



FEATHERSTONE AND BRINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held at 6.45pm on Thursday, 13th April 2023
in Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre

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

Also Present: County Councillor B Williams
District Councillor R Cope
Two Members of the Public
R Young, Clerk to the Council

1) COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Country Councillor B Williams mentioned the following:-

- New Chief Executive appointed today – Mr Flaherty.
- Old Lane – No funds available. Contribution from Parish Council would help.
- F Beardsmore said the County Council have a Duty of Care and responsibility to keep Old Lane clear. R Tucker commented Old Lane was a serious Health and Safety risk.
- New Road – White Lines – Will reinstate white lines when all surfacing work completed.
- F Beardsmore thanked B Williams for statistics regarding traffic volumes on Featherstone Lane.

An automatic radar based speed survey was carried out from 8th February 2023 to 22nd February 2023.

The headline figure show:-

1. Average (mean) speed Southbound 30mph.
2. Average (mean) speed Northbound 40mph.
3. 85th percentile speed Southbound – No data due to low volume of traffic.
4. 85th percentile speed Northbound – No data due to low volume of traffic.

Note: 85th percentile speed is the speed that 85% of the vehicles measured travelled at or slower, e.g. 50mph – 85% of vehicles measured travelled at 50mph or less.

This is a recognised measure used by the police when considering enforcement and Local Highways Authorities for some aspects of highway design.

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

Comments

The data captured shows the average mean speeds complying to the 60mph speed limit.

Vehicle Classification

The figures shown in the attached counts are daily averages based on an automated traffic survey that ran for 24 hours a day from 8th February 2023 to 22nd February 2023. The traffic counts were taken at the same location as the speed survey.

The attached counts give average totals and the "BINS" refer to a breakdown in size of vehicles.

BIN 1 – Motorcycles
BIN 2 – Cars and Vans
BIN 3 – Light Goods Vehicles
BIN 4 – Medium Goods Vehicles
BIN 5 – Heavy Goods Vehicles

BINS 3, 4 and 5 are the key figures for this survey. The combined HCV figures, minus bus figures are as follows:-

1. Southbound – 9 vehicles over 2.5 tons (BINS 3, 4 and 5, 24 hour daily average).
 2. Northbound – 1 vehicle over 3.5 tons (BINS 3, 4 and 5, 24 hour daily average).
- Total flow – 10 vehicles over 3.5 tons within 24 hours.

- Councillors mentioned the poor condition of the A460 approaching the A460/M54 traffic island plus the poor road surface condition around the island.

2) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

R Cope commented as follows:-

- Not many meetings due to Election.
- Planning Application – Battery Storage Sites.
 - Targeting Productive Farm land.
 - Outlined problems.
- Planning Application – Gypsy Site – New Road
 - Application refused.
 - Noise level from dogs.
 - Storage unit being used for accommodation.
- Planning – Hilton Road
 - Noise levels from Weddings.

- M54 Traffic Island
Not repaired due to decision regarding M6 link road. R Cope to B Williams –
Need clarification and urgent action.

3) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Members of the Public raised the following:-

- Brinsford Park – F Beardsmore said the fencing needs more work than expected – Need to review with Parish Councillors.
- Warm Wednesday.
Enquiry as to whether free – Being run on behalf of the Parish Council – Any surplus funds will be donated to Charity.

4) **POLICE MATTERS**

- Featherstone Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Report for the period 8th March 2023 – 11th April 2023 circulated to Councillors.
- Meeting (20th March 2023) with Chief Inspector Chris Cotton.
G Williamson M.P. attended part of the meeting. C Cotton was not aware of the low Police presence in the Parish. C Cotton gave details of Police numbers available for his area. R Tucker commented it was a constructive meeting.

5) **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from J Beardsmore.

6) **MINUTES**

It was proposed (J Brindle), seconded (T Smitheman) and agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 16th March 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 16th March 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

7) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillors R Tucker, T Smitheman, M Perks and J Brindle declared an interest in relation to all matters relating to Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre.

8) **MATTERS ARISING**

a) **Fly Tipping – Brookhouse Lane**

- R Cope had raised the issue of Fly Tipping on Brookhouse Lane at the District Council.

b) **Overgrown Hedges near to Red, White and Blue**

- This matter to be raised with Kerry Bolister at the arranged meeting on the 21st April 2023.

c) Brinsford Lodge Development

- G Williamson M.P. had been requested to enquire when the pavements would be installed on site.

