MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 15th January 2020 at 8.00pm in ACTON TRUSSELL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present. T Williams(Chair),,A Parrott, M Nicholas, T Holmes, S Calvert, A Rowland, B Golder B Wyatt

Five members of the public DCIIr L Bates

in attendance Clerk D W Wright

Public Session.

Residents raised the application for outline planning permission for the land off Cooks Bank. This appears to be a repeat of an earlier application (2016) which was withdrawn before a decision was made. The Parish Council objected then on the grounds of inadequate highway access.

The application for development of a restaurant at Acton Gate was discussed. A major concern is the proposed signs for the restaurant which could be 12 metres high. Concern was expressed about litter arising in the villages from this restaurant which will be a drive through takeaway business..As much of its trade may come from car drivers coming off the motorway at Junction 13, it was felt that the exit should provide only a left turn to minimise the danger of crossing traffic on the A499 when returning to the M6.

- 20.01 Apologies. Apologies were received from Cllr R Howarth and CCllr D Williams.
- 20.02 Declarations of interest: The Council granted a dispensation for the financial interests of Councillors in item 8c. There were no other interests declared.
- 20.03 Minutes.

The minutes of 20th November 2019 had been previously circulated. The minutes were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

- 20.04 Matters arising:
 - 19.119. The chief executive of SSDC is willing to come a parish council meeting to explore three tier working.
 - 19.121. The car park barrier will probably be available at the beginning of March. It was suggested that it be galvanised, primed and painted to provide a durable finish.
- 20.05 District Councillors Report. Cllr L Bates

The footpaths in Acton Trussell have been coated but the footpath work is not finished although it was planned to be complete by the end of December. £10,000 has been spent so far with another £4000 to spend. It had been said that the surface would be slurry with grit chipping but this has not been done.

SSDC garden waste collection is not a statuary duty and an annual charge will be introduced for those wishing to use the service. It will be subscription only and residents need to opt into and pay the subscription each year. The charge is per the number of bins concerned and not per household. The scheme is expected to come into place at the beginning of July.

20.06 Parish Plan

- a) Community Centre & Recreation Field.
 - The hot water system still waiting to be complete and until it is done the work on the Ladies toilet cannot proceed. Bookings are going well. The fencing for the Childrens' play area will put into the ground. Additional training on the defibrillator was suggested and the Parish Council will pay for a training session at the Community Centre. The local first responders are the most suitable training providers. The management committee is thinkling about VE Day and wanted to know what the Parish Council was going to do. It was suggested that some trees could be planted for the celebration. Trees are available from SSDC in conjunction with the Forest of Mercia. The BATTH choir will be doing a concert in May
- b) Website. The hosting company has ceased providing hosting on its WordPlus.net site but has not transferred the domain name and website files.
- c) Environment. Acton Trussell will be entering the BKV. Cllr Wyatt is coordinating with the Canal & River Trust to improve the canal banks. Ditton Services will be reminded about collecting grass cuttings. SSDC grounds maintenance service is assessing the work in the Parishes so that they can tender successfully when tender request are sent out. Several other contractors have requested information.

20.07 Finance.

- a) The accounts for the year up to 15th January were presented. The Investment account is currently £21,066.60. A lottery grant of £4000 had been received for BAATH Social Committee. The Current account cashbook balance was £25,496,73.
- b) The following cheques were agreed for payment.

Ditton Services-Grass cutting January	S/Orde	r£	789.99
Clerks salary –(less tax) Dec 2019-Jan 2020	1507	£	320.96
Inland Revenue (PAYE)	1508	£	262.56
Society of Local Council Clerks	1509	£	109.00
M Nicholas – Hall maintenance	1510	£	21.88
	Total	£	1504 39

Effective Cashbook balance £ 23,992.34

c) Precept

The Clerk had circulated a draft budget and precept schedule for 2020/21 based on an increased expenditure for essential work on the Community Centre and other items identified at an earlier Parish Council meeting. Some grants had already been obtained which would help with the costs. The Council reviewed the budget and agreed that no increase in the precept was required.

Resolved that Acton Trussell, Bednall with Teddesley Hay Parish Council set an unchanged precept demand of £23,500 for 2020/21.

20.08 Highways and Transport

The drain in Bednall by Barncroft is still blocked but some of the other drains in Bednall are now running. At the junction of the A34 and Acton Hill Road the road is flooding and the drain needs clearing out. Cllr Williams had arranged for drain clearance which has been 50% successful but the rest of the work needs to be done.

20.09 Planning

The following applications are still being considered.

The application for rural exception housing and a carpark in Bednall has apparently been submitted but does not appear on the SSDC list. SSHA will be asked about the proposal for construction the carpark.

19/00558/OUT. Vacant Land off Cooks Bank

Outline planning permission for residential development of this vacant site with approval sought only for access at this time.

19/00741/FUL Fieldfare School Lane Bednall ST17 0SD

Proposed replacement dwelling (resubmission of application 19/00458/FUL)

19/00621/FUL Bednall Villa Teddesley Road ST17 0SA

Extension and conversion of existing agricultural building to domestic dwelling

20.10 Correspondence

Staffordshire Police.- email from A Poxon PCSO advising that he was leaving Glasdon - Gates and street furniture

Community Service -9th Feb 11 am- Speaker from the Cannock Foodbank

20.11 Risks

Potholes, footpath surfaces and drains.

Date of the next meeting

Wednesday 19th February 2020 at 8.00 pm in Acton Trussell Community Centre.

The meeting was closed at 9.55 pm.

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 19th February 2020 at 8.00pm in ACTON TRUSSELL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present. T Williams(Chair),M Nicholas, T Holmes, S Calvert, A Rowland, B Golder,R Howarth Nine members of the public DCllr L Bates in attendance Clerk D W Wright

Public Session.

Residents raised the Planning Application for Affordable Housing and Car Park 19/00993/FUL. The Council had not studied the complete submission document but some Bednall residents had checked it more thoroughly. K Howell had written in objection and had canvassed others to sign the letter so that there 140 signatures. The council suggested that individual letters of objection would have more weight, K Howell was invited to summarise his objections to help the Parish Council's view on this formal application which appeared to differ from the details that were presented during the preliminary discussions. There was concern about flood risk although this seemed to be subjective. The development would increase the core of the village by 10% and was not compatible. There was concern about the arrangement for land drainage given the current problems in the village. The village was not a key development village as it had no bus stops or shops.

The car park now appeared to be for the School and not residents. There was only a single entrance and exit for the car park on a blind bend and street light would be an unreasonable intrusion in the village . There is gated access top the car park but it not clear who is going to operate it. He considers that the key criteria to deem it a rural exception site have not been observed. The location of the car park and housing could lead possible development for the rest of land because of an extension for the village boundary. The Parish Council would consider his letter in detail to see if there were planning grounds which the Parish Council should take up. The application will be called in by ClIr Bates.

