



FEATHERSTONE AND BRINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at 6.45pm on Thursday, 14th September 2023
in Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre

Present: F Beardsmore, D Betts, J Brindle, J Smith, D Randell, Z Webb, T Smitheman and A Rowe

Also Present: County Councillor B Williams
District Councillor R Cope
PCSO J Wells
R Young, Clerk to the Council

1) PARISH COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION

It was proposed (J Brindle), seconded (D Betts) and agreed that Janice Smith should be co-opted as a Parish Councillor for Featherstone and Brinsford Parish Council.

Resolved: That Janice Smith be co-opted as a Parish Councillors for Featherstone and Brinsford Parish Council.

J Smith completed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form.

2) COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

B Williams mentioned the following:-

- West Midlands Interchange Contract Awarded.
- RACC – No Staffordshire Schools closed. Inspecting 405 Schools, of which 61 need further investigation.
- Featherstone Lane – F Beardsmore said part funding could come from the Parish Council. B Williams said the survey results did not justify a change to a one way system. D Randell said that Mark Keeling had said the budget for this year had gone. New Budget for 2024 and the Parish Council to contribute. M Keeling had said it could be done in May 2024. B Williams and the Parish Clerk were asked to obtain a costing from Mark Keeling.
- A Rowe asked B Williams if speed signs could be installed in and approaching Brinsford.

3) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

a) **District Councillor R Cope**

R Cope mentioned the following:-

- Closed Churchyards – District Council will accumulate £25K each year.
- Closure of Motor Cycle Track reported in the Express and Star. SSDC against replacement in District.
- Walk about with Chief Executive – Fly Tipping on Brookhouse including waste in field. Responsibility of the County Council.

a) **District Councillor J Brindle**

J Brindle mentioned the following:-

- Meeting regarding Electoral Registration.
- Last week attending meeting regarding Salary Rates for Staff.

4) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLUS HARVEST GROVE**

➤ **Harvest Grove Development**

J Smith reported the following:-

- Update regarding site meeting with Gavin Williamson M.P.
- Work completed and that which is outstanding.
- Three months to complete internal site roads.
- F Beardsmore said we need to maintain communication regarding outstanding issues. Disappointed with Gavin Williamson as to date received no reply or update.
- F Beardsmore reviewed correspondence from Catherine Gutteridge (Planning Enforcement, SSDC) and main planning permission conditions that are outstanding.

5) **POLICE MATTERS**

Crime and Anit-social Behaviour Report

Report for: Featherstone

Date range: 10/08/2023 – 12/09/2023

Statistics

Burglary (business)

09/09/2023 – The Elms, Shareshill

Rear of the pub has been broken into and keys taken for the safe. Safe was then emptied of money. CID are leading the enquiries.

Burglary (residential)

17/08/2023 – Cannock Road

Two persons seen trying to break into neighbouring property by smashing the glass in the rear window. The offenders have then run off. Cannabis grow has been found at the property by attending officers. Enquiries are ongoing.

Vehicle Crime

11/08/2023 – Turnstone Drive

Boxer van stolen from the street outside the owner's address. CCTV check. No further lines of enquiry.

21/08/2023 – Hollybush Garden Centre

Moped stolen from the location at approximately 11:50 hours. Offenders were located with the vehicle and arrested.

30/08/2023 – Hilton Road

Front and rear number plates stolen from a Hyundai. One of them was later found nearby.

30/08/2023 – The Avenue

Number plates stolen from Ford Transit van. No lines of enquiry.

06/09/2023 – Premier Lacquers Limited, Hilton Main

Van broken into overnight but nothing stolen. No lines of enquiry.

Anti-Social Behaviour: 4 incidents

(1 x mental health, 1 x noise issue, 1 x homeless male at Hilton Services and 1 x neighbour dispute).

You said – we did:

Police still need to hear from the public if there are any issues in the area. Call 101 or complete the online form on the Staffordshire Police website by clicking on the 'REPORT' button.

Policing operations of note: Hi-viz on The Avenue and around the Community Centre.

PCSO 16814 Julia Wells

Email: Julia.wells@staffordshire.police.uk

PCSO 8861 Teresa Nicholls

Email: Teresa.nicholls@staffordshire.police.uk

Helpful Links

Volunteers requested for community speed watch, further information found at <http://www.staffsaferroads.co.uk/my-community/community-speed-watch>

Keep in touch with regular Smart Alerts for your area:

<http://staffordshiresmartalert.uk/staffs/>

Social media:



@Staffordshire Police & @South Staffordshire Police

- J Brindle mentioned an incident on The Avenue – Considered Anti-social behaviour.
- Dark Lane Turning – Accident potential.
- A Rowe mentioned gas cannister usage on Oaks Drive.
- F Beardsmore asked if Police could monitor Park at Harvest Grove as youths gather.
- J Brindle gave details of drug distribution in Featherstone.

6) APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from M Perks, R Tucker and V Lockley.

7) MINUTES

It was proposed (J Brindle), seconded (T Smitheman) and agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th August 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th August 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

8) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillors J Brindle and T Smitheman declared an interest in all matters relating to Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre.

