



FEATHERSTONE AND BRINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Zoom Parish Council Meeting
held on 8th April 2021 at 7.00pm

Present: F Beardsmore, R Tucker, T Smitheman, V Lockley, J Brindle and M Perks

Also Present: District Councillor R Cope
K Wareing – Staffordshire Police
R Young – Clerk to the Council

1) COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- No matters reported.

2) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

a) R Cope

R Cope mentioned the following:-

- Update regarding Boundary Commission proposals including reduction in the number of Borough Councillors.
- Link Road – All details submitted. Dispute regarding Tree Planting. Still requesting a more direct route.

b) F Beardsmore

F Beardsmore commented as follows:-

- Climate Change Meeting – Outlined more use of electric vehicles.

3) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- No matters raised.

4) POLICE MATTERS

K Wareing attended the meeting and the following was mentioned or discussed:-

- J Brindle said he had not seen any Police in the Parish.
- R Tucker enquired regarding how much of Police time at one of the Prisons. K Wareing replied time spent at the prison is 28 hours each week.
- K Wareing also mentioned four detectives working just on Prison incidents.

- K Wareing mentioned the following:-

- Officers stopping cars for Drugs, Vehicle Tax, etc.
 - Reviewed comparison of incidents over last two years and gave statistical details.
- F Beardsmore said the main complaint is regarding Drug Abuse.
 - M Perks gave details deals in Parish, details of which had been sent to Facebook Messenger. Incidents carried out at same time, same location and same vehicle.
 - K Wareing to send details of Police contact details to the Clerk.
 - F Beardsmore enquired regarding Operation Lightening.
 - F Beardsmore thanked K Wareing for attending.

5) APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from J Beardsmore and D Betts.

6) MINUTES

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Minutes of the Zoom Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th March 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Zoom Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th March 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

7) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

8) MATTERS ARISING

a) Static Caravan at Indian Restaurant (Kings Repose)

- No update received.

b) Meeting with Prison Governors

- Deferred due to Covid.

c) Grit Bins

- The Clerk to enquire with B Williams as to whether SCC will provide Grit Bins.

d) Liquid Salt

- C Larvin (SCC Highways) confirmed that SCC will not be using Liquid Salt in the future.

e) Brookhouse Lane

Councillors reported the following regarding the mis-management of repairs to Brookhouse Lane:-

- R Tucker commented nobody aware of closure, resulting in chaos. Letter needs to be sent to SCC Cabinet Member for Highways regarding lack of communication to the Village.
- F Beardsmore said communication should have been better.
- V Lockley said there was no Signage regarding closure.
- F Beardsmore said there was no coordination as Construction traffic added to chaos, causing major Health and Safety issue on The Avenue.
- F Beardsmore and R Tucker both highlighted that after a week only 50% of Brookhouse Lane had been repaired, which would result in another closure. Preferred use of Traffic Lights.

9) **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

- No further matters raised.

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

F Beardsmore reported the following:-

- Open from 19th April 2021.
- J Brindle commented sanding in Main Hall very good, plus new lights and colours used.
- F Beardsmore gave details of grants received and implication for new heating system, including cost of new heating system boilers.
- F Beardsmore gave a detailed outline of a new system including the type of heating boiler.
- The Clerk gave a summary of funds possibly available from the Parish Council.
- J Brindle asked if domestic heating boilers are to be used, will the Community Centre be zoned. F Beardsmore confirmed commercial boilers will be used.
- R Tucker said we must revise and update the three quotes obtained a year ago.
- It was proposed (R Tucker), seconded (J Brindle) and agreed to obtain updated quotes from last year and decide which is acceptable.

Resolved: To obtain updated quotes from last year and decide which is acceptable.

- The clerk to obtain invoices from B.T. sent to the Community Centre to review costs.
- F Beardsmore reported that Jones Skips had given prices for waste removal lower than Veolia. The Clerk reported he had contacted Veolia who had quoted a settlement figure of £1,330.88 + VAT to terminate the contract. The Clerk to contact Veolia again regarding a more favourable settlement.

11) **REPORT – FEATHERSTONE ACADEMY GOVERNOR'S REPORT**

- J Brindle reported one confidential zoom meeting had taken place and also the demand for the thirty new intake places had been exceeded. Also mentioned with new developments in the Parish, demand for places at the School will increase.
- J Brindle mentioned he was due £50.00 for Flower Presentations.

12) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE FIRST RESPONDERS

- Attended eight incidents.

13) REPORT – SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE HOUSING ASSOCIATION

- The Clerk to identify the contact at the Housing Association who had previously been very helpful.

14) REPORT – BRINSFORD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

- No report available.
- F Beardsmore confirmed that G Reynolds had resigned as a Parish Councillor due to work commitments. The Clerk to send a letter of thanks to G Reynolds for his help and contribution to the Parish Council.
- It was agreed that when Meetings start again the Clerk to enquire if Brinsford Residents' Association could forward copies of their minutes in future.

