



FEATHERSTONE AND BRINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held at 6.45pm on Thursday, 10th November 2022
in Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre

Present: F Beardsmore, B Clayton, J Brindle, D Betts, R Tucker and V Lockley

Also Present: B Williams
PCSO Theresa Nicholl
Four Members of the Public
R Young, Clerk to the Council

1) COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

B Williams reported the following:

- No news regarding white lining on New Road. Will enquire again.
- No feedback regarding bus stop opposite the Brinsford Lodge Site. Will follow up.
- Potholes on Wolverhampton Road – To be re-surfaced. Asked to obtain a date.

2) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

F Beardsmore mentioned the following:

- Meeting this week to adopt the Local Plan. No additional housing apart from the 31 houses previously agreed. B Williams said that Birmingham requested 87,000 houses needed which was passed to Distreets.
- B Williams agreed to obtain information regarding what is planned for the M54 traffic island.

3) POLICE MATTERS

- PCSO Nicholl gave details of the Crime Report for the period 8th October 2022 – 7th November 2022 as follows:
 - Burglary Residential – Hilton Road workshop broken into overnight, doors ripped off to gain entry, stole was a Cross bike.
 - Garage Break – Old Hall Road – empty garage broken into, nothing taken.
 - Few days earlier there was a fire reported, believed to be two homeless people seen in the garage. Reported to housing plus.
 - Criminal Damage – Featherstone Fish & Chip Shop – Damage to sign, motorist ran over it, officers dealing.
 - Featherstone Post Office – Report of charity box stolen off counter, officers dealing.

- ASB related incidents reported – Featherstone Fish & Chip Shop. Reports of a group of youths being a general nuisance to staff and customers, several youths have been banned from using the shop. Youths have been dealt with by police officers.

Featherstone Fish & Chip Shop – Teenagers gathering outside on bikes being a general nuisance.

Old Hall Road – Teenagers banging on windows and throwing object.

Hilton Lane – Several reports of youths knocking on window and door, and being a general nuisance.

Dark Lane – Two motorbikes reported whizzing around on the field.

Featherstone Community Centre – Report of group of youths throwing fireworks. Suspect has been spoken to by officers.

Neighbours dispute – 1 reported East Road, Brinsford.

- In regards to Vehicle Crime, Woodcock Gardens – Renault Clio stolen from outside property. Vehicle had tracker and was found later.
 - Good News – Boy Racers on A460 and A449 – The operation was supported by three separate dispersal orders over three week period after concerned residents and businesses reported excessive car and anti-social behaviour in the region. Offices from South Staffordshire local policing team.
 - LPT teamed up with Forces Road policing unit RPU in targeted patrols. Arrested 3 people and further 62 drivers for motoring offences for illegal street racing and car cruising.
- PCSO Nicholl reported that several local children had been identified and spoken to regarding behaviour. All to be given protection orders.
 - “Vehicle Crime Online Chat” Poster for Noticeboards.

4) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Member of the Public asked regarding how do the Public know about Police Matters/Activity? PCSO Nicholl gave details of Staffordshire Smart Alert.
- F Beardsmore commented the Parish Council were considering a Parish Newsletter.
- Enquiries regarding Drop-Ins at the Community Centre.
- Member of the Public requested an update concerning a complaint regarding a Parish Councillor. Reply outstanding.
- Brinsford Park – Hedge, Bench and Fence in need of attention.
- Update requested regarding Community Centre Heating System quotes. F Beardsmore said a third quotation was being obtained.

- Website – Clerk confirmed he was in contact with provider regarding training. Member of the Public offered Website training by her partner.

5) **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from M Perks, J Beardsmore, T Smitheman and R Cope.

6) **MINUTES**

It was proposed (B Clayton), seconded (D Betts) and agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th October 2022 be approved as a true and correct record.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th October 2022 be approved as a true and correct record.

7) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillors R Tucker and B Clayton declared an interest in relation to all matters relating to Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre.

8) **MATTERS ARISING**

a) **Signage**

- The Clerk to report to SSDC that an Advertising Sign for the Chip Shop had appeared at the top of The Avenue.

b) **Prosecution of HGV's not using Designated Route to Brinsford Lodge Site**

- The Clerk to enquire with D Heywood, Chief Executive at SSDC regarding the number prosecuted.

c) **Mann Hummel Building – Misuse of Adjacent Land**

- Email received from SSDC Environmental Health requesting confirmation of location.
- The Clerk to confirm that on the Wolverhampton side of M54/A40 traffic island there is a layby on both sides – Gate going into woods where rubbish left and used as toilet.

d) **Brinsford Lodge**

- Clerk to obtain update from Justin Howell regarding the following:
 - Provision of Football Pitch and when will work commence.
 - Clerk to enquire with B Williams regarding retention of hedge on the Estate Side of Road as advised work to be supervised by SCC.

9) **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

- Potholes – Wolverhampton Road side of M54/A460 – Email from D Williams confirming offices are investigating this matter.
- Clerk to send reminder to Cheryl (Highways) regarding rubbish deposited on Old Lane.

A full set of minutes are available for inspection at the Community Centre
Telephone: 07855 050424 www.featherstoneandbrinsfordparishcouncil.gov.uk Page 3 of 6

- Clerk to enquire regarding Traffic Enforcement and parking abuse on The Avenue and all corners of road by the Chip Shop.

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

- Hilton Parish Council - £1,000 contribution towards costs of the Community Centre. C Gracey, Parish Clerk at Hilton Parish Council commented as follows:
 - No record of payments.
 - Previous Clerk has no knowledge of agreement.
 - No funds available.
- Another water leak in Centre roof space.
- M Perks looking at CCTV options.
- Third quotation being obtained for Heating improvements.
- D Betts and V Lockley thanked for work at Community Centre.
- It was proposed (V Lockley), seconded (D Betts) that a replacement refrigerator could be purchased for the Community Centre up to a maximum cost of £500.00.

