



FEATHERSTONE AND BRINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Thursday, 13th September 2018 at 6.45pm
in Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre, Baneberry Drive, Featherstone

Present: F Beardsmore, T Smitheman, M Perks, R Tucker, D Betts and J Beardsmore

Also Present: County Councillor B Williams
District Councillor H Lobuczek
District Councillor R Cope
R Young – Clerk to the Council

1) **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

County Councillor B Williams mentioned the following:-

- Kier/Highways – A5 Gailey Reservoir Drainage work.
- M Keeling undertaken a review of gullies.
- County Council finance problem with £35m shortfall. Problem due to cost of Social Care.
- Small potholes are in doubt for repair.
- D Betts commented weeds on the Highway are an ever bigger problem.
- F Beardsmore said Parishioners can see the weeds growing more and more.
- Details given of SCC proposal to stop having crossing attendants to save money.
- R Tucker said that SCC should contact the Government for additional funding and also Council Tax should be increased.
- F Beardsmore thanked B Williams for attending the Parish Council Meeting.

2) **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

a) **District Councillor H.Lobuczek**

- No decision with regard to the Freight Terminal, M54 Link or Royal Ordnance Roadway.
- Update concerning Fly Tipping or Dog Fouling; confirming new signs and stencils available.
- Not aware of any Fly Tipping.
- Mentioned Road Sweeping in Parish – deferred until Parish Maintenance.

b) **District Councillor R.Cope**

- R Cope to report matters later in the meeting.

3) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Steve Bowker said it is the 50th Anniversary of the closure of Hilton Main. Circulated a photograph of the Memorial with a plaque and flower bed. Cost of £350.00 to produce. Also circulated Hilton Main Key Ring.
- R Tucker thanked S Bowker for work regarding the Memorial.
- Potential flood problem from New Road Caravan site.
- Grass cutting has not been done satisfactorily for months, areas often missed. F Beardsmore said the District Council and Housing Association have not been cutting grass on a regular basis.
- V Lockley asked if the Minutes could be put back on Facebook.
- F Beardsmore and D Betts reported that some Parishioners had said they were not being represented at Parish Council Meetings.
- F Beardsmore said any Parishioners who are unhappy regarding representation should write to the Parish Council via the Clerk and that no Councillor or Parishioner is refused attendance.
- K Knightingale reported the problem of rubbish being left at the back of the Londis shop by persons unknown. No person seems to own the portion of land to the rear of the shops. M Perks said the trees and bushes at this location need cutting back as they are over the path. The Clerk to include this subject on the Agenda of the next Parish Council Meeting for further discussion.
- Details given of Wooden Box by Moores Gate which had been damaged.

4) **POLICE MATTERS**

10/08/2018 – 10/09/2018 – Featherstone

- Main headlines since the last meeting: Attempt Break: to van in Cannock Road, door damaged, three males seen driving off in Vauxhall, disturbed by owner. Criminal damage to vehicle windscreen, damaged in Dark Lane.
- The Elms Public House – Table and chairs stolen from decking area.
- Brookhouse Close shed broken into; bikes stolens.
- Attempt break – Window smashed at unit on Vernon Park, Cannock Road.
- ASB hotspots: increased in suspicious activity around (The Avenue). However, PCSO's aware and patrolling the area to provide advice and reassurance to local residents. Reports of local kids trespassing on School grounds, local kids have been spoken to and parents.
- ASB South Crescent – Neighbours dispute (noise). Woodcock Gardens; items being thrown at windows, will pay attention to location.

- What are we asking you to do to increase community intelligence? E.g. if there is a problem with small silver canisters in local area, residents know,

- what have they seen/heard? Feed it back in to us with times/dates the ASB/ Criminal activity is taking place.
- Updates on anything new, e.g. (parking buddies). Using during school run times.
- SOCIAL MEDIA – Smart Alerts/South Staffs Twitter. Advertise next online surgery, face to face surgery and trending crimes.
- New scheme – poster at Featherstone Post Office for local drop-ins.
- On Tuesday, 18th September at 10.00am - 11.00am to speak to local PCSO.
- Upcoming Event: to do a crime prevention at the Community Centre.
- In the next month, dates to be discussed with Judy.
- Any questions that haven't been covered?

5) **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from J Griffiths, S Graham, I Harvey and J Brindle.

6) **MINUTES**

It was proposed (R Tucker), seconded (D Betts) and agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 9th August 2018 be approved, subject to the following amendments:-

- 7d) D Betts to be included as attending meeting.
- 14-5) Delete Maggie Quince – Include Maggie Quinn.

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 9th August 2018, subject to the two amendments.

7) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

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

8) **MATTERS ARISING**

a) **Local Prisons**

The following prison visits to be arranged:-

Featherstone – 28th September 2018 – 2.30pm
Brinsford – 12th October 2018 – 2.30pm

b) **Fingerpost**

- The Clerk confirmed he would enquire regarding delivery of the fingerpost ordered and contact SCC with regard the Fingerpost removed from the junction of Featherstone Lane/New Road.

c) **Meeting with Gavin Williamson M.P.**

- The Clerk reported he had not received any details regarding a date and time for a future meeting as suggested by Gavin Williamson.

9) **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

a) **M54/A460 Traffic Island**

The Clerk confirmed he had reported to Highways England the need to repair the barrier on the island

b) **Meeting with M Deaville, B Williams and M Keeling on the 11th September 2018**

The Clerk reported the following matters were raised again at the meeting:-

- South Crescent – Kerb Island – Install before Christmas.
- A460/M54 – M Keeling walked area – requested renewal of lineage and installation of two fibre signs.
- Drainage opposite Red, White and Blue – Gutters cleaned last week.
- Brookhouse Lane – Surface Dressing programme for April-August 2019.
- Weed spraying:-
 - May 2019 – September 2019 – Spray kerbs.
 - Restricted as to what can be used.
 - Never spray in January.
- Motorway Link – No news.
- Double Red Line – None in Staffordshire.
- Parking problem New Road/A460 – B Williams and K Perry to fund charge and resolve problem.

c) **District Councillor R Cope**

R Cope commented as follows:-

- James Chadwick a good contact at SCC.
- Phil Atkins (SCC) meeting District Council to discuss shortfall in finances of £35m.