15) PLANNING

a) Planning Applications Received

- i) 21/00258/FUL
Two storey side and single storey rear extension.
28 South Crescent, Featherstone
- ii) 21/00312/FUL
Conversion of building to provide three dwellings.
Featherstone Hall Farm, New Road, Featherstone

b) Brinsford College Site

F Beardsmore reported the following:-

- Work started a week early.
- Complained to Kelly Harris (SSDC) but replied that “it would not be in the public interest to stop work due to costs involved for one week”.
- Cutting down trees and installing fences.
- Work should stop at 5.00pm, carrying on to 6.00pm.
- No Signage installed at start. No Signage stating Contractors not to use The Avenue.
- Committee of residents meeting every week and seems to be a catalogue of errors by the Contractors.
- F Beardsmore said it was disappointing the lack of help from the District Council.

- R Tucker said this had been a Public Relations disaster. Children could not sleep due to late working.
- R Tucker said movement of heavy plant had not been planned appropriately.
- R Cope said planning permission had been granted for remediation only. No permission to remove trees.
- F Beardsmore said a meeting with Countryside Properties is needed. Also commented the response from the District Council had been poor as no support or help from Enforcement.
- Meeting with Parishioners on Sunday morning to be followed with a meeting with a representative of Countryside Properties. Details to be displayed on Facebook.
- R Cope said cannot rely on the District Council.
- R Tucker said Parishioners had been treated with contempt.
- The Clerk to forward a letter of complaint to Kelly Harris regarding the above.

c) Mast – Cannock Road

- R Cope reported that at meeting District Council asked for height of mast to be checked, and mentioned out of character with area. Enforcement also checking the boxes adjacent to mast. Parishioners complaints being processed by the District Council.

16) CORRESPONDENCE

- SPCA Bulletin.
- Came and Co. – Parish Council Insurance Renewal.
- Staffordshire Council of Voluntary Youth Services – Appointment of Jane Reynolds as Development Worker.
- Community Foundation of Staffordshire – Confirmation Best Kept Village Community Competition 2021 cancelled.
- My Staffordshire Newsletter.
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Services – Outdoor Fires.
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Services – Water Safety.
- Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Update.
- SSDC – Public Space Protection Order – Dog Fouling – Response from Parish Council confirmation receipt.

17) PARISH MAINTENANCE

- The Clerk to enquire with B Williams as to how long will it take to renew the yellow lines on The Avenue by the shops.
- Dog Waste Bins – The Clerk to contact Bob Taylor at SSDC again.
- Rubbish – Farmers Field by the Bridge on Cat and Kitten Lane – The Clerk confirmed this matter had been passed by Lorraine Fowkes (SSDC) to Catherine Gutteridge (SSDC) for action.
- The Clerk to cancel contact with Playdale Limited as J Brindle to repair swing.
- C Larvin (SCC Highways) confirmed she had requested a letter be sent to the resident tipping rubbish over fence onto Old Lane.

- Top of The Avenue – J Brindle agreed to review regarding need to repair.

18) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a) Litter Pickers

- F Beardsmore confirmed timesheets to be given out.
- R Tucker said Brookhouse Lane up to The Avenue is clear of litter.
- V Lockley agreed to check New Road.

b) Parish Plaque

- The Clerk gave details of four proposed recipients of a Parish Plaque. Councillors reviewed details and expanded on work undertaken by each one proposed. The Clerk administered an online vote regarding those recipients proposed and confirmed that Steve Bowker was the preferred recipient by a majority vote.
- It was proposed, seconded and agreed that S Bowker should be given a Parish Plaque for work in the Parish.

Resolved: That Steve Bowker should be presented with a Parish Plaque for work in the Parish.

c) Parish Vacancy

- F Beardsmore said at present there has been no decision regarding open meetings.
- The Clerk to produce a vacancy notice when face to face meetings resume.
- M Perks said we need to recover Noticeboard keys from G Reynolds.

d) New Facility

- J Brindle said consideration should be given to the provision of Gym Facility. Councillors to consider this proposal.

19) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 13th May 2021.

20) FINANCE

a) Cheque Payments

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to issue the following cheques:-

Date	Cheque No	Details	£
08/04/2021	003471	Khoo Systems	24.00

08/04/2021	003472	HMRC (PAYE)	412.48
08/04/2021	003473	R Young	1,000.00
08/04/2021	003474	D Webb	346.73
08/04/2021	003475	K Malpas	373.47
08/04/2021	003476	K Parkes	377.87
08/04/2021	003477	C Hill	377.87
		TOTAL	£2,912.42

Resolved: To issue the above cheques.

The Meeting closed at 10.15pm.

F Beardsmore
Chairman