

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF LONGDON HELD
IN THE CANNOCK WOOD AND GENTLESHAW VILLAGE HALL,
BUDS ROAD, CANNOCK WOOD, ON TUESDAY, MARCH 13TH, 2012

Present: Cllr. Mrs. G. D. Duckett (Chairman); Cllr. B. J. Butler; Cllr. R. A. G. Clarke;
Cllr. P. M. Couchman; Cllr. A. J. Juxon; Cllr. Mrs. H. A. Meere;
Cllr. M. J. Nash; Cllr. K. C. Taylor; and Cllr. S. K. Welch.

Also present were the Clerk and Cllr. N. J. Roberts, Lichfield District Council.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr. C. D. Cherry; Cllr. C. J. Webb; and County Councillor F. W. Lewis, MBE.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting, held in the W. I. Hall, Longdon, on Tuesday, February 14th, 2012, were, on a motion proposed by Cllr. Juxon and seconded by Cllr. Nash, approved and signed.

3. REVIEW OF CURRENT PRACTICES AGAINST RISK ASSESSMENT REGISTER

It was agreed that these should be reviewed during the course of the meeting.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No member of the public was present, neither had any parishioner attended the consultation session immediately before the meeting, at which Cllr. Mrs. Meere and Cllr. Nash had been present.

It was agreed that a consultation session should be held before the next meeting and that Cllr. Couchman and Cllr. Taylor would attend, and that, if no-one came to that session, no more sessions would be held.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(i) Kicking-Rail outside No. 71 Upper Way, Upper Longdon

The Clerk reported that he had still not received a reply from the Community Highway Liaison Manager, nor had there yet been a response to the other issues which he had raised with Mr. Rayson.

(ii) Lighting in High Street and Stockings Lane

The Clerk reported that he had received from Glen Hook, Principal Lighting Engineer, Lighting and ITS, Staffordshire County Council, a letter dated 29th February 2012, in which he explained that Staffordshire County Council was almost nine year into a twenty-five-year street lighting Private Finance Initiative contract, the primary aim of which was to address existing street lighting that was structurally defective or age-expired, but that, unfortunately, due to the County Council's commitment to this project, there were very limited funds to provide any additional lighting.

However, the Parish Council's request would be added to the Divisional Highway Programme which brought together the vast number of requests received by the County Council with a view to prioritizing local issues. The programme was reviewed on a six-monthly basis, and all requests were considered by the highway team and the appropriate County Councillor to ensure that local priorities were met and delivered within financial realities.

Staffordshire County Council often worked in partnership with parish councils to facilitate the delivery of such assets, and, if Longdon Parish Council wanted to make a financial contribution to the scheme, they should get back in touch with him.

(iii) Litter in Upper Longdon

The Clerk reported that he emailed Emma Beaman-Green, AONB Assistant, Cannock Chase AONB Unit, to ask her whether her organisation regarded the clearance of litter from parking spaces on the edge of the Chase as its responsibility or the responsibility of the local authority but, to date, had had no response.

(iv) Planning

Referring the Council's response to the planning application relating to "Bankside", Cllr. Taylor pointed out that it was "Bankside" which occupied an elevated site, not the properties on either side.

The Clerk apologised for the misunderstanding and said that he would submit an amendment to the comments immediately.

(v) Visit of Neighbourhood Highways Team

It was suggested that the cleaning of roadside signs and the clearance of Church Hill should be included amongst the tasks carried out by the Neighbourhood Highways Team on their next visit.

(vi) Storage of Council Documents

The Clerk reported that he had taken the past minutes of Council meetings to the County Record Office for safe storage, retaining only the minutes dating from January 2010.

He pointed out that the minutes dating back to 2004 were available for consultation by members of the public on the Parish Council's website.

(vii) Pot Holes in Borough Lane

It was noted that a highways team had been patching pot holes in Borough Lane, Thorley Hill and Dollymakers Hill.

6. PLANNING

(i) Planning Committee Report

12/00181/COU: Mr. J. Haden: Conversion of outbuilding to a one-bedroom holiday let: Churchfield Cottage, Smithy Lane, Longdon

There were serious concerns about this application.

Experience had shown that this was often a first step towards eventually creating an independent dwelling in the Green Belt.

Smithy Lane was a narrow, winding country lane, once threatened with closure because of the presence of a badger sett (still occupied), and an additional access was not, in the Parish Council's view, desirable.

(ii) For Consideration

There were no further applications for the Council to consider.

(iii) Approved by Lichfield District Council

The Clerk reported that, since the last meeting, Lichfield District Council had issued the following Notice of Planning Permission:

11/01441/FUL: Mr. and Mrs. I. Dayson: Single-storey extension to form dining-room and demolition of porch and bay window: Brereton Cross House, Bardy Lane, Longdon

(iv) Refused by Lichfield District Council

The Clerk reported that, since the last meeting, Lichfield District Council had issued no Notice of Refusal of Planning Permission relating to the Parish of Longdon

(v) Other Planning Matters

(a) Certificate of Lawful Use or Development

The Clerk reported that he had received from Baj Nahal, Legal Services Manager, Democratic, Development and Legal Services, Lichfield District Council, a copy of a Certificate of Lawful Use or Development issued on 31st January 2012, confirming that the proposed obscure, glazed dormer window extension at No. 8 Brook End, Longdon, fell within Schedule 2, Part 1, Class B, of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as amended) and therefore would be lawful.

(b) “The Swan with Two Necks”

The Clerk reported that he had received from Ben Rayner, Planning Consultant, GMP Design Associates, Rugeley, an email dated 13th March 2012 explaining that he needed to postpone his visit to the Council that evening, since the original plans for the development of the pub had been substantially modified, and asking for an alternative date.

The Clerk was instructed to respond by inviting him to the next meeting, though it was noted that this would be taking place on Easter Tuesday, when Mr. Rayner might be on holiday.

7. REPORTS OF MEETINGS(i) SPCA Seminar on Planning Changes

Cllr. Juxon reported on a seminar presented by the Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association on planning changes which had been held in the County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford, on March 7th and which he and the Clerk had attended.

Unfortunately, as the result of a technical hitch, Viv Evans, the Association's Chief Executive, who was presenting the seminar, was unable to screen the slide show on which her talk should have been based, but she was nonetheless able to outline the changes verbally, and a DVD of the slides had been subsequently sent to all participants.

However, Cllr. Juxon believed that the presentation given at the District Council Forum on which Cllr. Nash had reported and the presentation given to the Council by Clare Eggington had been more illuminating.

It was agreed that the earlier proposal that the Council should consider preparing a Parish Plan should be re-activated that the Clerk should try and arrange a presentation by Counter Context, the firm of consultants based in Sheffield, who were specialists in this field.

(ii) Diamond Jubilee Steering Committee

The Chairman reported on a meeting of the Diamond Jubilee Steering Committee which had taken place at her home, 6 Church Way, on the same evening, March 7th, at which the outline programme for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations had been agreed.

The event would take place on the field behind the Longdon Memorial Hall on Monday, June 4th, from 2. 00 p.m. till 9. 30 p.m.

There would be activities throughout the day, which would include games such as “Splat the Rat”, throwing a beanbag through a royal mouth and pinatas; activities such as badge-making and face-painting; displays of birds of prey and model aircraft-flying; pony rides; and inflatable bouncy castle.

Competitions would include welly-wanging, tug-of-war, skittles and a table quiz about the Queen's reign.

Villagers would be encouraged to bring their own food and drink, but tea, coffee and cakes would be available and the Club bar would be open. Tables would be provided.

Recorded music from across the sixty years of the Queen's reign would be played throughout the day, but live music would accompany the evening barbecue.

The event would end with a firework display at about 9. 30 p.m.

Between 10. 00 a.m. and 4. 00 p.m., the Women's Institute would be holding an exhibition in the W. I. Hall of pictures and memorabilia from across the sixty years, both of local and national interest. Tea and scones would be available.

So far, £347. 37 had been spent of the £500. 00 allocated by the Parish Council on trophies, banners, balloons, skittles crowns, face-paints and the bouncy castle, but more prizes were still needed.

Stewards would be needed throughout the day.

In addition to supervising the pony rides, Lynn Marshall would be leading a parish walk on the following day.

(iii) Other meetings

Cllr. Clarke reported on a meeting of the Governors of Gentleshaw Primary School which had taken place on March 8th.

There had been a successful start to the Before-and-After Club and a good attendance at the recent Parents' Day.

The School's level of attainment in Mathematics, Reading and Writing was significantly above the national average.

The School was prepared to plant and maintain Gentleshaw Green.

Cllr. Clarke reminded the Council of its commitment to contribute £500 towards the cost of the traverse wall, which had been installed at the School before Christmas at a final cost of £1376, £24 below the estimated cost.

It was agreed that a cheque for £500 should be sent to the School without delay.

The Chairman reported that St. James School was looking into the possibility of providing a 'wrap-around' service offering nursery and after-school care. The proposal had been put out to parents and the School was seeking bids.

There was concern that this would affect both Longdon Pre-School and Longdon Village Hall, the Pre-School being a major contributor to the income of the Hall, though the Pre-School staff, already accredited and ODFSTED-approved, might be employed by the School if the proposal went ahead.

8. NOTICE OF MEETING

The Clerk reported that he had received notice of an SPCA training course on VAT, which would be taking place in The White Room, County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford, on Thursday, March 15th, 2012, from 7. 00 p.m. until 9. 00 p.m.

The fee for affiliated councils was £20. 00 for the first delegate, £15. 00 for the second and £10 for subsequent delegates.

This course would be repeated on March 31st.

9. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

(i) Community Paths Initiative Bid 2012/2013

The Clerk reminded the Council that bids for grants needed to be submitted by the end of the month.

Cllr. Juxon suggested that the Council might bid for a grant towards the cost of further footpath leaflets, since more walks were under consideration, and it was agreed that a bid should be submitted, the details to be decided by Cllr. Juxon and the Clerk.

Cllr. Juxon added that the present leaflets were now with the printers, The Benhill Press, of Rugeley, and he expected them to be ready by the end of the month, at which time the Council would be expected to have spent the grant given towards the project by the County Council.

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Butler and seconded by Cllr. Welch, it was agreed that, if the printer's invoice were received before the end of the month, it should be paid forthwith, provided that it did not exceed £1000, the value of the County Council's grant.

Cllr. Juxon reminded the Council that the printer had quoted a total figure of £987. 00 for printing 1000 copies of each of the five leaflets.

(ii) Two Saints Way

The Clerk reported that he had received by email the February 2012 Two Saints Way Newsletter, together with details of the inaugural walk, which would be taking place between Sunday, March 25th, and Sunday, April 1st, starting at Chester Cathedral and finishing at St. Chad's Well, Lichfield.

He suggested that the walk, which passed through the parish, would be an opportunity to meet David Pott, the organiser of the walk and inspirer of the entire project.

(iii) PSMA User Group – Local Government (England) Area 3 seat

The Clerk reported that he had received from Elizabeth Seaman, Public Sector Mapping Agreement, Innovation Directorate, Department for Business and Innovation and Skills, London SW, an email dated 2nd March 2012, informing the Council that, as there was only one candidate for the above vacancy, there would be no need for an election, the successful candidate being Steve Campbell, from the Borough of Poole.

He had subsequently received an email from Mr. Campbell dated 5th March 2012, in which Mr. Campbell had given some background about himself and committed himself to answering any questions or queries from members and to helping to escalate any issues they might have.

10. GREENS AND OPEN SPACES

(i) Registering Brook End

Cllr. Clarke updated the Council on the progress which he had made in registering Brook End Green with the Land Registry.

Having previously rung seven estate agents for a quote, he had met Laura Brown, of Burchell Edwards, who had submitted the lowest quote of £50 plus VAT, on Brook End Green the previous Friday and was now awaiting her valuation of the Green, both as a village green and as a site with a potential for development.

The Clerk had, on his behalf, submitted a request to Land Registry for a search of eight names of interested parties whom he had found recorded on the deeds of the Green, and was awaiting a reply.

He had established with Staffordshire County Council that the land had indeed been registered as a green and appeared in the County Council's records simply as "No. 9"; he was, however, intending to visit Stafford to confirm this.

At the conclusion of his report, Cllr. Clarke was warmly thanked by his fellow Councillors for carrying out this research so assiduously on behalf of the Council.

11. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

(i) Progress Report on Website Update

Cllr. Clarke then gave the Council a report on the progress being made in updating the Parish Website. Pages had been tested and changes had been given to Eric Roy.

Some "Services" pages would be added later, as well as the footpath leaflets when available.

He expected the change-over from the existing website to the new website to be completed by the end of the month.

There would be some new additions, including the Brownies, the Jam Club and the Cannock Wood & Gentleshaw Whist Club.

12. LAW AND ORDER

(i) Forthcoming Changes to the Governance of Policing

The Clerk reported that he had received from Damon Taylor, Chief Executive, Staffordshire Police Authority, a letter dated 7th March 2012, informing the Council that one of the provisions of The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act, which had received Royal Assent last September, was the abolition of Police Authorities and their replacement by directly-elected Police and Crime Commissioners.

Elections for these Commissioners would be held on 15th November 2012, and they would take office a week later on 22nd November 2012, when the existing Police Authorities would cease to exist.

All those on the electoral role in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent would be eligible to vote.

A newsletter had been enclosed with the letter setting out the key facts and further information on the changes were available on the Authority's website at www.staffordshirepoliceauthority.org.uk/commissioners, which also provided a link to the Home Office website.

(ii) Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr. Taylor reported that he had received the latest newsletter, which had contained information about Staffordshire Police's new communications system, called Online Watch Link.

Known for short as OWL, it could be used to circulate messages to Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators.

(iii) Police Surgery

The Clerk reported that he had received notice that the next police surgery would take place in the car park of Longdon Village Hall on Saturday, March 17th, between 1. 30 p.m. and 2. 30 p.m.

13. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Entry into this year's competition was confirmed.

The Clerk said that he would inspect notice-boards, seats and benches and report on their condition at the next meeting.

14. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(i) Accounts for Payment

On a motion proposed by Cllr. Butler and seconded by Cllr. Juxon, payment of the following accounts was approved:

| | | |
|---|---|----------|
| *Land Registry | Search Fee | £ 8. 00 |
| Longdon W. I. | Hire of Hall: February 22nd | £ 12. 00 |
| Cannock Wood & Gentleshaw Village Hall Management Committee | Hire of Room: March 13 th | £ 20. 00 |
| W. B. Sullivan | Clerk's Salary | £210. 00 |
| HM Revenue & Customs | Employers Tax | £140. 00 |
| W. B. Sullivan | <u>Clerk's Expenses</u> Photocopyings: £98. 14 Postage: £27. 58 | £125. 72 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------|
| #Gina Duckett | Half-Head Crowns: £38.51 | |
| | Face-Painting Kits: £ 9.58 | |
| | Postage: £ 4.16 | |
| | VAT: <u>£10.46</u> | |
| | £62. 71 | |
| | Badges: £25. 00 | |
| | Carriage: £ 8. 50 | |
| | VAT: <u>£ 6. 70</u> | |
| | £40. 20 | |
| | | £102. 91 |
| | (Jubilee Account) | |
| E. A. Roy | Hosting and Support of Website | £130. 00 |
| Lichfield District Council | <u>Parish Elections: May 11th, 2011</u> | |
| | Net Total: £312. 62 | |
| | VAT: £ 00. 00 | |
| | | £312. 62 |
| Campaign to Protect Rural England | Donation | £ 20. 00 |
| Community Council of Staffordshire | 2 BKV Entry Fees @ £15. 00: £30. 00 | |
| | 15 A4 Posters @ 15p each: £ 2. 25 | |
| | 550 A5 Posters @ 7p each: £38. 50 | |
| | | £ 70. 75 |
| Gentleshaw Primary School | Contribution towards the cost of traverse wall | £500. 00 |

(*confirmation #payment made under Section 137)

(ii) Payments Received

The Clerk reported that, since the last meeting, the Council had received the following payment:

| | | |
|---------|------------------------|---------|
| Halifax | Gross Interest: £8. 29 | |
| | Less 20% Tax: £1. 66 | |
| | | £ 6. 63 |

The Clerk said that he would be seeking re-imburement of the tax, for which the Council was not liable.

(iii) Current Balances

The Clerk reported that, currently, the Council's accounts stood as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------|
| NatWest c/a: | £558. 96 | The Halifax s/a: | £5039. 33 |
| <u>less uncleared cheque:</u> | | | |
| | 1677: £ 36. 00 | | |
| | £522. 96 | | |

(iv) Requests for Grant Aid(a) CHAPS (Cannock Arts in Public Places)

The Clerk reported that he had received from Sheila J. Harding, Secretary, CHAPS, a letter dated 28th February 2012, giving details for the final phase of the Hednesford Miners Memorial and plans to link it with the original Miners Lamp and Wall of Bricks in Hednesford, and asking whether Longdon Parish Council would consider making a contribution to the cost.

However, it was agreed that, as there was no connection or association between Hednesford and the Parish of Longdon, the Council had no powers to make such a donation.

(b) Longdon Women's Institute

The Chairman reported that she had received from Diane Howells, Secretary of Longdon Women's Institute, a letter dated 3rd March 2012 asking if the Parish Council would consider making a donation of £250 towards the cost of decorating and replacing the floor covering of the Hall toilets.

In response, the Chairman had asked Mrs. Howells to submit a Grant Application Form, which the Clerk had subsequently delivered to her, but, so far, this had not been received.

15. CORRESPONDENCE SINCE LAST MEETING

(i) The Clerk reported that he had received from Annette Johnson, Secretary, Cannock Wood & Gentleshaw Village Hall Management Committee, a letter dated 22nd February 2012, thanking the Parish Council for its donation of £500 towards the cost of replacing ceiling tiles and improving the lighting at the Hall.

(ii) The Clerk reported receiving from Cllr. Mike Maryon, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, Staffordshire County Council, a letter dated 28th February 2012, offering the assistance of the County Council's Community Highway Liaison Officers in advising Parish Councils planning to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on the most appropriate locations of community tributes within the highway and guidance on such things as suitable tree species and aftercare.

(iii) The Clerk reported that he had received from Clare Eggington, Principal Development Plans Officer, Democratic, Development and Legal Services, Lichfield District Council, a letter dated 29th February 2012, advising the Parish Council that the District Council was currently consulting on a playing pitch strategy covering playing pitch and playing fields needs for the District.

The strategy, which the Council intended to adopt in Summer 2012, could be viewed at www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/evidence, and comments would need to be submitted by 5 p.m. on Monday, April 16th, 2012, preferably through the Council's consultation centre at <http://lichfield-consult.limehouse.co.uk>, by email to developmentplans@lichfielddc.gov.uk or by letter to Mrs. Eggington at District Council House.

16. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk reported that, in addition to the above, he had received the following communications:

- (i) From Heather Gibbons, Democratic and Legal Services Officer, Democratic, Development and Legal Services, Lichfield District Council:

Calendar of Meetings, fortnight ending 26th February 2012;
Calendar of Meetings, fortnight ending 11th March 2012;
Revised Calendar of Meetings, fortnight ending 11th March 2012;
Forward Plan – Version 1 – Issued 15. 02. 2012 – Effective for the Period
01. 03. 2012 – 30. 06. 2012.

- (ii) From Sally Duckett, Licensing Officer, Democratic, Development and Legal Services, Lichfield District Council:

Licensing Act Applications registered during w/e 10th February 2012;
Licensing Act Applications registered during w/e 17th February 2012;
Licensing Act Applications registered during w/e 24th February 2012;
Licensing Act Applications registered during w/e 2nd March 2012.

- (iii) From Karen Travers, Admin Officer - Electoral Services, Lichfield District Council:

Register of Electors – Notice of Alterations (March 2012).

- (iv) From Jan. Wright, Administration Assistant, Lichfield and District Community and Voluntary Support Sector:

S3SN - E Bulletin - Issue No. 5/12 - 9th February 2012;
S3SN - E Bulletin - Issue No. 6/12 - 16th February 2012;
S3SN - E Bulletin - Issue No. 7/12 - 23rd February 2012;
S3SN - E Bulletin - Issue No. 8/12 - 1st March 2012.

(v) From The Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association:

Standards (extract from DEFRA letter which details the timetable for the implementation of the new standards routine;
SPCA Update (23rd February 2012);
East Midlands Ambulance Service – Clinical Bulletin (Jequirity Bean Bracelets);
Users of Apple iTunes – Scam Warning;
SPCA Update (7th March 2012);
Staffordshire LINK.

(vi) From The National Association of Local Councils:

“LCR”: Spring 2012, Volume 64, No. 4.

(vii) From The Community Council of Staffordshire:

Rural Survey.

(viii) From Staffordshire Police:

Smartwater Searchlight – Issue 11.

(ix) From The Secretary, Cannock Wood and Gentleshaw Village Hall Management Committee;

Minutes of meeting held on Monday, 30th January 2012;
Agenda for meeting to be held on Monday, 27th February 2012;
Copy of letter to Head Teacher of Gentleshaw Primary School.

(x) From The Secretary, Beaudesert Sports Field and Recreation Trust:

Minutes of meeting held on Monday, 23rd January, 2012.

(xi) From Emma Beaman-Green, Assistant AONB Officer, Cannock Chase AONB:

Cannock Chase AONB February E-Newsletter.

(xii) From The Open Spaces Society:

“Open Space” (Spring 2012, Volume 30, No. 3).

(xiii) From The Rural Services Network, Tavistock, Devon:

Weekly Email News Digest – 13th February 2012;
Weekly Email News Digest – 20th February 2012;
Online Newsletter – March 2012,

(xiv) From The Historic Towns Forum:

February 2012 e-news;

Seminar: "Understanding Localism" – 21st February 2012.

Seminar: "Retail, the high street review and the revivification of historic cores" – 23rd March 2012.

(Both these seminars were being held at Bircham Dyson Bell, Broadway, London SW)

(xv) From Marie Hitchen/Martin Taylor, Sustainable Gov.:

Focus on Teignbridge Council's sustainability efforts;

"Would financial transaction tax cripple London economy?"

(xvi) From Ordnance Survey:

PSMA User Group elections – call for nominations.

(xvii) From Luke Shaw, Play Space Consultant, eibe Play:

Developing Community Spaces for Children in 2012.

(xviii) From Insignia Limited, Wallington, Surrey:

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Commemorative Items.

(xix) From imember Media Group, Salford:

The Future of Cyber Security Conference 2012: 19th March 2012
- last 30 VIP delegate places remaining.

(xx) From furniture@work, Sittingbourne, Kent:

Catalogue - March 2012 Issue.

(xxi) From Stephanie Chambers, S & S Playground Equipments Ltd., Aylesbury, Bucks.:

Excellent Value Play Equipment from Safe and Sound.

(xxii) From HAGS, Sturminster Newton, Dorset:

HAGS launch a new funding services

("Play is not a game. It's an entire science...").

(xxiii) From Straightforward Solutions, Packington Hayes, Lichfield:

The Perfect Match

("From creative design artwork to print managed, Straightforward Solutions could tick all the boxes for your marketing equipment").

(xxiv) From Sue Perry, Customer Support, The Parking Shop, Castle Ashby, Northants.:

Jubilee and Olympic Games Celebrations
("The Parking Shop is the one-stop shop for your celebration requirements").

(xxv) From Sutcliffe Play:

Sutcliffe Play Spring Offer.

(xxvi) From SSP Water & Play, Odiham, Hants.:

"Change a Child's World without it costing the Earth"
(Creative play solutions).

(xxvii) From GOPAK, Hythe, Kent:

Card; Folding Furniture.

(xxviii) From Deborah Craddock, Safe Consultancy Services Ltd., Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottingham:

("Safe Consultancy Services Ltd. is a new company established to provide a comprehensive range of fund-raising and business consultancy services to a wide range of organisations....").

17. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

(i) It was agreed that this year's Annual Assembly should take place on Tuesday, April 24th, and should commence at 7. 45 p.m.

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Head Teacher of St. James School, asking her if the School Hall could once again be used for this event.

At Cllr. Welch's suggestion, it was agreed that the Council should invite Michael Street, of The Friends of Beaudesert, to talk at the meeting on the history and ecology of Beaudesert Park.

It was further agreed that, if Mr. Street were unable to speak, a representative of the company manufacturing Smartwater, the colourless liquid solution used to protect property against theft, would be invited to give a presentation on the product.

(ii) Cllr. Butler asked when the seat which he had requested for siting on the verge at the top of Grange Hill would be erected.

The Chairman reminded him that it had already received the approval of the Council and invited him to decide the kind of seat he wanted and to obtain an estimate of the cost.

The Clerk said that he would invite Alan Johnson to quote for making and erecting the bench.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, April 10th, 2012, in the W. I. Hall, Ford Lane, Longdon, commencing at 7. 30 p.m.

