Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 28 January 2004 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given.

Present: Cllrs: PJ Charles (Chairman), C Cook, AE Elkington, RT Esling, L Fox,

KA McLoughlin.

Also present: EA Roy (Clerk)

Apologies for absence: Cllrs: DT Eatough, RSV Jarman and JA Needham. Bor. Cllr. Fox

Members of the public attending: Mr CN Talbot.

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Minute 88: Public Session

The Chairman welcomed Mr Talbot and invited him to address the Council.

Mr Talbot began by reminding the members that for the past four years a Morris Ring event had been based at the School of St Mary and St Anne. This year's event is expected to attract in excess of 200 participants for the weekend commencing Friday 16 July. On Saturday vintage buses will take dancers to a number of venues around Staffordshire for them to perform, before convening for a mass display in the late afternoon at Uttoxeter. On Sunday a march to the church will be led by the Coors Dray horses and will be followed by a mass display in the village at noon. Mr Talbot left information on the proposed programme with the members.

The Chairman thanked Mr Talbot for his contribution. Normal business was resumed at 19:43 pm.

Minute 89: Approve and sign the Minutes of the previous Meetings It was proposed (CC), seconded (AE) and agreed that the Minutes of the previous meetings be signed as a true record of proceedings.

Minute 90: Matters arising and matters of report

- **90.1 Civilian Operated Speed Cameras (58.3.4):** No further information has been received from Inspector Mason. The Clerk was asked to write and enquire if any progress was being made.
- **90.2 Tree lopping (68.6.1):** The work the Council was recommended to carry out on trees has now been completed following confirmation from the ESBC tree officer that he did not wish to place preservation orders.
- **90.3 SPCA Advisory Notes:** The latest advisory notes from SPCA were noted.

- **90.4 Parish Councils' Forum:** The Clerk introduced a report from the December Forum attended by himself and Cllr Elkington.
- **90.5 Street lighting:** The Clerk introduce a summary of the situation on street lighting in the conservation area, bringing together information gathered in response to questions about the use of coloured light in the conservation area.
- **90.6 Admaston Village Hall:** Cllr Fox reported that following the last meeting she had contacted Mrs Massey and suggested that they approach ESBC for help under WASP.
- **90.7 Gardener of the Year:** The Clerk was asked to write to Dianne Fryer passing on the congratulations of the Council on her victory in the competition.

Minute 91: Jubilee Cup

- 91.1 A number of nominations for the Jubilee Cup were introduced by members and a short discussion ensued.
- 91.2 It was agreed to defer any decision until more members of the Council were present.

Minute 92: Speed Reduction

- The Clerk introduced a letter from Bagot Street residents registering their concern about traffic speed and the apparent lack of progress. He also reported that he had been told the promised traffic survey was now being prepared and installation of the equipment was imminent. Results could be available by the February meeting. The Clerk was asked to write a reply outlining the action taken so far and provide a copy as potential input for the Bulletin to give further visibility to the progress made.
- Members noted the response from Mr Gee to the letter accompanying our input to the Local Transport Plan, but felt it did not address the issues raised.
- 92.3 Earlier proposals to leaflet drop "kill your speed" messages and enhance village entry signs had been costed by the Clerk. It was decided to defer action on these until the results of the traffic survey were available.
- The Clerk was asked to write to County Cllr Atkins outlining our issues and providing copies of relevant correspondence.

Minute 93: Planning

93.1 Applications

309 - PA/24030/009: Breach House Farm, Pinfold Lane: Construction of a menage and use of land for the riding of horses (Amended plans) Received: 19/01/04 Replied: 29/01/04 Response: The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.

310 - HO/28698/001: 5 Bromley Wood: Installation of underground 2000 litre LPG tank

Received: 26/01/04 Replied: 29/01/04 Response: The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.

93.2 Decisions

The following applications have been AGREED:

294 - PA/28176/002: High Elms, Port Lane: Erection of stables

304 - PA/24590/004: Land adjoining Heatley Lane: Erection of a glasshouse (Phase 1)

305 - PA/24590/005: Land adjoining Heatley Lane: Erection of a glasshouse (Phase 2)

No applications have been REFUSED.

No applications have been DEFERRED or WITHDRAWN.

93.3 Correspondence and other planning matters

93.3.1 Nothing to report.

Minute 94: Financial Matters

94.1 Financial report for January

The financial report for January was introduced by the Clerk. It was proposed (RE), seconded (LF) and agreed that this statement be approved.

