

MINUTES OF THE PATTINGHAM AND PATSHULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 15TH JANUARY 2024 AT PATTINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: Mrs A Davies (Chairman), A Freeman (Vice Chairman), N Caine, M Finch, Mrs S Attwater, N Burton, N Land, J Tomlinson, L Billingham,

Also Present: Mrs J Cree, Mr W Read, SSDC Cllrs R Reade and Mrs V Wilson and County Councillor J Abrahams.

1/24. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies of absence were received from Cllrs P Dunn and N Hill.

2/24. Declarations of Councillors' Interest.

SSDC Cllr R Reade, declared any interest in relation to the Local Plan and any planning matters.

Cllr N Caine declared an interest in anything to do with the SPCA.

3/24. Public Forum - Democratic fifteen minute period / public question time.

Standing orders were raised to enable members of the public to speak.

Cllr R Reade left the meeting at this point.

Mr Robert Mercer addressed the Council in relation to the following points:-

The plan is going to go back to Committee in February, the reason for this is the change in the type of the lodges. From prefab type to wooden lodges. This is due to the way that the lodges are categorised under the caravan act.

The installation is with metal pile driving into the ground, with a metal structure and clad with wood, these do not require a concrete pad. This enables tree roots to be avoided easily. Minimum distance from the units to the trees would be subject to an arboricultural report but they would always try to avoid TPO areas.

The site layout initially was for 100 lodges and has reduced to 62 lodges, and they will be across the southern half of the golf course so as not to impact the existing mature trees. Lodges are closer together but still 20m apart. Planning wanted this to be on a smaller area. The temple will remain, and the hotel and car park will come down / be removed.

There is no idea of a phase 2, this is just for 1 phase they would welcome this to be written in to the application as a maximum of 62 and not allow anymore. Some of the cabins have been moved to avoid mature trees. Maximum 2 car parking spaces per lodge that's 3 bedroom, there will be some car parking at the retreat for when guests arrive, and the paths / drives will be gravel.

No trees have been removed or are planned to be.

Lodges mix from 4 to 1 bedroom, 3 are staff accommodation.

The planning officers have requested that the larger central facility be scaled down to encourage people to use local facilities instead.

Forest Holidays usually operate short breaks from Friday to Monday or Monday to Friday sometimes for weeks. They are only rental units only.

Footpaths – the Parish Council wanted circular footpaths and not come to a dead end. We would like to see footpaths from both Burnhill Green and Pattingham. The applicants are proposing an additional footpath to allow this to be a circular route. Pool Meadow footpath we were worried about it being a Bridle path, he has suggested that they carry straight on up to West Beech Road, and less likely to meet pedestrians. The land owner will maintain the footpaths and bridlepaths as he does now.

Sewage / Foul water, will put in a digester system if they can't go to mains.

The main benefits of this application would be :-

The Church will be have permanent access with some parking.

There should be less traffic than when the hotel was there.

Less square footage.

No tarmac car park.

Temple will be enhanced.

Northern end of the golf course, is being cut, this will be rewilded.

People will be able to enjoy the site from the local area.

The cost to build the site, will take about 18 months to build with a 20 million pound investment.

Employ 10 – 12 full time people and equivalent of 32 full time staff for cleaning, maintenance etc and 47 other jobs during construction using local trades people.

Support local businesses.

Improve footpaths.

Small bar / coffee type shop, with a small supplies shop open to the public.

They have a dark skies policy with minimal lights on the car parking spaces which are on a PIR sensor.

Concern was expressed over the number of toilets in the café and this should be checked.

Members thanked Mr Mercer for coming to speak to members it will be going to Planning in 24th February, then will go to secretary of state for approval as it is in the Greenbelt.

Standing orders were re-instated.

Cllr R Reade returned to the meeting.

4/24. To receive a report on crime statistics from the Police

The crime statistics report was not received in time for the meeting.

5/24. Presentation from Mr William Reed of the BKV Competition

Mr William Reed addressed the Council on the following points:-

2 judging rounds in May and June, with an extra judging in July. There are 75 points for BKV and 25 points for community spirit. He ran through the breakdown of the 75 points.

Community Spirit – 5 sections – how to improve on marks would be to add as much detail as possible onto the sections, i.e recruiting Community Speed-watch – details of how it runs, and stats; Allotments – Qty, how many are used, waiting list etc; Websites presentation evening of gardens and more details etc; Communication and connectivity 2 marks easy to get; Nature – tree planting more detail.

He has offered to walk around the village to help with the judging form to show us how to improve to get more marks.

The report for 2023 competition is detailed below:-

Pattingham has taken on board the comments for 2022, and achieved a higher standard in both aspects of the competition. The churchyard was excellent in both May and June, as

was the village hall. BKVC publicity was first class, so no resident or visitor would be unaware of the village's BKVC participation. Most private gardens were exemplary, with just a few requiring attention.

The following are aspects that would benefit from some attention:-

- 1 The children's poster display was excellent; possibly add the ages of the children in the future.
- 2 Small public open space in front of the bungalows and adjacent to Martin Thomas butcher's needed mowing and the bench needed repairing.
- 3 Ensure that notices etc on display in the noticeboards are up to date.

Community Spirit

The village submitted a detailed Community Spirit entry form, which demonstrated that a wide range of activities are available for residents. The entry form is divided into 5 sections, each worth 5 points, and a total for Community Spirit of 25%; the remaining 75% is for the judging of the village in May and June. To enhance the submission, it would be helpful to include more detail if possible. For example, a Community Award is given annually to a resident; details of the winner, and what they did for the community, could be included. Also, give more details about Community Speedwatch; how many volunteers are involved, how many sessions undertaken per annum, the number of speeding drivers identified, and warning letters sent by the Police etc.

Members thanked Mr Read for his time.

6/24. To receive for confirmation and adoption, the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th Dec 2023.

The minutes of the above meetings were accepted as an accurate record of those meetings.

7/24. County / District Councillors to address the Council on any matters relevant to the Parish

District Councillor Mrs V Wilson reported that:-

- The planning application for 50 dwellings on the nature reserve has been withdrawn.
- PCC and Chief Superintendent would be willing to come and talk to members if we wish them to come, it was agreed for them to be invited. Cllr R Reade thought it would be useful to have a discussion with the police to discuss issues with how the criminals work to inform residents to help fight crime.
- Community survey needs to be completed – Clerk to recirculate.
- Lower Penn Parish Council has experienced problems with Planning, and SSDC Planning officers did come out and talk to the Parish Councillors for a Q & A Session, they would also come to Pattingham if required. This helps for having a good response to applications that are inline with planning policies. SPCA are working on a training course and SSDC could work with them to do a good event / training session.
- Fly tipping – we do have covert cameras in the District, but Covert cameras have to have a court order before they can be installed. Cllr M Finch asked for figures on recent statistics.

County Councillor J Abrahams sent the following report below:-

- The report from last month was circulated. He does have some extra funding to do the potholes in the Greenway.
- In terms of flooding, he has a commitment to do the Green and try to get an issue with the flooding in the Parish. Cllr M Finch gave an update on the flooding on Westbeech and the High Street.
- New Burnhill Green Signs have been noted that they may obstruct some specific types of vehicles.
- Tarmacking in Burnhill Green is coming off in large amounts, needs to be reviewed.

It was agreed that the Clerk write with a FOI request to ask for how many tickets have been issued in Pattingham and how long wardens have been in the area over the past 3 years.

8/24. To discuss General Maintenance for Pattingham and Burnhill Green (inc fp maint. and Lengths Mans work).

It was agreed for the Clerk to get a cost to extend the footpath behind the tennis courts to down the bank, and to get footpath only signs for the Millenium Footpath following horses using the path from Staffordshire County Council.

9/24. Update on Community Speedwatch

Cllr Mrs S Attwater reported that to date:-

- she has had 1 person that has come forward who will do Pattingham / another area
- 1 person will do it outside the area
- She will do outside the area also
- Cllr J Tomlinson will do Pattingham area also
- There may be 2 other people that came forward to a Council meeting and she will go and meet her and discuss it further.

Cllr Mrs v Wilson stated that you only need 2 people to undertake run a session of the Speedwatch, and to operate the speed device, the locations must be pre-approved by the Police and the operators must be safe. There must be enough visibility of 200m.

Community Speed-watch provide some signage (but additional signs at cost are available and grants may be available), if they put them on the entrances, they don't have to put them up each time they go out to monitor the speed.

This is ongoing.

10/24. To discuss a request for improving yellow lines and dangerous parking within the Parish

Cllr Mrs S Attwater expressed her concerns over the parking by the church the lines need to be extended around the corner. It was agreed to write to the County Councillor to raise this with him and also contact the church and raise concerns of the Parish.

11/24. To discuss re-instating the Bike Track and agreeing to preparing a tender for quotes

Ongoing concern was expressed over the access to the area of the former bike track if it was reopened, as since it was up and running many years ago the surrounding area has been developed with £60,000+ of investment in the football pitch alone which is next to the site.

In the near area there is now a scooter / skateboard park, MUGA, Tennis Courts, Childrens Park, gym equipment. In addition, if access was from Westbeech Road, there would be young people riding down the road, which is already causing concern with parking and speeding traffic, the access to the site this way would be down quite a slope. It was felt that access would then be taken across the football pitch and down the slopes of the park to get into the track, causing damage to the surface over time. It would be difficult to put in pathways / fencing to protect the area as access could come from many directions.

In light of the concerns above it was proposed by Cllr Mrs A Davies that members need to decide as to whether to go ahead and reinstate the bike track and go to tender, this was seconded by Cllr N Caine on a vote this was not carried with 6 votes against and 3 votes for. Therefore the Council will not go forward with this project at this time.

12/24. To discuss projects for the future and development

Cllr A Freeman prepared the following report for discussion following the topic being raised at a previous council meeting:-

Pattingham and Patshull Parish Council

Development plan 2023-2027:

- *Clean up the Village*

Work with the lenthmans to keep the village clean and tidy all year round

To continue to improve in the annual Best Kept Village competition. Work with partners and shareholders to ensure this

- *Road safety*

Endeavour to set up a Road Safety Action Group for Pattingham.

Work with other Parish Councils in our Locality (Perton, Codsall and Bilbrook) to work collobaretly to ensure this achieved.

Work with the Authority's i.e Police and District Council to ensure the results of the Action Group have a material result

- *Communication*

Continue to communicate on Social Media and digital channels to not only give out notices and information but news on how we spend the Precept and how we are transforming the Council to better engage with residents.

- *Climate change*

As a rural Parish Council we face acute challenges in relation to extreme weather. One of the key issues is flooding; this can at times see roads flooding, drains blocked but also due some properties proximity to farmland and a floodplain they are also flooded and blocked.

We will continue to work with our partners to ensure a long-term solution is found.

It was agreed to discuss this further and have a plan in place for May to move forward for the remainder of the Council term. This to be an agenda for the next meeting.

13/24. Report from the Clerk

.gov.uk emails

The Clerk has attended a Cyber training from SSDC which is free for Parish Councils, the second phase of the training took place on the 29th November. In the training it was raised the importance of having separate email addresses from personal Cllr ones, and that the .gov.uk was the most secure. The trainer and SPCA are developing a policy to circulate to Parish Council for them to adopt and move this forward.

The costs for .gov.uk domain registration for your Council would be £120 every 2 years, in addition would be a monthly cost per email.

It was proposed by Cllr N Caine and seconded by Cllr A Freeman to buy the domain name and set up the emails for all Cllrs. On a vote 6 for so this was carried.

Have your say on the amount you pay towards Policing and Fire & Rescue Services in Staffordshire

SIDS – Recoded interest with partially SSDC funding for 2 poles and a sign.

It was agreed for the church to have use of Playing Fields for Church Fete on 6th July 2024.

Parish Summitt 1st February 24 – Cllrs M Finch is attending.

Planning Applications

23/01012/FULHH - Proposal: Single storey side and rear extension and porch - Location: 2 New Buildings Cottages Wolverhampton Road Nurton – this was noted.

14/24. Accounts for Payment.

The accounts for payment was agreed as detailed below:-

723801	A Horton	Gardening	£170.00
723802	J Cree	January salary	£746.44
723803	HMRC	January payment	£210.53
723804	Cancelled		
723805	Lengthsmans Work	November	£600.00
723806	Cleaning Changing rooms	Nov / Dec	£30.00
723807	Burnhill Green Xmas Light Switch on		£59.78
723808	Pattingham Xmas Lunch		£2500.00
723809	Pattingham Village Hall	Xmas event donation	£50.00
723710	R H Electrical Ltd	Xmas lights test and put up	£3609.60
723711	Ditton Services	Grass cutting November	£600.00
723712	VEG Ltd	Testing Xmas lights	£366.00
723713	J R K	New laptop (£599 net)	£718.80
723714	Christmas Competition winner		£50.00
723715	A Horton	Feb Gardening	£170.00
723716	J Lines	Lengthsmans Work	£300.00
723717	HMRC	Feb 24	£210.53
723718	J Cree	Feb 24	£746.44
DD	Water Plus		£34.80

DD	EE	Mobile phone	£22.80
DD	Utility warehouse	Electric for changing rooms	£80.81

15/24. Items for future Meetings

To be with the Clerk by the 26th February 24, footpath extension, 4 year plan, neighbourhood plan.

16/24. Dates of Next Meetings

4 th March 2024	Burnhill Green, Crown Rooms	
15 th April 2024	Pattingham Village Hall	(apm / normal meeting)
13 th May 2024	Pattingham Village Hall	