9) MATTERS ARISING

a) Fly Tipping – Brookhouse Lane

➤ R Cope confirmed he had taken the Chief Executive of SSDC to this site.

b) Overgrown Hedges and Walkways

➤ The Clerk confirmed a meeting with Housing Plus had been arranged for 1.30pm on Thursday, 21st September 2023.

c) Red, White and Blue – Tidy Up Order Request

➤ The Clerk reported that Catherine Gutteridge, Planning Enforcement Officer at SSDC had declined to progress a Tidy Up Order for the Red, White and Blue Public House stating: “The site does look unkempt, however, it is not below the standard that would be expected for a derelict pub site”.

d) Shops – South Crescent

J Brindle reported the following:-

- Mark Jenkinson (SSDC) spoken to shopkeeper about keeping area tidy.
- Only one waste bin used – blue bin contains maggots.
- J Brindle to contact M Jenkinson again.

10) HIGHWAY MATTERS

- End of New Road – Junction has no Signage or Road Markings. M Keeling to inspect.
- Featherstone Lane – One Way System Request – B Williams and Parish Clerk to ask M Keeling for a costing.
- M54/A460 Traffic Island Repairs – M Keeling quoted 24th – 28th September 2023.
- National Highways – Update M54/A460 Link Road – Invitation to Representative to attend October, November or December 2023 Parish Council Meeting.
- Old Hall Road – Route to Doctor’s Surgery needs clearing. Community Payback could not assist due to shortage of supervision. D Webb to be asked if he could clear route. B Williams was asked to arrange a meeting with Rights of Way at SCC as Old Hall Road is an important route to the Doctor’s Surgery.
- Ann Rowe – No Sign for Brinsford – M Keeling to inspect.
- Street Light Repairs – Need location plus light number.

- Dark Lane – M Keeling to confirm if larger “No Turning” Sign could be provided.

11) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE AND HILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

- F Beardsmore to meet carpet supplier next week.
- The Clerk to contact Michelle (First Responders) regarding a costing for a Defibrillator and preferred unit.
- Date of Annual General Meeting to be agreed.
- Parish Clerk to obtain a quotation for a Fire Resistant Waste Bin.
- Z Webb said there was a need to form a “Entertainment and Fund Raising Committee”.

12) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE FIRST RESPONDERS

- Five incidents attended.

13) REPORT – HOUSING PLUS

- Meeting arranged for 21st September 2023.

14) PLANNING

a) Planning Applications Received

- i) 20/01078/FUL
Hilton Cross Business Park
S.73 Application to Vary Conditions 2, 23 and 25 of Application. External Plant Elevations and Swept Path Analysis.

15) CORRESPONDENCE

- SPCA Bulletin.
- Staffordshire Archive and Heritage Newsletter.
- SSDC – Maggie Quinne – Request to assist installing Doorbell.
- My Staffordshire.
- Staffordshire Fire and Rescue – Drink and Drug Driving Poster.
- National Highways – M54 to M6 Link Update.

16) PARISH MAINTENANCE

- Litter Picker at Brinsford – At Meeting, a work route was agreed. A Rowe gave details of “Hot Spots” at Brinsford. Regular Meetings to be arranged and timesheets to be completed by all Litter Pickers.
- Z Webb suggested a Community Gardening Club should be formed. Agreed to include on the Agenda.
- T Smitheman mentioned overgrown hedges at Teasel Grove. Need clarification regarding ownership. R Cope said need an audit of who owns which areas of land.

17) NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT

Brinsford Play Area

- It was proposed, seconded and agreed the Clerk should order replacement parts for the play equipment which were highlighted in the ROSPA Report.

Resolved: The Clerk to order play equipment parts in need of replacement from Playdale.

- The Clerk to check which company installed the Safety Surface at the Brinsford Play Area.
- The Clerk to obtain a quotation for a vandal/weather resistant bench.
- F Beardsmore to contact Mr Randell about the existing bench.
- Funds raised by the Community towards play equipment credited to the Parish Council's bank account.

18) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Football Club Committee ongoing. (J Brindle, January 2023).
- Parish Newsletter ongoing. (T Smitheman, February 2023).
- House next to Post Office – Ask C Gutteridge to inspect. (J Brindle, August 2023).

19) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Thursday, 12th October 2023.

20) FINANCE

a) Cheque Payments

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

Date	Cheque No	Details	£
14/09/2023	003810	Jones Skips	479.20
14/09/2023	003811	Playsafety Limited	392.40
14/09/2023	003812	SSDC – Election Costs	2,852.92
14/09/2023	003813	HMRC (PAYE)	497.73
14/09/2023	003814	Parish Clerk	1,165.90
14/09/2023	003815	Litter Picker	451.53
14/09/2023	003816	Litter Picker	451.53
14/09/2023	003817	Litter Picker	436.93
14/09/2023	003818	Parish Gardener	380.27
14/09/2023	003819	Repair Costs	34.27
		TOTAL:	£7,142.68

Resolved: To issue the above cheques.

The Meeting closed at 9.40pm.

F Beardsmore
Chairman