**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.30PM**

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

**PRESENT COUNCILLORS: -MRS S OLIVER, MRS S FROST, MR M CRISP**

**APOLOGIES:- MRS M SINCLAIR, MR P HEMMINGS,**

**MR R LEES, PCSO ROCKLEY**

**NOT PRESENT CCLR V WILSON,**

**OTHERS :- MRS S FARLEY CLERK**

**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**

CRIME FIGURES - 18/10/2021 - 12/11/2021 as received

**Vehicle Crime** –Sedgley Road – 03/11 – Overnight, offenders have approached a secure, unattended Landrover Defender and stolen same, without keys. CCTV has been secured. Investigation ongoing.

**Theft** – Baggeridge Close – 20/10 – Between 1800hrs-2230hrs on the state date, unknown offenders have stolen a caravan from the location. Caravan was recovered by WMP hours after the theft, as was the vehicle used to tow the caravan. Forensics team assessed – awaiting results. Investigation ongoing.

**Criminal damage** –Baggeridge Close – 12/11 – At approx. 0420hrs, an unknown offender has thrown used oil over the frontage of a property at the location. The oil has caused severe cosmetic damage to the property. Investigation ongoing.

**ASB** – Chalmers Road – 22/10 – Nuisance youths with vehicles on large car park at approx. 2100hrs. Officers attended however no vehicles seen.

**Proactive news** –Staffordshire Police have recognised the dramatic increase in the theft of Catalytic converters and have set up Operation Androme. This type of crime is not unique to Staffordshire or the Midlands and is countrywide. Officers have been working alongside neighbouring forces cross-boarder to target this type of crime. We have also been working behind the scenes to launch a pilot scheme, working alongside vehicle manufacturers, to offer free ‘SmartWater’ marking for Staffordshire residents at participating dealerships – more can be read at – <https://orlo.uk/Jw1ED>. Operation Cable targeting ASB hotspots and Operation Lightening targeting vehicle crime are up and running frequently with the help of the road crime team and the neighbourhood task force team.

We are looking for volunteers for Speed Watch. If any residents are interested please direct them to http://www.staffssaferroads.co.uk/my-community/community-speed-watch

Please recommend Smart Alert to any residents interested https://staffordshiresmartalert.uk/staffs/

Please feel free to encourage public participants to try reporting incidents via our ‘Digital 101’ service. A private message can be sent to Staffordshire Police pages on Facebook / Twitter, instead of phoning 101 and waiting in a queue.

CRIME FIGURES - 15/09/2021 - 17/10/2021 as received

**Burglary** –Himley Park – 09/10 – Overnight, between 1830hrs-0700hrs, gate padlocks have been broken by unknown offenders at a local park, allowing access. A flat-bed truck was stolen, along with a Polaris 4x4 off-road buggy. The flat-bed truck was found in woodland on the site; forensics attended – awaiting results. Investigation ongoing.

**Vehicle Crime** –Baggeridge Park – 18/09 – At approx. 1320hrs, unknown offenders have gained access to a secure unattended vehicle on the car park of the location by breaking the front passenger window. Offenders vehicle described as a blue Toyota Yaris. CCTV requested. Investigation ongoing.

- Gospel End Road – 30/09 – At approx. 1345hrs, two vans parked at the location were accessed by unknown offenders. Offenders gained access by drilling the locks on the vehicle. It appears offenders may have been disturbed as nothing was stolen from either vehicle. CCTV requested. Investigation ongoing.

- Baggeridge Park – 30/09 – At approx. 1420hrs, offenders travelling in a blue Audi have stolen a strimmer from the rear of on open-backed vehicle on the car park of the location. CCTV requested. Investigation ongoing.

- Himley Park – 02/10 – Between the hours of 1630-1730, a lump hammer was stolen from the rear of an open-backed buggy at the location. No CCTV however believe possibly linked to the above incident – Investigation ongoing.

**ASB** – Himley Plantation – 10/10 – Report of off-road vehicle use (6 x bikes 1 x quad) Local officers attended location (as well as multiple other parts of the Railway Walk) however no bikes seen / heard. Members of public spoken to however they had neither seen / heard any bikes.

