

**Bonsall Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Bonsall Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017 at 7.30pm at Bonsall Village Hall.**

**Chair of the Council:** Cllr Mark Harris

Clerk: Tony Payne 27 High St Bonsall DE4 2A Telephone: 01629 822311 email: bonsallclerk@gmail.com

<b>Minute No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>
21/11/1	<b>Present</b> Cllrs Harris, Addis, Barry, Grover and Pountain. Mr T Payne (Clerk/RFO), and 16 members of the public.	
21/11/2	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> apologies received from District Cllrs Pawley and Purdy, County Cllr Ratcliffe.	
21/11/3	<b>Variation to the Order of Business:</b> agreed to consider the Slinter Top Quarry planning application as the first item of main business	
21/11/4	<b>Declaration of Interests:</b> None	
21/11/5	<b>Public Speaking</b> <b>Slinter Top Quarry Extension:</b> residents raised concerns about noise nuisance associated with current operations at Slinter Top Quarry. Questions were asked as to why the Parish Council had raised no objection to the planning application when it was considered at the September meeting, and it was explained that there had been no awareness of any complaints linked to the use of the site at that time. Residents complained at the lack of pre-planning consultation for the application as it affected Bonsall, and in particular that noise impact had not been measured at those parts of the village which would be most directly affected. For example Church Street was badly affected but there had been no environmental impact assessment on properties and residents there, and no consultation. There was also concern at the short period that had originally been made available for public consultation on the planning application by the County Council, and the lack of publicity (such as on-street notices) to enable affected residents to respond.  Concern was expressed that the current operations were commencing early morning and continuing throughout the day and badly impacting on enjoyment of daily life. Noise problems were said to be worse depending on the wind direction, but the prevailing wind would bring the sound to the village. The Clerk read out an email received that afternoon from the County Council Planning Enforcement Officer who had carried out an inspection of the site on 14 <sup>th</sup> November and taken noise readings in the village on 16 <sup>th</sup> November. His report stated that <i>'it seems clear that any elevated noise levels are associated with a new top bench (quarry access ramp) which is currently being developed in order to stabilise an area of unstable ground which developed within the quarry earlier this year. This Authority has previously accepted that a detailed scheme of stabilisation works.. was necessary for health and safety reasons. The current situation at the quarry is reflected in one of the plans which forms part of the current planning application for the site...'</i>  In relation to noise levels measured in the village he said <i>'I spent some time at the top of Clatterway in order to assess any noise associated with the processing of the previous day's blast. I am aware that one element of the stone processing involves the use of a 'pecker' to reduce oversize blocks before they can be placed in the crusher. During my monitoring on Thursday, whilst I could hear the pecker along with general plant noise, I determined that at that time any noise was well within the CM3/0507/30 planning condition limit.</i> <i>I will add that a light northerly breeze would have been affecting the noise levels at the time I was monitoring.</i> <i>I am happy to come out again when weather conditions allow. If at any time the noise levels are considered to be particularly high perhaps the best thing to do is call me on the number, if I am available then I will try to come out.</i>	

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	<p><i>I will also add that on Friday last week I received a complaint from a Yeoman Street resident about high, early morning noise levels. I have spoken to Tony Gregory about that incident and the complaint appears to have been associated with the loading of lorries and plant movements in the area of the access ramp. Although the CM3/0507/30 permission provides for lorries to be loaded from 6.00am, Tony has stated that in view of the concerns being raised such operations will not be carried out on the quarry top before 07.30am.</i></p> <p>A question was asked as to whether the current activities were exceptional, or whether this would be the norm for the proposed works covered by the planning application. The Parish Council were asked to raise the concerns of residents in their comments on the planning application about the lack of consultation and current noise, and, if the work was to go ahead, to seek restrictions on the working hours of operations and noise so as to prevent the noise nuisance currently being experienced.</p> <p><b>Parking:</b> Leigh Johnson said that he wanted to clarify a point raised in the previous meeting about parking issues associated with funerals or weddings at the church; he said that he was unaware of any residents complaining about this and he himself was happy for parking <del>in front of his house</del> <i>on or across the drive</i> for such events. (*amended 19/12/17 minute 19/12/6)</p>	
21/11/6	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: Approved.</b> The Chair signed the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017.</p>	Clerk
21/11/7	<p><b>Chair's Announcements:</b></p> <p><b>Resignation Councillor Anna Williams:</b> the Chair reported that Councillor Williams had resigned with effect from 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017. He thanked her for her work and contribution to the Parish Council.</p> <p><b>Via Gellia:</b> the Chair said that on behalf of the Council he wanted to thank the two District Councillors Cllr Garry Purdy and Joyce Pawley, and County Councillor Irene Ratcliffe for their support to the village in dealing with the closure of the Via Gellia.</p> <p><b>Lamp post poppies:</b> the Chair recorded thanks to Councillor Jon Barry, Loreen Elliot and Andrew Loxley for their voluntary work on this.</p>	
21/11/8	<p><b>Planning:</b></p> <p><b>Slinter Top Quarry Extension CM3-0817-40 Derbyshire County Council :</b> further to minute 19/09/10 of the meeting of 19th September 2017 the Council had been requested to reconsider its' response to make no objection to this planning application in respect of Mineral extraction Slinter Top Quarry extension; (Standing Order 26 (a) Cllrs Addis, Barry, Grover, Harris and Hewitt). It was agreed to reconsider the application in the light of complaints of noise and disturbance associated with the current use of this quarry that had been received since the 19th September meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk read out the contents of seven emails that had been received from residents; these detailed concern at lack of consultation, inadequate environmental assessment, noise and disturbance and unsocial working hours associated with the current use.</p>	

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	<p>It was agreed, unanimously, that in the light of the complaints of noise and disturbance associated with the site which had been received since the previous comments on this planning application had been submitted; (1) to object to the planning application on grounds of noise nuisance and disturbance that would be caused to residents of Bonsall if the mineral extraction were to go ahead; (2) to express concern at the inadequacy of the current Environmental Statement as it affected Bonsall in terms of lack of any pre-planning consultation and inappropriate choice and extent of locations in the village for assessing impact; (3) to request that the Environmental Statement should be required to address noise disturbance and general environmental impact on all areas of the village that are affected, in particular those elevated areas directly exposed to the quarry face such as (but not exclusively) Church Street Clatterway and Black Tor Road; (4) that in the event that planning permission was given, conditions should be imposed to prevent early morning and evening working, and to prevent noise nuisance at the levels currently being experienced, and requiring noise monitoring measurements to be taken at all affected locations as detailed in (3) above; (5) to express concern at the lack of publicity for the planning application in terms of notices available to the general public.</p> <p><b>Village Matters</b></p> <p><b>a) Village parking:</b> to discuss parking problems within the village (L Johnson). Leigh Johnson outlined his views on how different types of business and community facilities within the village contributed to village life and also affected the level of on-street parking. He said that tourism related activities alone would not sustain the village, and that we ought to look as a community at how the village should be sustained. For example, the Parish Council (or a trust) was taking on the management of the park; should a trust be set up to buy smaller properties to rent out to let for affordable housing? He emphasised the role and importance of the community facilities such as the village hall, the school, the church and chapels, and said that as a village we should consider a study of what should be done to sustain the village for the future. It was agreed to note these comments.</p> <p><b>b) Park Lease update:</b> the Clerk reported that new heads of terms for the lease had been received on 2<sup>nd</sup> November from Savills who were acting for the Diocese. The main issue was that the break clause in the lease had been stated as being after two years, not the five years agreed by the Diocese. Comments had been returned on 9<sup>th</sup> November asking for this to be corrected, challenging the rent and Landlord and Tenant Act exclusion, and requesting details of legal and agents fees to be charged. There had been no response to date. DDDC would be contacted to discuss a sublease once the heads of terms were agreed. The position was noted.</p> <p><b>c) Speedwatch:</b> the session on 14<sup>th</sup> November had not taken place due to fault on equipment; agreed to be rearranged for January.</p> <p><b>d) Churchyard responsibilities:</b> the Clerk reported that additional information had come to light in relation to the history of maintenance work by the Parish Council in the churchyard. The Parish Council had also maintained the District Council area of the churchyard prior to it's closure in 2005, which contradicted the District Council view that carrying out maintenance was evidence of legal responsibility for the land. Agreed to write to the District</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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	<p>Council asking for them to reconsider their views and also to clarify their land ownership.</p> <p><b>e) Second defibrillator:</b> a grant of £350 had been received from the District Council; this was from the fund of £1000 held by District Councillors for community projects (£300 Cllr Purdy; £50 Cllr Pawley). There was also a contribution of £200 being made from Open Gardens. Thanks were recorded to Open Gardens and Councillors Purdy and Pawley.</p> <p><b>f) Knotweed:</b> it was agreed that in the interests of efficient treatment of the knotweed the Parish Council should make joint arrangements with the school for arranging the work. Noted that the Parish Council would require a separate invoice to seek to recover this cost from the District Council.</p> <p><b>g) Footpath signs at Moor Lane:</b> it was reported that on 02 November the County Council Rights of Way Officer had said that an order for signs had been placed, and that installation should be 2-3 months. Agreed to defer to the January meeting but if not installed by then to consider a formal complaint.</p> <p><b>a) Policies:</b> It was agreed on the recommendation of the Policy Group to (a) approve the Grievance and Disciplinary policy; and (b) to confirm that the list of current and proposed policies and review dates that had been circulated met the current requirements of the Council.</p> <p><b>b) Website:</b> there was discussion about the ease of editing of the current website, and its' capacity to display the required range of information. It was agreed to set up of a working group and invite attendance via Mutterings, with a view to preparing a design brief for commissioning a new website in the future. Councillor Addis offered to be a member.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>																																												
