**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT HIMLEY CRICKET CLUB ON WEDNESDAY 19th MAY 2021 AT 7.30PM**

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

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

**MRS M SINCLAIR, MRS S FROST**

**APOLOGIES:- 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 as received :- 20/04/2021 - 19/05/2021

Main headlines since the last meeting:

* Theft of motor vehicle – Gospel end road: During the day a group of masked males have stolen a Ford Fiesta which was parked on the driveway. Offenders have smashed the window and stolen the vehicle without keys. Enquiries ongoing
* Burglary: School Road – Approx. 2350hrs 10/05/2021 a number of unknown persons, travelling in 3 x white vans, have been seen to enter a hotel premises. Officers attended and noted a broken window at the hotel which is thought to have been the point of entry. Investigation ongoing.

ASB hotspots:

* Baggeridge Country Park – Report of youths gathered on pathway on Sedgley side of Baggeridge Park, said to have set a fire. Fire Service called and attended.

Proactive news:

* Wombourne Neighbourhood Police Officers have been working alongside police officers from our Roads Policing Unit, targeting cross boarder vehicle criminals coming to the Wombourne / Himley / Kinver areas.
* Local officers are currently running additional patrols on a weekend under Op Scramble targeting off road bikes in the local area. Officers were on the operation on Sat 8th May touring the hotspots, no bikes arrived all day.
* We have continued to see a crime trend centred on the theft of catalytic converters. Honda and Toyota vehicles are, again, the ones targeted. Owners of such vehicles should be mindful of where they park their vehicles and put additional security measures in place where possible, such as CCTV / ring doorbell / floodlights etc.

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:–

* Himley Country Club - Before re-opening on 13th May, the hotel was entered and trashed. The police were called and this incident is covered in their report.
* Quotes were received and accepted from Street Scene for replacement of a tree stake and clearance of debris from around and in the brook at the playing fields in School Rd Himley.
* Himley Sign in Bridgnorth Road - A request for replacement or repair has been passed to the Operational Team.
* OpenReach are happy to proceed with provision of superfast broadband but have given no information on delivery or completion dates.
* School Road pavement parking continues to be a problem at each end of the road and following numerous complaints, SCC will be asked if double yellow lines could be provided.
* HSBC safeguarding - Following a telephone meeting between the clerk and Chair of HPC and HSBC, we informed HSBC by email that the clerk is the recipient of correspondence and Cllr Nock is the ‘Key Controller’ only on urgent small invoices up to £250, otherwise all invoices have to be authorised by the full parish council. Moreover, HPC never deals in cash payments.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* None

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION :-

* 19/00922/COU Wood Farm, Gospel End Road. Change of use of existing farm building from equestrian use to dog day-care and training facility, val 25.09.19, consult to 29.10.20, deadline 19.11.20 C.O. Planning team.
* 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.
* 20/01045/FUL Himley Country Hotel, The demolition of part of the former Hotel, and erection of 9 dwellings with garages and car parking, 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. Val 04.01.21, consult to 25.01.21, deadline 05.04.21, C.O. Planning Team. HPC commented Himley Parish Council wish to support this application as they feel it will enhance the village of Himley. They do however have concerns over the amount of parking available for these properties and would like planners to consider this. Most houses of the sizes within this development have 3 or 4 cars and there is insufficient space at each dwelling for this They do not want overflow parking along School Road to become a future problem on an already very busy road.

This application was amended from 9 to 8 dwellings plus the former school building and the types of house has also been amended. C.O. Thomas Cannon.

* 21/00067/FUL 6 Whitehall Farm Barns, Cart Barn, erection of a temporary timber summerhouse structure within the curtilage of a private garden in a Conservation Area. Val 07.02.21, no consultation, internal target 04.04.21., C.O. Kate Taylor.
* 21/00309/FUL Land east of Red Lane. Demolish existing derelict building, hard standing to be made good with new concrete, proposed prefabricated offices positioned on new hardstanding. Val 13.04.21, consult to 04.05.21, deadline 08.06.21, C.O. Laura Moon, no documents available.
* 21/00366/FUL 5 Hughes Road, single storey side extension. Val 07.04.21, consult to 04.05.21, deadline 02.06.21, C.O. Laura Moon.

