

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRANSTON PARISH COUNCIL, 16TH JULY 2013, AT 6.30 P.M. – PAGET CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Present: Cllr M Ackroyd , Cllr F Smith, Cllr Mrs P Ackroyd, Cllr N Slater, Cllr M Hussain, Cllr M Ellor, Mrs Kay Lear (clerk)

The following planning applications were reviewed prior to public participation – 6.30 p.m.

Application no	Location	Description	Decision
P/2013/00785	72 Tatenhill Lane, Branston	Erection of first floor and single storey rear extensions (revised scheme)	No objection
P/2013/00789	17 Leamington Road, Branston	Felling of one Copper Beech Tree, Branston	No objection

Public participation 7.00 – 7.15

The residents are increasingly concerned with the additional traffic around Shobnall/Outwoods/Branston/Anslow.

There is a safety concern regarding the traffic.

The chair asked if an additional road had been proposed. There are number of issues that have not been resolved. Police, fire service do not support the thought of a weight limit. The police say keep parking on the pavement otherwise the road will stop.

Residents were concerned that local businesses could be affected by any proposed changes and wondered if SCC could offer them a permit.

Safety camera is a permanent feature on the hill.

It is affecting 4 parish councils – Branston, Outwoods, Shobnall and Anslow

The only solution is a weight restriction on the road – Residents present asked if the parish council could co ordinate a meeting with the neighbouring parish councils. The residents are aware of all these developments ie congestion , there are plans to put more and more traffic – speeding is a problem. Cllr Mrs Ackroyd proposed that the parish council discuss the residents concerns at the end of the meeting and update the attendees after the meeting as to what has been suggested.

A resident attended the meeting concerned that lorries near to Johnson controls were using the grass verges as toilets. Cllr Mrs Ackroyd offered to take this issue to ESBC.

40/13 Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted for Cllr John Yates

41/13 To receive any Declarations of Interest – Cllr P Ackroyd declared an interest – St Saviours Church.

42/13 Minutes of previous meeting: Council to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. There was one amendment to the minutes ie Burton Road and Fairways , 31/13, Paul Steed said that he would come and meet the councillors informally. Cllr Mrs Ackroyd informed the council that she was meeting with Paul along with the Chairman and any other members were welcome to join them. Following minor amendments, it was resolved that the minutes be signed as a true record.

Cllr M Ellor left the meeting due to a prior engagement.

43/13 Chairmans report –

Garden competition completed Saturday 13th July. It was resolved that the clerk contacts the Horticultural show co ordinator to establish who was hosting the event to explore whether they would be willing to present the certificates during the afternoon on behalf of the parish council.

44/13 Lead councillor reports

Cllr F Smith – Planning Chairman – Cllr Smith informed the council that the Gatehouse was progressing. Photographs have been taken of the building. Cllr Smith informed the council that he would be meeting up with Nurtons to explore costings for refurbishment of the gatehouse to ensure that funding was available.

Cllr F Smith attended the Planning committee meeting on Monday, 8th July to continue the objection of Land South of Branston. He felt the borough councillors were upset about the decision. ESBC would be faced with the cost of the appeal which will run into thousand of pounds. It was proposed that a letter be sent to Eric Pickles as soon as possible to formulate an objection.

Cllr M Hussain – Nothing to report.

Cllr P Acrkoyd – Thank you for the 1st quarter budget review. We need to agree if we ring fence money for the Gatehouse. Cllr Ackroyd was concerned that the gatehouse may be a drain on council funds and that perhaps the council should explore other options.

Cllr N Slater – The handyman is now back. Cllr Slater informed the council that a tree had been damaged on the Ransom strip, Harwood Avenue. It has now been resolved. Toadhole – leaflets have now been distributed around the parish. Cllr Slater also reminded those present that there was a free activity on Clays Lane – 1-3pm on Monday, 22nd July to celebrate our annual Fields in Trust award.

45/13 The following items were discussed:

Councillor	Item for discussion	Decision
Cllr F Smith	Neighbourhood development plan – there was lots of discussions regarding the lack of support in assisting the parish council to shape the parish	No action
Cllr M Ellor	Presentation of church extension	Rev M Ellor gave a presentation on the church extension proposal in the event of the planning going ahead. The parish council felt that finances needed to be explored. The council confirmed that they had a meeting with Nurtons shortly. The local youth service would welcome these facilities being introduced in the parish. It would be good development for Branston community. The council resolved that the costs needed to be explored via

46/13 Planning applications/matters/update on steering committee

- B and Q planning application at committee – 22nd July – Cllr Smith will try and attend the planning meeting on Monday, 22nd July.
- Update on Land South of Branston – appeal decision October at the latest. 2nd application heard 8th July – it was approved by the planning committee
- Appeal – Land south of Forest Road, Burton – all correspondence forwarded to ESBC will be forwarded to the planning inspector. It was resolved that further comments be forwarded to the planning inspector regarding ongoing Traffic for Forest Road.

47/13 Borough/county councillor reports

Cemetery has been in the news. The borough council are concerned that there will not be sufficient grave spaces going forward. The number of over 65's will have increased. Three areas have been looked at 1) pandemic large area to hold 400 graves, 2) heritage graves – no one has an exclusive right of burial – they could be opened up and more bodies included, it would be handled sensitivity 3) adjoining Stapenhill – talk to allotment holders to see if there is somewhere else to use the allotments and the allotment land would be used for graves. Taking all these situations. People who do not live in the area will be charged an additional cost for being buried in the parish.

Graveyard in Branston – Branston already has a piece of land – the next piece of land by the graveyard is currently being leased but is to be used for future burial land. By the side of the graveyard there is another piece of land which the parish council should be considering as using this land for burial land. Parochial church to investigate.

48/13 Clerks report

History of branston – It was resolved that the history of Branston be added to the website
 Village Signs – It was resolved that Main Street and Postern Road be proposed to Richard Rayson. Exact locations were agreed by those present subject to Richard Raysons approval. Budget for two is £3K and has been approved Signage to be added is 'welcome to Branston' with Staffordshire knot – print blue



HMRC Tribunal - 19th September – clerk at tribunal 19th September

ESBC want us to confirm that we wish to proceed with the Gatehouse and Nurtons to assist with the refurbishment. Nurtons will hopefully be visiting the gatehouse prior to our parish council meeting in September. Four members present voted that the gatehouse still be explored.

Toadhole – signage temporarily displayed to encourage members of the public to not drop litter, collect dog foul. Pathway slightly trimmed to ensure easy access by residents
Toadhole – public footpath signage – SCC have confirmed that it is not a public footpath and as such will not fund any signage

Bus shelters have been slightly damaged – Euroshell have cleaned the seating area and inspected them for this year.

Trees overgrowing notices boards – Postern Road and Henhurst Ridge – clerk speaking to highways

ESBC are asking for comments to Statement of community involvement by 5th August – It is what central government have asked – Cllr Mrs P Ackroyd proposed that the parish council agreed with it as it wasn't a controversial document

Graveyard overgrown tree – St Saviours responsibility. Clerk to write to resident.

Graveyard maintenance was discussed. It was proposed that a donation be made for £400 towards the maintenance. The clerk made the council aware that the council had no statutory power to make this payment. A vote was taken. It was resolved that the donation would be made upon production of receipts taken. Cllr Ackroyd declared an interest and as such did not vote.

Ransom strip – tree – Harwood Avenue – damaged by weather – repair work now carried out thanks to Nigel Slater

Branston community fun day group and Paget orchard steering committee have forwarded their thanks for our recent donations

Deeds for land which parish council own - solicitors are no longer able to retain. Cllr Mrs Ackroyd informed the council that providing land is registered, deeds are not required.

QE2 registration – clays lane almost now registered – land registry requested original deeds and county land search which clerk has completed. Clerk to complete same process for Toadhole.

Leigh Yeomans and Cheryl Maxim would be happy to distribute leaflets around clays lane to encourage residents to report anything suspicious as part of assisting us with reducing vandalism in the play area. Clerk to inform Cheryl and Leigh.

49/13 The following expenditure was approved by the full council.

Cheque no	Cheque Amount	Payee	Explanation for expenditure	Power to act (as per financial regs)
001860	£50.00	Paget community orchard	Donation for Paget Orchard community fun day	Chairmans allowance
001861	£300.00	P Gould	Grass cutting contract - August 2013	Local government Act
001862	£300	P Gould	Grass cutting contract 2013/14 July payment	Local government act
001863	xxxx	R Ludlow	Monthly salary - July	Local government act
001864	xxx	K Lear	Monthly salary - July	Local government act
001865	306.12	HMRC	Tax/NI – K Lear/ R Ludlow - July	Localgovernment act
001866	xxx	R Ludlow	Monthly salary – August	Local government act
001867	xxx	K Lear	Monthly salary - August	Local government act
001868	306.12	HMRC	Tax/NI – K Lear/ R Ludlow - August	Localgovernment act
001869	£100	M Bloor	Cutting of grass – nr to Morrisons	Local government act
001870	£42.32	K Lear	Telephone, travelling expenses	Local government act
001871	£10	R Winfindale	Donation for taking photographs of Gatehouse	Chairmans allowance
001872	£1278.00	Kirkwells	Project payment – Neighbourhood development grant	Local government act

Treasurers report: - Bank mandate -
 Bank rec June 2013 – £51319 – reserve £30K for gatehouse
 Budget review – 1st quarter – approved by the full council

50/13 Items for discussion at next meeting

Date/time/venue next meeting – Rough Hayes – Nurtons to be invited

CLLR MIKE ACKROYD
CHAIRMAN – BRANSTON PARISH COUNCIL

