



Croxden Parish Council Meeting Minutes
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Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday 9th September 2020, via Zoom.

Zoom ID: 867 8204 4754 - <https://zoom.us/join> . Residents can use the telephone number to access meeting 0131 460 1196 and then add the meeting ID to join. **The meeting commences at 7pm.**

Legislation for holding Zoom Meeting - <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/392/part/2/made>

Present: Cllr Bean, Cllr Hall, Cllr Hemingway, Cllr James, and the clerk.

Chairman addressed meeting by welcoming Councillors and giving a brief outline of the issues on the agenda.

20.09.001 APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCES – Cllr Brandrick, Cllr Whittaker (Borough)

20.09.002 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS. – Cllr Bean declared an interest in the Broadband item and the Noise Complaint, Hollywood Farm, and requested a dispensation, which was granted.
Cllr Hall, P/2020/00754 - Thorneyfields Nabb Lane Croxden ST14 5JB.

20.09.003 TO RESOLVE THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON 8th July 2020 ARE A CORRECT RECORD. - RESOLVED

20.09.004 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ABOUT PROGRESS OF RESOLUTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Website – Accessibility Statement and Facilities parameters.

RESOLVED to accept and display on the website, the accessibility statement created by Cllr Hemingway and the webmaster.

The Chair thanked both Cllr Hemingway and the webmaster for their considerable efforts to create the statement and ensure that the council is as compliant as possible by 23rd September 2020

RESOLVED to only include facilities, onto our website, that are within a mile of the Parish boundary.

RESOLVED to include within the budget a fund for website updates.

Budget – Discuss draft proposal.

Councillors went through the draft budget and accepted it in principle, but asked the clerk to gain quotes for the potential increase in insurance, noticeboard maintenance and a second village entrance sign in a different design. Also to take advice from either Historic England or English Heritage about maintenance/restoration of the Whipping Post, Greatgate.

The budget will be voted on in the November meeting and the precept set.

WW1 Bench and Silent Soldier –

Project update - the installation took place on 24.07.2020

The Tarmac final project document sent 30.07.2020.

All payments made 12.08.2020



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Press release issued 17.08.2020

The Chair would like to thank Mr Hawksworth for installing the Tarmac plaque, which completes the project.

The Chair thanked everyone involved with the project.

The Local Government Boundary Commission –

Croxden Parish Council submitted the following comments on 03.09.2020 to reviews@lgbce.org.uk :

Croxden Parish Council would like the following comments to be considered by the LGBCE: The existing Abbey ward already achieves electoral equality, and Croxden parish is currently effectively served by one ward councillor. In addition, Croxden parish already shares interests and its rural identity with other areas within the existing Abbey ward. There is no conclusive evidence that merging Croxden parish with the existing Churnet and Weaver wards to form a new Abbey & Weaver ward served by two councillors, would benefit the Croxden parish electorate. Croxden Parish Council therefore see no convincing reason for changing the current Abbey ward boundary and structure. ESBC would be better served by having 37 councillors, rather than the 36 councillors proposed by the LGBCE, as 'an odd' number of councillors will help mitigate against a hung council or split decision, which risks undermining effective local government.

The Parish Council understands that Government is reviewing consolidating council functions and it would seem that making changes to boundary structure at the moment would perhaps be better deferred until the outcome of these broader debates is understood.

Full details of the review are on <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/staffordshire/east-staffordshire>

Croxden Broadband Capacity –

Councillors discussed the options presented by Paul Chatwin, Staffordshire County Council(SCC) and Kate Griffiths MP.

Details of the Community Fibre Partnership (CFP) style initiative can be found at <https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/>

Details of Universal Service Obligation (USO) is a scheme where consumers can make requests for connections from BT the Universal Service Provider can be found at <https://www.bt.com/broadband/USO> or by ringing 0800 783 0223.

Details a 4G option which works if combined with an external antennae (about the size of a Pringles tube) can be found; <https://shop.ee.co.uk/broadband/4g-home-broadband> SCC advised that should residents need further advice about the 4G and Satellite broadband options please contact <https://notspotbroadband.com/> for further information.

SPCA advised the Parish Council of the following: There are no specific powers available to parish councils to enter directly into the provision of telecommunications infrastructure.

Many parish councils do, however, offer support to other organisations including Community Interest Companies (CICs) pursuing community based schemes for the improvement of broadband connectivity.

The Chair advised that a government review is taking place at present addressing the shortfall in funding for the final 5% of coverage for properties in the UK.

Croxden Parish Council RESOLVED to revisit this issue, after the Government Review is published.



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ESBC Planning Consultation - Draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

ESBC advised a draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and are inviting your views. The Statement of Community Involvement provides guidance on how local communities can be involved on key development plan policies and decision making. The document can be viewed online at: <http://www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/consultations>
The Chair will provide comments by the deadline – 14th September 2020.

