

Minutes of the Meeting of Bitteswell with Bittesby Parish Council Held on Thursday 16th January 2020 at 7.00pm in Bitteswell Village Hall

Present: Cllr Reg Flint (Chair), Cllr Margaret Foster, Cllr John Allsopp and Cllr Nigel Chapman
Clerk Cathy Walsh, District/County Cllr Rosita Page and 3 member(s) of the public.

1. To receive any apologies for absence

None.

2. To receive Declarations of Member's Interests

None.

3. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21.11.19

Resolved: The Minutes were approved as a true record of proceedings.

4. To consider any matters arising from the meeting on 21.11.19

None.

5. To note any comments or matters raised by residents, at Chairman's discretion

Dangerous Parking outside Lutterworth Rugby Club, Ashby Lane, Bitteswell

It was reported that visitors to Lutterworth Rugby Club are parking on Ashby Lane in a manner that is dangerous and causes an obstruction to other road users. This is a long-standing issue and is most prevalent on match days where up to 100 cars can be parked on both sides of the road. The issue has been raised with the Chairman of the Rugby Club and Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner, it has also been reported to the Police. Cllr Page has met with Sarah Pickering, Community Safety Manager at Harborough District Council to try and find a resolution to the problem.

Action: The Parish Council will write to the Rugby Club to voice its concerns.

Action: Cllr Page to make enquiries with the Highway authority to see if the stretch of road could be designated as a clearway.

Overgrown Hedge – Hall Lane

A hedge on Hall Lane by the Spinney is overgrown and causing an obstruction.

Action: To report the matter to Leicestershire Highways.

Action: To contact the landowner.

6. To note any matters raised by the District/County Councillor

Cllr Page circulated matters of interest to the Parish Council by email.

7. Financial Matters

7.1. Accounts for payment

Payee	Description	Totals
Leicestershire County Council	Street lighting Inv cancelled by LCC	£0.00
Helen Denton-Stacey	Expenses incurred since claim dated	£108.68
Bitteswell Village Hall	Hall hire NP Mtg 17.12.19	£10.00

Total £118.68

7.2. Bank Reconciliation to 08.01.2020

Opening Balance	1-Apr-19	£26,607.21
Receipts to	8-Jan-20	£27,460.42
Payments to	8-Jan-20	-£23,484.84
Closing Balance	8-Jan-20	<u>£30,582.79</u>

The balance carried forward is represented by these funds

Current Account	£5,641.97
Business Reserve account	£25,059.50
Add income received but not yet cleared	£0.00
Less payments made but not yet presented	-£118.68
Bank Reconciliation to	<u>£30,582.79</u>

7.3. Receipts & Payments Summary to 08.01.2020

Noted.

7.4. Clerk's Claim for Expenses

None to note.

7.5. Neighbourhood Plan Expenditure

The Parish Council agreed to request an amendment to its approved grant from Groundwork UK. This will involve redirecting the funding heads to release more funds into the project. This will release £3,000.

7.6. Neighbourhood Plan Clerk's Claim for Expenses

Noted.

Action: Cllr Allsopp to check with the clerk what her current workload entails.

7.7. To consider requests for grant funding from Citizens Advice LeicesterShire and Marie Curie

Resolved: The Parish Council resolved to provide £50.00 Citizens Advice LeicesterShire.

Resolved: The Parish Council did not want to set a precedent by donating to charities and declined Marie Curie's request.

8. To consider options to replace the bus shelter on Ashby Lane

It is not economical to spend money on repairing the bus shelter, so the Parish Council is considering replacing the bus shelter with a new wooden one. It will explore grant funding options to help off-set the cost.

Action: To explore grant funding options.

9. To receive an update on flooding and drainage issues in the village

The drainage on Lutterworth Road is worse than ever. Leicestershire County Council (LCC) say that it has completed work to unblock the drains and suggest that Severn Trent Water (STW) still has outstanding work to undertake. However, STW claim to have completed all

the necessary remedial work to improve the drainage.

10. To receive and update on the progress of the Agreement for White Cottage

Cllr Chapman provided a brief synopsis to the public. However, under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Sec 1 (2), the matter to be discussed is confidential as it relates to legal advice from the Parish Council's solicitor. Therefore, the item will be deferred until the next meeting where a resolution will be made to exclude the press and public so that the matter can be discussed in private.

Action: Agenda for the next meeting.

11. To consider what action is needed to complete any outstanding village issues/jobs

Handrail over the cobbles: Cllr Flint spoke to Mr Croft at LCC Highways regarding the buried services by the footway. Their advice is that the blue marker is likely to be water and belong to Severn Trent, and the yellow marker is likely to be a Highways matter. Mr Croft undertook to pursue this further within LCC and will send findings to the Parish Council. In the interim, Cllr Flint will put together a letter to Severn Trent.

AED Kiosk panel repair: The repair and fixing kit has been purchased. It needs to be installed. Mark Osborn agreed to see if he can help with installation.

12. To consider the implications of LCC's reported discrepancies on the number of LED lights installed as part of the street lighting LED conversion project

LCC has reported a discrepancy of 6 additional LED lights converted as part of the project. This has a cost implication in the capital LED replacement figure quoted and also on the maintenance and energy figure that LCC need to charge.

Action: The Parish Council would like to discuss this matter in more detail with LCC.

13. To respond to Harborough District Council's Community Governance Review

Resolved: To make no comment.

14. To adopt a revised Code of Conduct

Harborough District Council (HDC) adopted a revised Code of Conduct at its meeting on 16.12.19. The Code, as revised now includes a requirement for the Code to be reviewed on an annual basis, and, in line with recommended best practice from the Committee on Standards in Public Life, now includes a specific prohibition on bullying and harassment as well as working definitions and examples of the sort of behaviour covered by those definitions.

Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to adopt HDC's Code of Conduct.

15. Planning Matters

15.1. To note any planning matters – new and unresolved applications

19/01962/FUL | Demolish part of existing garage to Grange House. Erect new 3 bed dormer bungalow | Grange House, Valley Lane, Bitteswell

Resolved: To object to the application.

15.2. To note/discuss any enforcement cases

There are two enforcement cases, currently under investigation by HDC. References: 20/00003/COUS (Wyvern House) and 20/00012/COMS (Elms Farm).

15.3. Other Planning Matters

Proposed Residential Development at Ashby Lane, Bitteswell

The Parish Council noted the receipt of a letter in relation to the above development from BRP Architects.

15.4. To provide an update on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

The two theme groups are in the early stages of carrying out their necessary work. Further meetings have been scheduled.

16. Any Other Business

Litter Pick

The Parish Council would like to thank whoever was involved in the recent litter pick in Bitteswell. It appreciates how thoroughly the work was undertaken.

Action: The clerk to make enquires with Environmental Services at HDC.

Valley Lane – Parking issues

The issue of nuisance parking on Valley Lane was raised. This includes cars parking in the turning bay causing an obstruction. The Parish Council asked Cllr Page if she was able to provide details of the highway status.

Action: Cllr Page.

17. To confirm the date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 19th March 2020.

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

