**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, SWINDON ON WEDNESDAY JANUARY 16th 2019 AT 7.00PM**

**PRESENT: - MRS Y NOCK (CHAIRMAN) PRESIDING**

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

**MRS S SINCLAIR**

**APOLOGIES :- CLLR V WILSON, PCSO G MURPHY, MRS S FROST**

**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 - December 16th 2018 - January 16th 2019.

Incidents of note:

* At the end of December there was an incident on Gospel End Road in which a member of the public had a handbag stolen from their vehicle, the incident was witnessed by members of the public and some attempted to intervene but unfortunately offenders made good their escape. Response and neighbourhood officers were on scene very quickly after the report came through and the bag was recovered with all contents still intact. This is believed to be an opportunistic offence where offenders have seen an insecure vehicle and taken the opportunity to commit this offence, However, Forensic evidence was collected from the scene and enquiries to identify suspects are still are ongoing at this time. Residents of the Himley Parish area are reminded that vehicles / properties should not be left insecure at any time, offenders use opportunities they see to commit these offences and most could be avoided by keeping vehicles and property secured at all times.
* A mobile CCTV camera has recently been installed in the area, this can be monitored by certain staff members within the South Staffordshire Council along with some trained members of Police staff. When an incident is reported that the CCTV may have captured / caught evidence of the footage will be checked and used to trace offenders etc.
* The police are currently having an issue with volunteers for community speed watch in the area,in short they have a lack of volunteers and are struggling to maintain a Community Speed Watch presence. Residents should be made aware that speed enforcement is carried out by local neighbourhood teams within South Staffordshire as often as possible but due to other commitments that take priority they are unable to do as many sessions as they would like. This is where community speed watch groups can be a valuable asset to combating the issues of excess speed in the area. Due to multiple requests the Police arranged and set up speed watch awareness sessions and a full training course specifically for residents of Wombourne, Himley, Lower Penn, Swindon, Seisdon, Trysull and Bobbington which was advertised around villages and on social media in June / July 2018. Despite a large amount of interest and requests to join only one person went to the sessions, a community speed watch group cannot run with one person so unfortunately the group was closed.

The Police’ aim is to create one big group to cover all of the above mentioned areas, Lower Penn already has a speed device and arrangements will be made to bring all groups together and operate using one device with residents doing speed watch in their own areas. This will enable the group to be formed with no cost as a device is already available, however, if any independent Parish or a collaboration of Parish’s wish to purchase a second device for use by the group this would also possible.

If anyone has interest in joining a speed watch group please make contact with community speed watch direct on: 01785 232702 or visit the website at: http://www.staffssaferroads.co.uk/my-community/community-speed-watch

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:–

* The Insurance claim for the basket swing has been settled.
* A Pavement sweeper for School Road has been ordered by Cllr Lees.
* Cllr Nock has yet to seek quotes for 2 bases for required benches in the parish

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

None

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION:-

* 18/00964/FUL – 26 Bridgnorth Road, Front extension to dwelling, Val 28.11.18, consult to 01.01.19, deadline 23.01.19, CO Laura Moon.
* 18/00987/COU - Baggeridge Craft Village, units 5, 7 and 9. Change of use from 3 craft units to one unit Class D1 (non-residential institution) for an ‘Education role play centre for 2 to 8 year-olds to enhance social, speaking and listening skills. Val 15.12.18, consult to 09.01.19, deadline 09.02.19, C.O. Lucy Duffy HPC to ask for further information on the use and voice concerns over increase in traffic on Brick Kiln Way, a private road, the proposed staffing ratio and contact Social Services

APPEALS AWAITING A DECISION:-

* 16/00779/FUL dormer bungalow, applicant wishes to use garage as a living room. Val 03.05.18, consult to 28.05.18, deadline 28.06.18 C.O. Laura Moon. HPC Objected. Application refused 16.10.18. The applicant has appealed against this decision. Appeal reference APP/C3430/W/18/3216179 – all representations to be lodged by 06.02.19.
* 18/00365/FUL – 12A Himley Lane now called 89A School Road, Double garage and boundary wall.HPC Objected. Application refused 16.10.18 The applicant has appealed against this decision. Appeal reference APP/C3430/W/18/3216307 – all representations to be lodged by 06.02.19

PLANNING DECISIONS :-

* 18/00193/FUL - Land east of Red Lane, Proposed storage building – Amendment val 09.03.18, consult to 28.06.18, agreed expiry date 20.07.18, C.O. Paul Turner. Applicants have reduced the size of the proposed storage building by 6ft in length and width and 12ft in height. Approved with conditions 15.01.19.
* 18/00925/OFFRES parking amendment to 17/00807/OFFRES – West Midlands Ambulance Service, Baggeridge House, Fir Street, change of use from offices to 8 flats. Approved with conditions 10.01.19

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS:-

* HSBC bank statement was presented for information purposes.
* The access to The Lydiate Room on Baggeridge Country Park will be via the Country Park until the handover of land from David Wilson Homes is complete. The access will then be via Brick Kiln Way.
* Clerk to contact SSDC to compliment Biffa on another excellent bin emptying service over the Christmas period.
* Staffs County Council are setting up a new ‘micro-website’ that will address the issues arising from the decision to cut back on environmental maintenance programmes. The website branding will feature the wording “Highways Your Way: Local Communities. Local Priorities”, and put the accent on ‘self-help’, encouraging parish councils to get more involved in relatively small tasks to help neighbourhoods to look good and work well. The parish will be expected to either pay for, or set up volunteer groups to do jobs including weed control and enhanced grass cutting; maintenance of hedges and fences; the painting and cleaning of street furniture; ditching and clearing of debris from drainage assets. The County’s Community Highways Liaison Teams will remain on hand to provide any necessary support and advice about responsibilities when working in the highway or making changes to the highway structure.
* County Cllr Victoria Wilson has again asked if we could provide volunteers to be trained and take part in **community speed watch**. Anyone who is concerned about speed of vehicles along local roads can take part and could operate outside of their own village in return for volunteers from other villages operating in your own village. The scheme is working quite successfully in other parishes without any problems.

**Volunteers are required; please contact our clerk if you wish to take part.**

* Cllr Nock will attend the Police Forum on 13/2/19.
* The Street Scene questionnaire was completed and returned.
* Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should go ahead and purchase a new laptop for Council work to be carried out on. She will research and discuss with Cllr Nock before a final purchase is made.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT –

None

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **Wednesday 20th February 2019 at 7pm**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.03pm.