

Heath Hayes & Wimblebury Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting.
Commencing 7.30pm, Wednesday 4th April 2018.
Heath Hayes Library, Hednesford Road, Heath Hayes.

Present:

Cllrs J. Bernard (Chair), A. Bernard, L. Bullock, D. Marsden, D. Todd, G. Wiggin.

In Attendance:

Mrs P. Haden, Mr R. Pitcher, Mrs S. Thompson, Mr C. Woods – Residents.
Cannock Councillor M. Sutherland.
County Councillor P. Hewitt
Mr R. Smythe – Clerk.

Chair's Announcements and Public Participation.

Poplars Recycling. Residents reported that there were still incidents of bad smells and that these smells had been reported. There was a meeting at the site on 5th April that Cllr J. Bernard and Cannock and County Councillor M. Sutherland would be attending and this problem would be raised and reported back to the Council. (See Item 9.8).

Tesco Recycling. It was reported that the litter had been cleared from the area and the situation had improved. The Clerk reported that Cannock Councillor John Preece had liaised with Environmental Health and Tesco and now planned regular collections were taking place instead of ad hoc collections. It was agreed to monitor the position and to take further action if necessary to impress upon Tesco that this was a community facility and they had a responsibility to keep the area reasonable. (See Item 9.7).

Planters outside Library. Mr R. Pitcher had written to the Parish Council about his intention to install two planters either side of the memorial bench on County Council land outside Heath Hayes Library on the Hednesford Road, Heath Hayes.

He had previously been advised that if the Parish Council was involved, permission from the County Council would have to be obtained and any conditions complied with. He agreed to investigate if the Library volunteer group, who managed the Library on behalf of the County Council could obtain permission as this would hopefully be faster and may negate the need for any licences. Mr Pitcher had been previously been informed that the matter would need to be placed on the May agenda for authorisation for the Parish Council to act, but this would not satisfy his need for the installation by 27th April.

Councillor Val Baker. Cllr J. Bernard spoke about the sad loss of Councillor Valerie Baker who has passed away on 24th March. Val had been an active supporter and member of the Council for many years and the Council passed deepest condolences to her husband, Councillor Dave Baker and his family. All present stood in silence as a mark of respect.

The funeral would be held at 3pm on Tuesday 17th April at Stafford Crematorium and afterwards at the Cannock Conservative Club.

1. Consideration of acceptance of any apologies received in writing before the start of the meeting.

The meeting began at 7.55pm. Written apologies were received and accepted from Cllr D. Baker. A. Dean and M. Dean.

Verbal apologies had been received on behalf of Cllr J. Cooper.

County Councillors B. Jones and J. McMahon had also submitted their apologies.

RESOLVED: TO ACCEPT THE APOLOGIES.

2. Declarations of Interest on agenda items.

There were no declarations.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting on 7th March 2018 and any matters arising, not covered on this agenda.

3.1 Approval of the minutes was proposed, seconded and agreed.

3.2 There were no matters raised that were not covered on the agenda.

RESOLVED: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

4. Planning.

4.1 Applications dealt with by the Planning Committee.

- **17/475 – McDonalds, HEMLOCK WAY , HEATH HAYES.** Application for the removal of condition 2 of 14/0437 to enable both the restaurant and drive through to trade 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **18/070 – 21 OTTERBURN CLOSE, HEATH HAYES.** Two storey side extension and canopy.
- **18/079 – 7 LYNDHURST ROAD, HEATH HAYES.** Two storey rear extension.
- **18/087 – 156 HEDNESFORD ROAD, HEATH HAYES.** Change of use from Hairdresser to Tattoo Studio.
- **18/108 – 116 STAFFORD STREET, HEATH HAYES.** Rear single and two storey extension.

The Council had no objections to the above applications.

4.2 Reported decisions (approved).

- **17/45 – MCDONALDS, HEMLOCK WAY, HEATH HAYES.** Application for the removal of condition 2 of 14/437 to enable both the restaurant and drive through to trade 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- **18/42 – 65 WIMBLEBURY ROAD, HEATH HAYES.** Residential development. Erection of nine houses.
- **18/29 – 24 BRAMPTON DRIVE, HEATH HAYES.** Ground floor rear extension.
- **18/42 – 65 WIMBLEBURY ROAD, HEATH HAYES.** Residential development. Erection of nine houses.

RESOLVED: NO OBJECTIONS AND THE DECISIONS NOTED.

5. Clerk’s Report.

The Clerk’s Report was noted and accepted with the following additional comments.

5.1 Heath Hayes Cabin. The Management Committee Meeting minutes would be circulated.

5.2 Hayes Green Community Centre. The Management Committee Meeting minutes would be circulated.

5.3 Council. The report was noted and agreed.

RESOLVED: TO CIRCULATE THE MINUTES AND NOTE THE REPORTS.

.....Chair

6. Report of Meetings.

There were no reports.

7. Current Traffic Issues – Consideration of issues.

The Council had received a list of potholes reported to the Council Council and it was strongly felt that this was a major issue that needed addressing urgently. Potholes were suspected of causing considerable damage to vehicles and it would be much better to spend money on road repairs instead of compensation for damage caused by them.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

8. Cannel Mount – Update on developments and consideration of future action.

The Council was still awaiting the lease from the County Council and it was agreed to investigate the delay.

RESOLVED: TO INVESTIGATE THE DELAY IN RECEIVING THE LEASE.