<p>21/11/9</p>	<p><b>Finance:</b></p> <p>a) <b>Accounts for payment</b> a schedule showing the following cheques /Direct Debits was approved, and the cheques were signed:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="245 1350 1390 1868"> <tr> <td><b>1772</b></td> <td>A Payne</td> <td>£466.02</td> <td>Salary/expenses</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>1773</b></td> <td>P Spencer</td> <td>£67.26</td> <td>Salary/expenses</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>1774</b></td> <td>R Allsop</td> <td>£95.00</td> <td>WC cleaning</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>1775</b></td> <td>Linda Wells Hollies Farm</td> <td>£126.65</td> <td>Plants</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>1776</b></td> <td>RBL Poppy Appeal</td> <td>£51.00</td> <td>Lamp post Poppies (additional)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>1777</b></td> <td>Royal British Legion (local fund)</td> <td>£50.00</td> <td>Donation for wreath</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>1778</b></td> <td>Mutterings</td> <td>£250.00</td> <td>Grant</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>DD</b></td> <td>Pigeontech</td> <td>£31.89</td> <td>Website fee (domain)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>DD</b></td> <td>Pigeontech</td> <td>£95.00</td> <td>Website fee (maintenance)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>DD</b></td> <td>E.ON (Park)</td> <td>£8.17</td> <td>Electricity</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>DD</b></td> <td>E.ON (Cross)</td> <td>£30.47</td> <td>Electricity</td> </tr> </table> <p>b)</p> <p><b>Payments received:</b> a donation of £350 for purchase of a second defibrillator was received from the District Council.</p> <p>c) <b>The monthly Statement</b> for period 7 detailing income and expenditure to 03 November 2017, which had been previously circulated to Councillors, was</p>	<b>1772</b>	A Payne	£466.02	Salary/expenses	<b>1773</b>	P Spencer	£67.26	Salary/expenses	<b>1774</b>	R Allsop	£95.00	WC cleaning	<b>1775</b>	Linda Wells Hollies Farm	£126.65	Plants	<b>1776</b>	RBL Poppy Appeal	£51.00	Lamp post Poppies (additional)	<b>1777</b>	Royal British Legion (local fund)	£50.00	Donation for wreath	<b>1778</b>	Mutterings	£250.00	Grant	<b>DD</b>	Pigeontech	£31.89	Website fee (domain)	<b>DD</b>	Pigeontech	£95.00	Website fee (maintenance)	<b>DD</b>	E.ON (Park)	£8.17	Electricity	<b>DD</b>	E.ON (Cross)	£30.47	Electricity	<p>Clerk</p>
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	<p>approved.</p> <p>d) <b>Budget:</b> The Council considered the budget position against income and expenditure to date as shown in the account statement for the month and the transactions agreed at the meeting. The Council assessed risk in relation to the Council's financial standing and systems, and were satisfied that there were no issues presenting risk that required attention or further action at the present time.</p> <p>e) <b>Approval of mandate changes / online banking:</b> noted that the mandate changes had now been approved and that online banking was now in place.</p> <p>f) <b>Manual staff pay:</b> it was agreed on the recommendations of the Staffing Group meeting of 07 November that the NJC grade for manual staff should be set at Grade 3 scale points 14-17, and that staff should be moved to Scale Point 15 (£8.85 per hour) with effect from 01 December 2017. It was noted that at the top of the scale the expected increase in salary budget would be between £610 and £808 per year, depending upon hours worked. Subject to consultation with staff this pay grade should be incorporated into revised Terms and Conditions of Employment based on standard NJC terms.</p> <p>g) <b>Review of budget;</b> further to minute 17/10/9 (d) of 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017, it was agreed to approve the revised 2017-18 budget V3 and note the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the budget incorporated the new staff pay rate;</li> <li>• it included a new cost head for maintenance of the Parish Council burial ground and costs for this year of £1900 for the extension study;</li> <li>• inclusion of that additional burial ground expenditure would reduce the balances to £6000 at the end of the year (assuming no other changes); this would need to be closely monitored as part of beginning to prepare the next year's budget at the December meeting.</li> </ul> </p> <p>h) <b>. Mutterings Grant application:</b> agreed to approve a grant of £250 on the basis that if further funding were needed they should apply again.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
21/11/10	<p align="center"><b>Planning:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Peak District National Park Planning Application NP/DDD/0817/0906 17/00930/FUL:</b> replacement of doors Wesleyan Reform Chapel The Dale.</li> </ul> <p>After discussion it was resolved to make no objection to this application.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
21/11/11	<p><b>Items for Information: DALC Circulars:</b> Circular 13/17</p>	
21/11/12	<p><b>Date of next meeting: Parish Council 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 7.30pm</b></p>	<p>Clerk</p>

Signed .....