- 20.12 Apologies. Apologies were received from Cllr T Parrot, and B Wyatt
- 20.13 Declarations of interest: B Golder Planning Application 19/00993/FUL.
- 20.14 Minutes.

The minutes of 15th January 2020 had been previously circulated. The minutes were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

20.15 Matters arising:

20.06 Environment.

Trees are now available and Cllr Holmes plant some up ready for VE Day The order has been place for the Rowing Machine.

The Sculpture design for Bednall is being reinforced.

20.16 District Councillors Report. Cllr L Bates

The application redevelopment of FieldFare had been refused. The application for the McDonalds drive through had been called in. Concern about the size of the signs and litter. We will ask for a condition that McDonalds be responsible for clearing the litter in the area, not only around the Restaurant and a restriction of the exit to left turn only to reduce risk of traffic crossing the A449.

20.17 Parish Plan

a) Community Centre & Recreation Field.

A replacement door and window for the kitchen in PVC will cost about £1100. The Parish Council agreed that Cllr Nicholas should proceed with the work. The hot water system is still under discussion.

Some hedge cutting has been done at the Community Centre but it is still too wet to get access to the field.

The Community Service was very successful and well attended. The Parish Council wished to thank the BAATH Choir.

- b) Website. Still no progress.
- c) Environment.

The overhanging branch at St James Crescent/Top Road is now cut off. The County Council had sent an invoice for our £4000 contribution t50 the pathway surfacing work. It was considered that work was still outstanding. The clerk was instructed to reply and state that we will pay when we see the work done in Bednall as original agreed. The surfaces are bad in Bednall and causing personal trips.

20.18 Finance.

- a) The accounts for the year up to 19th February were presented. The Investment account is currently £21,067.37. The Lottery grant of £ 4000 is held on behalf of the BATTH Social Committee. The Current account cashbook balance was £23,992.34.
- b) The following cheques were agreed for payment.

Ditton Services-Grass cutting February	S/Orde	r£	789.99
Clerks salary –(less tax0 Feb 2020	1511	£	320.96
Clerk-Home as Office (less tax)	1511	£	240.00
Inland Revenue (PAYE)	1512	£	118.34
, ,	Total	£	1387 73

Effective Cashbook balance £ 22,604.61

An invoice for £4000 contribution had been received from Staffordshire County Council. The Council considered that the work was still not completed as originally agreed, with no work all al being carried out on the damaged pavements affected by the roads sweeping in Bednall. The Council instructed the Clerk to withhold payment until work is completed

20.19 Highways and Transport

The drain in Bednall by Barncroft is still blocked but some of the other drains in Bednall are now running. At the junction of the A34 and Acton Hill Road the road is flooding and the drain needs clearing out. Cllr Williams had arranged for drain clearance which has been 50% successful but the rest of the work needs to be done.

20.20 Planning

The following applications are still being considered.

20/00052/LSHLD 1 Kenderdine Close Bednall Demolish conservatory and build new extension to rear

19/0093//FUL Land of Common Lane Bednall

Proposed rural exception site involving the construction of 8 No affordable dwellings, along with new car park, drop off and pick up area to serve All Saints CofE Primary School.

The parish Council has been lobbied several times by Bednall resident who oppose such development. Less often by supporters but the requirement for affordable housing has been demonstrated in surveys. The population of the area is aging and injection of younger people could be beneficial to the village community. It was agreed that the Clerk would study the proposal and the detailed objections set out by resident to extract from supported planning geounds for any objection or request for modifications to the scheme.

19/00954/FUL. The Mandarin Oriental Brassierei Acton Court Acton Gate Erection of a free standing drive through Restaurant

The Clerk will write objecting to large signs, particular golden arches, and requesting the operators provide litter picking through the village because of the expected discard of food containers. He will also ask if a 'no left, restriction can be place on the exit road so that traffic returning to the M6 does try to cross the A449 rather than going to the nearby island.

20.21 Correspondence

Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Draft plan Glasdon - Gates and street furniture

20.22 Risks

Potholes, footpath surfaces and drains.

Date of the next meeting

Wednesday 18th March 2020 at 8.00 pm in Acton Trussell Community Centre.

The meeting was closed at 9.50 pm.

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 18th March 2020 at 8.00pm in ACTON TRUSSELL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present. T Williams(Chair), M Nicholas, T Parrot, B Golder, R Howarth

No members of the public DCIIr L Bates in attendance Clerk D W Wright

Public Session.

The Parish Council discussed the present coronavirus situation. It was suggested drawing up a list of vunerable people and a list of volunteers who could help. It was noted that something was already organised in Bednall. Cllr M Nicholas agreed to be a co-ordinator for information and to arrange volunteers to match with the needs of self isolating people. A note will go out in the magazine and on the email rings asking whether people need help or if they wish to volunteer to help. Many local suppliers were carrying out deliveries including the Bednall Farm Shop.

- 20.12 Apologies. Apologies were received from Cllr T Holmes, S Calvert, A Rowland, and B Wyatt
- 20.13 Declarations of interest: B Golder Planning Application 19/00993/FUL.
- 20.14 Minutes.

The minutes of 19th February 2020 had been previously circulated. The minutes were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

20.15 Matters arising:

The Clerk had written to the planning department on the rural exception site housing. Cllr Bates has discussed the litter problems that could arise from the MacDonald drivethrough restaurant with the Planning Department.

20.16 District Councillors Report. Cllr L Bates

10 trees have been obtained for the VE day celebration, 5 for Bednall and 5 for Acton Trussell. The District Council have reported that the Telephone Box in Meadow Lane is still available for the Parish Council to adopt.

20.17 Parish Plan

- a) Community Centre & Recreation Field.
 A replacement door and window for the kitchen in PVC has been ordered. The hot water system is still under discussion. Many bookings have been cancelled.
- b) Website. This being completely re-written and is about 20% complete..
- c) Environment.
 The Best Kept Village Competition has been cancelled for this year.

20.18 Finance.

- a) The accounts for the year up to 18th March were presented. The Investment account is currently £21,068.29. The Lottery grant of £ 4000 is held on behalf of the BATTH Social Committee. The Current account cashbook balance was £22,604.51.
- b) The following cheques were agreed for payment.

Ditton Services-Grass cutting March	S/Orde	er£	789.99
Clerks salary –(less tax0 March 2020	1514	£	233.40
Clerk-Broadband	1514	£	208.00
Inland Revenue (PAYE)	1515	£	58.35
Staffordshire Parish Council Association training cost	1516	£	20.00
Staffordshire Parish Council Association subscription	<u>1516</u>	£	333.00
·	Total	£	1.642.74

Effective Cashbook balance £ 20.961.77

A further reminder to an invoice for £4000 contribution had been received from Staffordshire County Council. The Council considered that the work was still not completed as originally agreed, with no work all al being carried out on the damaged pavements affected by the roads sweeping in Bednall. The Council instructed the Clerk to withhold

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payment until work is completed. If this payment is made, then the effective Cashbook balance would decrease to £16,961.77

20.19 Highways and Transport

The drain in Bednall by Barncroft is no longer blocked but could do with some jetting.. At the junction of the A34 and Acton Hill Road the road is flooding and the drain needs clearing out. It was suggested that perhaps the farmers could dig out the drains with some recompense.

The pothole on Teddesley Road close to the road edge is now a serious hazard.

20.20 Planning

The following applications are still being considered.

20/00007/FUL Land on the West Side of Richfield Lane Bednall Erection of a new stable building, access and use of associated filed for equestrian use.

19/0093//FUL Land of Common Lane Bednall

Proposed rural exception site involving the construction of 8 No affordable dwellings, along with new car park, drop off and pick up area to serve All Saints C of E Primary School.

The Clerk has written on behalf of the Parish Council setting out its concerns and highlighting the differences from the scheme presented to the Parish Council in 2019.

19/00954/FUL. The Mandarin Oriental Brassierei Acton Court Acton Gate Erection of a free standing drive through Restaurant

The Clerk has written objecting to large signs, particular golden arches, and requesting the operators provide litter picking through the village because of the expected discard of food containers.

20.21 Correspondence

Broxap - Litter & Recycling bins

20.22 Risks

Potholes, footpath surfaces and drains.

The roadside verge by Moat House Farm has been pushed down into the ditch

Date of the next meeting

Wednesday 18th April 2020 at 8.00 pm in Acton Trussell Community Centre.

This meeting will not be called due to COVID-19 restrictions on meeting sizes. The Annual meeting in May is a legal requirement but it is expected that the Government will introduce legislation to allow it to be deferred.

The meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 22nd April 2020 at 8.00pm.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions this meeting was conducted remotely using Zoom. Legislation has been issued allowing remote meetings for Parish Councils.

Present. T Williams(Chair), T Holmes, S Calvert, A Rowland, T Parrot, B Golder, R Howarth, B Wyatt

One member of the public DCIIr L Bates

in attendance Clerk D W Wright

Public Session.

The one member of the public attending was able to comment during the discussions. She noted that it was actually more convenient for her to attend remotely because of the distance of her house from the Community Centre.

- 20.23 Apologies. None
- 20.24 Declarations of interest: None.
- 20.25 Minutes.

The minutes of 18th March 2020 had been previously circulated. The minutes were approved by the Council. *They will be signed by the Chairman later.*

20.26 Matters arising:

The Clerk has written to the Post Office agreeing to adopt the telephone box in Meadow Lane. The planning application for affordable housing in Bednall will be discussed at the next District Council planning meeting. The trees obtained for VE day are now with Trevor Homes and M NIcholas. 5 trees will be planted on the recreation field. The replacement door for the Community Centre kitchen is on order but now delayed. Cllr Bates has discussed the litter problems that could arise from the MacDonald drivethrough restaurant with the Planning Department.

20.27 District Councillors Report. Cllr L Bates

The planning application for 'FieldFare' was refused but has now gone to appeal. Streetscene had resumed refuse collection as normal. Two cemeteries were remaining open from 9am to 8pm. All leisure centres were closed.

Some money was available from the County Council for the Parish Council and Community Centre for work associated with COVID-19. After discussion the Parish Council did not feel that it should make an application for a grant as no significant cost was being generated from the Volunteer scheme.

The Mandarin Oriental Brassiere Acton Court Acton Gate, Erection of a free standing drive through Restaurant has been approved under delegated powers. There are some conditions about signage and it is required to close between 12pm and 5am. County Highways did not support the request to have a mandatory left turn on the exit. Litter picking on the site is a condition but does not extend any further.

20.28 Parish Plan

- a) Community Centre & Recreation Field.
 - The recreation field is being well used for walking and exercise. Now trying to get work started on fire alarms and the hot water system whilst the Community Centre is closed.
- b) Website. This being completely re-written.
- c) Environment.

There is fly-tipping on the footpath by Burroughs Machinery and Street scene will be asked to remove it. A bin has been placed at the lay-by on the A34 at Bednall Head for litter to be deposited.

20.29 Finance.

a) The accounts for the year up to 22nd April were presented. The Investment account is currently £21,069.10. The Lottery grant of £ 4000 is held on behalf of the BATTH Social Committee. The Current account cashbook balance was £20,961.77.

b) The following cheques were agreed for payment.

Ditton Services-Grass cutting April	S/Order£	789.99
Clerks salary –(less tax) April 2020	£	175.05
Inland Revenue (PAYE)	£	116.70
BHIB Ltd Parish Council Insurance	£	611.61
	Total 4	£ 1 693 35

Effective Cashbook balance £ 20,961.77

No cheques were signed at this meeting. Arrangements will be made to sign April & May cheques later. The Clerk had written to Highways Department explaining why an invoiced sum of £4000 for footpath work had not been paid. The accounts have been submitted to the internal auditor and the Audit Return will be presented for approval at the next meeting.

20.30 Highways and Transport

Repair work is being done by Highways including a lot in Bednall but it is still leaving some potholes. The bad pothole in Teddesley Road has been fixed. The pothole in Mill Lane at the bridge is forcing vehicles to go into the centre of the road and is a major hazard. The road seems to be suffering collapse. Stych Lane is unnavigable.

20.31 Planning

The following applications are still being considered.

20/00295/TREE Blackthorne Moathouse Close Acton Trussell Conservation Area – Fell a Sweet Chestnut *A visit will be made to look at the tree.*

20/00272/FUL Penny Farthings Mill Lane Acton Trussell

Remove existing Conservatory. Proposed single storey extension to form kitchen and dining area.

No objection.

20/0195/FUL Bank Cottage Top Road Acton Trussell Aluminium framed fixed window with clear glazing, at high level in rear elevation retrospective) *No objection*

20.32 Correspondence

None

20.33 Risks

Potholes, footpath surfaces and drains.

20.34 Reports from Councillors

Acton Trussell and Bednall are still going to do the Scarecrow and Hanging Basket competitions. A resident of Ivy Court wants to organise a 'Stay at Home' Street Party. A stone treasure hunt with painted stones is going on in the Parish. It was suggested that the stones be collected after COVID-19 restrictions and then be set in a memorial to the work of the NHS.

Date of the next meetings

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday 20th May 2020 at 8.00 pm. It will be followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

These meetings will be held remotely. The information for connecting to the meeting will be published on the Parish Council website.

The meeting was closed at 9.09 pm.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY Wednesday 20th May 2020 at 8.00 pm
This was a remote meeting using Zoom. Connection details were published before
the meeting on the Parish Council Website

Present. T Williams (Chair), B Golder, T Holmes, M Nicholas, A Parrott, S Calvert, R Howarth B Wyatt DCllr L Bates One member of the public in attendance Clerk D W Wright

1. Apologies were received from Cllrs A Rowland .

2. Chairman's Report

The year has been full of surprises in may ways, both villages with guidance from their management teams surpassed all expectation by becoming the two best kept villages in Stafford shire with Bednall coming first and Acton coming second well done to all.

Development is still an on-going concern, fortunately Gladmans have withdrawn their application for development on Acton hill land adjoining the A34. In Bednall a planning application has been submitted by the housing association but at present this has not moved to far. The school has become part of an academy with part of Mr. Bramley's field having been purchased for play and sport. Management of the community centre must be congratulated on how well the hall is run. To get a booking it almost needs for some body to cancel.

The BATTH social group keep going from strength to strength supporting and helping many people in the community. Tea room on a Thursday being a classic example well done to all involved. Grass cutting has gone on guite well keeping the verges tidy

Roads what can you say every meeting. they come up, some pot holes do get filled in but many get left. One of the holes reported the most is on Acton Hill road the junction with Stych lane, this lane has now become so bad it is nearly unuseable by a car. We will keep trying to get these issues seen to. In Bednall many road drains have become blocked but even after highways had been out to clean them out many were left untouched. Footpaths have also been brought to the council's attention, along with the offer of a contribution from the parish council some work was carried out by highways but the amount carried done was very little consequently the parish have withheld the offer made. Bednall are still waiting for work to start on the paths in front and to the side of the church, promised by our county councillor.

V E day celebrations went off with many street parties taking place a good time was being had by all. A tree has been panted on the playing field to commemorate the occasion, this was a gesture planting and has been removed, in all 5 trees will be planted in the hedge along side Wattles Lane in the autumn when conditions will be correct for planting. Bednall also have 5 trees to be planted.. Under the gloom of Covid-19 I believe all parishioners have been diligent in keeping social distancing and a big thank you must go to those who have helped deliver food, medication, a listening ear or safe transport when needed.

I would like to thank all the councillors for their time and commitment to the parishes, in future we must make more effort to bring Teddesley Hay more in to our fantastic community

Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Assembly held on 15th May 2019 had been circulated before the meeting.

Finance.

The Clerk presented the accounts for 2019/20 and summarised the income and expenditure. The accounts will now be submitted for external audit after this meeting but will be available for any member of the parish to consult during a 30 working day period commencing on 10th June.

5. Community Centre

A new door for the community centre is on order at £750 and the work on the hot water system has started. A reapplication is being made for a grant for additional fencing of the Childrens Play Area.. Work on the floor of the hall is about to start. Dog walking on the Recreation filed is continuing despite the prohibition notices. Re-arrangement of the position of notices will be made to avoid any conflict.

6. Matters raised. Speeding in the villages. With increased walking during Covid-19 there is a perception of increased car speeds and an absence of pavements, Previous experience with a Neighbourhood Speed Watch scheme was explained. The possible use of one of the County Council Speed and Indication meters will be investigated with CCllr David Williams. Both Lower Penkridge Road and Common Lane could be possible sites for the meter installation.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm and was followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

The Annual Parish Assembly is not a meeting of the Parish Council.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 20th May 2020 at 8.55pm. This meeting followed immediately after the Annual Parish Assembly.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions this meeting was conducted remotely using Zoom.

Present. T Williams(Chair), T Holmes, S Calvert, , T Parrot, B Golder, R Howarth, M Nicholas, B Wyatt

One member of the public DCIIr L Bates

in attendance Clerk D W Wright

- T Williams was nominated and elected as Chairman of the Parish Council. He then signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Barbara Golder was nominated and elected as Vice-Chairman.
- 20.36 Apologies: Cllr A Rowland
- 20.37 Declarations of interest: None.
- 20.38 Minutes.

The minutes of 22nd April 2020 had been previously circulated. The minutes were approved by the Council. *They will be signed by the Chairman later.*

20.39 Matters arising:

A tree obtained for VE day was planted on the recreation field.

20.40 District Councillors Report. Cllr L Bates

Cllr Bates had met with Mark Keeling of the Highways Department about the progress of work on footpaths in the parish.. He sent an email detailing the work intended in the next year. Leese lane was included in the programme but Moor Close and Alsop Crest had deteriorated to much for nay work to done yet. Top Road and Mill Lane will be done later this year and also gulley cleaning.

The council is supporting businesses and over a 100 have applied for a business grant for CPOVID-19.. Street Scene is working normally with all waste collections on schedule. Environmental Health continue to monitor business compliance with COVID-19 regulations, 9000 residents have so far signed up for garden waste collections scheme which starts on 29th June.

20.41 Parish Plan

- a) Community Centre & Recreation Field.
 The recreation field is being well used for walking and exercise. Work is in progress on fire alarms and the hot water system whilst the Community Centre is closed.
- b) Website. No progress on rewriting..
- c) Environment.

Dog fouling could be a problem on the Recreation field as many more dogs are being walked there despite the notices saying "No dogs". The dog fouling signs will be moved to reduce confusion. It was agreed to fund the replanting of the many planters in Acton Trussell and Bednall. Using the money allocated for BKV in the budget. It was also agreed to fund a large transportable water tank for watering planters at a cost of £100-£200.

20.42 Finance.

- a) The Parish Council agreed the re-appointment of Alan Toplis as the Council's Internal Auditor.
- b) The Report of the Internal Auditor was presented. There are no items of immediate concern. The Risk Assessment ,Financial Regulations and Standing Orders will be reviewed during the year These are displayed on the website.
- Approval of Governance Statement.
 The Council considered and approved the Governance statement.
- d) Approval of The Annual Return of Accounts
 The Council considered and approved the Annual Accounting Statements for 2019/20

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e) The accounts for the year up to 20th May were presented... The Investment account is currently £21,069.899. The first instalment of the precept has been received. The Current account cashbook balance was £31016.42

f) The following cheques were agreed for payment.

Ditton Services-Grass cutting May
Clerks salary –(less tax) May 2020
E 175.05
Inland Revenue (PAYE)
E£ 116.70
Total £ 1.081.74

Effective Cashbook balance £ 29,936.68

No cheques were signed at this meeting. Arrangements will be made to sign April & May cheques later.

20.43 Highways and Transport

Repair work is being done by Highways including a lot in Bednall but it is still leaving some potholes. The pothole in Mill Lane at the bridge has been fixed. The Highways Department have given some schedules for resurfacing of footpaths in Bednall and Acton Trussell but Moor Close and Alsop Crest need major repair work and have to added to the work programme in the future.

20.44 Planning

The following applications are being considered.

20/00334/FUL Spade Green Common Lane Bednall Two storey side extension

19/00975/COU Land off Common Lane Bednall

Proposed rural exception site involving the construction of 8 affordable dwellings, along with new car park..

20.45 Correspondence

Email from South Staffs Council detailing the need to register for the garden waste scheme which will be a chargeable service.

20.46 Risks

Potholes, footpath surfaces and drains.

20.47 Reports from Councillors

£500 of food had been collected in Bednall and taken to a foodbank. Funds are in place for refurbishing the Ladies Toilet at the Community Centre but it was agreed that the Mens Toilet should also be included. The Management Committee will be asked to present a proposal for the work.

Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 17th June 2020 at 8.00 pm. The meeting will be held remotely. The information for connecting to the meeting will be published on the Parish Council website.

The meeting was closed at 9.45 pm.

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 17th June 2020 at 8.00pm.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions this meeting was conducted remotely using Zoom.

Present. T Williams(Chair), S Calvert, A Rowlands, T Parrot, B Golder, R Howarth, M Nicholas, B Wyatt

Two members of the public DCIIr L Bates

in attendance Clerk D W Wright

Public Session. No questions raised.

20.48 Apologies: T Holmes

20.49 Declarations of interest: None.

20.50 Minutes.

The minutes of 20rh May 2020 had been previously circulated. The minutes were approved by the Council. *They will be signed by the Chairman later.*

20.51 Matters arising:

20.40 Blocked Drains. The problem of blocked drains, ditches and gullies was raised at a recent meeting of the Sow & Penk Drainage Board. DCllr Bates will get a cabinet member to attend the next meeting. The ditches are not being cleared at all. Te Parish Council resolved to treat this matter truly seriously. Cllr D Williams will be contacted again about the drainage problems. Stych Lane/Acton Hill Road junction and the A34/Acton Hill Road junction continue to a problem. The Clerk will write to the Highways Department stating that we are intending to carry out the required work to clear ditches. We will want a written statement from them that they will indemnify us for any claims. We will ask them to send someone out to look at it before we start. The drain in Bednall has been cleared by P Golder and is now running free. Traffic speeds. Higher speeds are being noted in the villages and along Acton Hill Road. The Clerk will contact CCllr D Williams requesting monitoring and installation of one of the County Council Speed Indication Devices.

20.52 District Councillors Report. Cllr L Bates

Cllr Bates thanked the Counciloprs for their presence at the funeral of John Wood ward, a long serving former Parish Councillor.

Plans for House at BankTop have reduced in size and added a ransom strip by the side. Fieldfare in School Lane Bednall has gone to written appeal with the Planning Inspectorate. Write with any comments and objections to Bristol.

The green waste subscription for collection has now been paid by 24,000 households. Cllr Bates then left the meeting at 20.26

20.53 Parish Plan

a) Community Centre & Recreation Field.

The hot water system and fire alarm systems have been installed.. The door and window in the kitchen has been installed. No work on the Gateway Barrier, fencing of the Children's Play Area, the Car Park or the Hall floor.

Opening the Community Centre again is challenging and the main problem is cleaning between bookings since this may require specialist work. The Management Committee are waiting for clear government guidance before re-

- b) Website. No progress on rewriting..
- c) Nash Lane Play Area. The wire fence between the pla area and the Vicarage has been replaced by a 4ft wood panel fence. There was concern that that a lot of dog owners were walking the dogs in the area and these dogs were all urinating in the same area. The notice on the gate prohibiting dogs will be checked.
- d) Environment.

opening.

The dog fouling signs have been be moved to reduce confusion. A large 40 gallon transportable water tank for watering planters has been purchased which helps with watering the planters. Acton Church is looking very nice and is entered in th Best Kept Church yard competition as is Bednall Churchyard.

20.54 Finance.

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The Clerk had circulated revised Financial Regulations and Standing Orders for reapproval at the next meeting. It was proposed to use internet banking for many future payments partly for convenience but also because of the problems of obtaining signature at this time. A mandate to allow the Clerk to make internet payments was offered to be signed by two of the existing signatories. The approved the scheme of delegation to permit this delegation. A schedule of such payments will be approved at each meeting and signed by two of the signatories.

a) The accounts for the year up to 17^h June were presented. The Investment account is currently £21,070.91. The VAT recovery has been received. The Current account cashbook balance was £31.492.25

b) The following cheques were agreed for payment.

Effective Cashbook balance £ 30,840.04

Payment of £4560.00 to Mattheson-Knight for the boiler and hot water system was held awaiting confirmation that the work was complete.

No cheques were signed at this meeting.

20.55 Highways and Transport

See Matters arising.

20.56 Planning

The following applications are being considered.

20/00423/FUL Richfield Cottage Richfield Lane Bednall SAT17 0SA

The proposed construction of a 40 m x 30 m equestrian manége and the installation of timber post and rail fencing around the newly formed arena perimeter.

19/00993/FUL Land off Common Lane Bednall

Proposed rural exception site involving the construction of 8 affordable dwellings, along with new car park..

Confirmed that the car park is for the use of the School and Village. This application has been called in for Committee consideration.

20.57 Correspondence

Broxap: Catalogue of street furniture.

20.58 Risks

Potholes, footpath surfaces and drains.

The current risk assessment will be circulated to Councillors and discussed at the next meeting to ensure that it is comprehensive.

20.59 Reports from Councillors

Thanks to the District Council as a new litter bin has been installed at the end of Bednall Road and Stych Lane has been cleared out and most of the rubbish removed.

Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th July 2020 at 8.00 pm. **The meeting will be held remotely. The information for connecting to the meeting will be published on the Parish Council website**.

The meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 15th July 2020 at 8.00pm.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions this meeting was conducted remotely using Zoom.

Present. T Williams(Chair),S Calvert, A Rowlands, T Parrot, B Golder, R Howarth, B Wyatt, T Holmes
Two members of the public DCIIr L Bates in attendance Clerk D W Wright

Public Session. No questions raised.

20.60 Apologies: Cllr M Nicholas

20.61 Declarations of interest: None.

20.62 Minutes.

The minutes of 17th June 2020 had been previously circulated. The minutes were approved by the Council. *They will be signed by the Chairman later.*

20.63 Matters arising:

20.40 The Highways Dept had provided a response about drains and repairs to footways and roads. Work on Acton Hill Road is scheduled for next week. Drains in Bednall had been cleared but there were many jammed lids which prevented clearance. It was noted that the Highways said that it was the responsibility of land owners to clear ditches .the Councillors discussed the ownership of the ditch and land adjacent to the highway. The Clerk will contact SPCA for advice on the legal position. There was concern about the safety aspects of trying to clear ditches by the roadway. Cllr Williams has requested a traffic and speed survey on Acton Hill Road but advises that the Speed Indicator devices that were used by the County Council are no longer available but he will provide information about a device recently purchased by another of his parish councils.

20.64 District Councillors Report. Cllr L Bates

The application for Affordable homes on land off Common Lane in Bednall will go to the remote meeting of the planning committee on 21st July at 6.30pm..

The District Council was now ready to respond to any Covid-19 outbreaks with an Out of Hours Call arrangement. There has been a low level of cases in South Staffordshire area. The Leisure Centres are reopening on 27th July but not all facilities will be available. Acton Trussell Church will be closed until August.

20.65 Parish Plan

a) Community Centre & Recreation Field.

The Play ground has been re-opened with additional safety notices. The playing filed is now being used for training but with no access to the Community Centre, There has been extensive work in the hall itself with a new boiler and hot water system, new backdoor to the kitchen and resurfacing of the floor in the hall. The floor has been sanded and then a top coat wear surface applied. The skirting boards will be repainted.

A new booking secretary, Rachel Twigg, has taken over from Sue Calvert. Booking contact is by email atccbooking@gmail.com and the website information will be changed Opening the Community Centre again is challenging and the precautions are document is very lengthy. The hall and any surfaces touched need cleaning after every booking. The upholstered chairs have been put away and replaced by the old plastic chairs which can be wiped down. The kitchen will remain locked and be unavailable as it would not be possible to keep it clean between bookings. Hirers will be asked to bring their own cleaning material. The hall is not yet ready to reopen but planning to open on17th August. Social distancing has reduced the number of people who can be accommodated and this is about 10 in the small room and 35 in the Main Hall. It was suggested that the Booking |Conditions include a requirement the hirers too hold the Centre harmless from any claims due to Covid -19 and that hirers and their guests are responsible for their own safety. The defibrillators installed at the |Community |Centre and elsewhere now need the consumable supplies replacing. The Parish Council agreed to pay for this at ~ £290 per unit.

b) Website. Completely rewritten and will reopen in about 10 days time.

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- c) Nash Lane Play Area. New sign stating "No Dogs" installed..
- d) Environment.

Litter is now a growing problem. It was suggested that a litter pick be organised. Tony Parrot will co-ordinate and litter pickers will be available. Grass cutting at the triangle by Bednall Farm needs doing. Ditton Services will be reminded of the scope of their contract.

20.66 Finance.

The mandate for banking has now been changed to allow the Clerk as a delegate to make internet payments. The Community centre had sent £3800 as their contribution to the heating installation.

The accounts for the year up to 15^h July were presented. The Investment account is currently £21,071.75. The Current account cashbook balance was £34,210.51.

b) The following cheques were agreed for payment.

Ditton Services-Grass cutting July	S/Order£	789.99
Clerks salary –(less tax) July 2020	£	233.40
Inland Revenue (PAYE)	£	58.35
Matheson Knight – Boiler	£	4560.00
AED –Donate Defibrillator spares	£	301.94
•	Total f	5 943 68

Effective Cashbook balance £ 28,266.83

20.67 Highways and Transport

See Matters arising.

20.68 Planning

The following applications are being considered.

20/00482/FUL Prposed replacement stabling and associated hard standing Field Fare School Lane Bednall

The council considered that this should be taken into account with the present planning appeal. The existing stables have been disused for many years and the Council is concerned this might lead to later application to convert into a dwelling.

20.69 Correspondence. None

20.70 Risks

Potholes, footpath surfaces and drains.

The current risk assessment had been circulated to Councillors. No additions or amendments were proposed.

20.71 Procedures:

The Clerk had circulated revised Financial Regulations and Standing Orders for reapproval. These documents take account of the changes required by Covid -19 and the use of Remote meetings and include the changes to permit payment by internet transfer. The Parish Council approved the Standing Orders and the Financial Regulations. These documents should be reviewed annually.

20.72 Reports from Councillors

Sign for Ice Cream sales at end of Common Lane could give rise to traffic problems on A34 junction.

Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th September 2020 at 8.00 pm. (*This is 1 week earlier than existing calendar*)

The meeting will be held remotely. The information for connecting to the meeting will be published on the Parish Council website.

The meeting was closed at 9.57 pm.

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 9th September 2020 at 8.00pm.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions this meeting was conducted remotely using Zoom.

Present. T Williams(Chair),T Parrot, R Howarth, B Wyatt, T Holmes. CCIIr D Williams

No members of the public in attendance Clerk D W Wright

Public Session. No questions raised.

- 20.73 Apologies: Cllrs M Nicholas, S Calvert, A Rowlands, DCllr L Bates Councillor B A Golder had submitted her resignation from the Parish Council.
- 20.74 Declarations of interest: None.

20.75 Minutes.

The minutes of 15th July 2020 had been previously circulated. The minutes were amended. After a change in wording for 20.65(a) to state "The floor has been sanded and then a top coat hard wear surface applied." and " - a requirement that the hirers hold the Management Committee and Community Centre harmless", the minutes were approved by the Council. They will be signed by the Chairman later.

20.76 Matters arising:

The footpath on Leese Lane has been completely redone. Work has been carried out on Stych Lane. Work is to be carried out on the right hand bridge parapet on Mill Lane. No traffic problems on A34 junction at the end of Common Lane had been noted due to the Ice Cream Sales sign.

20.77 County Councillors Report. D Williams

Work has been carried out on pathways around Acton Trussell but not Bednall. A visit had been made to MoatHouse Close which will be added to the work list. The Parish Council could provide traffic signs to discourage traffic from turning in the Close. The existing drainage pipe in Stych Lane appears to be blocked. Jetting should be tried to clear the pipe before they start digging up the road.. The ditch at the top of Stych Lane needs clearing out. Cllr Williams will provide the Highways Department statement about the legal situation about the responsibilities for clearing ditches. The work on the footpath in front of the Church in Bednall is still to be done. Where Acton Hill Road joins the A34 is still flooding suggesting a blockage in the pipe. The speed survey on Acton Hill Road is on the list to be done. Some 20,000 known potholes of Category 1 & 2 exist at present awaiting work. Category 3 potholes will take longer to do.

20.78 Parish Plan

a) Community Centre & Recreation Field.

A lot of work has been done during shutdown with the new door fitted. And ADT are completing the Fire Alarm work. The rowing machine has been installed in the Adult section of the Play Area. The extension to the Car Park has been created with a limestone base and a road plannings surface.

The Parish Council thanked Tony Parrot and Malcolm Nicholas for their work on the Car Park which helped to reduce the expenditure. It was suggested that additional lighting should be provide for this part of the Car Park but that due account should betaken of any effect on neighbours. The Parish Council agreed to support this provision.

The Management Committee has decided on a limit of 10 people for the small room and 30 people for the Main Hall. Doors will have to remain open and a one way system will be introduced. This may be affected by further Government restrictions.

b) Environment.

Litter has reduced since the Covid-19 shutdown. Could we get people to take on an area of the village to do regular litter picking.

Although the Best Kept Village competition has been cancelled, each village has continued to maintain its appearance. The nominal sums of £500 for each village allocated for the BKV can be used for any expenditure on the maintenance. The sculpture of a soldier has now been installed in Bednall to commemorate the end of

the Great War. The Parish Council had provided a bench in Acton Trussell but had agreed to support this sculpture as a preferred alternative.

