



# Draycott-in-the-Moors PARISH COUNCIL

## Draycott-in-the-Moors Annual Parish Assembly Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021

### Attendees:

Chairman Cllr. P McLaughlin	Vice Chairman Cllr. Winfield	Cllr. Myatt
County Cllr. Deaville	Cllr. Holdcroft	Cllr. Bradshaw
Also present were 12 members of the public		

Minutes recorded by	Start Time	Location
Clerk Mrs D. Wheat	7.00pm	Zoom, virtual meeting

### 1) Welcome:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a report of Parish Council activity from 2019/2021 as no Annual Assembly could be held in 2020 due to a change in Government Legislation due to the pandemic.

The Council have adapted to remote meetings following restrictions to public meetings due to Covid-19. A new Community Speedwatch Group was in the early stages of formation before lockdown and the old speed gun has gone to Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership to be checked over before a training session can be organised. The two Vehicle activated speed signs have now been installed on Uttoxeter Road and this project is now complete. The Cresswell Old Lane sign has been replaced and the Totmonslow 100 signs cleaned and repaired. Poppies have been increased for the lamp posts during the remembrance period. Posts have been purchased to stop people parking vehicles on the verge at the bottom of Church Lane. These are to be fitted shortly by St Modwen who pledged to do this at the same time when they helped fix the resurfacing of Church Lane for the Community. Highways liaison meetings have begun to improve communication with the Staffordshire County Highways team to solve the two flooding issues on Uttoxeter Road and Cheadle Road. The milestone at Totmonslow has been reset and is awaiting repainting. Grants have been approved for Community projects for wildflowers, bulbs and a new Playgroup in the village. Draycott phone box has been adopted for £1. Fundraising for the defibrillators is progressing steadily. A new bin has been fitted below the St Margaret's Church Yard to help with the dog fouling problem. Planters have been put in several locations around the Parish and plants have been tended by volunteers in 2020. A new Parish Council Logo has been designed and approved. A new Lengthsman has been appointed to keep the Parish tidy.

### 2) Public Speakers from Local Community Organisations:

- a) The Knight of Draycott – opened the Assembly.
- b) The Rev Jonathan Roberts from St Margaret's Church, Draycott: The year has been a challenging one for everyone. Although the Church Doors have been closed this has been a catalyst to online worship. A new website is in progress. Many members of the Church have been working hard to help their neighbours in the Community. Funerals have been held but this has been really tough for the families. The Church is now open again on Sundays for congregations to attend observing

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Signed Chairman  
Councillor

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socially distanced rules. Rev Roberts asked the Community to please contact him with any ideas to make the church more accessible to more people.

- c) Apologies from PCSO James Naylor who has been called to an incident.
- d) Louise Parkes from the new DCAT Community Group, a community action group of residents from Draycott, Cresswell and Totmonslow. Looking at ways of working together to use skills of members to use social media to engage with the local community. The intent of the group is how we consider and communicate with everybody in the Community, the group is going to run formally and is currently in the process of forming a constitution and appointing a committee. They are looking at working closely with the Parish Council so that they do not duplicate effort. They would like to apply for funding for Community projects. The group have managed to secure some Community Land with lots of project ideas for a community garden, orchard, allotments and keeping livestock. The group will be doing a launch at some point so that the group can let people know their aims and objectives.
- e) Chrissie Allen – President of Cheadle Young Farmers – largest organisation for rural youth in the UK. Led by young people for young people aged 10 -26 with fantastic chance to meet lifelong friends, opportunities in the community and international travel opportunities. There are 11 clubs in Staffordshire. Lots of fundraising and competitions are on offer for members to join in with. Cheadle meet at Hales Hall Caravan Park on Wednesday evenings. A tractor run is planned hopefully to be held in September if lockdown restrictions allow. The run will start at Totmonslow run to Draycott, Cheadle, Oakamoor, Cauldon Lowe, Wooton, Ellaston, past JCB back through Hollington to Tean and will finish back at Totmonslow for refreshments. All money collected on route will go the Charity Dementia UK and any money raised from refreshments and the raffle will go the Cheadle Young Farmer Club. Chrissie invited everyone to come to their stand at The Staffordshire County Show 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> August. Find them by the Miniature Railway and there will be a display of Show Floats having lots of fun.
- f) Jade from Draycott Nurseries – Suppliers of local quality garden products. Suppliers of plants for the Parish Planters. A wide variety of plants and soils are on sale, opening hours are Monday to Saturday 8am – 5pm, accessible car park. Staff to help customers decide on plants if they require some advice. Look out for adverts in the local press for special offers.
- g) John Clarke announced the St Margaret’s Church Fayre – 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021 is set to happen this year. If any Community organisations would like to get involved, join the Facebook group to book a stall.
- h) Mary Edwards’s treasurer from Draycott Church Hall Committee. Run by volunteers in 2011, to refurbish the hall. Hard work has turned it into a lovely hall for hire for groups and parties etc... Due to Covid -19 the Hall was forced to close but is set to re-open on 17<sup>th</sup> May. Current regular hirers include 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month – Parish Council Meetings, Tuesdays – U3A Band, Tuesday evenings is someone different every week, Whist, craft, WI and Craft, Wednesday Morning – U3A Singing, Saturday afternoon – Circle Dancing on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> week. The Committee are looking forward to welcoming Little DrayTots playgroup. If anyone would like to hire the Hall please contact Mary. Rent may go up soon to £10 per hour. Cllr Deaville thanked Mary for all her work in the Community over the years and how pleased he is to see Mary still involved.
- i) Sarah Plant is starting Little Draytots and new Playgroup for under 5’s and their parents at The Church Hall on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 9.30 – 11am. Thanks to the Donations from members of the community of toys, and to the Parish Council for their support with the £500 from the Solar Array Fund to purchase some of the larger toys. Sarah hopes it will help people socialise after lockdown where children and parents have been isolated. Sarah is still looking for some volunteers to help her

