**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2022 at 7.30PM**

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

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

**MR R LEES, CCLR V WILSON**

**APOLOGIES:- MR M CRISP**

**NOT PRESENT :- MR P HEMMINGS**

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

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MR R PAINTER**

**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**

MINUTES SILENCE TO HONOUR THE LATE QUEEN ELIZABETH -A UNIQUE WOMAN

CRIME FIGURES 20/7/22 – 20/9/22 as received

Main headlines since the last meeting:

Burglary –

* School Road – 20/08 – At approx. 0220hrs on the stated date, unknown offenders have attempted to access a residential property by removing the patio door lock. They have been disturbed and made off in a blue BMW. Scene enquiries did not provide any CCTV or witnesses in order to ID those responsible.
* Dudley Road – 31/08 – Overnight, unknown offenders have accessed a residential property by forcing the rear door. Cash was stolen. Forensic team attended. No witnesses or CCTV.

Burglary business –

* Himley Park – 23/07 – At approx. 0300hrs, unknown offenders have gained access to multiple storage units at the location. Tools and other industrial equipment stolen. No CCTV / witnesses.

Vehicle crime –

* Wolverhampton Road A449 – 16/08, 26/08 & 02/09 – Overnight, unknown offenders have gained access to a secure van parked on hotel car park, via breaking rear lock. Tools stolen. CCTV obtained however vehicle used by offenders was bearing false plates.
* School Road – 16/08, 02/09 & 06/09 - Overnight, unknown offenders have gained access to a secure van parked on hotel car park. Tools stolen. CCTV obtained however vehicle used by offenders was bearing false plates.
* School Road – 23/08 – Overnight, unknown offenders have stolen a van parked on the car park of a hotel. No witnesses, nothing evidential from CCTV.

ASB – 6 x reports between the stated dates

Hotspots –

* + Baggeridge Craft Village
  + Baggeridge Park

Proactive news –

* Operation Cable targeting ASB hotspots and Operation Lightning targeting vehicle crime are up and running frequently, with officers utilising both marked and unmarked vehicles. Up-to-date information regarding these operations can be found on Twitter and Facebook.
* Please follow South Staffs Police on Twitter: @SStaffsPolice Facebook: ‘Staffordshire Police’ & ‘South Staffordshire Police’
* 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:–

* Baggeridge Village Due to anti-social behaviour in the area around the craft centre, Bag Pool Way and The Lydiate room, a Public Spaces Protection Order had been drawn up for consultation. HPC was asked for comments and replied “Himley Parish Council has no objection to the intended PSPO on areas of Baggeridge Village. However, please be aware that a section of Fir Street, where the footpath emerges from behind Bag Pool Way properties, has been re-named Roadstone Drive and HPC believes that the words ‘Roadstone Drive’ should be included in the PSPO. The post code for this area of Fir Street is in the process of being changed by the Royal Mail”
* Himley Faster Broadband The offer of a meal for 2 to volunteer Gareth has been accepted, after four years communicating with agents involved, for his work which has brought fibre broadband to Himley.
* Defibrillator The contact details for the owner of The Dudley Arms have not yet been ascertained.
* New Bank Account There has been a problem having details of one Cllr registered with the bank.
* Gospel End Road County sign This was cleaned and repaired before The Commonwealth Games Cycle Time Trial.
* Car Boot Toilets Following accusations that portable toilets are left on site permanently which is denied by the organiser, Enforcement has asked for photographs. A Cllr is to check whether the toilets are now being removed.
* New Laptop A Lenovo computer has been received.
* The resurfacing of the drive into Baggeridge Country Park has been finished.
* Contractors for street jobs Any work required will have to be liaised between HPC, SSDC and C Cllr Wilson. The work to cut back the pavement on Gospel End Road has been postponed due to lack of funding as other work was deemed more urgent. As HPC considers this work is essential for safety of pedestrians, Cllr Lees to enquire the cost from SSDC for consideration of payment by HPC.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* 22/00823/FUL  Proposed Garden room and relocation of pergola, 2 Bag Pool Way. Val 25.08.22, consult to 22.09.22, deadline 20.10.22, C.O. Emma Posillico.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION :-

* 21/00770/COND   Sedgley Court (Land Adjacent to Sedgley Court Care Home), 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 09.02.22, deadline 07.04.22, C.O. Laura Moon.
* 22/00782/TREE Whitehall, Wolverhampton Road. Crown lift Fagus spp (Beech) to 4metres in Conservation Area to clear head room for ride-on mower and to allow light to grass below. Val 12.08.22, Consult to 06.09.22, Deadline 23.09.22, C. O. Gavin Pearce.

