**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, SWINDON ON WEDNESDAY 21st MARCH 2018 AT 7PM**

**PRESENT: - MRS Y NOCK**

**PRESENT COUNCILLORS: - MR M CRISP, MRS M SINCLAIR, MR R LEES, MR P HEMMINGS, MRS S FROST, MRS V WILSON, PCSO RATHBONE, PSCO BUZZARD**

**APOLOGIES: - MRS S OLIVER**

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

 **NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS –**

**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 - 20/02/18 - 20/3/2018

Burglary: 0, Theft of motor vehicle : 0, Theft from motor vehicle: 0, Theft other: 0 , Criminal damage; inc. vehicle: 0, Drugs 0, ASB: Landfill near High Arcal Road – 4 x off road scramblers riding around. Other incidents of note: There are no incidents of note for Himley however, there has been an increase of Land Rover offences across the villages. One has been stolen from Trysull and another was tampered with in Trysull. We’re asking residents to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity. We’re also asking residents to review their own security and upgrade where needed. PCSOs Rathbone and Buzzard left the meeting.

 MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING –

* The remains of the grit bin in High Arcal Road have been removed but it has not yet been replaced.
* A highways inspector has now assessed the sunken trench with potholes in School Road which was reported on 28.12.17 and arranged for repairs to be carried out. The reported issue is not considered to be a high risk to public safety and so the repairs will be grouped with similar works in the area in order to be as efficient and cost effective as possible. Currently over 50% of these repairs take place within 60 days.
* The self-seeded trees growing on the bridge over the clay road in Dudley Road have now been removed.
* There has been a 2.9% decrease for the Himley Parish part of the rates for the 2018-19 year.
* Cllr Nock contacted the person in charge of the public opinion survey which was conducted in Himley on the weekend of February 10/11th at random houses after she discovered that it was almost identical to the yearly SSDC online survey and some people were concerned because we are regularly warned about cold callers and bogus police officers. It is used to find such things as which communities are vulnerable and for health and economy and is important. They will look at the possibility of informing specific houses to be visited by post although this would add to the cost. She suggested that they should look at the possibility of sharing information with SSDC to stop duplication.
* All invoices for the Baggeridge Village notice board have now been paid.
* The clerk has secured a meeting with SSDC solicitor re new Data Protection law for 17/4/18, however further information is to be sought from the County Council – Cllr Lees to provide further contact details.
* A letter has been sent to Tarmac thanking them for the new gates and tarmac laid in Fir Street. The company have also carried out resurfacing in Baggeridge Country Park, all free of charge.

 PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

None

PLANNING DECISIONS: -

None

WITHDRAWN APPLICATION :-

* 17/00899/FUL – Beggars Bush Lodge, Stourbridge Road – Demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of new detached oak-framed garage and maintenance equipment/feed store, val 03.10.17, consult to 01.11.17, deadline 28.11.17, C.O. Rob Duncan. Application withdrawn 22.02.18

 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION:

* 18/00083/FUL 20 Chalmers Road, to seek retrospective planning permission for the movement of the fence to sacrifice an area of front garden to increase the size of rear garden. Also to seek permission for change of use of front garden (classed as open space) to an enclosed larger rear garden. Val 04.02.18, consult to 06.03.18, deadline 01.04.18, C.O. Lucy Duffy. Comments: HPC asked that sight lines are checked as this fence could interfere with the vision of pedestrians crossing Chalmers Road and motorists emerging from both Bagpool Way and their own driveways. Also, the shrubs and tree planted in the narrow strip of grass little more than half a metre wide could soon cause the same problems. After site visits by Cllrs, HPC objected on the grounds of being contrary to the Green Belt Openness Policy and safety concerns for road users by interfering with sight lines.
* 18/00098/FUL – 11 Brick Kiln Way, 3 storey side extension, val 31.01.18, consult to 22.02.18, deadline 28.03.18, C.O. Laura Moon.HPC.

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

* The double yellow lines have been agreed outside The Firs in Gospel End Rd and Penn Rd.
* CC Wilson will investigate signage in Fir Street and arrange a ‘no through road’ sign. Residents’ permits are also being investigated.

 ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS:-

* HSBC bank statement was presented for information purposes.
* Posters were distributed for the notice boards.
* Information regarding speed signs was distributed. Cllr Lees advised that SSDC were looking to purchase more mobile units for use across the County.
* The Clerk advised that confirmation for the increased value for the chain of office had been received from the insurance company with no extra cost to the premium.
* An enquiry regarding available allotments had been forwarded to HPC from Wombourne Parish Council. Cllr Lees advised that he would respond.
* The footpath on the A449 from the junction at the B4176 to Wall Heath was reported as being very muddy and slippery following the recent snowy weather. Clerk to report to Highways.
* Cllr Sinclair reported that following recent tree cutting in Gospel End in ‘The Rocks’, the debris is now causing an obstruction to the pavement making it impassable. Clerk to report to Highways.
* The connect bus service is under review and plans for this will be finalised shortly and will outline what if any service will continue.
* Following a poster in the Himley notice board, there has been no offer yet from Himley village residents to be trained to use a hand-held speed camera in another local village.

 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT –

* 100425 - £121.78 – SSDC – grounds maintenance.
* 100426 - £300 – S Farley – Clerks wages.
* 100427 - £75 - HMRC

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: - **WEDNESDAY 18TH April 2018 at 7.00pm** – **this will be the Annual Parish Meeting of HPC.**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.06pm.