**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, SWINDON ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 15TH 2016 AT 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT :- MRS Y NOCK PRESIDING**

**PRESENT COUNCILLORS :- MR R LEES, MRS S OLIVER, MR P HEMMING, MRS M SINCLAIR, MR M CRISP, PCSO L JONES, PC J BANNISTER**

**APOLOGIES :- MRS S FROST**

PCSO Jones advised us that the way crime figures were going to be reported to Parish Councils was changing as previous reporting was taking far too many man hours. Future figures would show a crime summary for Wombourne, Himley and Swindon. The figures reported to the meeting for the last month to 14/02/2016 were : 1 Less serious violent crime with injury, 1 Other serious sexual offences, 1 Other violence against the person and 1 Theft of Motor Vehicle.

PCSO L JONES and PC J BANNISTER left the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 20th January 2016 at the Community Centre, Swindon, as circulated to all members were signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING –

* Site Allocation Documents - HPC has sent an objection to Wombourne’s proposed site for housing along the B4176 next to the boundary with Himley, citing adjoining our boundary is contrary to SSDC’s Core Strategy Plan, it would fill our sewage farm to capacity leaving no room for flow from the two sites in Himley which have previously been approved for housing, no capacity in schools for extra pupils, increased traffic on an accident blackspot and a potential for flooding in a badly drained area.
* Following our request, the abundance of litter along Dudley Road was promptly cleared by SSDC.
* Confirmation that the District Member Grant application of £400 had been agreed towards the new notice board in Gospel End.
* 15/00811/FUL - Erection of bungalow on land east of Red Lane, Gospel End –Since the application, it had been discovered that this land had been used as a builder’s yard for many years without permission so the deadline has been extended to the end of March and the owners have had to submit an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the use.
* 15/01064/TREE - World Owl Trust-Remove 7 individual & 7 groups of trees & part removal of 8 groups of trees in conservation area, deadline 25.01.16, has not been determined due to prioritising other work commitments. The 6 week period expired on 25th January 2015 after which time the works specified in the notice could be and were carried out as a TPO had not been made to stop the work by the Arboreal Officer as they were all self-seeded trees since the model village was abandoned.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION –

15/00826/FUL – World Owl Trust Conservation Centre at Himley Hall, deadline 14.12.15, pending consideration, awaiting further information.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS –

* 16/00104/LUE – Land east of Red Lane, Gospel End – Lawful Development Certificate for existing use as a builder’s yard, val 04.02.16, deadline 31.03.16, C.O. Laura Moon.
* 16/00112/FUL – 4 Fir Street – 2 storey side extension and porch – val 08.02.16, consultation expiry 01.03.16, deadline 04.04.16, C.O. Paul Thompson.
* 16/00118/FUL – 6 Ward Road – conservatory – val 09.02.16, consultation to 09.02.16, deadline 05.04.16.

PLANNING DECISIONS : –

* 15/00899/TREE- 41 Fir Street – remove 2 poplar trees, approved with replacement planting condition 04.01.16.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL:- None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* The HSBC bank statement was presented for information purposes.
* A thank you letter from the CAB had been received for the donation sent last month.
* Bob Taylor from SSDC advised that he had raised a job to get the path along the A449 cleared following a letter of complaint received from a resident.
* There will be a Police Forum for Locality 5, Wednesday 20th April 2016, 5.00pm – 6.30pm at Wombourne Police Station. It was agreed that 2 Councillors will attend.
* Wodehouse Lane accidents. We contacted Mark Keeling, County Highways re the number of accidents and were told: *- We are aware of the issues here and we have recently upgraded the signing, however there are further plans in regards the surface and works will be undertaken later this year. We also have a scheme planned for the Battlefield roundabout.* We asked for further temporary signage for the slippery road.
* After making enquiries regarding new pension legislation, we do not need to provide a pension for our clerk as her remuneration is below the amount at which a pension has to be provided.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT –

An invoice for the 2015 Election from SSC for charges of £97.12 had been received and this was questioned. We have been advised that there had been an error and that they had invoiced us for a Parish Election as well as a General Election. They will be issuing a credit note for approximately half the amount.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS - None.

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.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING :-

**Wednesday 16th March 2016 at 7.00pm**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.