**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 19th JANUARY 2022 AT 7.30PM**

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

**PRESENT COUNCILLORS: -MRS S OLIVER, MRS M SINCLAIR, MRS S FROST,**

**MR R LEES, MRS V WILSON**

**APOLOGIES:- MR M CRISP**

**NOT PRESENT:- MR P HEMMINGS**

**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 - 12/12/2021 – 19/01/2022 as received

Main headlines since the last meeting:

Burglary –

* 17/12/21 at Churns Hill Lane between 16:30 and 09:05am the following morning, whereby the owner had his garage broken into through the side door taking all of his fishing gear. Local PCSOs visited the IPs address to give reassurance and crime prevention advice as well as offering the victim a door alarm to hopefully prevent any further issues.
* 18/12/21 at Hinksford Lane between midnight and 03:00am the following morning (19/12/21) a black Kawasaki off road bike has been stolen after offenders gained entry through ripping the up and over metal garage off the rails. Local PCSOs visited the victim, but there were no CCTV opportunities. Reassurance and crime prevention advice given.

Vehicle Crime –

* 13/12/21 on School Road between 20:00 and 21:00 there was damage done to a Citroen Dispatch Van whereby unknown offenders have tried to prise the side door open in order to gain entry. Local PCSOs attended and carried out scene enquiries but all came back negative. There were forensic opportunities which didn’t come back with any results.
* 22/12/21- between 14:00-15:00 At Himley House Hotel a van has had tools stolen from within whilst working at the location. The van wasn’t secure on this occasion and tools worth up to 700.00 have been taken. These were 2 DEWALT tool boxes containing Drills and screws. Our Resolution Centre are dealing with this incident but there are no further updates as of yet.
* 29/12/21 between 13:30-21:20 a Hyundai Kona rear windscreen was smashed at The Firs Care Home Wodehouse Lane. Local officers have tried to make contact with victim with no result. No CCTV,witnesses or forensic opportunities.
* 31/12/21 at Staffordshire Railway walk a White Kia Venga 5 door hatchback had its front window smashed with a Baby Bag stolen from within. This was reported to us at 11:27 with the incident happening between 10:30 to when the owner reported it in. This happened when the individual was out walking around the area. There is no CCTV and no further lines of enquiry on this occasion.
* 13/01/22 -13:30 at Ward House, Himley Hall a Vauxhall Vivaro van was broken into where offenders have caused damage to the side door handle. Upon gaining entry they have made an untidy search of the vehicle whereby they have made off with Drills, batteries for the drills, a chop saw and Bluetooth radio with the victims mobile phone also being taken. No CCTV, witnesses on this occasion.Crime reference number has been sent to the victim.

ASB –

* 13/12/21- report of motorbike riding around Baggeridge park in an Antisocial Manner at 12:30 where x2 males have been seen with no helmets on and all with balaclavas on.

No Number plate could be made out due to the offenders covering it up.

However, it turns out the motorbike is stolen from an address in Wednesbury.

Local PCSOs attended the location and spoke with park ranger to give advice and reassurance. I will KIV the area going forward.

16/01/22 around 15:10- at South Staffordshire Railway, quad bikes have been seen driven around. South Staffordshire Council have been made aware and will keep in view whilst out on patrols. No more updates on this incident.

Proactive news –

* Operation Anadrome patrols and joint operations/information sharing with neighbouring police forces have resulted in a significant decrease of Catalytic converters being stolen.
* In June 2022 there will be a new operating model coming into effect which will mean our response officers will be working out of Codsall rather than Cannock which I am sure will be welcome news.
* 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.

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:–

* Playing field: The padlock has now been fitted to the Play Area gate.
* The Forest of Mercia trees were planted 16.12.21,but it was found that two of the recently planted lime trees had been vandalised.
* A request to SSDC for further pavement sweeping was refused. SSDC commented that it doesn’t warrant any further work.
* Street Scene intend to repair the damaged ‘Himley’ sign on Bridgnorth Road on 29.01.22.
* A gulley outside Himley Church is still solidly blocked despite asking Staffs County to clear it. The clerk will send another request together with one for a blocked gulley on the southern side of Gospel End Road between Fir Street and Baggeridge Close and one opposite no 108.
* Residents received an email on 08.01.22 from Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport informing us that our vouchers for having Superfast Broadband connected usually expire 12 months after the date of issue, which was 11 months ago. Gareth who generously volunteered to act on behalf of HPC in securing grants to install this service for Himley village is following this up with both Openreach and Superfast Staffordshire.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* 21/00770/COND Sedgley Court Brick Kiln Way Gospel End. Discharge of Condition 3 (Materials), Condition 4 (Landscape Scheme), Condition 5 (Boundary Treatment), Condition 6 (Finished Floor Levels) and Condition 7 (Drainage Plan). Val 13.01.22, consult to, deadline, C.O. Planning team.

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, Andrew Walton, Green Care, Lister Road, DMBC. 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. Andrew Walton. 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.
* 21/01026/FUL 32 Penn Road, Conversion of existing building to Granny annex. Val 22.08.21, consult to 29.12.21, deadline 12.01.21, C.O Tom Nutt. Previous application 21/00545/FUL was refused; the new application has sought to address the reasons for refusal on the previous application by reducing the height of the section closest to the adjacent dwelling. Except for this, the previous objection from the neighbour and points stated by the Case officer still apply. HPC objects because only one of the reasons why the previous application, 21/00545/FUL was refused has been addressed in this new application, i.e., the height of one small part of the extension. All the other reasons for refusal still exist. Object
* 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.
* 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.
* 21/01122/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.
* 21/01191/TREE - Whitehall, Wolverhampton Road, Section 211 Conservation Area Notification. Cedrus spp. (Cedar) - crown reduction back to previous pruning points and Acer spp. (Sycamore) – Fell. Val 02.12.21, Consult to 16.12.21, deadline 13.01.22, C.O. Gavin Pearce.
* 21/01216/FUL Land Off Plantation Lane. Erection of 11 dwellings (including 4 affordable) with associated works and access. Val 24.11.21, consult extended to 07.01.22, deadline 23.02.22, C.O. Jennifer Mincher. HPC objects to this proposal for the following reasons: 1. More than half of the land is in Green Belt 2. There are no drainage gullies in Plantation Lane and in prolonged spells of wet weather the field floods, even a flash flood has been witnessed coming down from the farm in Sytch Lane to the field. 3.There is no access to the field for proposed housing from Plantation Lane without permission from all existing access holders which is not forthcoming. This is the reason that Homes and Communities sold the land. 4. The pavement planned in Plantation Lane ends on a blind bend with no visibility around the bend so there is a safety issue and could restrict access for heavy vehicles by reducing the width of the carriageway. Current access on the bend is very restrictive and there is a considerable amount of traffic which uses the lane, not only from properties but also from fields divided into strips rented out to horse owners. 5. If Plantation Lane between Bridgnorth Road and the entrance to the site is brought up to Highway standard, wouldn’t this need permission from the owner/owners of the land and who would be responsible for the upkeep of it? 6. Himley sewage farm is now working at capacity.

Public Notice 14.01.22. was published in the Express and Star 18.01.22 by Mr Luke Cottrell ,RCA Regeneration Ltd. Article 13 of Town and Country - Article 13 of Town and Country, this part of the Order requires an applicant to notify an owner of any land that is affected by a planning application that they (the applicant) intend to make. They then complete that part of the planning application form which states that they’ve served notice on any affected landowner.

21/01218/VAR Baggeridge House, Roadstone Drive, Gospel End, Variation of approved plan numbers for (RE 20/00466/FUL) which was approved 08.04.21. To bring the approved documents in line with the intended landscaping scheme, as-built floor plans, and provision of cycle and bin storage facilities. Condition Numbers: 2,5,6,8. Val 16.11.21, consult to 15.12.21, deadline 11.01.22, C.O. Gareth Dwight

21/01255/FUL Land east of Red Lane, Existing 18m x 15.5m storage shed/building to be modified - build a mezzanine floor internally to allow for offices to proposed first floor. Windows to be incorporated into existing cladded elevations for natural light. Fire escape to be added. Val 01.12.21, consult to 24.12.21, deadline 26.01.22, C.O. Laura Moon.

PLANNING DECISIONS :-

* 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. Approved with conditions (14), 14.01.22.
* 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. Approved with conditions (5),14.01.22.

PLANNING APPEAL:-

* 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. There is an appeal against this refusal.

COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:-

* Highways Data received: 589 Highways enquiries were raised in week beginning 10.01.22

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* Roadside Welcome signs. Clerk to enquire on alternative prices from Andy Aston.
* Looking for sites for defibrillators, it was decided that the clerk should enquire if The Dudley Arms, Himley Mill Care Home, Baggeridge Country Park or The Summerhouse could accommodate one.
* Cllr Sinclair has asked DMBC if they are able to quote for removing the build-up of debris on the pavement in Gospel End Road. Cllr Lees informed us that SSDC have agreed to clear the pavement; they now have a contract for a hire machine to do this but work could be during next fiscal year
* Cllr Crisp reported that the pavement had collapsed between Himley Cricket Club and Beggars Bush. It was reported to County 09.01.22. A Highways Officer risk assessed the site and arranged a non-urgent work instruction. This means that non-urgent repairs are likely to be grouped with other works and repair timescales will reflect this. Cones have been placed along the collapse
* Cllr Nock had reported potholes in Himley Lane, this was also assessed as non-urgent
* Cllr Nock reported both street name signs on High Arcal Road at the junction with Dudley Road had been bent over. Street scene will raise a job.
* HPC will request an increase of approx. 2% in precept for 2022-23 year

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -

* 100520- SSDC works on playing field £1253.44

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -

**Wednesday 16TH February 2022 7.30pm**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.