94.2 Report on payments made since the last Meeting:

No payments had been made with the approval of the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

94.3 Bills to pay

The Clerk introduced the following for payment:

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details	Powers
72/562	G McCulloch	220.00	Tree lopping	OSA 1906 s.10
73/563	Linford-Bridgeman	352.50	Valuation of War Memorial	WMA 1923 s.1
74/564	Local Council Review	37.50	Annual subscription	LGA 1972 s.143
	TOTAL payments	610.00		

It was proposed (CC), seconded (KM) and agreed that the above payments be made.

94.4 Section 137 requests

No requests had been received.

94.5 Other financial matters

- 94.5.1 The Clerk reported that he had reviewed the Parish Council Financial Regulations adopted in January 2003. He was recommending that they be updated to take account of "The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003" which came into force on 1 April 2003. He believed that no other changes were required at the present time. The Clerk was asked to update the Regulations accordingly and present them for adoption at the next meeting.
- 94.5.2 The Clerk advised that review of the Risk Assessment was due. The Clerk was asked to provide relevant papers to Cllrs Cook, Fox and McLoughlin and arrange a meeting so that recommendations could be made to the next Council meeting.
- 94.5.3 The Clerk introduced the work done by the Footpath Society to help prepare a bid for the Staffordshire County Council Community Footpaths Initiative. Their proposal for a double-sided notice board was extended to include an allowance for a planning application fee. The Clerk was asked to submit this bid. It was noted that a suitable location for the board would need to be considered.

Minute 95: Group Reports

95.1 Recreation

- 95.1.1 Cllrs Charles and Cook are booked onto a one-day Playground Inspection Training event due to be held next month.
- 95.1.2 Mrs Haywood had written on behalf of the Under 5s project asking for confirmation that the Council would be willing to accept the ongoing costs for insurance, inspection and maintenance once the site was in operation. The Clerk was asked to respond affirmatively.
- 95.1.3 Mrs Haywood also enquired about progress with the transfer of the access strip to the Nuttery. After some discussion Cllr Esling offered to contact the developer and press them to carry out the necessary work.

95.2 Village Property

95.2.1 Nothing to report.

95.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways

95.3.1 Nothing further to report – see earlier discussion as minute 92.

95.4 Competitions

- 95.4.1 Cllr Elkington reported on his investigations into suitable containers for planting and that his next step was to meet up with Highways to find out what would be acceptable.
- 95.4.2 It was also suggested that the milestones could be cleaned and painted in preparation for the competition although it was not clear where the responsibility for this now lay. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries.

95.5 Rural Housing

95.5.1 Nothing to report.

95.6 Newsletter

95.6.1 Cllr McLoughlin reported that items for the Bulletin were required as soon as possible and that she would contact Mrs Haywood for an item from the Under 5s project.

95.7 School Governor's Report

95.7.1 Nothing to report.

95.8 Village Plan

95.8.1 Nothing to report.

95.9 RISES

95.9.1 The Clerk reported that, despite the introduction of the "blue bag" collection, the recycling paper bank would continue to be in place at Schoolhouse Lane for the benefit of those living outside the village and who would not benefit from the kerbside collection. Members noted that while recycling through Schoolhouse Lane would continue to earn funds for RISES, recycling through the blue bags would instead help Save the Children.

95.10 Community First Responders

95.10.1 Cllr Esling reported that a meeting of volunteers the previous week had been attended by the Staffordshire Training Officer. This led to the confirmation of the first series of training starting on 12 February and taking 12 weeks.

95.11 Village Hall

95.11.1 Nothing to report.

Minute 96: Correspondence, bulletins and reports

- A letter from CPRE solicits support for their campaign on the government proposals to change the planning system.
- 96.2 A letter from Alun Michael (DEFRA) highlights government initiatives on equine issues and introduces their new horse website.
- 96.3 A letter from SPCA advises that there are four vacancies in East Staffordshire on the SPCA Executive Committee. (Executive Meetings are held in Stafford on the third Monday evening of January, April, July, October and December).
- The Players have written to express their appreciation for the early erection of the Christmas tree and to confirm that they will meet the additional costs for electricity.
- We are invited by SCC to send a representative to a focus group on multi-tier working with LSPs on Wednesday 11 February in Stafford. Cllr Elkington agreed to attend.
- A letter of thanks was received from Richard Clarke First School for the grant towards their proposed planting of the bank.

Minute 97: Items for agenda of next meetings

Review and approval of revised Financial Regulations Jubilee Cup Plans for the Parish Assembly Extent of street lighting and speed limit in Goose Lane

Minute 98: Date, time and place of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meetings should be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 25 February in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall.

The Meeting concluded at 10.01	pm.

Chairman		Date:
Proposed:	Seconded	d: