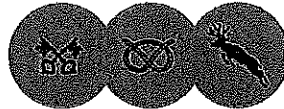


Hednesford Town Council



Gateway to the Chase

6 September 2017

Dear Councillor

A Meeting of the Town Council will be held at 7:30 pm on Tuesday 12 September 2017 at Pye Green Community Centre, Bradbury Lane, Hednesford. You are invited to attend for consideration of the matters shown on the agenda

Yours sincerely

Peter Harrison
Town Council Manager/Clerk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public are invited to address the council and ask questions before the meeting begins

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Chairman's Announcements
4. Minutes – to approve the minutes of the Meeting held on 1 August 2017
(enclosed **pages 11 to 16 of 2017-18**)
5. Casual Vacancy
The casual vacancy arising from the resignation of Mrs L Whitehouse has been advertised in the prescribed manner and no electors have demanded a poll. As a consequence the Council can co-opt a person to fill the vacancy. The term of office will be until the next ordinary election of Town Councillors in 2019

Peter Harrison JP BA (Hons) Town Council Manager/Clerk
Pye Green Community Centre Bradbury Lane Hednesford Staffordshire WS12 4EP
peter.harrison@hednesford-tc.gov.uk
Tel: 01543 424872 Skype: HTC.clerk

6. Report of the Town Council Manager/Clerk

To consider the following:

a) Planning

To confirm the action of the Town Council Manager/Clerk in consultation with the principal speaker in submitting observations on planning applications (enclosed **agenda page 1 to 2**)

b) Neighbourhood Plan Update

c) Hednesford in Partnership

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2017 (enclosed **agenda pages 3 to 5**)

d) Heart of Hednesford

To receive notes of a meetings held on 9 August 2017 (enclosed **agenda pages 6 to 8**)

e) World War 1 Project Group

To note the proposals for the Battle's Over March to take place on 10 November 2018 (enclosed **agenda page 9**) and to receive the notes of the meeting held on 16 June 2017 (enclosed **agenda pages 10 to 15**)

f) CCTV

To receive CCTV monitoring report for July 2017 (enclosed **agenda page 16**)

7. Members Items

8. Items for Information and next agenda

9. To resolve that the public be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

10. Confidential Report of the Town Council Manager/Clerk

To consider the situation regarding staffing arrangements at Pye Green Community Centre

HEDNESFORD TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD AT 7:30 pm ON TUESDAY 1 AUGUST 2017

AT PYE GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE, HEDNESFORD

PRESENT: Cllrs. A Pearson (Chairman), B Gamble (Vice-Chairman),
Mrs S Cartwright, D J Davis and Mrs D Grice

(Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs S Cartwright and
C Mitchell)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P Harrison (Town Council Manager/Clerk) County Cllr P
Hewitt, District Cllr P Woodhead, Mr D Wisehall (Heart of Hednesford) and 3 members of
the public

In a change to the usual arrangements the Chairman advised that he would be dealing
with his announcements before allowing public discussions and questions and he would
then formally open the Council Meeting

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since the last Town Council Meeting there had been deaths of two local stalwarts - father
and son, John and Graham Burnett

John had been active in local politics for many years serving as a Hednesford member of
Cannock Chase Council and having the honour to be its Chairman from 2003 to 2004

Graham had also been a district councillor representing Hednesford and only as recently
as May this year he had been elected as a county councillor for the Hednesford and
Rawnsley division

He would be remembered for promoting environmental concerns and gave great support
to the Friends of Hednesford Park and Hednesford in Partnership. The Chairman had
written to the family to express deepest condolences on behalf of the Town Council and
had attended their funerals

Members stood and observed a moments silence as a mark of respect

Hednesford Park

The Chairman had written to Cannock Chase Council and the Friends of Hednesford
Park to thank them for all the work they had done to improve the park and to
congratulate them on receiving the Green Flag Award

Hednesford Salvation Army

On Sunday 23 July the Chairman had represented the Council at a service to mark the
installation of Captains Richard and Kathryn Reynolds at the Hednesford Salvation Army

St. Peter's Primary School

The Chairman had written to the Headteacher to congratulate her and the staff and pupils after the school had been declared outstanding following a recent inspection

Hednesford Valley High School

The Chairman had contacted the Headteacher to congratulate the school on achieving its 10th anniversary and to being ranked good by Ofsted

Staffordshire Regiment Book

On 25 July Council Members and representatives of the Staffordshire Regiment Association met with Mr J Elson who had given information on the book he had compiled about the Regiment in World War I. Mr Elson gave the Chairman another book on the South Staffordshire Regiment in the Boer War. As a mark of thanks the Chairman had been delighted to present to him a Town Council plate

The Canals of Hednesford

The Chairman was pleased to report that the Council's Heritage Spokesperson (Cllr D J Davis) would be giving a talk on the canals of Hednesford. This would take place on 5 September 2017

Hednesford Festival

The Chairman reminded members that the Festival would be taking place on Saturday 12 August. There would be an artisan market in the Town Centre and a Road Closure would be in force all day. A multitude of events and entertainment was to be held in the park starting at 12 noon

Friends of Hednesford Park

The Town Council had been advised that the AGM of the Friends of Hednesford Park would be held at 7 pm on 21 September 2017 at the Aquarius

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr D Wiseshall displayed photographs of litter problems in the Town Centre. It was proposed that the Town Council write to the managers of the larger retail/commercial premises in the town asking them to clear up their sites. A resident of Eskrett Street made reference to the high speed of traffic in Eskrett Street where there were no traffic calming measures. County Cllr Hewitt agreed to make enquiries in to this matter. Reference was also made to a similar problem in Bradbury Lane. This would be raised again with the police who, in the past, had agreed to undertake speed checks

1 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2017 were approved as a correct record subject to the name of Cllr D J Davis being deleted from the list of apologies

2 CASUAL VACANCY

It was reported that Mrs L Whitehouse had resigned as a Town Councillor and the vacancy had been notified in the usual way

3 REPORT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MANAGER/CLERK

Consideration was given to this report:

RESOLVED:

- a) Planning
That the action of the Town Council Manager/Clerk in consultation with the principal speaker in submitting observations on planning applications shown at Annex 1 be confirmed and that it be noted with concern that the County Council had plans approved for a new school on land west of Pye Green Road without addressing the Town and District Councils concerns regarding lack of car parking
- b) Neighbourhood Plan
That it be noted that the Strategic Environmental Assessment was being finalised following which a further period of statutory consultation would take place
- c) Heart of Hednesford
That the notes of meetings held on 14 June and 12 July 2017 be received and the action taken by the Town Manager/Clerk in agreeing for the Town Council to sponsor a project to landscape the bank at the Co-op car park in order to acquire the plans required by Groundwork be confirmed
- d) WW1 Project Group
That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2017 be received and that it be noted that Cannock Chase Council was proposing to give the Freedom of the District to RAFA in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the formation of the RAF
- e) Staffordshire Subsidised Bus review Consultation
That the Council support option 1
- f) Town Centre Flags
That it be noted that the Town Council Manager/Clerk had attempted to contact the Chair of Traders on several occasions regarding this matter but no reply had been received
- g) Governance of Fire and Rescue Services Consultation
That the Council support option 1 (no change) on the basis that the Fire and Rescue Service is already a well managed and successful organisation achieving a high level of satisfaction with communities and the public in general and there is no need for any involvement of the PCC in managing this service
- h) CCTV Monitoring
That the monitoring reports up to July 2017 be received

i) Annual Audit of Accounts for the Year Ending 2017
That the External auditors report be noted

j) Finance
That payments made be confirmed and receipts be noted up to 31 July 2017

4 **MEMBERS ITEMS**

Cllr A Pearson referred to inappropriate use of highway land at the junction of Station Road Bridge and Rugeley Road. County Cllr P Hewitt agreed to investigate the matters that had been raised

5 **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

6 **CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MANAGER/CLERK**

Consideration was given to this report

RESOLVED:

Payroll Arrangements

That the action taken by the Town Council Manager/Clerk in instructing the Council's Payroll provider to rectify a discrepancy regarding claims to HMRC regarding Employers Allowance be confirmed

(Cllr D J Davis declared an interest in this matter)

The meeting ended at 8:30 pm

Signed:

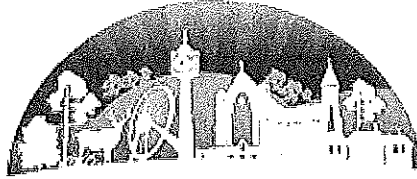
Dated:

Annex 1

Council Meeting 1 August 2017 – List of Planning Applications

17/259	Rear extensions and detached triple garage – 13 Wood Lane	No Objection
17/253	Change of use from office to dwelling – 107 High Mount Street	No Objection
17/248	New boundary wall – 126 Bond Way	No Objection
17/244	Prior notification erection of conservatory to replace existing – 2 Fisher Street	No Objection
17/236	Residential Development comprising 125 No. dwellings including 25 No. affordable dwelling, open space and associated roads and parking – Land at Hednesford Town Football Club, Keys Park Road, Hednesford	<p>Although the provision of some affordable dwellings is welcomed the Town Council would point out that, if approved, Policy H1 in the draft Neighbourhood Plan for Hednesford provides that, subject to viability issues, a housing development of more than 25 units would need to include a minimum of 10% bungalows designed to mobility standards suitable for occupants who may need to use wheelchairs or other mobility aids</p> <p>In terms of open spaces and the proposed play area the Town Council would wish to see in place agreements to ensure the future management and maintenance. With regard to the equipment to be installed in the play area the Town Council would be concerned to ensure that this was not easily susceptible to vandalism For example litter bins that can be used to set fires such as the example with the plans</p> <p>In terms of roads it is noted that the Hednesford Town FC will be accessed via the estate road. On match days and when the FC hosts corporate events and private functions there will be concerns for highway safety due to the large numbers of vehicles that will be entering and or leaving simultaneously. This could also potentially be a nuisance for those dwellings facing on to the road</p> <p>The site plans indicate several cul-de-sacs constructed from brick paviers which can be easily damaged by HGV's. Agreements need to be made to ensure future repair and maintenance of all the roads</p>

		on the estate The Town Council is increasingly concerned about the impact of new developments on the provision of local public services – especially education and health and trust that suitable developer contributions will be secured to cater for additional demands that will be placed on these services
17/228	Residential Development – 1 dwelling etc – Land rear 359 Littleworth Road	Query vehicular access
17/226	Canopy etc – 383 Cannock Road	No Objection
17/201	Extension – 1 Stagborough Way	No Objection
17/187	Extension – St Joseph's School, Hill Top	No Objection



Hednesford

in partnership

Minutes of the Meeting

Held on 10th July 2017, at Staffs University Academy

Attendance:

Paul Woodhead - HIP Vice Chair
Lesley Yates - HIP Treasurer
David Wisehall - The Heart of Hednesford
Keith Fitch - CCRPG
Louise Rose - Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles
Rob Ryder - 1st Hednesford Scouts
Jo Palmer - Staffs University Academy

Apologies:

Cannock Chase Radio
Sue Horton - Hednesford Library

1. Prior to the start of the meeting - A moment of reflection was held in remembrance of Graham Burnett, Councillor and Chair of FOHP and who had sadly passed away since the last meeting.

2. Matters arising from the previous minutes.

3. Events

Summer Festival - Going as planned and on budget. The current challenge will be fitting everything on the park. Discussed the need to promote the old fashioned games and teams entering. The market in Market Street currently has 12-15 stalls booked in. Paul trying to arrange some music for the town centre. The roller banner promoting the markets has gone missing from Tesco -Paul agreed to speak to Tesco.

4. Arts and Architecture Sub Group

Bridging Communities

The artist Jez was introduced to the group and he showed the group his proposal for the artwork for the bridge in Market Street. The group discussed the thoughts behind the colour scheme being blue and initial shape/stencils he is proposing to use. Jez explained that the blue represented water. Lesley queried why water was the

main theme and how the community could relate to this. Lesley raised concerns about the difficulty relating some of the stencils to Hednesford and its community. It was suggested that signs could continue down through Market Street to explain the shapes and their relation to Hednesford. Lesley also questioned that the artwork did not relate to the guidelines in the artists brief, especially in relation to Hednesford being the gateway to Cannock chase. After some discussion the artist said he could change the colour scheme to green and add a tree.

Louise confirmed that there would be three drop in spray art workshops held in Hednesford park as part of the project and community consultation.

Best Kept Village Entry

No response has been received yet. David Wisehall raised concerns about all the cigarette butts all around the town along with other litter. Paul confirmed that he raised the issues about litter at a Council meeting, the response received was that whilst there is a recognised problem with litter in Hednesford and elsewhere in the District no further action would be taken beyond that already made to address the matter.

6. Update from Partners

Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles - Stadium consultation taking place. Pools to Park project is well under way and two books will be produced an adult and children's book. There will be an inaugural meeting of the cultural education partnership, and Arts connect will be a district wide project, next meeting 19/09/17.

Heart of Hednesford - AGM - re-elected David Wisehall as Chair, and vice chair Sharon Jagger. Several litter picks have been carried out on and around the station. Network rail have cleared litter from the tracks. The hay racks have been planted and installed at the station. They are looking at a proposal for the use of community payback to clear the land behind platform 2. Chase line stakeholders meeting attended. Have engaged Groundworks landscape architect to draw up plans for car park bank, are also considering community payback to clear land. Work continues to care for the miners memorial. Chair attended a Planning Steering Group meeting at HTC to review Strategic environmental assessment for H'ford Neighbourhood plan. Will be posting chase line closure information on face book.

Chase Rail promotion - Network rail clearing areas along the Chase line ready for electrification works. Informed group about replacement bus service during line closures.

1st Hednesford Scouts -Still having issue trying to secure new site/premises for scouts. They were previously being helped by Graham Burnett, and asked if anyone can support them. 2nd Beaver group now starting and 2nd cub section will open later this year.

Hednesford Football Supporters - next quiz night 15/09/17 all welcome.

Staffs University Academy - Have recently had some bad press with regard to ofsted, and need some positive support from the local community. Discussed further

project work on Bridging communities. Network rail will be doing school visits regarding the safety around the electrified rail lines.

7. Any Other Business

Paul had spoken to the owner of land off Market street regarding a memorial area in Hednesford. Landowner not interested and states he has development plans for the land. Lesley to approach HTC to discuss ideas.

8. Next Meeting

Annual General Meeting - Monday 11th September 2017.



Meeting at Bella's Coffee House

Wednesday 9th August 2017



Present:

David Wiseshall (Chair)
Constance Carpenter
Tom Preston
Paul Woodhead
Susan Schofield
June Sheasby
Samantha Jennings-Temple
Susan Humphries
Stuart Crabtree

Steve Wilson
Chris Richards
Mark Walker
David O'Connor
Mary Wynne
Keith Fitch
Susan Thornton
George Adamson

Sally Deakin
Pam Richards
Sarah Walker
Maxine Akins
Margaret Fitch
Dot Farish
Susan Fisher-Meddings
Sharon Jagger

Apologies:

Karen Wright (Co-op Post Office) Phil Bradley
Phil Hewitt

Bryan Jones

Approval of minutes from meeting held 12th July 2017:

Minutes approved subject to a small amendment.

Matters arising not covered below:

A message from DW had been distributed either by hand or email to everyone who attended the July meeting clarifying confusion that had arisen regarding discussions which took place about members participation in events. Should anybody not have received the email or have any further queries DW asked that they contact him.

Graham Burnett:

At the July meeting it was announced that Graham Burnett had sadly passed away. His funeral was on 1st August at St Peters Church in Hednesford. David mentioned that a number of HoH members had attended together with Graham's family, friends and members of other local organisations and that during the service a wonderful insight was given into Graham's early life and the work he had done for the community.

Station adoption:

At this point DW was able to announce that Hednesford had received 'Highly Commended' in the large urban village category in the Staffordshire Best Kept Village competition (BKV). Paul Woodhead and 2 colleagues from HiP had attended an event in Eccleshall and a certificate had been received. Details of the judges' comments will be received in due course.

DW gave an update on the station adoption project:

Patron: Amanda Milling MP is the patron of the station adoption group the decision to approach her for this role was agreed by a unanimous vote of the adopters on 10th November 2016.

Hay racks: Looking very good now the plants have become established. One fell from the fence on platform 1 although nothing malicious is suspected. The incident when a hay rack was badly damaged on platform 2 has been reported to the Police and LM have been asked to check their CCTV for that day. Responses are awaited.

Notice board: We have been allocated a notice board next to the waiting shelter on platform 2. Once the statutory notice being displayed in it at present expires on 27th August and the station reopens following present closure for engineering work we will be able to start using it. Ideas are required for content.

Phone box: A discussion with LM is needed regarding the siting of our former BT telephone box on the station and what it can be used for. Possibly an information point. At present box in undercoat and a decision needed on the type of glazing to be used. May be able to get funding from new Franchise operator for fitting out. SS & DO suggested further liaison with LM regarding H&S issues & other issues including who is responsible for repairs and general maintenance.

Vegetation and rubbish behind platform 2: Due to be cleared by Network Rail volunteers 31st August.

Container. SS has located and negotiated a free 20' x 8' container weighing about 3 tons from Walton Homes. It's currently at Milford and needs to be moved urgently. Approval in principle to site it on Network Rail land at the station but need to clear part of the area. We must ensure it is kept free of graffiti and maintain it. SJ asked if a sign could be attached advising the container had been supplied by Walton Homes and possibly who moved it for us.

Water supply. Co-op unable to see how water-butts could be secured to their rainwater system so we are still looking at other options.

Mosaic and wall sign: MW has drawn up plans for a sign for the wall near the exit from platform 2. LM think it is really good but need to establish who has responsibility for the wall. Most likely NR or SCC. DW has put out enquiry to find out if anyone claims ownership of the mosaic. No claim from NR & HTC, GA advised nothing to do with CCDC the work having been done by a DSS scheme in 1988. If nobody claims any interest we are free to suggest options for it. Again MW happy to be involved in the project.

KF and DW attended the CCRPG meeting at Rugeley on Tuesday 25th July and will be going to the Chase Line Stakeholders tour of NR electrification sites on August 18th starting at Walsall.

School visits. NR have agreed HoH can join them on visits to local schools in the autumn to make students aware of our work and to talk about littering and anti-social behaviour.

Miners' memorial:

Hazel is unfortunately no longer able to look after the area around the memorial and on behalf of the group DW thanked her for all her efforts over the past year. PR gave an update mentioning that the number of rainy days recently had restricted the amount of work that could be done. Two new ladies, Julie & Jackie, have agreed to help her with the work.

It was agreed that CHAPS should be contacted about a plan showing the location of the named bricks as this is a question often asked by visitors to the memorial although it is thought they would need authority for documents to be copied. SS agreed to ask the question at their September meeting.

Also the names are becoming difficult to read on some of the bricks and asked if anything could be done to improve the clarity?

A box containing items required for cleaning round the memorial is now held at Bella's.

Fundraising.

Previously it had been suggested that HoH might be interested in taking over the running of the now ceased Hednesford Lottery although MW suggested it would perhaps be something HiP should investigate. PW suggested it should be raised at the next HiP meeting.

MA explained there is a lot of funding that could be claimed via various sources. DW suggested a strategy needed to be decided on over the next few weeks.

GA thought HoH needed to agree projects it wished to pursue and then look at securing the required funding.

SS had been in contact with HTC who suggested we should investigate becoming a registered charity. DO mentioned this would require accounts to be signed off by an accountant and offered to help with the completion of any forms.

GA suggested SS should contact Support Staffordshire for further help and advice and MA suggested each project should be streamlined with a set team enlisted for dealing with each project.

Best kept village competition:

As mentioned previously Hednesford was 'Highly Commended' in this year's competition which is a great foundation to work on for next year's competition. The certificate will be presented to HTC at their next meeting. The winner of the category Hednesford was entered in was Norton Canes, 4 years after they first entered the competition.

DW had recently done a presentation to HTC about the amount of rubbish in the town in particular near some of the larger stores and transport companies. HTC will be contacting all major businesses to see if they are able to keep the areas they are responsible for clean and tidy on a community involvement basis.

Anglesey St Car Park Bank:

DW advised the meeting that Hednesford Town Council had very kindly agreed to sponsor the improvements to the bank in order that we can obtain the required plans from OS so that Groundworks can draw up plans which HoH will pay for. Plans have now been received from Lynne Morgan along with a cost estimate and it is now possible to approach HiP regarding raising of funds. In view of the extremely high cost quoted much work may need to be done by voluntary groups in co-operation with Friends of Hednesford Park and the community generally. The plans will also be forwarded to CCDC Parks and Outdoor Department for their approval.

Local Plan and Green Space application.

DW has discussed with Phil Hewitt about carrying on with the work he had started with Graham Burnett to increase the status of Pye Green Valley ensuring further development is constrained.

Report from Hednesford Traders.

Unfortunately nobody available to update the meeting although the meeting was advised the previous Traders meeting had been cancelled.

Summer Festival and Market. Saturday 12th August.

PW gave an update regarding the Summer Festival and the many events taking place including the Artisan Market in Market Street. HoH are having a stall with a Teddy Bear Tombola, gift items and plants for sale, together with information about the groups work in the town. There will need to be major fund raising effort by HiP once the Festival is over for 2018 as no further lottery funding is available.

Social Media, promotion and recruitment:

The HoH Facebook page has achieved 700 "likes"

Any other business:

A discussion followed about whether the size of the committee should be increased to help and encourage more active members and have committee meetings perhaps monthly even if this means full meetings happening every 2 months. It was decided not to proceed with this idea at present.

SS had produced a list of suggested projects mentioned in previous meetings and suggested that at the September meeting each item should be looked at and decisions made about which projects should be taken forward and how this can be achieved.

Next litter pick arranged for Wednesday August 16th, 6:00 pm. Station car park.

On Tuesday 5th September there will be a talk on 'The Canals of Hednesford' at Pye Green Community Centre starting at 7 pm. Places are limited therefore if interested call 01543 424872 to make a reservation.

Next HoH meeting:

Date: Wednesday 20th September 2017 starting at 6 pm.

Venue: Bella's Coffee House, Market Street, Hednesford.

Keith Fitch
20th August 2017



BATTLE'S OVER MARCH – PROPOSED PROGRAMME

This will be held on Saturday 10 November 2018 and the proposed programme will include:

CANNOCK: Between 10.30 and 11.30am

HEDNESFORD: Between 1.30pm and 2.30pm

RUGELEY: Between 3.30pm and 4.30pm

PROGRAMME:

10.30am	Cannock Parade (From Chase Leisure Centre to Cannock War Memorial)
10.45am	Parade arrives in Cannock Town Centre
11am – 11.30am	Memorial service at Cannock War Memorial (TBC- David Gethin of St Luke's Church)
12noon	Lunch provided for all involved at Hednesford's Ex-Servicemen's Club (TBC)
1.30pm	Hednesford Parade (From War Memorial to town centre clock)
1.45pm -	Parade arrives in Hednesford Town Centre
2pm – 2.30pm	Memorial service at clock (TBC – Reverend Paul Kelly of St Peter's Church)
3.30pm	Rugeley Parade (From Upper Brook Street to War Memorial)
3.45pm	Parade arrives in Rugeley Town Centre
4pm – 4.30pm	Memorial service at Rugeley War Memorial (TBC - Reverend Dr. David Evans of St Augustine's Church)
4.30pm onwards	Light refreshments at the Victory Centre - TBC



**World War 1 Project Group
Meeting held on Friday 16 June 2017**



MINUTES

In attendance:

- Kate McBey, PR & Marketing Officer (Chair & Project Lead for the World War 1 centenary commemorations at Cannock Chase Council)
- Trevor Evans, Staffordshire Regimental Association
- Brian Gamble, Royal Air Force Association (RAFA)
- Lawrence McGowan, Royal Air Force Association
- Kevin Yates, Principle Parks and Open Spaces Officer, Cannock Chase Council
- Sara Green, Consultation and Engagement Officer, Cannock Chase Council
- Bob Plumb, Royal British Legion – Hednesford branch

Apologies:

- Councillor Christine Mitchell, Leader of Culture and Sport at Cannock Chase Council
- Peter Harrison, Clerk of Hednesford Town Council
- Councillor Alan Pearson, Chairman of Hednesford Town Council
- Pete Sidgwick, Chairman of Cannock Chase Arts Council & Tower Players
- Susan Dalloe, Manager of The Museum of Cannock Chase and Great War Officer for Staffordshire
- Anne Walker, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Lisa Shephard, Creative Development Manager, Inspiring healthy lifestyles
- Helen Maiden, Research Officer, Cannock Chase Council
- Lynn Evans, Community and Education Officer, Cannock Chase Council (Hednesford Park)
- Councillor George Adamson, Leader of Cannock Chase Council
- Marion Kettle, The Landor Society
- John Dargavel, Royal Military Police
- Bob Leighton, Royal Engineers
- Tracie Clarke, Civic Support
- Louise Onions, Civic Support

1. Welcome and introductions

Kate welcomed everyone to the meeting and each member introduced themselves and their organisation.

2. Minutes & actions

Kate went through the actions from the meeting held on Tuesday 14 February and most actions had been completed. However, the group agreed to carry forward the following actions and these included:

ACTION: Kate and Anne will provide a list of the commemorative activities taking place locally to see how Cosford could get involved

Brian and Trevor will be arranging a visit to Cosford to discuss what is being delivered locally and to see what support they could offer for these events. A date will be confirmed by the next meeting.

ACTION: Kate to contact Wolverhampton Sea Cadets and confirm a marching band

Bob Plumb kindly provided Kate with the contact details for the Sea Cadets. Kate informed the group that she had already provisionally booked the 1206 Squadron Air Training Corps based in Lichfield, but would consider the Sea Cadets if required.

Bob confirmed that the Sea Cadets had been booked for Remembrance Sunday in Hednesford this year.

ACTION: Kate to contact Rugeley Town Council

Kate informed the group that contact had been made and that a meeting date was in the process of being confirmed. This will be discussed further at the next meeting in September.

Updates were given on a number of actions including:

Marquis Drive Military Weekend, 19 & 20 August 2017:

This event is still going ahead and below is the details of a recent press release that has been issued by Staffordshire County Council:

Discover Cannock Chase's military history at family fun weekend

Families and historians will get the chance to explore hundreds of years of war tales at the Cannock Chase annual Military History Weekend on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 August.

The free event, organised by Staffordshire County Council's Rangers Service will include infantry and cavalry displays and re-enactments of military life from the Anglo-Saxon period through to the present day.

Visitors can take a tour of a Great War Hut used by soldiers who trained on the Chase, while children will get the chance to try on military uniforms, handle weaponry and take part in a kids pike drill.

Visitors will also be treated to a Spitfire Flypast on Saturday, subject to weather conditions.

Gill Heath, Cabinet member for Communities at Staffordshire County Council said: "Cannock Chase is steeped in history and we're incredibly proud to have such a valuable heritage site right on our doorstep.

"We're looking forward to the event, now in its seventh year which will give people the chance to learn more about this important landscape and its military connections. As well as

a chance to experience what life was like on the training camps, the event will also show visitors what life would have been like during other periods on the Chase too. And, with lots of activities and displays, including a flypast, there will be something for all the family."

The Military History Weekend will take place at the Cannock Chase Visitor's Centre on Marquis Drive from 10am to 4pm. People can find out more at <http://www.cannockchasemilitaryhistory.weebly.com/>

3. Update on future WW1 commemorations

There are a number of events which are being planned over the next couple of years and these were discussed in detail by each event lead.

3.1 Armed Forces Day 2017

Trevor provided an update to the group in relation to this event.

The Staffordshire Regimental Association (SRA) will be hosting this event to celebrate Armed Forces Day on Saturday 24 June. The event will be taking place in Cannock Park from 12noon until 4pm and will be supported by Cannock Chase Council and Inspiring healthy lifestyles.

Trevor informed the group that the Army Cadets would no longer be supporting this event. He also confirmed that there would be enough people on site on Friday morning to help set up for the event.

Members of SRA will be staying over in the park on the Friday night, as agreed by the Council's Parks and Open Spaces team.

Kate informed the group that all activity providers and entertainers had been notified about the set up times etc. and will be there on the day.

In addition to this, Kate promoted the official flag raising ceremony that is being organised by the Council on Monday 19 June. All were invited to attend this event.

3.2 Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute and WW1 Beacons of Light

Kate informed the group about a meeting which was held with St Luke's Church to discuss the possibility of holding a lighting ceremony on their grounds in November. This meeting went well, but unfortunately a final decision wasn't made. Kate will be writing a formal letter from the Council requesting this support and this will be confirmed shortly.

It has been confirmed that we will be producing a unique Beacon based on the World War 1 branding that has been developed. Lisa from Inspiring healthy lifestyles will be leading on this project and working alongside the Council's Graphic Designer.

It has also been agreed that a small replica of this Beacon will be used at the Battle's Over March in a relay. 3 smaller Beacons will be created and donated to Rugeley, Hednesford and Norton Canes.

The Beacon lighting ceremony will take place on Sunday 11 November at 7pm prior to the Centenary Show at the Prince of Wales Theatre.

The group suggested contacting John Henderson who is the Chief Executive of Staffordshire County Council to see if he would light the Beacon and maybe take the salute at the March. This will need to be discussed further and agreed internally.

Kate will also be having discussions with Rugeley Town Council to see what they will be doing so this can be coordinated and promoted together.

ACTION: Kate to confirm with St Luke's Church and to meet with Rugeley Town Council.

3.3 Remembrance Weekend 2018

3.3.1 Battle's Over March

This will be held on Saturday 10 November 2018 and will involve a parade and service in Cannock, Hednesford and Rugeley.

Kate informed the group that planning was underway and that a more detailed plan with actions would be discussed at the next project meeting in September.

A meeting with key representatives will be taking place prior to this to discuss the final details.

Trevor suggested he would contact Whitehouse's to see if they would provide the buffet and also agreed to book the Soldier's Club in Hednesford for the lunch stop.

It was suggested by a member of the group that thought needs to be given to the service and that the context of readings etc. needs to be right.

ACTION: Kate to present event plan and actions

3.3.2 Centenary Show

This will be held on Sunday 11 November 2018 at the Prince of Wales Theatre, following the Beacon lighting ceremony. This will be led by Peter Sidgwick with the support of Cannock Chase Arts Council.

It will include a piece of theatre, the Last Post and a local remembrance element to honour our local soldiers.

The lack of funding for this is being looked into and officers are researching potential funding streams.

Trevor offered to see if Arnold Clark would donate £1,000 towards this event.

The finer detail will be confirmed at the next project meeting in September.

4. Update on 100th anniversary of the RAF

Brian informed the group that the Freedom event will be the focus of this celebration.

He also suggested that RAFA are considering a memorial at the RAF camp Hednesford, but detailed discussions still need to take place.

RAFA are currently rebuilding the local branch and the welfare side. Lawrence is also working on information for the press to promote the centenary.

5. Freedom of the District 2018

Kate informed the group that a Motion was put forward to Council in April and was agreed. A full report will be submitted in August.

A provisional date has been set – 11 May 2018. As this will be a formal civic event, Louise Onions and Tracie Clarke will be leading on this with support from the Communications team.

Louise will liaise directly with Brian and the Regional Director of RAFA.

Further details will be confirmed at the next project meeting in September.

ACTION: Brian will send a list of the ATCs that the Cannock Chase branch has associations with for the invite list.

6. Any other business

Kate asked members if they had anything further they would like to discuss before closing the meeting. The following was raised:

Hednesford Royal British Legion:

Bob Plumb informed the group that the Hednesford branch is currently concentrating on developing their links with the community. They are currently working on a display showing nursing throughout the years.

Bob also notified members that there will be a 40's night held on 28 October at the Ex-Servicemen's Club in Hednesford. Tickets will go on sale in September.

Staffordshire Regimental Association:

Trevor informed the group that they will be supporting SSAFA's annual event - 'Have a brew with us' on Saturday 8 July in Cannock Town Centre.

Veteran's Association:

Bob and other members warned the group that there had been a few bogus sellers in Cannock Town Centre who are saying they are selling wristbands on behalf of the Veteran's Association. This is not the case. The Council's Licensing team have been made aware of this.

The Tunnellers:

At the meeting in February, Pete and Susan provided an update on the work they are doing with Derek Davis in relation to The Tunnellers.

They have been successful in achieving £10,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund which will cover the costs for the research into turning this story into a mobile exhibition that can be taken on tour around Staffordshire.

Hednesford Festival:

Kate asked the group if they were attending this event and if they had confirmed a stall. Members of the group said they would be happy to support this event, but would not pay the fee to attend. They would have preferred to have been asked for a donation rather than an official payment. Kate agreed she would pass this on to the event committee and get the organiser to contact each group directly.

Baby News!

Kate announced her exciting news that she was expecting her second baby in November. Kate agreed she would notify the group of cover arrangements at the October meeting.

7. Date of next meetings

- Thursday 7 September at 10am in the Esperance Room, Cannock Chase Council
- Thursday 5 October at 10am in the Esperance Room, Cannock Chase Council



Dear Hednesford Town Council,

Please see attached statistical information collated from CCTV within the month of July 2017.

CCTV Monitoring for Hednesford Town Council

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR	10
ASSAULTS	1
AUTOCRIME	0
BURGLARY	0
DAMAGE	1
DISTURBANCE	2
DOMESTIC	0
DRUGS	1
DRUNKNESS	2
GRAFFITI	0
MISSING PERSON	0
AREAS MONITORED (NON-CRIMINAL)	169
SUSPICIOUS	16
THEFT	6
TRAFFIC	0
TOTAL	208
POLICE ADVISED	11
RESOURCE DEPLOYED	8

**81 % OF MONITORING WAS NON REPORTABLE
19 % OF MONITORING WAS OF OBSERVING REPORTABLE ACTIVITIES TO
THE PARISH/POLICE**

This month has been fairly quiet in the town centre itself. The main issues we seem to be having is in the Hednesford Park itself, mainly with youths on the play equipment during the late evening, causing some Anti-Social behaviour issues. The pubs who are on the Pubwatch system have been using it well to communicate with our operators and we also now have the Bankhouse on the system (as of August).

Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding any issues or concerns that we can assist in monitoring with around the Hednesford Town area.

Yours sincerely

Lucy Frost