Reform of the Planning System: Consultations

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has issued three consultations dealing with proposed reforms of the planning system, the details of which can be found at the links below.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907215/200805_Changes_to_the_current_planning_system_FINAL_version.pdf
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907956/Planning_for_the_Future_web_accessible_version.pdf
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/transparency-and-competition-a-call-for-evidence-on-data-on-land-control>

20.09.005 CLERK REPORT

Register of Interest form – Cllr James – sent to ESBC 09.07.2020.

Stile Footpath 1 – permission received to install from landowner. WH Durose collected stile from Rights of Way and will install w/c 20th July 2020.

Details of location, with photos of all 6 stiles sent to Rights of Way Team

Barbara Young, thank you letter sent 20.07.2020

Broadband Staffordshire Superfast –letter to Paul Chatwin SCC and Kate Griffiths sent 27.07.2020. See agenda item for full update received.

Clerk training with SPCA – 23.07.2020/06.08.2020 – invoice for £25 received.

Lock Box – purchased for Council hard drive, passwords etc – as a result of training
Policies – new policies needed as a result of training these presented to Councillors for RESOLUTION between now and May 2021.

Register of Interest Forms – all sent to ESBC 30.07.2020

SJL Landscapes are now cutting around the Whipping Post, Greatgate.

Greatgate Noticeboard was vandalised and repaired by WH Durose – invoice to follow 07.09.2020

Speed Reduction – Hollington Road, Croxden/Hollington.

Clerk followed up letters to Staffordshire County Council about the speed limit reduction, in order that community speed watch team and JCB Speed Watch Team can operate.

Cllr David Williams, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, SCC, replied 08.09.2020 as follows: “I have liaised and investigated the proposal you have made to alter the speed limit in the Croxden area. I have also communicated with the local member who has given me the



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relevant information. This issue has been reviewed and the evidence shows the average speed on the road is 50 mph approx. I understand your wishes to implement a residential speed limit on this road and utilise your speed watch group, but national guidelines would potentially prohibit this change on this type of road. Further as stated enforcing speed limits is the responsibility of the police not this authority. Therefore the local member feels there are more pressing issues in their Division to which their funding has already been allocated. I understand you communicate with several members of the JCB speed watch and would suggest that they communicate your concerns to their employees using this route, with requests for them to demonstrate speed reduction in this area as you intimated many of the road users were from the plant.

Kind regards - Cllr David Williams, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, SCC
The Councillors **RESOLVED** to write to Cllr Williams and ask if funding became available from a local source, would SCC support the project. Clerk to copy Checkley Parish Council working group into reply.

Clerk Appraisal - both last year's form and this year's form sent to Chair and Vice Chair 27.08.2020. proposed appraisal date mid-September via Zoom.

Parish Map - Clerk provided Cllr Hemingway and Cllr James with a Parish Map.

Asset Register – Clerk advised Council that a photo of each asset, plus the location marked onto a parish map needs to be created and kept in lock box.

20.09.006 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

20.09.007 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND RECEIVE PLANNING DECISIONS:

NEW

P/2020/00754 - Thorneyfields Nabb Lane Croxden ST14 5JB- Erection of an agricultural storage building – comments by 09.09.2020

P/2020/00798 - Field Head Farm Combridge Lane Combridge ST14 5JA - Continued use of land for glamping and retention of existing welfare pods and septic tank, and continued use of building as a function room and honesty shop with associated courtyard space and car parking – No comment to be added.

P/2019/00940 - Croxden Abbey Croxden Lane Croxden ST14 5JF - Erection of gates, re-surfacing of existing driveway and hard standing areas and extension to parking area – No comment to be added.

P/2019/00942 - Croxden Abbey Croxden Lane Croxden ST14 5JF - Listed Building Consent for internal and external works to include the installation of gates, new entrance to garden room, wall lights, replacement main door and removal of internal porch – No comment to be added.

DECISIONS

P/2020/00404 - P/2020/00404- Penny Meadow Barn Uttoxeter Road Beamhurst Uttoxeter ST14 5EA- Change of use of land from agriculture to private equestrian use, construction of a 25 x 45 metre manege surface with perimeter timber post and rail fencing. – PERMITS

P/2020/00542 - Erection of a detached agricultural livestock building, Town End Farm,



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Uttoxeter Road, Beamhurst, Uttoxeter, ST14 5EA – PERMITS

ENFORCEMENT

Noise complaint – Hollywood Farm, ST10 4HJ – motor bike events noise complaint - the Clerk has been assured that all care is taken to ensure disturbance is kept to a minimum by the owner of the Farm. However, ESBC Enforcement Officer AND THE Environmental Health Technical Officer are dealing with the issue directly with residents/Owner of the Farm. ESBC have advised that the 14 events have now taken place for this year and no further events can take place until 01/01/2021 without planning permission.