9) HIGHWAY MATTERS

- The Clerk confirmed he had written to Gavin Williamson M.P. regarding the poor condition of the road surface around the A460/M54 traffic island.
- The Clerk reported he had against contacted D Williams, Cabinet Member for Highways regarding the following:-
 - When will repairs be undertaken to the surface of the road approaching the A460/M54 traffic island.
 - Request for copy of Inspectors Report plus confirmation of expenditure during last twelve months.

10) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE AND HILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

M Perks reported the following:-

- Outline of problems experienced with new carpet. No invoice received to date.
- Responders Room update.
- Several good events held with good receipts.
- New fridge to go in bar.
- Rent Review.
- Family event 28th April 2023.
- Need to introduce card payments.

11) REPORT – FEATHERSTONE FIRST RESPONDERS

- Attended five incidents.

12) REPORT – SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE HOUSING ASSOCIATION

- Meeting arranged with Kerry Bolister, Director of Development – 21st April 2023 at 3.00pm to discuss garages and hedges. F Beardsmore and J Brindle to attend at Old Hall Road by garages.

13) PLANNING

a) Planning Applications Received

- 23/00193/LUE
Certificate of Lawfulness for existing cladding and elevational works to existing building.
Mann and Hummel UK Limited, Hilton Cross Business Park, Cannock Road, Featherstone.

14) CORRESPONDENCE

- SSDC – Notice of Election – Several Issues.
- SSDC – South Staffordshire District and Parish Council Elections 2023.
- Kath Perry – Hilton Cross, Featherstone – Notice of Works.
- SSDC – Information regarding registration for Raffles.
- SSDC – Nomination for Standards and Resources Committee Representation.
- SSDC – Lorraine Mansell – Notes of Parish Summit 8th December 2022.
- SSDC – Waste and Recycling Collections Update 31st March 2023.
- HCI Data Limited – Change of Access Code.
- Sedgewick International UK – Electricity Running Costs for Dryers as part of insurance claim.
- SSDC – Co-option of Councillors.
- SSDC – Youth Provision in South Staffordshire – Progress of Chill Out Clubs (Maggie Quinn).

15) PARISH MAINTENANCE

- Bollard leaning over – South Crescent – SCC have stated rectification is not urgent.
- Brinsford Park – Site Meeting arranged as to who owns land on which play equipment sited.

The Clerk to also check with Kerry Bolister at Housing Plus Group regarding site ownership (land with play equipment).

- Clerk to report to Bob Taylor at SSDC that rubbish bin on New Road (by Kings Repose) out of ground.

16) NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT

- Update regarding Meetings of Play Equipment Group.
- T Smitheman stood down as Chairman of Play Equipment Group.

17) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Football Club Committee (J Brindle – January 2023) – Deferred until April 2023 Parish Council Meeting.
- Warm Wednesday (M Perks – March 2023) ongoing.
 - Initial three months ended.
 - Twenty-five to thirty people attended.
 - Reviewed donation option from Parish Council.
 - It was agreed that Warm Wednesday continues until the next Parish Council Meeting. Proposed (R Tucker), seconded (J Brindle) and agreed.
- Parish Newsletter (T Smitheman – February 2023) – Deferred until April 2023 Parish Council Meeting.

18) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

➤ Thursday, 11th May 2023.

19) FINANCE

a) Receipts and Payments 2022- 2023

The Clerk gave details of the Receipts and Payments for the year 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed the Chairman and Parish Clerk should sign the Annual Return for 2022-2023 and submit the Return for Audit.

Resolved: That the Chairman and Parish Clerk sign the Annual Return for 2022-2023 and submit for Audit.

b) Cheque Payments

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

Date	Cheque No	Details	£
13/04/2023	003756	Parish Handyman	1,166.10
13/04/2023	003757	Litter Picker	451.53
13/04/2023	003758	Litter Picker	451.53
13/04/2023	003759	Litter Picker	436.93
13/04/2023	003760	Parish Handyman	380.27
13/04/2023	003761	HMRC (PAYE)	436.45
13/04/2023	003762	Jones Skips	799.20
13/04/2023	003763	M Perks (MaVico)	420.98
13/04/2023	003764	SSDC (GM)	745.19
13/04/2023	003765	SPCA (Subscription)	502.05
		TOTAL:	£5,790.23

Resolved: To issue the above cheques.