**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 17th MAY 2023 at 7.30PM**

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

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

**MR R LEES, MRS M SINCLAIR**

**APOLOGIES:- CCLR V WILSON, MRS S FROST,**

**PCSO’S WILKES, RATHBONE & MILLICHIP**

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

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:- MR R PAINTER, MR M GRAINGER**

**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**

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL:

Election of Chairman –

Mrs Yvonne Nock - proposed by Cllr Roger Lees, Seconded by Cllr Sandra Oliver

Election of Vice Chairman-

Mr Roger Lees – proposed by Cllr Yvonne Nock, Seconded by Cllr Marcia Sinclair

Meeting closed.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Nock gave her annual address with a resume of the works that Himley Parish Council had completed during the last 12 months.

Two members of the public present – Mr R Painter, Mr M Grainger

Meeting closed.

**MAY 2023 HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING COMMENCED:**

CRIME FIGURES - 18/04/2023 – 16/05/2023 as received:

Public bodies can only disclose information if they have the power to do so. Section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act provides a power to exchange information where disclosure is necessary to support the local Crime Reduction Strategy and Partnership in achieving the aims of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy and objectives outlined within it.

The degree of disclosure that takes place must be proportionate and relevant to the level of social ill or criminality it is intended to counter or prevent.

The information is only to be processed in relation to crime and disorder purposes. Information will be handled in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, the Human Rights Act 1998 and any other relevant legislation governing disclosures and will ultimately be disposed of in a secure manner.

**Burglary (residential):**

* None reported

**Burglary (business):**

* Between 2000hrs 12/05 and 0600hrs 15/05, a cricket club was accessed by unknown offenders and boxing equipment stolen, with an approx. value of £1000. *Investigation ongoing.*

**Vehicle crime:**

* On 18/04, a van was broken into whilst parked on the carpark of a hotel on Stourbridge Road. The van door was drilled, however nothing stolen as all valuable items locked in a site box within. CCTV was obtained however sadly nothing to ID offender.
* On 25/04, a van was stolen from a hotel carpark on School Road. Unfortunately, CCTV does not provide any information in regards to identity of offenders or make / model of offender’s vehicle.
* On 03/05, a Vauxhall Zafira had its window smashed whilst parked at Himley Plantation. A drill was stolen from within. Sadly, no witnesses and no CCTV.
* On 08/05, between 1305hrs-1330hrs, offenders have smashed 2 x windows of a Kia Sportage parked on Himley Lane. A baby changing bag, a purse and bottles were stolen from within. Sadly, no witnesses and no CCTV.
* On 10/05, offenders were seen to access a Range Rover Velar on Monkton Way. Offenders arrived in a suspected stolen Range Rover Evoque, however left empty handed when spooked by residents. CCTV obtained. *Investigation ongoing.*
* On 11/05, staff at a hotel on Stourbridge Road heard a vehicle alarm sounding on the car park. 2 x holes were discovered that had been drilled into a customer’s van however offenders had failed to gain access. Offenders believed to be travelling in a Vauxhall. *Investigation ongoing.*
* On 14/05, unknown offenders have approached a Hyundai Tucson parked at Himley Plantation and stolen both number plates. *Investigation ongoing.*

**Anti-social behaviour:**

* 1 x report this month being a neighbour dispute **Policing operations of note:**

A Public Space Protection Notice is in place at Baggeridge Village which prohibits vehicles parking up when the craft village is closed. This has had some positive effect coupled with additional Police patrols.

PCSO’s and Officers on the neighbourhood Policing Teams have been trained to use the speed gun in conjunction with Community Speed Watch, we will be conducting speed checks around the location and will add to the reports.

With thanks from your local officers,

**PCSO Paula WILKES** (06635)Email: [paula.wilkes@staffordshire.police.uk](mailto:paula.wilkes@staffordshire.police.uk)

**PCSO Alexandra RATHBONE** (23938)Email: [alexandra.rathbone@staffordshire.police.uk](mailto:alexandra.rathbone@staffordshire.police.uk)

**PCSO Phillip MILLICHAP** (28983)Email: [phillip.millichap@staffordshire.police.uk](mailto:phillip.millichap@staffordshire.police.uk)

**MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING :-**

* Replacement plaque – still waiting for this to be fitted
* Three large dogs escaped from the Playing Field being walked by a man and attacked two dogs being walked by a resident along the pavement. Dogs must be kept under control. All incidents must be reported to the police.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* 23/00124/FUL  Land Off School Road, Himley, Staffordshire, Erection of 11 affordable dwellings with associated work and access. Val 13.04.23, consult to 18.05.23., deadline 13.05.23. C.O. Jennifer Mincher.

HPC Objects

1. Most of the reasons why the previous application 21/01216/FUL for this land were refused, still exist.

2. From the website, at the previous application, Highways had no objection but Highways were under the impression that access would be off School Road. On 22.02.22 Highways commented: - *Note to Planning Officer. The proposed development will be accessed off School Road, an unclassified road subject to a speed limit of 30 mph. There are no recorded vehicular accidents at this location within the last 5 years. Although the development has been marked up for adoption on the submitted application Form, it shall remain private.*

However, in the current application, access is sought off Plantation Lane which is a private road. On the website, the Transport Statement document, Banners Gate state: - 5.6.4 *The Highway Authority did not object to application 21/01216/FUL and it seems reasonable to apply the same conclusion to the amended scheme. The project cannot be construed to have an adverse impact or compromise safety. Therefore, planning permission should be granted.* As access is now sought from Plantation Lane, Highways needs to be consulted.

3. Moreover, the red boundary on the application suggests that the first stretch of Plantation Lane is under the ownership of Taylor Reed Homes; it is not. To build houses in the field with this access, they need permission from the owner of Plantation Lane.

Conclusion: There can be no access to property built on ‘land off School Road’ from Plantation Lane without permission from the owner of Plantation Lane.

* 23/00385/VAR Sedgley Court, Brick Kiln Way. Amendment to Previous Application 21/00770/FUL. To increase Eaves height on 5 No dwellings while maintaining approved ridge heights.  Val 10.05.23, consult to 05.06.23, deadline 05.07.23. C.O. Laura Moon.
* 23/00400/TTREE   The Limes Churns Hill Lane Himley. Works to a Tree(s) with a Tree Preservation Order TPO No. 84/1985: Tilia spp. (Lime). Dismantle and remove Val 04.05.23, consult to 30.05.23, deadline 29.06.23., C.O. Gavin Pearce. Owners request urgent response, Tree surgeons B.C. Trees have discovered tree is very dangerous, it has Ganoderma applanatum infection which occurs at wounds and the fungus attacks sapwood, heartwood, and cambium. The white-mottled rot is usually concentrated in large roots (larger than 5 cm in diameter) and base of the stem, but can extend up into the trunk for a metre or more.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION :- None

PLANNING DECISIONS :- None

HIGHWAYS DATA:-

Highways have stepped up their pothole repairs as harsh winter has made matters worse. Total of £5 million going towards repairs and minor drainage issues, patching and surface dressing.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* Parish vacancy – Himley Parish Council need to co-opt someone by June 23rd.  The vacancy is to be advertised on notice boards.
* Cllrs agreed on a salary increase for the clerk. Cllrs have agreed on an increase of 8.26% on the Clerk’s salary, new salary £2,780 wef 1/4/2023.
* The next Parish Summit is Thursday 8th June 2023 9am – 12pm at Codsall.
* Register of interest forms were completed by Cllrs – these are to be added to the HPC website.
* Clerk advised that the online Zurich Insurance Policy for Parish Councils with lower precepts had the same excess of £100 as the last policy taken out. Cllrs agreed to proceed with renewal of the Zurich policy on the new online portal.
* The form was completed and signed by Cllrs to instruct the closure of the HSBC bank account and the balance to be transferred to the Lloyds account.
* The Clerk advised that the annual accounts had been completed and were with the Auditor for verification – these will be ready for signing at the June meeting.
* Cllr Crisp confirmed that he would look into a new more comprehensive and official sign for the playing field displaying the rules to be followed when using the playing field and equipment.
* The Lloyds online banking allows 1 Cllr to access the account and make payments – the Clerk requested that Cllr Nock contact Lloyds to get this changed to 2 people to authorise payments as a priority as they would not take instructions from her.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -

* Online payment authorised at the meeting by Cllrs - Zurich Insurance (Annual insurance premium) - £536.00
* Automated debit – (HSBC bank charges) £8 for period 20/3/23-19/4/23 to be debited on 11/5/23

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **Wednesday 21st June 2023**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm