



FEATHERSTONE AND BRINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Thursday, 9th February 2017 at 7.00pm
in Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre, Baneberry Drive, Featherstone

Present: F Beardsmore, J Brindle, J Beardsmore, J Griffiths, S Graham, D Betts, I Harvey,
R Tucker and T Smitheman

Also Present: District Councillor R Cope
R Young – Clerk to the Council

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No matters were raised.

1) APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from H Lobuczek.

2) MINUTES

It was proposed, seconded and agreed the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th January 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

Resolved:

- **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th January 2017.**

3) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillors J Brindle, J Beardsmore R Tucker and T Smitheman declared an interest in relation to all matters concerning Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre.

4) POLICE MATTERS

- No report received from Staffordshire Police.
- Helen Marshall (SSDC) to attend the March 2017 Parish Council Meeting to outline details of mobile CCTV.
- R Tucker mentioned a paint spray can be used in Parish and J Brindle commented he had not see PCSO's.

5) **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

- No matters were reported.

6) **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

District Councillor R Cope mentioned the following:-

- Called into Full Council concerns regarding traffic on A460 and require Amey and SCC Highways to be involved.
- Mentioned the Mill Green Project and Strategic Railway.
- No official body/organisation considering impact on the A460.
- Additional development will impact on Highways traffic volumes.

7) **MATTERS ARISING**

a) **Prison Crime Statistics**

G Williamson, M.P. confirmed there was no further information in relation to prison crime statistics, but will continue to push this matter.

b) **Village Green**

This matter was referred to the Parish Maintenance section of the meeting.

c) **Prison Governors Meeting**

The Clerk reported all of the Governors had agreed a meeting date of the 19th April 2017. The Governors had requested details of an Agenda.

Councillors referred to articles in the Express and Star regarding Bare Knuckle fighting in prison.

d) **CCTV Monitoring**

H Marshall had confirmed a Mobile Camera would cost £3,200 plus installation £440, electricity £500 maximum per annum and moving costs £200.

e) **Sit-on Mower**

The Clerk reported a demonstration had been arranged for the Chairman on the 17th February 2017.

f) **Neighbourhood Plan**

It was agreed to include this matter on the Agenda of the March 2017 Parish Council Meeting.

8) **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

a) **Meeting with M Lawrence and M Keeling**

- Brookhouse Lane Ponding – Mentioned installing another drain – To date no progress.
- Cat and Kitten Lane needs a Top Dressing – Clerk to request an update.
- M54/A460 Traffic Island – Sign installed – Markings not changed – Enquire with M Lawrence.
- Removal of weeds from A460 – No Change – Request Update from M Lawrence.
- J Brindle said the drains had not been cleared on the A460. The Clerk to request a Schedule of Drain Clearance from M Keeling.
- The Clerk to report the large pothole on the A460/New Road Traffic Lights.
- Mud on Featherstone Lane – Malayan Way – J B Sands responsible – Clerk notify SCC Highways and SSDC Environmental Department.

9) **REPORT – FEATHERSTONE AND HILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE**

- J Beardsmore circulated accounts for the period April 2016 – January 2017. Also reported Birthday Parties in Centre but no great use of the Bar Facility.
- Clerk to contact Scorpio regarding repair to Sport Cage.
- F Beardsmore mentioned the following regarding the replacement roof:-
 - Two meetings regarding quotes received and quality of tiles.
 - Meeting with preferred Contractor next week.
 - Work will take 8-12 weeks.
 - Reviewing guttering.
 - 5 year Guarantee.
 - Proposed tiles are metal and will not damage easily.
 - Clerk to obtain tile specification.
 - J Brindle declared an interest
- The Clerk reported the following information had been requested from Biffa:-
 - Schedule of Work and timescale.
 - Details of Community Centre Committee.

10) **REPORT – WHITGREAVE SCHOOL GOVERNOR'S REPORT**

Isla Harvey reported the following:-

- Dog Fouling is a major problem.
- Car Park opposite North Crescent – Vehicle reversed out while children walking past. Parents should not use this Car Park. Also have pictures of cars parking on zig zag lines.
- Gave details of Signage and Banner. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to purchase a pack of four signs plus a banner to discourage inappropriate parking.

Resolved:

- **To purchase four signs and one banner to discourage inappropriate parking.**
- R Tucker said PSCO Scott should be notified.
- The Clerk to notify the County Council Enforcement team.
- I Harvey reported the School had no capacity to take additional children in relation to proposed house building. The Clerk to enquire as whether Section 106 funding will be allocated to the School. R Cope said additional children may be sent to alternative schools.

11) **REPORT – FEATHERSTONE FIRST RESPONDERS**

S Bate reported the following:-

“Currently going through re-qualification process updating and maintaining our skills. This is an intensive training which will be course led and individual module completion which takes place over a number of weeks.

Still looking for recruits, details on the NHS job website”.

12) **REPORT – SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE HOUSING ASSOCIATION**

- Old Hall Road – Alleyway – Trees overhanging 41 North Crescent. D Betts to review.
- I Harvey to review revised location proposal for Miners Memorial.
- D Clark (SSHA) undertaking a review of the Brookhouse Close Garage site. .

13) **PLANNING**

Royal Ordnance Factory Site

- R Tucker and T Smitheman gave details of the SCC Highways Presentation regarding roads in the area. R Cope gave details of the ROF Featherstone – Highways Consultation Options – Feedback Form and confirmed details of reply sent back. The Clerk to complete a Feedback Form on behalf of the Parish Council.
- It was agreed the Parish Council should consult Paul Turner to draft a formal reply from the Parish Council. R Cope reported proposals will come very close to Featherstone. F Beardsmore reviewed the email received from Tim Plagerson of RPS (Persimmon).
- R Cope gave details of land owned by the St Francis Group and options on adjoining land in the area.
- F Beardsmore, T Smitheman and R Tucker said it was disappointing that the presentation regarding the roads in the area was not better advertised. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to request Paul Turner to advise regarding a reply to proposals for Highways .

Resolved:

- **To request Paul Turner to draft a reply to the Highway proposals.**

14) **CORRESPONDENCE**

- South Staffordshire Council – Tourism Swap Shop.
- Staffordshire Police Poster – “Are you safe to drive if on medication”.
- SCC – Big Fat Chat.
- SCC – Pothole Updates.
- SPCA – Bulletins.
- SPCA – Training Court – 7th March 2017.
- The Community Foundation for Staffordshire.
- Police Accountability Forums – Locality 3, Wednesday, 26th April 2017, 5.00pm-6.30pm, Watling Street Police Station.

15) **PARISH MAINTENANCE**

- **Litter Warden**

- The Clerk circulated a revised Vacancy Notice for Display. The Clerk to also obtain a copy of the Job Description used.

➤ **Salt/Grit Bin**

- J Brindle agreed to site a Salt/Grit Bin.

➤ **Featherstone Play Equipment**

- The Clerk to progress a replacement Rocker as the ground spring was broken. The Clerk to also review options with F Beardsmore regarding the damaged Saucer Swing.

16) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Proposed Use of Brinsford Village Green

The following matters were discussed:-

- The Clerk reported the following cost details:-
 - Annual cost of glass cutting: £780.
 - Insurance – Nominal cost.
 - Legal cost to Remove Travellers £2,000 approx.
 - Cost to remove Traveller Rubbish: £2,000+.
 - Legal costs to date: £2,000.(SCC)
 - Additional legal costs: £400 (SCC)
- S Graham gave a details presentation regarding the benefits and need for a Village Green at Brinsford.
- S Graham said the number of events to be held each year would be variable.
- J Griffiths asked why has questions only just been raised regarding the acquisition of the Village Green. Frank Beardsmore commented one aspect was to stop any potential housing development.
- J Griffiths commented the Village Green would be an asset to the Parish.
- T Smitheman commented he did not think there was a need for this land and understood that a recent travellers encampment cost £13,000 to clear. Also commented regarding Parking in the area.
- J Brindle said the only issue was the risk of travellers gaining access to the site.
- R Tucker commented there was no justification for the purchase of this land.
- D Betts commented there is no problem with continuing to use the land in the ownership of the Ministry of Justice.
- J Griffiths said we have an opportunity to safeguard an asset for the Community and its about building a Community. It was proposed (J Griffiths), seconded (S Graham) that the Parish Council sign to purchase the land for a Village Green.

For the Proposal 3
Against the Proposal 3
Abstentions 2

Casting Vote by Chairman against Proposal
Proposal Failed

17) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- The Clerk to enquire with G Williamson, M.P. as to whether the frequent visits by the Ambulance Service to the Prisons is having an impact on the Ambulance Service.
- The Clerk to request proper Bus Stops on East Road, New Road and for the 154 at Brinsford. Service stops at 7.00pm.
- The Clerk to enquire with M Lawrence and M Keeling as to what speed control can be introduced to reduce vehicle speeds on New Road near to Brinsford. Mentioned there were 4-5 serious accidents over the Christmas period.
- Jane Griffiths mentioned a transporter plus a tractor with lifting gear left on the Highway at Brinsford. The Clerk to enquire with M Lawrence if any action can be taken.
- J Brindle referred back to Village Green at Brinsford and asked if the Brinsford Residents Association would be interested in acquiring the Village Green.
- District Councillor Cope said he had received complaints regarding Fly Tipping, Litter and Dog Fouling.
- The Clerk reported a resident of St James Park had contacted the Parish Council because she had been verbally abused on East Road when she was walking her dog. Comments related to dog fouling.
- The Clerk also reported the Enforcement Section at SSDC were visiting St James Park to review the number of caravans on site and the alleged operation of a puppy farm.

18) FINANCE

a) Cheque Payments

It was proposed (J Brindle), and seconded (R Tucker) and agreed to issue the following cheques:-

Date	Cheque No	Details	£
09/02/17	002822	R Young	85.00
09/02/17	002823	R Edmunds	232.34
09/02/17	002824	C Hill	290.34
09/02/17	002825	C Lloyd	50.40
09/02/17	002826	R Young	949.40
09/02/17	002827	HMRC (PAYE)	204.38
09/02/17	002828	Veolia	368.38
09/02/17	002829	SCC Legal	261.00

09/02/17	002830	SSDC (GM)	91.43
09/02/17	002831	British Gas	114.00
09/02/17	002832	Play Safety Ltd	96.60
09/02/17	002833	FHCC	30.00
		TOTAL	£2,773.27

Resolved:

- **To issue the above cheques.**

19) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Thursday, 9th March 2017.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm.

F Beardsmore
Chairman