**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, SWINDON ON WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST 2016 AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT :- MRS Y NOCK PRESIDING**

**PRESENT COUNCILLORS :- MR R LEES, MR P HEMMING, MR M CRISP,**

**MRS S OLIVER, MRS M SINCLAIR. MRS S FROST,**

**MR B EDWARDS**

**APOLOGIES :- PCSO L JONES, PCSO L IRVING**

**OTHERS :- MRS S FARLEY(CLERK),**

**NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS –** None

-Section 17 – reminds Parish Councils to review if any of the decisions made at the Parish Council meeting have implications in relation to crime, disorder, anti-social behavior or community safety in general.

-Cllr Lees: as a member of South Staffordshire District Council (SSDC), will reconsider any planning applications at District level taking into account all relevant evidence and representations at that tier and at District level will declare an interest arising from membership of this Parish Council when expressing a view on any relative matters.

POLICE REPORT

Crime figures for Himley and Swindon Parishes had been sent in by PCSO L Irving and these showed the following data: 20/7/16 - 20/8/16 – Anti social behaviour – 5, Theft from motor vehicle – 1,

Criminal damage to vehicle – 1.

21/8/ 16 – 20/9/16 – Burglary dwellings -1, Burglary other – 1, Criminal damage (exc arson -1, Other theft -1, Theft of motor vehicles -1.

We have a new PCSO, Gill Murphy taking over Wombourne and surrounding villages in place of PCSO Louise Jones, who is moving to a different role/area within South Staffordshire's Local Policing Team.

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING –

* Himley Country Hotel, Homes and Communities and the owner of the lime trees responded quickly to our request to cut back hedges and trees obstructing the pavement in School Road and Gospel End Road.
* The bin near the Commemorative Bench was not emptied on Friday 22nd July but it has since been emptied twice a week after contacting SSDC.
* Gospel End’s notice board header board has now been made and now is awaiting legs to be welded and assembled.
* Following re-surfacing of the bend on Wodehouse Lane, there have been no known accidents.
* The Neighbourhood Highways Team carried out most of the work we requested and Cllr Nock thanked them for their excellent work which was much appreciated. County were reminded that the gulleys in School Road had not been emptied of grit. Also debris from The Rocks in Gospel End which had been washed downhill to opposite The Summer House had not been removed. County have now raised works to empty the gulleys and have asked SSDC to sweep footways in Gospel End Road.
* Planned gate closure in Fir Street: SSDC is unable to legally enforce the condition that David Wilson Homes must install a locked gate to prevent access by vehicles between Baggeridge Village and Fir Street as the road is owned, not by DWH but by SSDC. It is further complicated by the fact that the 2 commercial properties in Fir Street need access along Fir Street until DWH completes construction of the road through the site. However, a temporary gate has now been erected.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* 16/00701/TREE – Old School House, Churns Hill Lane, Tree Preservation Order T48 - Lime - remove or extensively prune, val 05.08.16, expiry date 16.09.16, deadline 16.09.16, C.O. Steve Dores.
* 16/00750/VAR 106 -David Wilson Homes Mercia - a variation to alter the delivery of obligations on 75% occupations of dwelling rather than 50% occupations and the transfers of freeholds from 75% occupations to 100% occupations in connection with the On-Site Amenity Greenspace, Nature Conservation Areas and Woodland, Country Park Extension, sustainable Classroom, Visitor and Community Centre, the Model Railway Building and Craft Village at: Baggeridge Village. Val 16.08.16, consult to 14.09.16, deadline 11.10.16, C.O. Lucy Duffy. HPC has objected as DWH is seeking to remove the conditions which would alleviate the fact that the local infrastructure could not support the development, and importantly, why the development was allowed by the Inspectorate following refusal by SSDC.
* 16/00794/TREE – The Limes (Himley) Management, T22 Lime, crown-lift to 7 m above ground and T25 Horse Chestnut and holly, cut back to boundary with 88 School Road, Val 06.09.16, deadline 18.10.16, C.O. Steve Dores.
* 16/00759/FUL - Lucerne, Wodehouse Lane – extensions, val 24.08.16, consult to 30.09.16, deadline 19.10.16, C.O. Matthew Hurley.
* 16/00820/TREE – Whitehall, Wolverhampton Road, Conservation area: Re-pollard 4 trees (Willows and Sycamores) and pollard 2 Willows and a Sycamore, val 09.09.16, deadline 21.10.16, C.O. Steve Dores

*Cllr B Edwards left the meeting*

PLANNING APPLICATIONS PENDING A DECISION : –

* 16/00638/OUT – Demolition of bungalow 12 Plantation lane and construction of 5 dormer bungalows val 18.07.16. consult 22.08.16, deadline 12.09.16, C.O. Patrick Walker.

HPC has advised the planning dept. of the access and flooding problems in the lane and also the reason why building has not taken place on the HCA field which we believe will also apply to this site.

PLANNING DECISIONS-

* 16/00450/FUL – The Old Barn, Stourbridge Road, stable/store/tractor building, val 23.05.16, approved with conditions 28.07.16, C.O. Paul Thompson
* 16/00701/TREE – Old School House, Churns Hill Lane, Tree Preservation Order T48 - Lime - remove or extensively prune – Split Decision

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL:- None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* The HSBC bank statements for July and August were presented for information purposes.
* Farm Watch: We have received forms for farmers to receive crime warnings.
* The invoice for grounds maintenance for the 1st quarter 16/17 had been received but as no schedule for grass cutting had been received, following numerous requests, payment of this has been delayed until the next meeting and we are to ask for this again.
* South Staffordshire Work Clubs (SSWC) is seeking donations from Parish Councils. It receives some funding from SSDC but still needs extra to cover the £50,000 it costs annually to help people get jobs, training or become volunteers.We have no spare funds for donations at the moment.
* A decision was made to reduce the number of items for the playing field play area due to the cost, with a revised lay-out. A letter of support for the playing field play area was received on 23.08.16 from Mr and Mrs D Hingley. A grant for the Playing Field has been requested from County Cllr Brian Edwards of £1000.
* Wombourne and District Community Association is working towards formulating a directory of organisations in Wombourne, Trysull, Lower Penn, Himley, Bobbington, Seisdon and Swindon and asked if any organisation in Himley would like to go to a cheese and wine evening on 28th September to meet other groups from these districts to form a base for exchanging information and be of mutual help to each. These groups grant financial help and lend equipment to groups to help them with projects they are establishing.
* On 29th August, it was reported to County that a gulley in School Road which had a white line sprayed around it for several weeks, was now in a dangerous state with tarmac missing on the road-side of the grid and a hole the size of a house brick down to the water. A reply was received on 06.09.16 that an inspector had deemed the repair ‘urgent’ and it should be carried out within 7 days. The repair was done the following day.
* We raised concerns with SSDC enforcement over the size and placement of the new car park constructed in Baggeridge Village.
* Himley Church has had problems with litter and the Lych Gate being left open by Pokémon players.
* A complaint was received about the verge grass cutting on 07.09.16. Much of the grass was scalped and clumps of black grass left in places, leaving it looking in a very sorry state. We were informed by Cllr Lees that SSDC were in the process of changing contractors.
* Fly-tipping in High Arcal Road, was reported on 13.09.16; about 2 dozen tyres and boxes of rubbish at the entrances of two fields. The tyres have since been removed.
* A visual inspection of the play area on the playing field in School Road Himley has been undertaken and there are no visible problems.
* Confirmation of support has been received for the grant of £1000 from the Staffordshire Local Community Fund, our thanks to Cllr B Edwards for his support for this were recorded.
* Cllr Nock confirmed that she would attend the police locality meeting on 2nd November.
* The clerk confirmed that the VAT refund of £98.52 had been received into the HSBC bank account.
* A member of the public had expressed concerns to Cllr Crisp regarding a lime tree in School Rd near the bus stop and the entrance to the BUPA nursing home as the branches hang over the pavement and it is feared may fall down and injure a person or cause an accident. The clerk was requested to contact the owner regarding this.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT –

* 100392 £300 S Farley wages
* 100393 £75 HMRC

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING :-

**Wednesday 19th October 2016 at 7.00pm**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.