



FEATHERSTONE AND BRINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Zoom Meeting of the Parish Council
held on 13th August 2020 at 7.10pm

Present: F Beardsmore, M Perks, J Beardsmore, T Smitheman, D Betts, V Lockley,
G Reynolds and J Brindle

Also Present: B Williams, R Cope and R Young (Clerk to the Council)

1) COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

B Williams mentioned the following:-

- Update regarding Covid-19 in Staffordshire.
- Funding available from SCC for PPE.
- Trimming of Bushes on Brookhouse Lane requested.
- Speeding on New Road referred to Traffic Management Team.
- Potholes on Brookhouse Lane to be repaired.
- Wilmott Close – SCC Highways attending to problems. Fly Tipping in Stream and Gullies.

2) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

R Cope reported on the following:-

- Several issues:-
 - Link Road
 - Brinsford Lodge
- Flooding matters – Requested to arrange a stock of sandbags.
- Government White Paper on Planning.
- M54 Link Road to M6:-
 - Agents wish to talk to all Parish Councils to identify as to what is agreed with and what is not to identify common ground.
 - Traffic flow on A460.
 - Junction 11 to Hilton Park – Landowners want to develop land and say would create 4,000 employment vacancies. Access through Car Boot Site, if agreed, would put 2,000 HGV's on A460 – will not object to installation of bridge.
- Owner of Car Boot Site said he wants to keep Car Boot and offered alternative land. Also need to support planning of trees.

- Several options regarding Link Road and ROF site. Deferred until next Parish Council Meeting.
- Wolverhampton City Council suggests installation of cycle paths.
- R Cope to monitor developments.
- F Beardsmore commented as follows:-
 - Meeting with Cheryl Larvin (SCC Highways) regarding Old Lane from Doctor's Surgery to Baneberry Drive. A lot of work and will attend to section to Doctor's Surgery first.
- D Betts said cannot walk to Doctor's along the Lane.
- Also confirmed Cycleway on Brookhouse Lane would have overgrown bushes cut back. Also agreed to review signage on New Road.

3) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- No matters raised.

4) **POLICE MATTERS**

The Clerk reported that Sgt. Kelly Wareing had commented as follows:-

- PCSO's in Featherstone today trying to locate the nuisance motorbike.
- Sgt. Dorrington will be out with team on operations tomorrow night – high visibility proactive patrol.
- The Clerk to request a Zoom Meeting with Sgt. Wareing.

5) **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from R Tucker.

6) **MINUTES**

It was proposed (G Reynolds), seconded (T Smitheman) and agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 16th July 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 16th July 2020 as a true and correct record.

7) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

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

8) **MATTERS ARISING**

- a) **Flooding in Area of Caravan Site off New Road (A460 end)**

- F Beardsmore commented with the New Development new drains will be installed.
- G Reynolds said there is a problem with water accumulating further down New Road.

b) Static Caravan at Indian Restaurant (Kings Repose)

- Requested update – No information received. Shed built adjacent to Caravan (40' x15' x 10') – R Cope and F Beardsmore to request a Site Meeting.

c) Meeting with Prison Governors

- Oakwood - Visit arranged for 13th October 2020 at 10.00am
- Featherstone - Requested to leave for 6-8 weeks.
- Brinsford - Chris Wood said to check in 6-8 weeks.

d) Prisons – Ground Maintenance in Parish

- Oakwood - Not at present – Check in 6-8 weeks.

9) HIGHWAYS

- Brinsford Prison entrance access onto New Road requires white lineage – Clerk to contact.
- Barriers in Centre of Traffic Lights – A460 – New Road Junction. B Williams contacted Highways regarding need for repair.
- Brookhouse Lane Surface – M Keeling replied in an email as follows:-

Both the Structural and Preventative maintenance programmes were announced at the start of the financial year following our allocations from Central Government.

Additional funding covers many elements such as drainage improvements, structural projects, hot spot patching and surfacing work.

Some of the additional funding received has to be allocated to cycling and walking schemes and we are currently in a bidding process for a number of schemes across Staffordshire.

Further details will be available later this year in terms of provisional programmes for next year and confirmation of programmes for 2021/2022 will be announced at the start of the financial year.

- South Crescent Bollard – Bollard on order.
- M Perks commented we need to monitor the drains are not blocked and can deal with the volume of rainwater.

10) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE AND HILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

F Beardsmore gave a detailed report mentioning the following:-

- Community Centre can open within Government Guidelines.
- Health and Safety in place.
- Numbers in Space available to be controlled.