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

J Beardsmore reported the following:-

- Not many bookings at present. Wrestling Night on the 21st September 2018.
- Roof leaking – Clerk to contact Danecourt Limited plus guttering needs attention.
- Decoration needed – Centre. Meeting to be arranged.
- Clerk reported he had completed the Annual Return and Report to Entrust regarding the Community Centre New Roof.

11) **REPORT – FEATHERSTONE ACADEMY REPORT**

- M Perks reported 90th Birthday Celebration last week with buffet. Very poor attendance which was a disappointment.

12) **REPORT – FEATHERSTONE FIRST RESPONDERS**

- Responses attended during month – 22.

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

- Clerk to contact Alyson Morton regarding drop down posts – Garages.

- Clerk to notify Association of fenced off land at 76 Hilton Road. Also report Alleyway Old Hall Road – Hilton Road – Dangerous tree plus no grass cutting on alley.

14) PLANNING

a) Planning Application Received

- i) 18/00621/FUL
15 Primrose Gardens, Featherstone
First Floor Extension.

b) Other Planning Matters

- R Cope reported he had arranged a meeting with Staffordshire Football Association regarding funding criteria to provide football pitches.
- The Clerk to request a meeting to discuss the above with K Harris (SSDC).
- Enforcement:-
 - 6 Cannock Road, Featherstone – Alleged running business from residential property.
 - Allotment Gardens, Cannock Road, Featherstone – Alleged removal of hedgerow and alleged creation of new access from A460.

15) CORRESPONDENCE

- Poster – Family Health Clinic – Flu Vaccinations.
- Schedule of Parish Council Meeting Dates.
- South Staffordshire Council – Parish Summit 2018 – 28th September 2018.
- SSDC – Poster “Register to Vote”.
- Latest Works Update – Highways England.
- Poster – “The Good Life South Staffordshire”.
- SCC – Bus Service Changes.
- South Staffordshire – Skills and Jobs Fair – 26th September 2018.
- SPCA Bulletin.
- SCC Pothole Repairs Update.
- H Lobuczek – Road Sweeping.

16) PARISH MAINTENANCE

Mobile CCTV – Private provider – Lorraine Fowkes (SSDC) commented as follows:-

- Different rules for Private and Public areas.
- Need to appoint Protection Officer.
- Code of Conduct.

This matter in abeyance until next Parish Council Meeting.

- Parish Emblem – M Perks reported it was ongoing.
- Flooding – F Beardsmore asked R Cope and H Lobuczek if a meeting could be arranged with an Environment Officer to discuss flooding issues in the Parish.
- It was proposed (R Tucker), seconded (D Betts) to donate £350.00 towards the cost of a Hilton Main Memorial.

Resolved: To contribute £350.00 towards the cost of a Hilton Main Memorial.

- J Beardsmore reported Black Bins sited by the flats were obscuring the traffic view on the A460. J Beardsmore to notify Staffordshire Police (PCSO) and the Clerk to inform South Staffordshire Council (Lucy MacDonald).
- Road sweeping and weed spraying in Parish with R Cope, H Lubuczek, Andy Cousins and Hilton Parish Councillor to discuss grass cutting. Reviewed areas requiring grass cutting in the Parish.
- Weeds very bad on South Crescent.
- Road weed spraying – SCC.
- Road sweeping – SSDC.
- H Lobuczek reported the District Council to confirm additional sweeps.
- F Beardsmore said a meeting with Mark Keeling (SCC) was needed to discuss weed spraying.
- H Lobuczek said he had asked Andy Cousins to liaise with the County Council. Confirmed at present the District Council undertake two road sweeps each year.
- F Beardsmore commented that additional amounts are paid for grass cutting around the Community Centre.
- School crossing – SCC.
Due to £35m deficit in Finances, Staffordshire County Council propose to remove all school crossing services by September 2019. Need to produce a Petition objecting to the proposal. Clerk to produce a Petition Form and photographs of crossing to be taken. County Council will save £350,000 and need to put pressure on the County Council to retain the Crossing Wardens.
- Maternity Care – J Beardsmore commented regarding the distance to travel from Featherstone and Brinsford to Maternity Care. R Cope and the Clerk to enquire regarding Care Service.

17) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Featherstone Play Equipment – Deferred until next meeting.

18) DATE O NEXT MEETING

- Thursday, 11th October 2018.

19) FINANCE MATTERS

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a) Cheque Payments

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

Date	Cheque No	Details	£
13/09/18	002952	Waterplus	339.32
13/09/18	002953	SCC Legal	81.00
13/09/18	002954	I.C.O Registration	40.00
13/09/18	002955	Khoo Systems	24.00
13/09/18	002956	R Young	937.60
13/09/18	002957	R Edmunds	271.50
13/09/18	002958	C Hill	339.30
13/09/18	002959	K Parkes	339.30
13/09/18	002960	HMRC (PAYE)	367.20
13/09/18	002961	R Young – Expenses	94.50
13/09/18	002962	Support Staffordshire	25.00
13/09/18	002963	F.H.C.C.	32.50
		TOTAL	£2,891.22

Resolved:

- **To issue the above cheques.**

20) **PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

➤ No matters were raised or discussed under this section.

The Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

F Beardsmore
Chairman