PLANNING DECISIONS :-

* 21/00187/TTREE Rear of 4,5,6 Churns Hill Lane. Reduce 2 Poplars T44 and T47 by 10m, crown lift to 6m 2 Limes T45 and T46. Val 26.02.21, consult to 12.03.21, deadline 23.04.21, C.O. Steve Dores. Split decision. Crown lift limes approved, reduce poplars refused.
* 21/00246/FUL 22 Lydiate Hill, single storey flat roof extension. Val 10.03.21, consult to 08.04.21, deadline 05.05.21, C.O. Laura Moon. Approved with conditions 28.04.21.

WITHDRAWN APPLICATION:-

* 20/00182/FUL The Firs. Staff and customer car park extension on neighbouring local authority land to the south of existing car park. Withdrawn. This application was superseded by 19/00901/FUL.

COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:

None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* Highway’s data received :- Weeks commencing 19th, 26th April, 3rd May. Enquiries raised 551, 568, 678, enquiries closed 1221,855, 888, gullies visited 1761, 1893, 1502, 74.1%, 79.3%, 83.88% cleansed at first visit, potholes patched 690, 759, 568, emergency jobs completed 8, 5, 2: pothole jobs completed by category of pothole\* 328, 315, 167, Cat 3 – 149, 156, 75, Cat 2 – 164, 152 , 88, Cat 1 – 12, 5, 4, emergency – 3, 2, N/A. \*Please note a number of potholes could be patched under a single job, hence the difference in numbers between potholes patched and pothole jobs. Data provided on a monthly basis due to ratification process to ensure accuracy of figures. Next update 14th Jun2021.
* Building contractors working in Baggeridge Close are still parking dangerously at the junction with Fir Street and Gospel End Road. Police are now regularly visiting and informing car owners who are causing a problem to park elsewhere.
* Hinksford Lane will be closed between Swindon and the electricity station near The Mile Flat from 24 May to 30 July from 4.30pm to 2.30am for works by Western Power.
* C Cllr Wilson asked if there were any Highways works needed extra to standard maintenance. We asked for particular gullies to be unblocked. Clerk to ask SSDC if Dudley Road and School Road could be swept as grit and tree debris causes the gullies to be blocked.
* Cllr Nock reported that a large GPO manhole had been left open in Wolverhampton Road. She will report to Openreach.
* The bus shelter opposite The Dudley Arms has become a health hazard as it is being used as a toilet by passing motorists. It was decided that removing the sides to exclude privacy would be best. Clerk to contact SSDC for a quote for this work.
* District Cllr Lees informed us that due to the new Environmental Act, recycling will be changed and food collection started which will cost much more than present collections.
* 2021ACCOUNTS APPROVAL - The annual accounts were presented and approved by Cllrs. Clerk to finalise these being sent to the auditor and posted on the Himley PC website.
* During the annual accounts review it was found that an error had been made in the July 2020 minutes. Cheque number 100477 had been recorded incorrectly in the minutes as £350.10. The correct amount was £389.90 and this was verified by the cheque stub and the HSBC bank statement for this period. This related to the Clerk’s June salary.
* Clerk to contact SSDC to ask them to progress the planting of the trees under the Trees for Climate initiative.
* Cllr Nock is to obtain a quote for the laying of some slabs in front of the noticeboard on Baggeridge Village.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -

* 100501 Himley Cricket Club meeting room hire £30.00

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -

**Wednesday 16th June 2021 7.30pm - TO BE HELD AT HIMLEY CRICKET CLUB**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.04pm.