- Recording who comes into Centre.
- No walk in option.
- Contacting Group users.
- Kick Boxing to start next week.
- Land around Community Centre Building is owned by the Parish Council.
- Councillors reviewed options for Job Description and Contract.
- Initial 12 month Contract.
- V Lockley enquired if any Parish Council vacancy should be advertised. The Clerk to draft a suitable Advertisement. It was agreed the vacancy should be advertised locally.

11) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE ACADEMY GOVERNORS’ REPORT

J Brindle reported the following:-

- No meetings held.
- Preparations underway for when children return to school.

12) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE FIRST RESPONDERS

- Responses July 2020 - 1
- West Midland Ambulance Service had agreed to accept the nomination for an award of the two ladies who assisted the Senior Gentleman who fell on the pavement when he had a heart attack. Due to Covid-19 pandemic the award may not take place until early next year.

13) REPORT – SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE HOUSING ASSOCIATION

- G Reynolds reported SSHA attending to Grass Cutting and General Maintenance.
- J Brindle reported that he had received complaints that young single people were being moved into Midland Heart properties. R Cope said Midland Heart had a tendency to bring in people with Anti-Social Behaviour issues.

14) REPORT – BRINSFORD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

G Reynolds mentioned the following:-

- Reports of Fly Tipping down Lanes including bottom of New Road and College Site.
- Thanked Sue Graham for painting bench and noticeboard.

15) PLANNING

a) Planning Applications Received

- i) 19/00919/FUL
79 Dwellings (70% market dwellings and 30% affordable housing) with a football pitch, changing rooms, formal and informal open space.
Brinsford Lodge, East Road, Brinsford.

The following was discussed regarding the above application:-

- Withdrawn Allotments and Skateboard Site.

- R Cope reported the following:-
 - Reviewed House Number proposals over recent years.
 - Because Brownfield Site may not be able to reduce 79 houses.
 - Highway Route to Site.
 - Number of Houses and Facilities provided reviewed.
 - Site Financial Viability.
- T Smitheman commented the play area had not been removed from site plan.
- Reviewed Houses, Garages and Safeguarding Land.
- F Beardsmore commented could get more use out of the Changing Rooms.
- R Cope referred to parking places on site.
- Land ownership now totally with Countryside Properties.
- Safeguarding Land in ownership of David Wilson Homes.
- F Beardsmore said need to raise the following matters:-
 - Ownership – Parish Council or District Council.
 - Changing Room Usage.
 - Facilities or Finance – Alternative Site.
- V Lockley said need to include Allotments.

16) CORRESPONDENCE

- SSDC – Discretionary Business Grants.
- SSDC – Local Plan Update.
- SCC – “Have Your Say”.
- SPCA – Bulletin.

- SSDC – Rebecca Potter – BT Kiosk Removal.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by a majority vote that the Telephone Kiosk described as PCO PCO1 The Avenue be removed.

Resolved: To agree to the removal of the above Kiosk.

- Her Majesty’s Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, Mr Ian Dudson, on behalf of the Queen, thanked everyone for their work and support to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Newsletter.
- SSDC – Debi Round – Consultations and Public Access.

- SCC – “A New Online Resource of Creative Activities for all Ages”.

17) PARISH MAINTENANCE

- M Green – Tree Roots into Garden – F Beardsmore reviewed garden and confirmed roots from a tree owned by the Parish Council had encroached into the garden. To obtain quote to rectify.
- Veolia Waste Skips – Lockable Units delivered.
- V Lockley asked if additional waste bins could be considered for around the Community Centre Grounds (by Post Box).

18) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Village Green

- The Clerk to enquire whether a new Registered Charity could take up ownership of the land in question. Also enquire as to what organisation could accept ownership.
- The Clerk to also instruct Michael Murphy at SCC (Legal Section) to officially write to the Ministry of Justice as to whether the acquisition of land at Brinsford for £1.00 from the Ministry of Justice can be resurrected.

b) Parish Plaque

- It was proposed (M Perks), seconded (V Lockley) and agreed that a Parish Plaque be presented to the two Parishioners who aided a Gentleman who suffered a Heart Attack.

Resolved: To present a Parish Plaque to the Two Parishioners who assisted the Senior Practitioner.

c) Scout Youth Facility

- Abeyance.

d) Update – Proposed Development in the Parish

- No further comment

e) Featherstone Play Area

- T Smitheman said he had not been in contact with Play Equipment Suppliers as need to obtain grant funding.

19) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Thursday, 10th September 2020.

The Meeting closed at 9.37pm.

F Beardsmore
Chairman