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:–

* Playing Field     Cllrs Crisp and Nock met with A Aston from SSDC to discuss work required. A quote had been received for 1. re-concreting drop-down bolt and providing suited padlock for Play Area, 2. crown lifting 3 mature silver birch trees, 3. collecting fallen branches from alongside and in the brook, 4. removing low branches over-hanging the stream, 5. removing fallen willow together with removing all arisings from site together with providing and installing 3 x ‘DANGER - WATER’ warning signs on wooden stakes along the brook. The quote was accepted.Hedge should be cut by middle of November.
* G End Pavement -  Staffs County Council do not have funds available to cut back this pavement and SSDC cannot take it on as traffic management is required and do not now have the machine which removes the build-up of detritus.  Enquiries to be made from a private company.
* G End sewage problems  -  Cllr Sinclair has been working behind the scenes to co-ordinate the problem for residents with two different departments of Severn Trent.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* 19/00865/COU  9 Baggeridge Craft Village. Change of use to be able to sell handmade crafts by students from our school and also offer a small range of long-life convenience products. The purpose of the unit is to provide work experience to our special needs students. Val 22.10.21, consult to 25.11.21, deadline 17.12.21, C.O. Laura Moon
* 21/01017/FUL    The Demesne, Stourbridge Road, Conversion of barn in Conservation Area to provide a single new dwelling in Conservation Area. Val 28.10.21, consult to 18.11.21, deadline 23.12.21, C.O. Tom Nutt. A previous application for this was approved 08.09.11 but expired July 2014.
* 21/01085/TTREE   Himley Hall, Poplar TPO 10/00251 and Fagus (Beech) T2, Fell. Val 22.10.21, consult to 05.11.21, deadline 17.12.21, C.O. Gavin Pearce. Poplar has canker, Beech has Meripulus Giganteus.
* 21/01101/VAR     Magnolia Cottage, Churns Hill Lane. Application Reference Number: 18/00215/FUL Date of Decision: 26/04/2018 Condition Number(s): 2+4 Conditions(s) Removal: to replace the proposal to render the building and use cement fibre cladding with Cladco fibre cement wall cladding finished in blue laid horizontally or Cedral equivalent. Val 12.10.21, consult to 10.11.21, deadline 07.12.21, C.O. Jennifer Mincher
* 21/01117/FUL    Himley Cricket Club.  Erection of marquee for use as fitness training shelter. Val 18.10.21, consult to 12.11.21, deadline 13.12.21, C.O. Tom Nutt.  HPC commented: HPC is concerned that this application, if approved, will lead to loud music with a heavy beat, carrying across open fields to residents’ properties. We have had previous experience of complaints from early-morning outdoor Boot Camps taking place at the cricket club and ask that both time and sound out-put restrictions are imposed to safeguard residents’ health and well-being.
* 21/01122/TTREE     Old School House, Churns Hill Lane. Cut down tree TPO 84/1985 to 6 feet to leave stump only. Val 26.10.21, consult to 09.11.21, deadline 21.12.21, C.O. Gavin Pearce

