**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, SWINDON ON WEDNESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT :- MRS Y NOCK**

**PRESENT COUNCILLORS :- MR R LEES, MR P HEMMINGS, MR M CRISP, MRS S OLIVER**

**MRS M SINCLAIR, MRS S FROST, PCSO P WILKES**

**APOLOGIES :- NONE**

**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 –

19/07/2017 – 20/09/2017 as below

Suspicious Incidents:

* Railway Walk – Car parked on walkers footpath. Officers attended however vehicle had moved
* Penn Road – Suspect male seen in area.
* Himley Park – Damage thought to have been caused to property but found to be already aware; no new damage
* A449 – Thought to have been group causing disturbance however all in order on arrival no issues
* Himley Lane – Males thought to be fishing illegally, found to be permit holders, no issues

ASB:

* Himley Park – Disagreement between two persons
* Railway Walk x 5 – Off-Road Bike.
* A449 – Disagreement between two parties
* Himley Lane – Off-Road Bikes

Burglary/Theft:

* Baggeridge Close x 2 – Shed/Outdoor building break – Tools taken
* Marl Way – Attempt Vehicle interference – 1 x male arrested at scene
* Gospel End – Outdoor equipment stolen
* Wodehouse Lane – Property was returned to owner; misunderstanding

Road Traffic Collision:

* Gospel End Road

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MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING –

* Missing road sign on the A449 - Cllr Nock had made enquiries and was told that the two new poles were fitted as an ‘urgent make safe’ job but were unable to fit the old sign to them. A new sign has been ordered.
* C Cllr Wilson would like us to learn more about Speed Indicator Devices from the CSW Co-ordinator for Staffordshire Police with a view to having a SID in the parish or jointly with Swindon PC.
* Research into laptops and grant – the Clerk advised that this was still ongoing.
* Playing field Gate – Cllr Lees advised that he would speak to Andy Cousins from the Grounds Maintenance team at SSDC to obtain an update.
* Lime tree epicormic growth – the Clerk advised that Mr Foster had replied to her email request and had advised that the trees would be cut back.
* Insurance for Chain of Office – Cllr Nock advised that she would make enquiries regarding having this revalued for insurance purposes.
* Commemorative Bench - It was agreed that Paul Fox Property Improvements would construct a concrete base for the Memorial Bench.
* The Clerk advised that Grant Thornton had completed the audit and that there were no matters raised for action from this. She advised that they had suggested that a record of fixed assets was kept and included in next year’s audit. Notices of Completion were distributed for display on the notice boards.
* Following a bad accident outside The Firs in June, another accident occurred on the same road near The Wodehouse on 5th September involving a car and lorry, the driver was airlifted to the QE with multiple injuries. Highways had previously agreed that double yellow lines will be painted on Wodehouse Lane outside The Firs but it could take up to six months to complete and are investigating how to reduce accidents on Wodehouse Lane. Cllr Lees agreed to speak to Highways to investigate what options were available for this stretch of road.
* Subsidised Connect Bus Passengers in Gospel End are very concerned that changes are needed to reduce the budget to £1.3 million. As 10% of trips are costing Staffs County Council up to £10 per passenger journey, passengers are being consulted on which of four options they would prefer. Cllrs Lees and Nock have sent objections to the options which would remove the Connect Bus Service from our parish from April 2018. Copies of these letters are to be displayed on the Gospel End notice board.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :

* 17/00727/FUL – 85 School Road, extensions and alterations to existing dwelling – val 25.08.17, consult 19.09.17, deadline 20.10.17, C.O. Paul Thompson.
* 17/00805/FUL – 75 school Road – Aluminium Orangery to rear elevation, revised drawing to supersede approved plans under 17/00194/FUL – val 19.09.17, consult to 10.10.17, deadline 14.11.17, C.O. Sue Frith
* 17/00786/FUL – Lucerne, Wodehouse Lane – 2nd storey side extension – val 20.09.17, consult to 11.10.17, deadline 15.11.17, C.O. Sue Frith.
* 17/00807/OFFRES - Baggeridge House, Fir Street, Convert offices to 8 residential flats – val 01.09.17, consult 26.09.17 , deadline 27.10.17, C.O. Gareth Dwight.
* 17/00808/OFFRES – Roadstone House, Fir Street, Convert offices to 10 residential flats – val 04.09.17, consult 26.09.17, deadline 30.10.17, C.O. Gareth Dwight.

Cllrs requested that a response to 17/00807/OFFRES and 17/00808/OFFRES was sent to the planning dept to advise whilst HPC did not object to these change of use applications they wished a condition to be placed upon these restricting access to the site whilst under construction and when finished so that no access was allowed via Fir Street.

PLANNING DECISIONS :-

* 17/00396/FUL – Wood Farm Barns, stable – Val 26.05.17, consult 29.06.17, deadline 21.07.17, C.O. Jennifer Mincher. Approved with conditions 02.08.17.
* 17/00536/FUL - Orchard Cottage, bungalow with separate access to Churns Hill Lane to replace approved application 16/00107/FUL. Val 21.06.17, consult 12.07.17, deadline 16.08.17. Approved with conditions 24.08.17
* 17/00566/FUL - 5 Plantation Lane, Rear sun lounge extension – C.O. Ed Osborn. Approved with conditions 02.08.17.
* 17/00658/LUP – Baggeridge and Roadstone Houses, Fir Street, Certificate of Lawfulness for Provision of new access road to serve both houses from Baggeridge Village – val 17.07.17, deadline 11.09.17, C.O. Gareth Dwight. Approved 29.08.17, Permitted Development

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL:- None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* Two HSBC bank statements for July and August were presented for information purposes.
* Posters were distributed for the notice boards.
* The clerk informed Councillors’ that the reclaimed VAT return had been received.
* The clerk advised that the report on the playing field had been undertaken by Playsafety and that all items were low risk.
* As the work on Baggeridge Village is coming to an end Cllrs asked the Clerk to contact Gavin Williamson MP to request that he contact DWH to ask if they would authorise and fund a notice board to be erected within the Baggeridge Village development.
* County Cllr Wilson has liaised with the Safety Officer who will take another look at the lack of a warning sign in High Arcal Road. Highways only suggested refreshing the existing ‘SLOW’ on the tarmac but Cllr Nock has discovered that grants are available from The Community Foundation for Staffordshire Safer roads Funds. She began the process of applying for a grant by asking permission for the proposed ‘bend’ sign from Highways. She obtained their backing but it was suggested that it might be advantageous to request the ‘bend’ sign as a Local Community Priority through the County Cllr first. However, C. Cllr Wilson needs to spread her resources throughout villages and may not be able to help us as Gospel End will be having double yellow lines. She will discuss the matter with Mark Keeling from Highways.
* The Clerk advised that there had been a small number of enquiries for allotments within Baggeridge Village and that the details of these had been passed onto SSDC as they will be organising these.
* A complaint has been received about the noise from Himley Cricket club at the recent end of season activities. Last year the level of noise was acceptable but this year it was much louder and audible inside houses above television sound. Cllr Lees agreed to investigate this.
* Cllr Hemmings advised that there was a small manhole cover missing in School Rd and that the manhole on the A449 northbound at the junction with School Rd was sunken – Clerk to contact Highways to request remedial works to these.
* Cllr Frost agreed to contact the Dudley Arms to ask that they have the hedges cut back that are overhanging the pavement.
* Cllrs asked the Clerk to contact Sally Newell, the Estate Manager at Himley Hall, to request that she ensures that access to Himley Village on 4/11 when Himley Bonfire takes place is correctly restricted this year. Last year problems were encountered when the security firm allowed unauthorised persons to have access and they were not in place during the whole evening.
* Cllr Nock has asked Highways to inspect the bridge on the B4176 over the Baggeridge clay road. There are trees growing which if left to grow, could damage the infrastructure of the bridge.
* The Site Allocations Document for new housing sites and Gypsy/Traveller pitches has now been submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination. All submission documentation will be made available for public inspection and can be viewed on the Council’s SAD Examination webpages, at [www.sstaffs.gov.uk/SADexamination](http://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/SADexamination) Hard copies of the main submission documents will also be available at the Council Offices in Codsall and at parish council offices and libraries in South Staffordshire in due course. There are no new sites in Himley Parish.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT –

* 100413 - £160 John Grimes – Bus Shelter Repairs
* 100414 - £118.92 SSDC Q1 2017/18 grounds maintenance
* 100415 - £84 Playsafety – Playing field annual inspection
* 100416 - £300 Clerk Wages
* 100417 - £75 HMRC

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING :- **WEDNESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2017 at 7.00pm**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.