

Heath Hayes & Wimblebury Parish Council.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting.
Held on Wednesday 9th January 2019.
Hayes Green Community Centre.

Present:

Cllrs. A. Dean (Chair), J. Bernard, L. Bullock, J. Cooper, M. Dean, D. Marsden, D. Todd, G. Wiggin, C. Woods. Cllr P. Ferraby when co-opted.

In Attendance:

Martyn Buttery, Melissa Buttery, B. Jones, P. Haden, P. Hewitt, A. Hewitt, S. Thompson.
Clerk, Mr R. Smythe.

Chair's Announcements and Public Participation.

Cllr A. Dean hoped everyone had a pleasant New Year. On behalf of the Council, he wished Cllr Dave Baker all the best with his ongoing treatment and hoped he would soon be well enough to return home.

The Council agreed to support the newly created Chasewater Friends Groups and hoped that this would help keep and improve a much-loved local asset.

**RESOLVED: TO SEND A CARD TO CLLR D. BAKER.
TO SUPPORT THE NEWLY CREATED CHASEWATER FRIENDS GROUP.**

1. Apologies. Consideration of acceptance of written apologies received before the meeting.

The meeting began at 7.35pm. Written apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs J. Aston and D. Baker. Verbal apologies were received on behalf of Cllr A. Bernard.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on Agenda Items.

The following non-pecuniary interests were declared and noted. They did not vote on the respective issues.

Item 14 – Grant Applications.

Cllr D. Todd – Heath Hayes and Area Senior Residents Support Group. (Member).

Cllr L. Bullock – Five Ways School. (Chair of Governors).

.....Chair

RESOLVED: NOTED.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th December 2018 and consideration of any matters arising, not on the agenda.

Approval of the minutes was proposed, seconded and agreed.

RESOLVED: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

4. Planning:

4.1 Applications dealt with by the Planning Committee. (No objections).

- **18/448 – GEM CARPETS, HEDNESFORD ROAD, HEATH HAYES.** Proposed new finishes to external walls (metal cladding/render).
- **18/453 – 16 CLOVER MEADOWS, HEATH HAYES.** Two storey side extension incorporating integral garage.

4.2 Decisions reported by Cannock Chase Council.

- **18/339 – 54 CHAPEL STREET, HEATH HAYES.** Ground floor rear extension, porch extension and canopy. APPROVED.
- **18/341 – FIVE WAYS ISLAND, HEATH HAYES.** Installation of a WW1 Memorial (silhouette of a soldier) on Five Ways Island. (Under auspices of Royal British Legion). An aluminium “Tommy” to be placed by the fingerpost. REFUSED

RESOLVED: NOTED.

5. Tommy Memorial at Five Ways Island. Consideration of current position and future action. (CH/18/341).

The Council expressed concern about the refusal, as both Cannock and Staffordshire Councils had indicated their approval was expected. It was agreed to re-submit.

RESOLVED: TO RE-SUBMIT THE APPLICATION.

6. Casual Vacancy for Councillor (Wimblebury Ward). Consideration of co-option.

After agreeing the procedure, there were two candidates. On a vote, the Council co-opted Mrs Pamela Ferraby.

Cllr P. Ferraby then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was congratulated and welcomed to the Council.

RESOLVED: TO CO-OPT CLLR P. FERRABY.

.....Chair

7. Cannel Mount. Current position and future action

There had been no major developments. This was to be placed on the next agenda.

RESOLVED: TO PLACE THE MATTER ON THE NEXT AGENDA.

8. Newsletter. Consideration of content and publication of next issue.

It was agreed that the Council would consider a draft edition for publication. Articles would include Remembrance, Memorial Gates Benches, grants awarded, Precept, Cannel Mount, Hayes Green Centre, Chasewater, Council information (Councillors, elections, meeting dates).

RESOLVED: TO PREPARE A DRAFT NEWSLETTER.

9. Memorial Benches at Five Ways Island. Current position and future action.

It was agreed to continue with the project and to have a site meeting with Kevin Yates to also discuss Cannock Chase Council's future plans for Heath Hayes Park.

The aim was to have two new commemorative benches at the Memorial Gates, one for WW1 and one for the Mining Industry. The two existing benches to be relocated within Heath Hayes Park.

RESOLVED: TO CONTINUE WITH THE PROJECT AS ABOVE.