20.79 Finance.

a) The accounts for the year up to 9th September were presented. The Investment account is currently £21,073.76. The Current account cashbook balance was £27,476.84. The Standing Order for Ditton Services in August had been paid between meetings.

b) The following cheques were agreed for payment.

Ditton Services-Grass cutting Sept	S/Order£	789.99
Clerks salary –(less tax) Aug-Sept 2020	£	654.04
Inland Revenue (PAYE)	£	0.00
HAGS –Fitness Rower	£	1538.88
Information Commissioner –Data Registration	£	40.00
A G Parrott – Car Park Materials	£	982.26
	Total 5	4.005.17

Effective Cashbook balance £ 23,471.67

The Clerks salary had increased to 3800 per annum in line with the Joint Committee agreement from April 1st. Excess tax had been deducted from the Clerks salary during 2019-20 and paid to HMRC. An adjustment has been made to the Clerks salary this month and no payment will be made to HMRC for PAYE until the excess payment is discharged.

20.80 Highways and Transport

See County Councillors report.

The bus is still travelling through Acton Trussell and car transport is working well within the community.

20.81 Planning

The recent applications have all been for discharge of conditions on existing granted planning permission. It was noted that the applicant had been successful with an appeal for a development of four houses at the Lane House on Top Road..

20.82 Correspondence.

Card and letter from the Lord Lieutenant thanking everyone for their efforts on Covid-19

Notice of a Casual Vacancy for Bednall with Teddesley Hay Ward of the Parish Council

This follows Cllr B Golder's resignation in August. The Parish Council wished to express its appreciation of the work of Cllr Golder who had been a member of the Parish Council for very many years.

20.83 Risks

Potholes, footpath surfaces and drains.

20.84 Reports from Councillors

Councillor R Howarth submitted his resignation from the Parish Council as a result of his impending move to Penkridge.

Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st October 2020 at 8.00 pm The meeting will be held remotely. The information for connecting to the meeting will be published on the Parish Council website.

The meeting was closed at 9.33 pm.

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 21st October 2020 at 8.00pm. *Due to COVID-19 restrictions this meeting was conducted remotely using Zoom.*

Present. T Williams(Chair),T Parrot, B Wyatt, T Holmes, S Calvert, A Rowlands. DCllr L Bates A Thompson F Beswick Eight members of the public (some sharing a connection) in attendance Clerk D W Wright

Public Session. No questions raised.

- 20.85 Apologies: Cllr M Nicholas, , CCllr D Williams
- 20.86 Declarations of interest: None.
- 20.87 Casual Vacancy co-option.

Three candidates from Bednall had offered themselves to fill the two vacancies. Each one was invited to give a short presentation, whilst the remainder of the public were excluded and then the Councillors discussed and agreed who would be co-opted. All three candidates were impressive but the Parish Council agreed to co-opt Alex Thompson and Francesca Beswick. The public were then re-admitted to the meeting. The newly co-opted Councillors will be sent the acceptance of office and pecuniary Interest forms to complete but were invited to now take part fully in the Parish Council.

20.88 Minutes.

The minutes of 21st September 2020 had been previously circulated. The minutes were amended to state that there were no members of the public attending and that the bus service runs through Acton Trussell village only. After these changes, the minutes were approved by the Council. *They will be signed by the Chairman later.*

20.89 Matters arising:

The footpaths had not been repaired in Acton Trussell or Bednall adequately . The Clerk was asked to write to Cllr Wiilliams to request action. Bank details **had** been supplied for Friends of Bednall. Following the resignation from the Parish Council of the previous Vice Chairman, Cllr Trevor Holmes was elected as Vice Chairman.

20.90 County Councillors Report. D Williams

The speed survey carried out on Acton Hill Lane by the Community Centre had shown average speeds of 36mph (*above the 30mph speed limit in the village*). He had been out to look at Stych Lane and arranged for a digger to clear out the ditches.

20.91 District Councillors Report, L Bates

Staffordshire was in the medium tier of risk of Covid-19 but cases were rising fast.. There was a problem in Cannock and in Huntingdon at the moment. Covid-19 testing sites had been set up in the district at Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre and Great Wyrley Scout & Guide centre. South Staffordshire Council was administering the support payment scheme for people forced to self-isolate due to Test & Trace. This is $\sim \pounds 500$ for eligible people. 94% of residents were satisfied with the Waste & Recycling service. There are new grants for Community Groups doing their bit to support young people and elderly groups.

20.92 Parish Plan

a) Community Centre & Recreation Field.

The fencing for the children's play area is on order and due for delivery in 3~4 weeks time. The car-park barrier is still awaited due to factory shutdown because of Covid-19. Planters have been planted up in the village by Sue and Malcolm. It was suggested that a couple of picnic tables could be installed at the Community Centre. These would cost £300~400 each. The trees donated to the Parish Council are now ready for planting. The hedge at the top of the field is to be cut back to allow the planting.

b) Environment.

We are pleased that litter picking is going on but fly tipping is a big problem particularly on Stych Lane. It was suggested that we might try a sign saying that there is a camera and put up a dummy camera.

A draft schedule for the Grass Maintenance contract had been circulated. A final version with maps will be presented for approval at the next meeting. This contract will then sent out for tenders for a new contract starting from 1st April 2021.

20.93 Finance.

- a) The accounts for the year up to 21st October were presented. The Investment account is currently £21,073.53. The second instalment of the precept had been received. The Current account cashbook balance was £31,154.47. The Standing Order for Ditton Services in October, the H|ghways contribution of £4000 and a payment for an engraved crystal bowl had been paid between meetings.
- b) The following cheques were agreed for payment.

Ditton Services-Grass cutting November	S/Orde	r£	789.99
Clerks salary –(less tax) October 2020		£	240.06
Inland Revenue (PAYE) adjusted		£	40.73
Acton Trussell General Fund Charity repayment		£	766.00
	Total	£	1636.78

Effective Cashbook balance £ 29,317.69

Payment towards Bednall Best Kept Village expenditure and the memorial sculpture will be made on receipt of the invoices. Additional signatories are required for the Bank Accounts and Alex Thompson agreed to become a signatory. An order for safety fencing.

20.94 Highways and Transport

A resident had asked if the cherry trees at the junction of Top Road and Acton Hill Lane could be trimmed to improve visibility up Top Road for monitoring of suspicious traffic. Cllr Parrott will look into this as they also restrict the cutting of the adjacent field hedge. The water is still collecting at the junction of A34 and Acton Hill Lane. A lot of pothole filling has been done between the bridge and Acton Gate but one sinkhole has not been repaired. The road closure in Bednall of Common Lane involved moving water pipes and electricity cables. However there has been damage to verges and trees have been cut down at the entrance to the ménage on Common Lane. It had been though that the entrance would have come off Richfield Lane and therefore nobody hasd objected to the riginal planning application.

20.95 Planning

The recent applications have all been for discharge of conditions on existing granted planning permission. It was noted that the applicant had been successful with an appeal for redevelopment at Fieldfare, School Lane in Bednall.

