



# Draycott-in-the-Moors PARISH COUNCIL

## Draycott-in-the-Moors Parish Council Meeting Minutes Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### Attendees:

Chairman Cllr. Gordon Winfield	Cllr. Robert Birds	Cllr. Bev Reardon
Cllr. Pete Wilkinson (District)	Cllr Alan Hulme (District)	Cllr. Lisa Emery
Also present were 3 members of the public		

Minutes recorded by	Start Time	Location
Clerk Mrs D Wheat	7.00pm	Draycott Church Hall, Church Lane, Draycott, ST11 9AG

### 1. **Chairman's Welcome:**

Chairman, Cllr. Winfield welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. **Apologies:**

Cllr. Pat McLaughlin

Cllr. Deaville (Parish, District & County)

Cllr. Luke Emery

### 3. **Declaration of Interests:** Cllrs Hulme and Wilkinson – SMDC Planning Committee

### 4. **Public Participation:**

Members of the public asked if there was any news on the Helicopter factory.

An update will be given later in the meeting.

### 5. **Minutes of the Meeting held** on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 were resolved as a correct record.

***Proposed Cllr. Winfield – Seconded Cllr. Birds***

### 6. **Matters Arising:**

**a) Village Gateways.** Cllrs. Birds and Cllr. Lisa Emery and the Clerk visited the gateways of the Parish with the representative from JACS. The locations were discussed. Cllr. Wilkinson confirmed that in Hollington, the gateways are located where the residential area starts. The gateways as speed reduction initiatives rather than actual boundaries was debated. More discussion is needed when the quotations come through. The cherry tree locations were also checked and it is recommended that one tree per gateway entrance would be sufficient. 5 trees to be ordered when the locations have been confirmed with Highways.

**b) VAS:** Traffic calming is needed urgently throughout the Parish. The Police have requested the data from the VAS signs for evidence concerning the accident on Christmas eve. The Clerk thanked Cllr. Luke Emery and Cllr. Birds for assisting with retrieving the data. Cllr. Reardon remarked that the fastest area of the road in on the level as it is so wide, flat and straight. Central reservations need to

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be installed as soon as possible or pedestrian crossing points. Another crash has occurred on 12<sup>th</sup> February on the junction with Draycott Old Road with a minibus and a vehicle ended up in the field. It was resolved to ask Cllr. Deaville to make the reservations the top priority on his Divisional Highways Program (DHP).

- c) **Potholes:** Clerk to Report Potholes at the bottom of Church Lane also Cheadle Road in several places and also the crumbling pavement on Uttoxeter Road adjacent to the Post box. Research to be done for the annual schedule mapping of the gully clearance in the Parish from Highways. Report any blocked gullies on the Highways Report it app.
- d) **Cheadle Road Railings:**  
Report Cheadle Road brook railings to repair and tidy up the mess. The Clerk has applied for Environment agency funding but is awaiting a response.
- e) **Public Right of Way:** A PROW grant is available for the kissing gate. The Clerk has applied for this and is awaiting a response.
- f) **Neighbourhood Plan:** No report was available.
- g) **Parishes Together meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February at Great Wood Community Hall, Tean:**  
Several major concerns were discussed.  
**Fulford** are concerned with Solar Farm Planning.  
**Forsbrook** are concerned about change of use, and a certificate of lawfulness for Childrens residential homes. Applicants don't have to consult with the Parish Council. The argument is that the applicants are businesses, and the staff work on a three-shift system.  
**Checkley** were concerned about flooding, sewerage pollution and lack of mitigation from the new planning developments in the area.  
**Draycott** expressed their concerns about Planning Developments at Blythe Park, Cresswell.

It was resolved for a map to be plotted so the Councillors can see the whole impact of the Solar Farms and battery storage facilities across the Parishes. A discussion was had about AC/DC and inverters to transformers. The fumes are lethal which come off the batteries. A discussion was had about the fire risk.

***Cllr. Lisa Emery arrived 19.40***

**7. Lengthsman Report:**

The Clerk read the report from the Lengthsman and Litter picker. The village road signs have been cleaned and several bags of litter have been collected. SMDC waste collectors to be asked to pick up bags on Cheadle Road and Sandon Road.

**8. Items on Notice:**

**a) Website:**

A new Website provider is required as VAST have stopped the web hosting service. Cllr. Emery will source a new provider.