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION :-

* 20/00974/TREE   Beggars Bush Lodge. Remove a Beech Tree in Conservation area. Val 16.11.20, consult to 30.11.20, deadline 28.12.20, C.O. Steve Dores.
* 21/00969/TREE    Himley Hall, Section 211 Conservation Area Notification. Fagus sylvatica (Beech) - Pollard at 6 metres. Val 22.09.21, consult to 06.10.21, deadline 03.11.21, C.O. Gavin Pearce No TPO, Pollard to approx 6m above ground level due to significant decay onset into the cambium tissue of main stem and a significant lean towards the main car park. Tree is situated first tree on right inside main entrance to Himley Hall entering from Dudley Road.
* 21/00979/TREE    Himley Hall, Section 211 Conservation Area Notification. Fagus sylvatica (Beech) - Fagus sylvatica (Tag number 366).  Val 13.10.21. consult to 27.10.21, deadline 24.11.21, C.O. Gavin Pearce.  Pollard to 5m due to major deadwood, wounding and fungal infection within main stem from ground up to 4m on woodland side of tree. Virtually no reaction wood present, therefore the tree is hazardous. Tree is next to another beech for which we recently submitted a planning application request to pollard. HPC has no objection as the tree needs to be felled but suggest that a replacement is planted.
* 21/00993/FUL    Himley Hall. Installation of air source heat pumps and construction of timber fenced compound, Installation of photo-voltic panels on roof. Val 28.09.21, consult to 25.10.21, deadline 23.11.21, C.O. Tom Nutt.
* 21/00999/LBC   Listed building consent   Himley Hall, Installation of air source heat pumps and construction of timber fenced compound. Installation of photo-voltic panels on roof. Val 28.09.21, consult to 25.10.21, deadline 23.11.21, C.O. Tom Nutt.
* 21/01022/FUL   Ward House, Himley Hall, Installation of air source heat pumps and construction of timber fenced compound, Val 28.09.21, consult to22.10.21, deadline 23.11.21, C.O. Laura Moon.
* 21/01023/LBC   Listed Building Consent Ward House, Himley Hall, Installation of air source heat pumps and construction of timber fenced compound. Val 28.09.21, consult to 22.10.21, deadline 23.11.21, C.O. Laura Moon.
* 21/01043/TREE   Himley Hall, Section 211 Conservation Area Notification. T3294, Quercus rubra (Red Oak) - Fell and T3295, Quercus rubra (Red Oak) - Crown reduction by up to 5 metres in height and up to 3 metres from lateral branches. Diseased or might fall. Val 14.01.21, consult to 28.10.21, deadline 25.11.21, C.O. Gavin Pearce.

PLANNING DECISIONS :-

* 19/00922/COU Wood Farm, Gospel End Road. Change of usage of existing farm building from equestrian use to new use as a dog daycare and training facility. Works to involve improvements to building, to include; fitting of double doors to front opening on building to make watertight, provision of internal welfare facilities, external fencing to create exercise area, upgrading of existing lighting to energy saving LED units. val 24.09.20, consult to 02.12.20, deadline 19.11.20 C.O. Laura Moon. Approved with conditions 22.10.21.
* 20/01045/FUL   Himley Country Hotel. The demolition of part of the former Hotel, and erection of 8 dwellings with garages and car parking, including the provision of 2no affordable dwellings, the refurbishment of the retained former School Building / Private Residence to a 2 Bed Bungalow with garage, together with private amenity and new gated private road from the existing access from School Road. Approved 16.11.21 Section 106 Agreement now signed.
* 21/00770/FUL   Development of 7 now amended to 6 Dwellings on Land Adjacent to Sedgley Court Care Home, Brick Kiln Way. Val 28.07.21, consult to 20.08.21, deadline 22.09.21, C.O. Laura Moon.    HPC asked that a condition be added to this development that there is no access through Fir Street. Approved with conditions 21.10.21.
* 21/00884/FUL   4 Whitehall Barns, Wolverhampton Road. Single storey orangery, Val 06.08.21, consult to 14.09.21, deadline 01.10.21, C.O. Tom Nutt. Refused 10.11.21.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* Street Scene update, 25.10.21 asked for reports of signage in need of attention. Cllr Nock reported the ‘Himley’ Sign in Bridgnorth Road.
* Following the recent tragic event in Essex involving an MP, SSDC have considered the security of elected members and will block addresses from their website.
* Cllr Nock reported the following: - 4260366 W’ton Road bus stop leaning at 45o reported 08.11.21. Has been seen by an inspector who can’t find a problem. 4260372 School Road bus stop fallen down. An inspector has classified it as non-urgent.
* Bonfire night. There was very little litter in the village probably as the event was a sell-out and the people responsible for the usual littering did not have tickets. There was a problem with parking in School Road; it emerged that the touters on the A449 were telling people to turn towards the barrier and say that they were going to the hotel and the barrier men let them in. When drivers saw that they had to pay to get on the car park, they parked along the whole length of School Road blocking some drives. All the goodwill given to villagers at the hotel meeting has now gone.
* South Staffs Locality Discussions about community safety issues are to take place twice a year and a HPC is needed to take part. Cllr Frost to take on this role.
* An email was received from a lady who visited the Play Area with her son and was disgusted that human waste was found within the fence and broken beer bottles were also near; apologies were sent. Inspection needs to be increased.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: - 100515 SSDC grounds maintenance £179.99

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **Wednesday 15th December 2021 at 7.30pm –**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.