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run the group and if anyone is interested, please get in touch on Facebook. At the moment the group is term time, but it may run in the school holidays if parents want to bring older siblings and she gets enough helpers.

- j) Alana Wheat, admin and communications lead for Moorlands Climate Action. A local Staffordshire Moorlands action group that began in 2019 when people began to strike about Climate Change. The group are working with SMDC as part of their working groups to help with the strategy to tackle the Climate Emergency. Alana spoke of several groups within MCA which specialise in certain areas like Energy, Nature, Ethical consumerism, Youth engagement, Transport etc.. The meetings are open to members who pay £10/£5 a year subscription to help fund the events and activities. The digital newsletter can be subscribed to for free. Alana encouraged people to join to get more involved. [www.moorlandsclimateaction.org.uk](http://www.moorlandsclimateaction.org.uk) – facebook - @staffsmoorlandsclimateaction
- k) Alexander Wood – Gaming Potion. The club was started by the late, former Councillor Steve Jones of Cresswell. The club gives young people 10- 18 years old. The club gives the opportunity to play Nerf, to think strategically and to have fun without computer screens. The young people also play strategic board games. Entry is free, and refreshments are provided. The club helped with the sports at St Margaret’s fair two years ago. The club plans to reopen soon as soon as safe to do so. The club does need more volunteer leaders – [gamingpotion18@gmail.com](mailto:gamingpotion18@gmail.com)
- l) Tean Youth Club – Weekly Youth Club run by volunteer youth workers, for 10 -16 year old young people. The club will be reopening soon at Great Wood Hall in Tean, Friday 7-9pm, and welcomes members from lots of different schools including The Cheadle Academy, Painsley, JCB Academy, Blythe High, Denstone College, Windsor Park and Thomas Allynnes even Moorside and Leek High. We are an inclusive club and also have members from some specialist schools and home-schooled children. Activities include football, pool, dodgeball, crafts, quizzes, cooking, discos and dodgeball plus a tuck shop. Membership is £5 per year which subsidises our annual trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach and Alton Towers Scarefest. and weekly subs are £2 per week to cover equipment etc... [gwhyouth@gmail.com](mailto:gwhyouth@gmail.com).

The Councillors thanked all the volunteers for running these clubs for the young people

- m) Denise Wheat – Division Commissioner for Girlguiding Threapwood Division. Two divisions in the Staffordshire Moorlands – Leek and Threapwood. Threapwood has 22 Units in Waterhouses, Ipstones, Alton, Cheadle, Tean, Kingsley, Draycott, Forsbrook and Blythe Bridge. Rainbows age 5-7, Brownies 7-10, Guides 10-14, Rangers 14-18, Young Leaders 14-18, Leaders and Unit Helpers 18+, Knots 18-30, Trefoil – retired Leaders any age - Mary Edwards is currently Threapwood Division Vice President. She started Draycott Brownies and she ran the unit for 27 years followed by Marion Corbishley and Phyllis Tunnicliffe. The group was most recently run by Charlotte Beeby. but unfortunately, the Brownie Unit closed approximately 2 years ago due to lack of volunteers to run the group. The framework is still there if any new volunteers would like to train they would be really well supported. DBS, First Aid, Safeguarding, Leadership training is all provided free. Please contact [denise.threapwood@gmail.com](mailto:denise.threapwood@gmail.com)

The Councillors thanked the Community for attending and for taking such an interest in the Parish of Draycott.

The Knight of Draycott declareth the meeting closeth.

**MEETING ENDS 8.10pm**

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Signed Chairman		Date
Councillor		