10. To note incoming and outgoing correspondence.

The incoming and outgoing post (numbered 328 to 344) was noted.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

11. Accounts for Payment.

Authorisation of the payments listed in Appendix A totalling £1,495.65 was proposed by Cllr J. Bernard, seconded by Cllr G. Wiggin and agreed.

RESOLVED: TO AUTHORISE THE LISTED PAYMENTS.

12. Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next monthly meeting was Wednesday 6th February 2019. Cllr A. Dean thanked those present for their attendance and later declared the meeting closed (after Item 15) at 8.20pm.

RESOLVED: TO NEXT MEET ON 6th FEBRUARY.

.....Chair

13. Exclusion of the Public and Press owing to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

All members of the public present voluntarily left the meeting.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

14. To consider the awarding of grants, under the power of Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act.

This year, applications were invited by 30th November and considered at this meeting. The scheme was advertised in the newsletter, on the website and Facebook. Application forms are also sent to any others that request them.

Applicants provide financial information, to show their benefit to the area and to confirm the use of any previous grant. Information is sent out to the Council prior to the meeting and each application is considered on merit and benefit to the area.

Applications were considered for grants under Section 137, Local Government Act 1972. The following were agreed.

Recipients would be informed and that the cheques would be authorised and presented at the Annual Parish Meeting in April. Recipients are also invited to make a brief report on their activities in the area. Any not able to attend the meeting would have the cheques posted after that meeting. Grants were given on the basis that the cheques were presented for payment as soon as possible and to be used for the requested purpose and for that use to be confirmed.

1st Heath Hayes Scouts. £200.

1st Heath Hayes Cubs. £200.

1st Heath Hayes Beavers. £200.

3rd Heath Hayes Rainbows. £200.

2nd Valley District Seniors. £200.

1st Heath Hayes Brownies. £200.

3rd Heath Hayes Brownies. £200

4th Heath Hayes Brownies. £200

3rd Heath Hayes Guides. £200.

The Source Youth Club. £400.

Cannock Chase Drum Corps. £400.

Heath Hayes Senior Residents' Support Group. £500.

MASE. £300.

Five Ways School. £500.

Gorsemoor School. £500.

Bourne Methodist Church. £500.

St John's Church. £500.

Community Life Church. £500.

.....Chair

An application from the **Cherished Coffee Shop** for £600. To purchase lightweight chairs for the Centre was approved but the Council would purchase the chairs.

The above was proposed en bloc by Cllr J. Bernard, seconded by Cllr C. Woods and agreed.

RESOLVED: TO MAKE THE GRANTS, TOTALLING £5,900 AS ABOVE.

15. Consideration of acceptance of budget and to set the precept for 2019/20.

The Council considered the precept and the consensus was to set the precept at the lowest level possible to enable the Council to remain financially viable taking into account the known and expected expenditure, as well as developing areas of expenditure such as Cannel Mount. It was agreed to increase the budget for Cannel Mount from £1,675 to £2,215.

The Council considered any likely variations in costs and possible effects of future events. Funds set aside for contingencies would assist with the cost of elections or any unforeseen expenditure with the Hayes Green Centre.

The financial requirements of the Hayes Green Community Centre were material. The Centre had begun to mitigate the unplanned loss of the main hirer and was satisfied with the more social and community-based use of the Centre.

The Council had taken a great deal of care with examining all aspects of income and expenditure and looked at the needs of the area, and had decided to meet all criteria and keep the rate burden as low as possible.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to accept and adopt the budget proposals.

The amount the Parish Council precepted, would be divided by the Council Tax Base (4,024.51) to produce a Band D figure, commonly used as a comparator. Last year (2018/19), a precept of £73,000 resulted in a Band D charge of £18.23.

The Council discussed the matter at length and it was agreed that any increase in cost to the residents should be kept to a minimum. The Council was also aware that the grant element of the precept (previously £6,597.91), which the District Council had stopped handing over, was unlikely to be received again.

After much further discussion, the Council felt it necessary and reasonable to set the precept at £75,000, with an expected Band D of £18.63. This would be an increase of £2,000, Band D increase of 40p a year or 3.3p a month.

This would allow the Council to pay for the 2019 election, to continue to fund various projects including the development of Cannel Mount and remain financially viable. Proposed by Cllr L. Bullock, seconded by Cllr J. Bernard and agreed.

RESOLVED:

- **TO ACCEPT AND ADOPT THE REVISED BUDGET.**
- **TO SET THE PRECEPT AT £75,000.**

.....Chair