



FEATHERSTONE AND BRINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
Held on Thursday, 8th February 2018 at 7.00pm
at Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre, Baneberry Drive, Featherstone

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

Also Present: County Councillor B Williams
District Councillor R Cope
Three Members of the Public
R Young – Clerk to the Council

1) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Road sweeping in the Parish – Councillors reviewed the frequency. B Williams said the road sweeper starts at one end of the District and works through. Only one sweeper in operation. R Tucker said there must be schedule as to where the sweeper is at any time.
R Cope also agreed to obtain details of visits.

2) APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from H Lobuczek, S Graham and J Beardsmore.

3) MINUTES

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th January 2018 be approved as a true and correct record, subject to three amendments.

Resolved:

To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th January 2018, subject to three amendments.

4) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

5) POLICE MATTERS

- M Perks gave details of an incident not recorded by the Police
- I Harvey said Parishioners need to see a Police presence in the Parish.

- J Griffiths commented a delicate matter reported to local PCSO, to date no response had been received.

- D Betts commented Police Officer said procedure to deal with 101 enquiries to be changed.
- F Beardsmore reported details of a group moving around Village causing problems. Local PCSO to be at the Community Centre on the 12th February 2018 at 7.00pm to discuss problems. T Smitheman asked if there would be the opportunity to speak confidentially.
- J Griffiths gave details of vandalised Benches and Flower Boxes.
- Police Statistics for last month.
 - Burglary Residential (including Sheds and other buildings) – 2.
 - Attempt to steal 2 vehicles off driveway (Baneberry Drive).
 - Caravan stolen from Tower Farm.
 - Theft of Motor Vehicles – 0.
 - Theft from Motor Vehicles – 3.
 - Theft from Workman's Van – Boiler stolen in South Crescent.
 - Van broken into in Elms Lane, Shareshill – Tools stolen.
 - Van broken into in Manor Drive, Shareshill – Tools stolen.
 - Violence against the Person – 0.
 - Drugs – 0.
 - Anti-Social Behaviour – 3.
 - Hilton Road – Group of youths knocking on windows.
 - Reports of noise from Old Fair Ground.

6) **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

The following matters were discussed or reviewed with B Williams:-

- Confirmed that Mark Jenkinson (SSDC) had stated there will be no change in the route of Bus Service No. 70.
- Gulley Machines – Three machines in the North of County and three in the South. Certain gullies need more attention.
- F Beardsmore gave an outline of cutbacks and reduction in service from the County Council.
- Ponding outside the Red, White and Blue – B Williams to review with M Keeling and contact M Deauville.
- Councillors asked regarding marking of potholes – does this indicate repair required?
- J Brindle commented the white road markings on Brookhouse Lane now gone into potholes.
- It was agreed the Clerk should write to Gavin Williamson M.P. regarding the lack of action concerning potholes.
- South Crescent – The Clerk to arrange a site meeting with M Keeling regarding lineage and alternatives.

7) **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

a) **District Councillor R Cope**

R Cope reported the following:-

- Final stage of Local Plan – Six Week Consultation – Effective in the Summer.
- Birmingham an Wolverhampton short of houses – Towns including Tamworth need to share additional housing.
- Land owners will receive “Call for sites”.
- Collective of Parish Councils including Featherstone – review of the implications for SCC Highways and Highways England.
- Layby (A460) – Update including M Keeling (SCC Highways) will maintain ground one metre from footpath.
- Update regarding Bickfords Enforcement Notice.

b) H Lobuczek

H Lobuczek mentioned the following by email:-

- Enhanced version of the recent Survey about Community work undertaken by Parish Council will be issued shortly.
- No comment regarding Police, Highways or Planning.
- Will continue to monitor and address dog fouling issues.

8) MATTERS ARISING

a) Highways

The Clerk to arrange a meeting with SCC Cabinet Member (Highways) regarding highway issues in the Parish if possible.

b) Bus Service

R Cope agreed to contact Mark Jenkinson (SSDC) regarding existing and future service of i54 and the No. 70 service.

c) Review of sites

R Cope gave an update concerning review of sites in the District.

d) Miner’s Memorial

I Harvey mentioned that young people sitting on both Memorials and commented a bench may encourage further attention. Review in a month.

e) Recording of Meetings

The Clerk reported that D Campbell at SSDC had stated the following regarding Private and Confidential: “I didn’t think it appropriate for individual Councillors to be recording and then to take it away”.