PLANNING DECISIONS :-

* 22/00538/FUL The Cart Barn, 6 Whitehall Farm Barns. Erection of a temporary timber summerhouse within the curtilage of a private garden, Conservation Area. Val 29.05.22, consult to 30.06.22, deadline 24.07.22, C.O. Emma Posillico. Approved with conditions 20.07.22. The land proposed for the summer house was previously a piggery which was removed in the original barn conversion. The proposal is therefore considered acceptable provided the new development does not have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt and is compliant with Core Strategy Policy GB1 and the NPPF. Additionally, as the applicant has suggested throughout their submitted materials that the structure is intended to be temporary, a time limit would be conditioned with any approval. National policy is clear however, temporary permissions shall be used only in exceptional circumstances. As I have concluded there would be limited impact on openness and the land is considered PDL, there is no reason to restrict the development for 5 years.
* 22/00729/FUL 37 Fir Street. Rear single-storey extension replacing a conservatory to create a kitchen, dining, living area, also adding a fourth bedroom, and some internal remodelling. Val 25.07.22, consult to 18.08.22, deadline 19.09.22, C.O. Matthew Hurley. Approved with conditions 15.09.22.
* 22/00734/FUL 25 Penn Road. 2 storey extension. Val 27.07.22, Consult to 26.08.22, deadline 26.09.22., C.O. EmmaPosillico. Approved with conditions 15.09.22.

HIGHWAYS DATA –

Highways Bulletin, August 2022. Highways recently announced an additional £15.5 million investment into Staffordshire's roads. £5.2 million will fund maintenance schemes on major gateways into our towns. This is on top of an extra £1.6 million of structural maintenance work already taking place which has been funded by the Department for Transport. Eight roads will be resurfaced, the nearest in Essington. County have also patched more of the A449 between Lloyd Hill and Battlefield islands before resurfacing work is carried out next year.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* The dropdown-bolt hole on the Play Area fence which was full of debris and the missing padlock were rectified by SSDC.
* SCC is in the process of altering and renewing its existing maintenance programme with Amey, the contract ends in September 2024 and SCC will change the way that services are delivered. Some Amey men will be working for SCC, jobs will be carried out in different ways to provide better repairs.
* There was good support shown by locals for the Commonwealth Time Trials with quite a party attitude prevalent in places.
* Following a complaint, Enforcement sent notices to all estate agents involved that their ‘For Sale’ notices at the entrance to Brick Kiln Way must be removed within 22 days. They have now been removed.
* It was reported to HPC that a pony was being exercised on The Playing Field without permission. Cllr Frost contacted the owner of the horse whose daughter was having riding lessons and explained that permission must be sought but it would void our insurance. Not a good idea as horse could be spooked by dogs and run amok.
* The Limes has been experiencing problems with bin emptying. On 18th August they had not had blue bins emptied for 5 weeks, Cllr Nock contacted SSDC, and they were emptied on the 19th. On 7th September, Cllr Nock was further informed that neither blue or grey bins had been emptied since 19th August, I again contacted SSDC but they had been emptied on schedule and were due to be emptied the next day. Some residents were confused as the schedule for The Limes is different from other properties in Churns Hill Lane.
* There is notification that to install a new water pipe under the carriageway at Himley Cottage, 20 School Road, there will be a Complete Road Closure outside the address to all vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians and emergency vehicles from 8am Monday 12.12.22 to 5pm Wednesday 14.12.22. Diversions will be in place. Roads in the village will be open to the A449 to the east of the closure point and to the by-pass from the west of the closure.
* Incidents were reported to Cllr Nock that people who appear to be homeless are now, again, in Himley Country Hotel. SSDC was notified and Police checks made. Police were told that they are not taking in homeless or anyone who appears to be homeless. SSDC are dealing with a homeless amputee in a wheel chair who was ejected from the hotel and is sleeping rough in the village.
* Clerk has received a notification of a penalty charge for late payment to HMRC for her salary tax in the quarter ended 5th July 2022. HPC to appeal.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -

Automated debit HSBC bank charges £11.00 10/8/22

Automated debit HSBC bank charges £9.00 10/9/22

100533 HMRC Penalty charge £100.00

100534 S Farley wages and reimbursement of computer £1014.10 (Wages £514.10 computer £500)

100535 HMRC clerk wages £128.40

100536 SSDC grounds maintenance 1St Quarter 2022/23 £87.18

100537 Playsafety – play equipment annual inspection £88.20

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **Wednesday 19th October 2022**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55pm