



Draycott-in-the-Moors PARISH COUNCIL

Draycott-in-the-Moors Parish Council Meeting Minutes Monday, 14th April 2025

Attendees:

Chairman Cllr. Gordon Winfield	Cllr. Pat McLaughlin	Cllr. Robert Birds
Cllr. Bev Reardon	Cllr. Mark Deaville (Parish, District & County).	
Cllr. Alan Hulme (District)	Cllr. Pete Wilkinson (District)	
2 members of the public		

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

- Chairman's Welcome:** Chairman, Cllr. Winfield welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Apologies:** Cllr. Luke Emery and Cllr. Lisa Emery
- Declaration of Interests:** Cllr. Wilkinson and Cllr. Hulme members of the SMDC Planning Committee.
- Public Participation:** Mr. Mark Stewart thanked Cllr. Reardon for organising the visit to Draycott and Cresswell by MP Dr. Allison Gardner.
- Minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2025** were approved as a correct record.
Proposed Cllr. McLaughlin – Seconded Cllr. Birds
- Matters Arising:** Cllr. Reardon gave a report on the visit to the Parish by MP Dr. Allison Gardner on Saturday 5th April. The MP will write a letter of support for the pedestrian crossing project. She met volunteers from Parkers Piece, the Draycott Church Hall committee and the Friends of St Margarets Church plus Parish Councillors. Other matters discussed were the Church Lane junction, the railings by Villa Verde on Cheadle Road, Blythe Park developments and the lack of a bus service in the Parish.
The Council resolved to send a letter of thanks to Blythe Cricket Club for their hospitality on the day.
- Ongoing Project Reports:**

HIGHWAYS

i. **Crossing on Uttoxeter Road in Stuart Avenue area:**

Cllr Deaville reported that in this new financial year the crossing is in the County Council budget. The preferred location has been agreed and a report is being prepared.

ii. **Village Gateways:** A sample gateway has now been assembled. A meeting is arranged for 15th April with Highways officers. Cllr. Lisa Emery and the Clerk will be attending.

iii. **Vehicle Activated Signs** have been ordered from Eland City Ltd. Fitting and calibration was discussed. A suggested fitter is Mr Mark Hubbard who fitted the Hollington VAS.

iv. **Cheadle Road Railings:** An idea to have deep curbs fitted with curved edges to push the HGVs off the border have been suggested to discuss with Highways as a future solution.

v. **Garage Ownership:** The Clerk is still finding out about these assets to determine ownership.

I declare that this is an accurate account of the meeting held by Draycott-in-the-Moors Parish Council.

Signed Chairman
Councillor

Date 12th May 2025

vi. **Parking on Verges:** A letter of response has been received from the resident on Rookery Crescent/ Sandon Road explaining the reasons for the previous obstruction. The council accepted the explanation.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

vii. **Kissing Gate:** An email has been sent to PROW officer at the County Council. Currently awaiting a response.

viii. **Cresswell to Cheadle Railway Track:**

Maintenance: Mr Kemp the current tenant of the track has given permission for the Council to solve the problem of access along the Tean Station area of the track. Cllr. Birds suggested a plan of work to resolve the problem. Cllr. Deaville suggested that road plannings may be available. A budget needs to be set for the work.

Cllr. Birds to enquire with contractors for quotations.

Railway Track as an important Green Corridor:

Access to the track was discussed for horses and cyclists but blocking off-road vehicles. Taking on a peppercorn lease would bring liability issues. Cllr. Wilkinson suggested that the council should work together with Checkley Parish and Cheadle Town to secure the freehold using UKSPF or Green project funding. Cllr Deaville has previously brought this project through the SMDC cabinet, but the liabilities were problematic and halted negotiations.

Clerk to write to Cheadle & Checkley to ask for representatives to form a working group.

The track is a rich area for wildlife species Regular maintenance would be needed.

Clerk to get a quotation for a wildlife survey from Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

TECHNOLOGY

ix. **Website:** www.draycottinthemoorsparishcouncil.gov.uk. The Clerk asked for Councillors to ask for any updates to be made to the website.

Emails: New .gov emails are now working. Some initial log in matters were raised to be solved.

x. **Best Kept Village Community:**

- A local company Cable detection and Radar has offered its workforce to do some volunteering hours for community projects following the letters sent out.
It was resolved to register for Pick Fit with Alliance Environmental.
- Quotations to be gathered for equipment for maintenance work.
- ***Clerk to ask at Sweet Meadows for a storage area for shovels and wheelbarrows.***
- ***Clerk to check progress on new planters***
- **Phone Box:** It was suggested to speak to Beamhurst museum about phone box restoration. ***A quote to be sought to relocate the phone box.***
- **Outside Arts Community Grants:**

Cllr. Reardon has been successful in receiving a grant for an oral, visual and written community history project of £1000.00

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Date

12th May 2025

	+VAT 20% + P&P	£24.20 VAT £1.33	£160.05	
Mr A. C Swinson	Cheques cancelled (incorrectly written) Beacon	x £500.00	£0.00 £500.00	1918 & 21 1922
HMRC	PAYE (Mar) Month 12	£62.40	£62.40	1919
SPCA subscription	NALC £69.81 Staffordshire Parish Councils Association £243.00	£312.81	£312.81	1920
HMRC	Adjustment to Month 11	£49.88	£49.88	1923
D Wheat (paid online)	Month 11 (PAYE online)	£7.90	£7.90	1925
Draycott Nurseries & Landscape Sales Ltd	Sweet Meadows Planters x3 for Cresswell x2 and Draycott Old Road x1 (£280 each)	Net £840.00 VAT £168.00	£1008.00	1924

The above payments proposed.....GW..... and cheques duly signed.....PMcL.....

b) **Blythe Farm Solar Community Benefit agreement:**

The Chairman Cllr. Gordon Winfield and Councillor Par McLaughlin signed the deed document witnessed by Cllr. Reardon and observed by the council and members of the public present.

It was resolved to approve the Community Benefit Deed with Innova for the Blythe Farm solar project.

11) **Items on Notice**

a. **VE Day 80:**

- The Council will organise the raising of a flag at 9am on 8th May 2025
- Bunting has been purchased for each bus stop.
- Mr John Clarke has organised bell ringers to ring a peel of bells at St Margaret's Church at 7.30pm on 8th May 2025.
- The Council resolved to purchase a beacon. The beacon will be lit at the Cricket club. Date to be advised when agreed with the club.

Proposed Cllr Reardon – Seconded Cllr McLaughlin – all in favour

Mr John Clarke has been asked if there can be a peel of Bells. St Margaret's Church PCC will be asked for permission to do this. The Council will find out if St Mary's Church has a bell.

12) **Correspondence:**

- a. **Draycott Road:** The County Highways team have inspected the site and have written to the landowner about a collapsed wall adjacent to the footway.

13) **District Councillor Report:** A letter of response from the letter sent to MP Dr Allison Gardener regarding rural farms and inheritance tax was circulated.

14) **County Council Report:** There will be a County Council election on Thursday 1st May.

15) **Matters pertaining to issues in the Parish for the next Agenda:** None raised

Next Meeting: Monday 12th May 2025 Annual Meeting followed by Parish Assembly

Meeting ended 21.10

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