20.09.008 TO RECEIVE ORAL REPORT FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLOR - NONE

20.09.009 FINANCE – TO CONSIDER & AUTHORISE PAYMENTS OF LIST BELOW

Reconciliation at 16.07.2020			
<u>Receipts and payments</u>			
a. Opening balance 1st April 2020	4,493.96		
b. Total receipts	2,438.45		
c. Total payments	2,791.04		
d. Surplus/(Deficit) in the year (b-c)	-352.59		
e. Closing balance (a+d)	4,141.37		
		<u>Bank accounts</u>	
		Lloyds account	4,456.45
			4,456.45
		Add: unrepresented income	0.00
		Less: unrepresented cheques	315.08
			4,141.37

Internal audit trail, Cllr Bean to carry out using the new form by 29.09.2020

Asset Register - WW1 Bench and Silent Soldier added and the Chair will sign for the website. Came and Co insurance advised of new assets. 07.08.2020.

Cheques numbered 028 – 033 were signed between meeting, as per July **Resolution**.

Lloyds Bank – internet banking forms started 10.08.2020 –approved 27.08.2020, Clerk waiting for documents. Cllr James signatory processed.

Information Commission Office confirmed receipt of our DD paperwork – confirmed that £35 will be taken out on 13.05.2021 – our reference: ZA361125

VAT Refund was submitted for £582.50 – 17.08.2020

Ref/Cheque	Item	Amount
24/SO	Council Administration costs - August	£125.41
25/028	SPCA – Clerk Training	£25
26/029	David Ogilvie- WW1 Bench	£1,212.60 (inc.£202.10 VAT)
27/030	Ian Davies Ltd – Silent Soldier	£540 (in £90 VAT)



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28/031	WH Durose – Installation of WW1 Bench and Silent Soldier	£480 (in £80 VAT)
29/032	WH Durose – installation of stile	£288 (in £48VAT)
30/033	SJL Landscapes – July Cut of Greatgate Village Green	£33.60 (in £5.60 VAT)
31/SO	Council Administration - September	£125.41
Received after agenda issued		
32/034	Zoom invoice – August	£14.39
33/035	Zoom invoice – Sept	£14.39
34/036	Blue secure Box for Croxden papers	£12.89
35/037	Stationery and home working	£28.63
36/038	SPCA – Councillor Training Course	£25
37/039	SJL Landscapes Ltd- August Cut	£33.60
Bank Statement	Date	Amount
	09.09.2020	£3,144.26

20.09.010 CORRESPONDENCE

Track and Trace - People in Staffordshire are being urged to answer the call and follow the advice if contacted by NHS Test and Trace on 0300 013 5000. – put on website 13.07.2020

Standards in Public Life: Proposals on a new Code of Conduct.

<https://www.local.gov.uk/local-government-association-model-member-code-conduct-consultation-details-in-SPCA-bulletin-18.06.2020>

Croxden Lane – Drainage works – notices were received from SCC and put onto the website, along with the map of the works to be carried out - 16.07.2020

School Transport – travel arrangements www.staffordshire.gov.uk/activeschooltravel

Uttoxeter Masterplan - Council submitted comments on 27.07.2020 to victoria.smith@cushwake.com

Draft Parking Standards and Brewery Building Conversion Supplementary Planning Documents – Consultation – <http://www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/consultations>

Place Branding Staffordshire – SCC want a new place brand to build local pride and confidence in our great county, and to help us market Staffordshire as we reignite our economy post coronavirus- offered zoom meetings for consultation – 16.07.2020



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Staffordshire heroes – Honours List - SCC passed information about nomination process for honours list - A shortened nomination form has been launched on www.gov.uk/honours/nominate-someone-for-coronavirus-work and nominators are not being asked to provide letters of support. Letter from Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire, Mr Ian Dudson CBE KStJ. High Sheriff of Staffordshire, Commander Charles Bagot-Jewitt RN (Rtd) DL

Covid Recovery Funding – SCC funds available – on website 27.07.2020

Road Closure various Notices received and put onto website.

St Giles Church Wall – Damaged 04.08.2020 -this was reported to the Church Warden.

Parish Forum – update from ESBC - A number of parish councils have expressed an interest in participating in a new forum and so we are now starting to consider the format and agenda for such a meeting, the first of which we hope to convene a little later in the year. I will be in touch again soon with further details and a date for the first meeting.

Tree Planting – SPCA 20.08.2020 – Woodland Trust Tree Packs available.

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/>

St Giles Church, letter received 20.08.2020, with regards arrangements for meetings. Councillors RESOLVED to reply, assuring St Giles Church, that Parish Council meetings will continue to be held within the St Giles Church, when Corona Virus Guidelines permit.

Liz Greenwood – Alton Towers – retirement letter – a reply was sent from Chair of Parish Council thanking her for her considerable help within the parish. 27.08.2020

SPCA training – new booking system to be used via website, Councillors to book own training, being aware of Budget and report booking to Clerk.

<http://spcaonline.org.uk/>

20.09.011 COUNCILLORS REPORTS (information only)

Clerk to add Stone Planter to Asset Register.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The Next Parish Council meeting will be held on 11th November 2020 at 7pm, via Zoom. The meeting was formally closed at 20.57.

Signed.....