The Clerk to include on the Agenda “All Recording Must be Notified to the Chairman at the start of the Meeting”.

f) Helen Marshall – Mobile CCTV

The Clerk to invite Helen Marshall to a future Parish Council Meeting.

g) Bus Service on Baneberry Drive

The Clerk to review with County Councillor B Williams.

h) Twinning

This matter was ongoing.

i) Ground Maintenance – Community Centre

This matter was put in abeyance until the next meeting.

9) HIGHWAY MATTERS

- a) The Clerk confirmed he had reported the drain blocked/full outside 32 The Avenue to SCC Highways (Reference: 4106729).
- b) M54/A460 – Lines to be renewed/corrected – M Keeling confirmed work will be undertaken the next time line machine in the area.
- c) Entrance to South Crescent – Options regarding entrance reviewed with M Keeling.
- d) Drainage opposite Red, White and Blue – The Clerk to request assistance of Gavin Williamson M.P. on this matter.

10) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE AND HILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

- No matters reported.

11) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE ACADEMY GOVERNOR'S REPORT

- I Harvey commented regarding the Staffing structure which would stay the same. Also reported the first meeting of the 90th School Anniversary group would be held on the 1st March 2018.
- M Perks reported children to review playground replacement.
- J Brindle said that out of all parents only eight are not contactable.

12) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE FIRST RESPONDERS

- During last month responded to 18 incidents.

13) REPORT – SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE HOUSING ASSOCIATION

- Garages in Brookhouse Close – Only two used – Clerk to enquire whether residents can paint and carry out repairs.

14) PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

- i) 18/00031/FUL
Erection of a single storey rear extension.
45 East Road, Brinsford
No Comment.

b) Enforcement Cases

- i) 18/00044/BOC
St James Park, New Road, Featherstone
Planning Permission relating to the number of Caravans permitted on the site.

c) Other Planning Matters

- Neighbourhood Plan – The Clerk to enquire with Paul Turner whether he could assist with the production of a Neighbourhood Plan.
- Population movement from London to Birmingham or Wolverhampton – Reply from G Williamson M.P. for review.

15) CORRESPONDENCE

- South Staffordshire Council Chairman's Charity – Musical Evening – 23rd February 2018.
- Football Association – Engaging Communities.
- SPCA – Bulletin.
- District Design Guide – Sustainable Development Supplementary Planning Document.
- SCC Highways – Community Highway Liaison Cover – Mary Lee.
- South Staffordshire Council – Commonwealth Day – 12th March 2018.
- SSDC – New Planning Enforcement Team Structure and Function.
- The General Data Protection Regulation.
- SSDC – Code of Conduct Training Event – 5th and 12th June 2017.
- SCC Legal – Village Green Land.
- SCC – M Murphy regarding the Village Green.
 - F Beardsmore said this was in abeyance.
 - J Griffiths said the Village Green should be included on the Agenda. Proposed (J Griffiths), seconded (D Betts) – Proposal Failed.
 - T Smitheman said J Griffiths has had plenty of time to bring up re-discussion of the Village Green.
 - J Griffiths said this was a monumental decision for Brinsford.
 - F Beardsmore said Councillors can request to put items on the Agenda.
 - J Griffiths commented four and a half years ago, it was agreed to obtain the Village Green – Who is responsible for time and money spent on the Village Green to date?
 - F Beardsmore said the final account should be requested from SCC – This was agreed.
 - J Griffiths commented about the Miner's Memorial. I Harvey said the cost was £1.00 and that she had dealt with all matters relating to the Housing Association and the Parish Council took ownership of the Memorial Land.
 - T Smitheman asked if Brinsford Residents Association were willing to take on the Village Green.
 - J Griffiths said she was very disappointed that the Village Green is not to be purchased and for the residents (25) who had attended the meeting in May 2017. Disappointed and offended that the Parish Council had now not agreed to purchase the Village Green. The best Interests of Brinsford have not been served.
 - J Brindle agreed in part but the play equipment purchase was a fantastic achievement.
 - F Beardsmore said a democratic vote was made.