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**b) Speeding Traffic on Uttoxeter Road:**

Cllr. Reardon reported that Woodseaves Parish have their own speed cameras and extensive traffic calming measures through the village. Drivers that speed are attracted to Draycott level to race. It was decided to ask the Highways officer to come to the Parish again to look at the problems. Draycott also suffers when the A50 is closed as a diversion route for hundreds of HGV's.

**c) Request for a memorial bench plaque:** The Council discussed a resident's request for a memorial bench at the Uttoxeter/Cheadle Road bus stop. The Council couldn't support a memorial because of all the other fatalities that have occurred in the village. There would need to be a tribute to all, and this could be unachievable. The Council resolved to put their efforts into improving the road safety.

**9. Correspondence:**

**War Memorial:** A request from a resident to amend the war memorial stone on the entry 'Atkin' not Atkins was received. Evidence has been supplied to support this claim. The S will need to be filled in and repaired. It was resolved to write to the church to request they change their memorial also. The Clerk was asked to organise the paint for the Draycott Crest on the stone.

**10. Planning:**

a) Application SMD/2023/0594 Solar Farm application borders three Districts. Each solar application is a separate application, the Planning of the Solar Farms are not being considered as a whole project. There needs to be a map of the whole area with all the Solar applications marked. It was resolved to ask for an extension so that the plans can be viewed in relation to the cumulative impact of all the Solar projects in Staffordshire. The Clerk reminded the Council that an agreement had already been signed with this company for the community benefit funding 50/50% with Checkley Parish Council. This is an extension to the original application.

SMDC Planning Portal Ref.No.	LOCATION	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	End of Public Consultation	Decision
SMD/2023/0594	Innova Renewables Developments Ltd Land at Blythe House Farm, south of the A50 Draycott in the Moors	Installation of a solar array, substation and associated works forming an extension to Blythe Solar Farm (ref: SMD/2022/0160)	27/12/23	Clerk to request for the consultation period to be extended.
SMD/2024/0050	Severn Trent Water Limited Cresswell Borehole Water Pumping Station Sandon Road, Cresswell	Installation of a Filtration Building (Retrospective)		No objection
SMD/2023/0559	Bird Grove Farm, Cresswell Road, Morrilow Heath/ Hilderstone	Dog Exercise Field	Draycott in the Moors Parish Council have been requested to be consulted	No objection. It was noted that 'Cresswell' Rd, had been spelt incorrectly in the plans

**Cllr. Wilkinson left the meeting 20.05**

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**The Chairman asked for item 6a to be re-visited now that Cllr. Lisa Emery had arrived.**

**Village Gateways progress report:** Cllr. Lisa Emery added the comment that the gateway manufacturers are able to install the gates as well as supply.

**a) Blythe Park Working Group Report:**

- **Blythe Park:** Residential developers Elan Holmes have not yet submitted enough reports as requested to meet the Planning criteria. Waiting for a full housing assessment and environmental assessment.
- **Helicopter Factory:** Research has shown that Hill Helicopters have potentially secured other accommodation. Halfpenny green airport has been mentioned. A discussion was had about Stoke Air Ambulance and there pursuance of their fundraising. It was noted that Wet Midlands Air Ambulance are advertising on local radio to raise their profile.

**11. Finance & Governance:** Payments were authorised for January for the following:

D Wheat	Clerk Salary Jan/Feb Clerk Expenses – milage 9 miles	£208.00 £4.50	£212.50	Cheque No. 1817
HMRC	PAYE Jan/Feb	£52.00	£52.00	1818
Draycott Church Hall	Jan & Feb meeting 2hrs x 2 meetings	£50.00	£50.00	1819
J Swarbrooke	Litter picking work 14.5hrs @ £10 per hr	£145.00	£145.00	1820
R Fox	Lengthsman work 6 hrs @ £15 per hr materials	£90.00 £3.15	£93.15	1821
ICO	Information Commissioners Office	£35.00	£35.00	Direct Debit
		<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£587.65</b>	

The above payments were proposed by Cllr. Winfield and approved by the council. The cheques were duly signed following the meeting by Cllr. McLaughlin due to absence of two signatories Cllr. Deaville and Cllr. McLaughlin at the meeting. It was suggested the Clerk add Cllr Lisa Emery as an additional signatory.

**12. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

- a) **District Councillor Alan Hulme:** There are a lot of issues that are being sorted out at SMDC in Finance and in Planning which will be reported on at a future meeting when the results are published.
- b) **County Report not available.**

**13). Matters pertaining to issues in the Parish for the next Agenda:**

- a) Road Safety
- b) Clerk was asked to remind the PCSOs to attend a Parish Council meeting.

**MEETING ENDED 20.21**

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