

Beoley Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Gill Sloan, 62 Gerard Road, Alcester, Warwickshire, B49 6QQ

Minutes of Meeting of Beoley Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th June 2022 at 7.30pm at Beoley Village Hall

Attendees: Cllr. Bland (Chairman), Cllr. Joynes (Vice-Chair), Cllr. Barry. Cllr. Cook, Cllr. Morgan, Cllr. Urry, Gill Sloan (Parish Clerk)
Not Present: Cllr. Merrell

Members of the public attending: 6

1. **Apologies:** County Councillor Luckman, District Councillor English
2. **Declaration of Personal/Prejudicial Interests:** None
3. **Report of County Councillor Luckman** – circulated prior to meeting
 - a) Cllr. Rouse from Redditch appointed as new Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport and positive conversations already held with him on local issues
 - b) As Chair of West Mercia Police and Crime Panel pressing for action on the most visible and nuisance crimes, including ASB, speeding, hate crime, petty theft, and road traffic offences
 - c) Currently exploring opportunities for permanent speed enforcement measures on the A435, such as average speed cameras
 - d) Spoke to the Road Safety Team re speeding concerns on Beoley Lane and Dagnell End Road and received assurance that both the OPU and SNT team will pay attention to the area. Trying to push for change in speed limit on Dagnell End Road and have asked Highways to investigate broken VAS speed sign on Beoley Lane.
 - e) Following a request by the Parish Council have agreed to contribute to remedial works required in and around Beoley Brook
4. **Report of District Councillor English** – circulated prior to meeting
 - a) Fly-tipping is still a concern so have been pushing for better enforcement and tougher sanctions on fly tippers
 - b) Hardship – a hardship fund is available through BDC for people needing help with their council tax
 - c) Tree preservation – BDC Tree Officer has been asked to investigate the sale of land at Gorcot Hill so that no trees worthy of TPO's are felled by the new owners
 - d) Local plan review – BDC is continuing with its local plan review which should be ready for consultation in September 2022. The surplus of housing currently allocated for the needs for Redditch Borough will be handed back to BDC to consider in its plan making, meaning less green belt should need to be built on
5. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting (10th May 2022) were approved unanimously** and were signed by the Chairman
6. **Items from previous minutes b/f:**
 - a) Cllr. Joynes signed the Vice-Chairman's acceptance of office form
 - b) Letter to Headway – no response received from Headway
 - c) Burning of commercial waste on residential premises – concern expressed at lack of water on site and potential if fires left unattended for sparks to ignite vegetation close by, and also of impact on wildlife. Chairman to write further letter to Fire Officer and send copy to the Environment Agency
 - d) Jubilee matters – the Jubilee tree was planted on the parish field by members of the parish council after the last meeting. Bunting and flags were put up in the village. They are now being stored in the container.
 - e) Path Warden – the path wardens attended the meeting and reported that all paths were open and clear, including those near the Amazon site, which are well signed

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7. **Parish Field** – this has now had three cuts and the look of the grass has improved. It was used at the weekend and left spotless. Cllr. Joynes will aim to provide an update on the play area proposal for the next meeting
8. **Planning – presented by Cllr. Barry:**
 - a) Updates were discussed and the responses of the Parish Council are detailed in the separate Planning report
 - b) Abbey Park/Hither Green Lane proposed development – Cllr. Joynes advised that there is still a lot of information missing from the planning portal and that it is likely to be 2-3 months before the application is complete. Following a FOI request the position regarding the restrictive covenant had been clarified
9. **Portway & Hillcrest – presented by Cllr. Urry:**
 - a) Oil drums continue to be dumped at the bus stop. Cllr. Urry to report. Police requested to add this area to their patrols to hopefully provide some discouragement to the fly tippers
 - b) Problems reported at Attwells from the excessive use of forklift trucks up and down the road, and a field having been covered with tarmac for a car park, against the conditions of planning approval. There has also been an increase in aggressive driving at the weekends. Request to police to check situation regarding forklift trucks using public roads
10. **Highways – presented by Cllr. Cook**
 - a) Mowing contract going well, with verges looking neat; this is a real positive for the parish
 - b) Lengthsman service also operating well. The team is proactive, and recently reset two bollards that had been knocked down. It is useful to receive photos of the work done which can be shared on Facebook to keep residents updated
 - c) The troughs are all planted up and a watering rota is in place. The Chairman thanked Cllr. and Mrs Cook on behalf of everyone for their hard work
11. **Finance:**
 - a) Payments, bank balances and bank reconciliations were approved unanimously
 - b) Risk assessment for the financial year ended 31/03/22 was reviewed; no changes were deemed necessary, and the schedule was unanimously adopted for the year ending 31/03/23
 - c) The following schedules in respect of the financial accounts for the year ended 31/03/22 were reviewed, accepted, and approved unanimously, and the Chairman and RFO were authorised to sign Part 2, Section 1 and Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return:
 - i. Accounts
 - ii. Bank reconciliation
 - iii. Risk assessment
 - iv. Annual Governance and Accountability Return Part 2, Section 1, and Section 2
 - d) The Internal Audit report was considered, and the recommendations made were noted
 - e) The Certificate of Exemption was signed by the RFO and the Chairman and will be returned to the external auditor before 30th June 2022
 - f) The dates for the exercise of public rights were agreed
 - g) The Standing Orders and the new Local Government Associations Model Code of Conduct endorsed by NALC were reviewed, accepted, and approved unanimously
 - h) Insurance renewal – the clerk advised that a similar level of cover had been purchased from Zurich Insurance for £300, the same price as last year, and confirmed that the appropriate certificates had been received
12. **20 is Plenty** – the initiative was discussed, and the following motion was passed unanimously:
Beoley Parish Council:
 - Supports the *20's Plenty for Worcestershire* campaign
 - Calls on Worcestershire County Council to implement 20mph in BeoleyClerk to write to Worcestershire County Council on behalf of the PC to request 20mph speed limits throughout Worcestershire where people live, shop, work, play and learn

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13. Neighbourhood Development Plan – Cllr. Joynes reported that the Levelling Up Bill suggests that there will be less development on green belt sites and more on brownfield sites, with local communities having more of a say in planning, which may mean that NDP's become more important. It was agreed to review the situation again in six months

14. Correspondence:

- a) Resident's letter received re speeding in Portway – clerk to reply and to invite resident to next meeting to enable concerns to be addressed face to face
- b) Town and Parish Council Survey 2022 received for completion from Police & Crime Commissioner; Chair to complete on behalf of PC and circulate for comments/approval

15. Councillors' items:

- a) Cllr. Barry asked for someone to consider taking over Planning as he will be moving away at some point, and Cllr. Morgan agreed to meet with him to see what is involved
- b) Cllr. Joynes announced that Glastobeoley would be held from 18-19 June 2022, with tickets still available and over 50 live acts performing

16. Meeting closed at 9.05pm

17. Date of next meeting – 12th July 2022 at 7.30pm, to be held in Beoley Village Hall

Public Forum: concern raised by Portway residents that the reduction of the speed limit to 40mph has only been partially successful, and that there is still a lot of speeding, particularly on the Alcester Road in Portway, which is used as a cut through from the A435. Discussions with police representatives present about setting up Community Speedwatch as six residents are now trained; police also outlined measures they are taking to address the concerns about speeding raised by the parish council

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Dated _____