9. Council projects. Consideration of any developments.

9.1 Defibrillators. Existing units 1 and 2 had been checked and were in working order. £2,000 had been received from County Councillor McMahon from his funding and two units and boxes had been purchased. One to be installed at the Community Life Church, Hednesford Road, Heath Hayes. The other at Tasty Bites Chip Shop, John Street, Wimblebury. Other sources of grants were sought on an ongoing basis.

9.2 Request to acquire land in Chapel Street, Heath Hayes. No reply from the County Council. It was agreed to keep this on the agenda.

9.3 Arrangements for APM, AGM. It was agreed to now start the APM at 7.00pm.

9.4 Parking at schools in the area. Cllr J. Bernard and the Clerk would meet with the Heads of Gorsemoor School and Heath Hayes Academy on Wednesday 18th April and report back to the Council.

9.5 Heath Hayes Playing Fields. There had been no reported developments from Cannock Council. It was agreed to keep this on the agenda.

9.6 Heath Hayes Library. The County Council had acknowledged receipt of notification of the Parish Council’s interest in acquiring the building and maintaining the Library, should the opportunity arise.

9.7 Tescos – recycling area issues. Dealt with under Public Participation.

9.8 Poplars Site. Recycling area issues. Dealt with under Public Participation.

9.9 Fly Tipping. There were no new reports.

9.10 Memorial Bench at Heath Hayes Library. The bench had been installed.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

10. World War One Centenary Events. Consideration of budget.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to:

- **St John’s Church.** Financially assist St John’s Church with costs or refreshments up to £250.00 in regards to any events connected with the Centenary and the local schools.
- **Tommies and Benches.** To purchase one or two “Tommy” silhouettes (one for Five Ways Island) and one or two memorial benches (possible Five Ways Island and Wimblebury). The Council was made aware of an offer from Five Ways LH to fund a silhouette on Five Ways Island up to £750.00. Budget of £4,750 set.
- **Constitutional Club.** It was reported that the function room had been booked for Sunday 11th November from 9.30am. The Council was grateful for the offer of free hire and hope to hold an event and provide refreshments after the Remembrance services and would set a budget when attendance could be better estimated.

RESOLVED: AS ABOVE.

11. Casual Vacancies for Councillors – Wimblebury Ward, New Heath Hayes Ward.

The Council was under a legal obligation to report the following vacancies and reasons.

Cllr D. Morris – Wimblebury Ward. Resigned.

Cllr V. Baker – New Heath Hayes Ward. Deceased.

The Council authorised the commencement of the declaration process.

RESOLVED: TO DECLARE TWO VACANCIES AS ABOVE..

.....Chair

12. Consideration of adoption of policy for Safeguarding Children and Adults.

A policy had been circulated for consideration. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to adopt the policy.

As with all policies, this would be reviewed at annually or whenever necessary.

RESOLVED: TO ADOPT THE POLICY.

13. Data Protection. Consideration of adoption of protocol for compliance.

A policy had been circulated for consideration. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to use Staffordshire County Council to comply with the new Data Protection requirements. This would be reviewed annually or whenever necessary.

RESOLVED: TO APPOINT THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

14. To note the incoming and outgoing correspondence;

The list of incoming post and outgoing post, numbered 69 to 86/18 was noted.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

15. Accounts for Payment.

Authorisation of the payments listed in Appendix A, totalling £24,288.51, was proposed by Cllr G. Wiggin, seconded by Cllr A. Bernard and agreed. Income of £2,000.00 (County Council grant) was noted.

RESOLVED: TO AUTHORISE THE LISTED PAYMENTS.

16. Items for Information and Future Agendas.

16.1 The Council was extremely concerned to hear of the proposed closure of the nearest ambulance standby point in Burntwood. Ambulances upon clearing and not being re-tasked would be sent to stations at Stafford and Lichfield.

The West Midlands Ambulance Service has an aim to get to Category 1 calls within 7.5 minutes and the Council felt that this move would result in a reduction in efficiency with unnecessary travel.

The Council contested the claim that this would save money as the standby point lease has reportedly been paid up for the next two years and no money would be saved from the closure.

The Council also contests the claim that the targets will still be met by the use of other ambulances on non-emergency jobs as there will be a quiet time at some point where all the ambulances will be at Stafford or Lichfield and should a Category 1 come in at that point, attending in the planned time would be compromised, if not impossible.

When intelligence from calls was first used to predict the likelihood of a Category 1 call, within the whole of Staffordshire, the best standby point was Five Ways Island in Heath Hayes. Investigations by the Clerk have again resulted in this fact being repeated and the Council cannot see the operational logic nor financial justification to have standby points so far away as to make attending within the target time impossible. Lichfield (9.2 miles) nor Stafford (13.2 miles)

Therefore the Council agreed to write to Anthony Marsh, Chair of West Midlands Ambulance Service to stress the above points in the strongest terms and strongly object to the planned closure.

RESOLVED: TO WRITE AS ABOVE.

16.2 It was agreed to send any items to be discussed at any future meetings to the Clerk.

16.3 Agenda Item – Bus Services in the area.

RESOLVED: TO SEND ANY ITEMS AS ABOVE TO THE CLERK.

17. Date of Next Meeting.

The date was agreed as Wednesday 9th May 2018 (Annual Parish and AGM).

These meetings would be held at the Hayes Green Community Centre and start at 7pm.

Cllr J. Bernard declared the meeting closed at 8.48.pm. He thanked those present for their attendance.

RESOLVED: NEXT MEETING 9th MAY.

.....Chair