16) PARISH MAINTENANCE

- The Clerk to contact Bob Taylor (SSDC) to put the waste bin back onto the lamppost by the School.

- Clerk to enquire with SCC regarding the fingerpost replacement.
- **Facebook**
 - J Griffiths said many wanted to join but had no response – Needs to be open page as Parish Council needs to be open and transparent. F Beardsmore said we will discuss at next meeting.
 - J Griffiths commented there appeared to be control and censorship on Facebook. M Perks replied do not control who goes onto Facebook; only the material.
- **Dog Fouling**

M Perks mentioned the following:-

 - Residents Meeting attended by Lucy McDonald (SSDC).
 - Fixed Penalty option.
 - Dog walker group to be formed.
 - Leaflets and coloured spray available.
 - Dog waste into waste bins.
 - J Brindle said need to involve School plus Posters to highlight problem.
- Adjacent to War Memorial – Whitgreave Avenue sign dropped down.
- Bus stop outside School leaning over.

17) **NOTICEBOARDS AT BRINSFORD**

- F Beardsmore asked J Griffiths are Minutes (Brinsford Residents Association) displayed on the Brinsford Noticeboard. J Griffiths replied that it was agreed the Minutes could be displayed on the Wings. F Beardsmore referred to the Minutes of September 2017 meeting. J Griffiths commented that Brinsford Residents Association voted not to provide Minutes to the Parish Council. T Smitheman gave a review of documents displayed on the Noticeboard. J Griffiths said that S Graham deals with the Brinsford Noticeboard.

18) **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- D Betts mentioned a drainpipe was missing from the side of the Community Centre – Needs to be re-fitted.
- J Brindle mentioned the wall opposite Red, White and Blue – Water from the Highway infiltrating wall. The Clerk to notify Highways England.
- T Smitheman gave details of the Data Protection Regulation to become effective from the 25th May 2018.
- T Smitheman gave an update regarding the Partnership Meeting which gave details of the Civil Contingency Unit – Major Urban Violence – Assistance after Fire – Health outbreaks at Prisons (Brinsford).
- J Griffiths asked if the Clerk could contact Featherstone Prison regarding horses and large vehicle left on the field adjacent to the prison. Vehicles also left on New Road Corner.
- J Griffiths mentioned the lack of street light along the alleyways by Oaks Drive. Street lights not working. Clerk to contact Featherstone Prison.

19) **FINANCE MATTERS**

a) **Cheque Payments**

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

Date	Cheque No	Details	£
08/02/18	003023	Khoo Systems	24.00
08/02/18	003024	R Edmunds	260.00
08/02/18	003025	C Hill	325.00
08/02/18	003026	Cancelled	0.00
08/02/18	003027	K Parkes	325.00
08/02/18	003028	R Young	937.60
08/02/18	003029	HMRC (PAYE)	369.85
08/02/18	003030	Viking Electric	153.60
08/02/18	003031	Waterplus	253.87
08/02/18	003032	Veolia	495.96
08/02/18	003033	R Young (N P Copies)	52.80
08/02/18	003034	FHCC	30.00
08/02/18	003035	C Lloyd	50.50
		TOTAL	£3,278.18

Resolved:

- **To issue the above cheques.**

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

20) RECORDING OF MEETINGS

The Chairman, F Beardsmore, requested J Griffiths to turn off her recording of Private and Confidential. J Griffiths declined. F Beardsmore referred to emails from L Fowkes and D Campbell. J Griffiths said she needed to record the meeting including Private and Confidential for her own safety. The Chairman, F Beardsmore, asked for copies of any correspondence on recording of meetings from J Griffiths. F Beardsmore asked J Griffiths to turn off her recording – J Griffiths declined the request. F Beardsmore asked J Griffiths to leave the meeting if she would not turn off the recording. J Griffiths said what is the difference between a recording and a written copy. J Griffiths left the meeting.

21) CODE OF CONDUCT

It was proposed (J Brindle), seconded (R Tucker) to adopt the South Staffordshire Council Code of Conduct.

Resolved:

- **To adopt the South Staffordshire Council Code of Conduct.**

22) BRINSFORD NOTICEBOARD

- T Smitheman confirmed that Private and Confidential Minutes for October 2017 were on display on the Brinsford Noticeboard from November 2017.

The Meeting closed at 10.35pm.

F Beardsmore
Chairman