group was formally accepted. The next meeting would be held on 6th November</p> <p>To receive a report from Cllr Abbott following his attendance at "Staffordshire in the Great War" conference on Saturday 3rd October</p> <p>Cllr Abbott said this had been a very useful and informative meeting at which details of grants for war memorials and from the Heritage Lottery Fund were shared. The Heritage Group would be reviewing these funds and considering a World War I event.</p>	<p>Heritage Group</p>
15/129	<p>To receive and discuss latest crime figures from Staffordshire Police for the parish</p> <p>Cllrs noted the latest crime figures. Discussion would be carried over to the November Council meeting at which local PCSO's would be attending.</p>	
15/130	<p>To receive a report on financial receipts for September 2015 and receive accounts for approval for October 2015</p> <p>The accounts were reviewed then proposed, seconded and accepted.</p>	
15/131	<p>To report on any road and footway matters within the Parish</p> <p>Cllrs to provide a list of jobs to the Clerk that can be passed to the Neighbourhood Highway Team ready for the next visit from 12th -17th November.</p> <p>Previous work to a land drain off Gnosall Road (left hand side travelling towards Ranton) was discussed as this is still causing concern to cllrs particularly the amount of water that runs onto the road (a narrow land on a dangerous bend) that will be hazardous in the winter months. It was felt water should run into a ditch or soak away rather than onto the lane. Clerk to discuss with Highways.</p>	<p>Cllrs Clerk</p>

	<p>The Clerk was asked to report to Highways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blocked gully on Brookhouse Road that had previously been reported several times during the summer and no action taken. Road deterioration on Gorse Lane, Knightley (left hand side travelling towards Eccleshall). Flooding from pond near Prospect House Knightley. Work on drain had been completed but changes to pipe work had not, resulting in flooding. 40 mph sign on Stafford Road had been twisted around. It was felt this area should be 30 mph and the Clerk was asked to raises this with Cllr Winnington and the Divisional Highway Team. Mud slide in Moreton from ploughed field – this had been reported to Highways but should also be reported to the Environment Agency. <p>The Clerk confirmed she had made enquiries with the Safer Road Partnership to meet and discuss the ongoing concerns about the A518 in partnership with Haughton Parish Council.</p>	Clerk
15/132	<p>To consider correspondence and other communications, received (list enclosed for parish councillors, available to residents on application to the Clerk)</p> <p>Cllrs had previously received a list of correspondence. The Clerk informed Cllrs that in future, the list of correspondence would be included in the Clerk's report and most of the correspondence is now received electronically and forwarded to cllrs as and when received.</p>	Clerk
15/133	<p>To request items for the next agenda</p> <p>Cllrs to inform the Clerk of items at least 10 days before the date of the meeting.</p>	Clerk
15/134	<p>To confirm the date and time of the next meeting</p> <p>Monday 9th November 2015 at 7.30pm</p> <p><i>Representative of the press left the meeting whilst confidential items were discussed.</i></p>	
15/135	<p>To receive information relating to Personnel Matters</p> <p>Cllrs were informed that the Assistant to the Clerk had tendered her resignation and would be leaving on Thursday 29th October. Delegated responsibility was approved for the Personnel Committee and the Clerk to deal with this vacancy and to report back at the next Council meeting. A Personnel Committee meeting had been arranged for 13th October.</p>	Personnel Committee /Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.40pm