Resolved: A refrigerator could be purchased for the Community Centre up to £500.00.

11) **REPORT – FEATHERSTONE FIRST RESPONDERS**

- Attended nine incidents.
- Asked regarding installation of Defibrillator at the Community Centre.

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

- Reply from Kerry Bolister, Director of Development as follows:

Homes Plus owns East Road garage site in Brinsford (with two garages), then garage sites at Blue Lane, Brookhouse Close, Brookhouse Lane, South Crescent, The Avenue and Whitgreave Avenue in Featherstone. We are gradually reviewing the potential future function of all of our garage sites. Whilst this will take some time, we are, as you mention below, looking first at those sites that could be redeveloped. If redevelopment is not an option (e.g. because a site is long and thin or has a narrow access), then our next consideration is whether we either keep the garage site and use for car parking for our tenants (requiring the demolition of garages) or sell the garages as seen.

I mention sale as, for example, East Road is clearly too small to redevelop. However, garage sites are social housing assets and we have to ensure that disposals go through a process. Unfortunately, no site is the same as another, which makes the review quite time consuming. To give examples, we have sold sites 'as seen' to local residents (whether or not they are tenants of Homes Plus), to builders (where they have a building site next to our garages) – most of the sales have gone through auctions and because the sites are social housing assets, disposals have to reach valuation figures supplied by an RICS valuer.

- The Clerk to enquire as follows:

**A full set of minutes are available for inspection at the Community Centre
Telephone: 07855 050424 www.featherstoneandbrinsfordparishcouncil.gov.uk Page 4/6**

- Are garages to be leased out until a decision is taken regarding the future. For example, funds were used to improve the Blue Alley garages eight years ago.
- Could you advise as to why the garages at Brinsford have been fenced off.

13) **PLANNING**

a) **Planning Application Received**

- i) 22/00958/LUE
Oak Tree Caravan Site, New Road, Featherstone.
Mobile Homes for Travellers and Kennels for Dog Breeding.

The Clerk to enquire as follows:

- How many Mobile Homes.
- Size of Mobile Homes.
- Number of Dogs in Kennels.

J Brindle Declared an Interest

b) **Other Planning Matters**

- i) 64 East Road, Brinsford – Fencing blocking garages – Request update from C Gutteridge.
- ii) Signage (Advertising) – Dog Grooming plus Chip Shop – Enquire with Enforcement.

14) **CORRESPONDENCE**

- SSDC – Private Localities & Forum – 24th November 2022 at 6.00pm – Copy to J Brindle.
 - Community Safety Posters – Copy to Councillors.
 - Contact Details of Councillors – Copy to Councillors.
 - B Williams – Traffic Survey – Featherstone Lane – Request for location advice.
 - SCC – Christmas Campaign.
 - SSDC – Local Plan Review.
 - Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Newsletter.
 - Housing Plus Group – One Year Old Event.
 - SSDC – Rough Sleeping Survey 2022.
 - Kath Perry – Staffordshire Highways Statistics.
 - SCC – Community Help Point.
-
- SSDC – Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places.
Clerk to enquire regarding Brinsford location.
 - SPCA Bulletin.
 - Glenn Bayliss – Enquiry Community Playground.
 - HMP and YOI Brinsford – Carol Service 14th December 2022.
 - SCC – Bernard Williams – Provision of two additional blocks at HMP/YOI Brinsford.

15) **PARISH MAINTENANCE**

- The Clerk to draft a Working Time Sheet for Litter Pickers.
- Reviewed need for radiator guards in the Community Centre.

A full set of minutes are available for inspection at the Community Centre
Telephone: 07855 050424 www.featherstoneandbrinsfordparishcouncil.gov.uk Page 5/6

16) NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT

- V Lockley commented we need to finalise the review of Play Equipment quotes.
- The Clerk confirmed he had applied to Veolia and the National Lottery. _

17) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Thursday, 8th December 2022.

18) FINANCE

-

a) Cheque Payments

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

Date	Cheque No	Details	£
13/10/2022	003693	M W Brown (Pest Control)	300.00
13/10/2022	003694	Cancelled	0.00
13/10/2022	003695	Clerk – Mileage/Copies	61.20
10/11/2022	003696	Litter Picker	411.67
10/11/2022	003697	Litter Picker	405.07
10/11/2022	003698	Parish Handyman	346.73
10/11/2022	003699	Litter Picker	411.67
10/11/2022	003700	Parish Clerk	1,060.00
10/11/2022	003701	Inland Revenue	436.45
10/11/2022	003702	The Revival Company	250.00
10/11/2022	003703	Cancelled	0.00
10/11/2022	003704	Clerk's Postage/Copies	15.25
10/11/2022	003705	Khoo Seller	72.00
10/11/2022	003706	B Clayton	25.00
		TOTAL:	£3,795.04

Resolved: To issue the above cheques.

b) Parish Council Account Balance

- The Clerk confirmed the Parish Council Bank balance.

c) AGAR 2021/2022

The Clerk read out the Completion Letter from Mazars and the External Auditor's Report Section 3 of the AGAR 2021/2022.

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

19) LORRAINE FOWKES – CODE OF CONDUCT

- With reference to the Code of Conduct correspondence received from L Fowkes in relation to Mrs Barbara Pytlinski-Griffiths and Councillor F Beardsmore.
 - Agreed wording of reply.
 - The Parish Clerk to contact Mrs Pytlinski-Griffiths regarding recognition of M Griffith's work in the Parish.

The Meeting closed at 9.56pm.

F Beardsmore
Chairman