The Planning policy is being changed by the current Government proposals with development being automatically granted in zones agreed for development There is little input for such applications available to the public. It was suggested the development of local plans would be the only effective way of controlling general development in the future. The Parish Council has previously not considered it worthwhile to produce a plan but this will be reconsidered at the next Parish Council meeting.

20.96 Correspondence.

Card and letter from the Lord Lieutenant thanking everyone for their efforts on Covid-19

20.97 Risks

Potholes, footpath surfaces and drains.

20.98 Reports from Councillors

The Chairman had attended the funeral of Mrs D Kasebacher on 15th October. She was the previous clerk, who had served the Parish Council for more than 31 years..He made a spoken contribution and purchased a bouquet of flowers. She supported the Community Centre and helped the drive for funds to bring it into being. Thank you Dorothy.

Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 8.00 pm. The meeting will again be held remotely. The information for connecting to the meeting will be published on the Parish Council website.

The meeting was closed at 10.08 pm.

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 8.00pm. *Due to COVID-19 restrictions this meeting was conducted remotely using Zoom.*

Present. T Williams(Chair), T Parrot, B Wyatt, T Holmes, S Calvert, A Rowlands. DCllr L Bates A Thompson F Beswick Six members of the public in attendance Clerk D W Wright

Public Session.

The bollards on the verges in Common Lane need to be reinstalled. Can the footpath by the Church in Bednall be levelled as it is sloping and difficult to walk on. The draft minutes were questioned with regard to the statement that nobody objected to the planning application for an Equestrian centre which has now put an entrance of Common Lane. The residents were advised that this was a true statement as the Parish Council was not aware at the time of the meeting that any residents had objected.

- 20.99 Apologies: Cllr M Nicholas, CCllr D Williams
- 20.100 Declarations of interest: None..

20.101 Minutes.

The minutes of 21st October 2020 had been previously circulated. The minutes were amended to state that nobody on the Parish Council had objected to the original application for an Equestrian Centre off Richfield Lane After these changes the minutes were approved by the Council. *They will be signed by the Chairman later.*

20.102 Matters arising:

The footpaths had not been repaired in Acton Trussell or Bednall adequately Work is now proposed for footpaths in Bednall partly because of the highways contribution from the Parish Council.

20.103 County Councillors Report. D Williams None.

20.104 District Councillors Report, L Bates

South Staffordshire Council is recruiting a number of Covid-19 Support Officers to provide support to business where there is a risk of a breach of the regulations. They do not have any powers but will be reminding people of the need to follow the safety procedures. The number of Covid-19 infections is up again and it is getting very serious. Leisure Centres were closed but now there are on-line exercise class and members of the Leisure Centres will be able to join for free. Non-members are on a pay-as-you- go basis @ £4 per class.

20.105 Parish Plan

a) Community Centre & Recreation Field.

The fencing for the children's play area is on order and due for delivery in 3~4 weeks time. The car-park barrier is still awaited due to factory shutdown because of The alarm system is now installed and working and it is hoped to link this to the intruder alarm system. The Community Centre Insurance renewal schedule had been reviewed and adjusted to match the requirements giving a small reduction in the quoted premium.

b) Communication

Use of Facebook and Twitter were discussed as well as the websites for communication. Our Thanks to Marion Mckechnie who has been running the Grapevine e-mail ring in Acton Trussell. This is now to be run by James Corps. The Bednall ring is now run by Terry Jones. These two rings will be co-ordinated. Assistance has been offered to Cllr Nicholas to bring the community website back into full operation.

c) Environment.

A set of photographs showing the areas of grass to be cut by the Grounds Maintenance contract had bee circulated. It was agreed to add an area of grass in front of Bednall Farm and the whole of Miss Pickerings Field rather than just between the Lower Penkridge Road and the hedge line. It will be emphasised that unsightly grass cuttings and leaves must be removed. The Request for tenders will be circulated by the end of November with a closing date in February 2021.

20.106 Finance.

a) The accounts for the year up to 18th November were presented. The Investment account is £21,073.70. The Current account cashbook balance was £29,317.69. The Parish Council discussed the Memorial Sculpture installed in Bednall and agreed to make a contribution of £600. The payment to the Acton Trussell General Fund has not yet been made but bank details are being obtained to enable payment.

b) The following cheques were agreed for payment.

The fellening enequee were agreed for payment.		
Ditton Services-Grass cutting November	S/Order£	789.99
Clerks salary –(less tax) November 2020	£	240.06
Inland Revenue (PAYE)	£	60.02
Friends of Bednall –Sculpture contribution	£	600.00
T A Williams – Car Park works	£	918.00
Steelway Fensecure –Play Area fencing	£	4100.45
Bayliss & Cooke – Insurance	£	3312.09
•	Total £	10,020.61

Effective Cashbook balance £ 19,297.08

20.107 Highways and Transport

Although a bus does pass through the village it is a Stafford to Wolverhampton service, probably once per day. Cllr Parrott has looked at the cherry trees at the junction of Top Road and Acton Hill Lane and agrees that the lower branches need trimming. This will be organized. The speed on Acton Hill Lane was shown to average 36mph and this is actually in the 30mph speed limit region. It was suggested that we look at the costs for a Speed Indication Display Sign.

20.108 Planning

Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed to seek volunteers to help design a plan in a similar manner to the previous Focus Group. Skills as well as enthusiasm will be needed. It was suggested that the proposal be circulated on the websites and e-mail rings.

The following planning applications are being considered.

20/00967/FUL Tanglewood 2 Kenderdine Close Bedanall Alterations and extensions to a two-storey dwelling

20/0867/FUL 6 Alsop Crescent Acton Trussell
Two storey front extension new roof and loft conversion

20/00866/FUL Land at Stafford Boat Club Hazelstrine Lane Stafford Steel clad plant and storage buildings Brick built toilet/washblock

20/762/FUL Erection of one 3 bed dwelling to the rear of 2 St James Crescent with access of Top Road.

The Parish Council had concerns about this proposed development.

Protected areas around tree roots seem to be invaded by the development. Proposal to remove 2 or 3 trees which have Tree Preservation Orders which are highly visible from the M6 and form a landmark for Acton Trussell. Access to Top Road on a convex bend so that there could be highways problems.

- 20.109 Correspondence. None
- 20.110 Risks Potholes, footpath surfaces and drains.

20.111 Reports from Councillors

The CCTV sign for Stych Lane has been ordered. Additional play equipment was raised and thought will be given to a ground level slide in Nash Lane Play Area and some play equipment for 3-6 year olds at the Community Centre play area. The telephone box at the junction of Top Road and Meadow Lane has been adopted by the Parish Council.

Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th January 2021 at 8.00 pm. The meeting will again be held remotely. The information for connecting to the meeting will be published on the Parish Council website.

The meeting was closed at 9.40pm.