**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, SWINDON ON THURSDAY 25th APRIL 2019 AT 7.30PM**

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

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

**MRS M SINCLAIR**

**APOLOGIES :- PCSO G MURPHY, MR P HEMMINGS, COUNTY CLLR V WILSON**

**OTHERS :- MRS S FARLEY CLERK**

**NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

**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.**

POLICE REPORT - 19th February – 19th March 2019 (as received)

1. Incidents of note: No major incidents of note in the Himley area this month.

2. Priorities: Out priorities over the coming weeks/months continues to be targeting vehicle crime in the South Staffordshire area. To do this we will be continuing with Overt & Covert patrols in all our areas. We have also been liaising with West Midlands Police and sharing information of vehicles / Nominals of interest in an effort to promote a joint response to issues that occur right on the border of both force areas.

3. Crime hotspots: We are still receiving reports of incidents from the Himley Country Hotel on School road, reports from the hotel are usually reporting theft’s from customer’s vehicles (usually vans). We have completed an operation in the area and continue to do patrols in the area in an effort to prevent crime in the location, we will deal with any incidents we come across during patrols in the most effective way at the time.

4. Speed Watch: We are also currently having an issue with volunteers for community speed watch in the area, in short we have a lack of volunteers and are struggling to maintain a Community Speed Watch presence. As I am sure you are aware speed enforcement is carried out by local neighbourhood teams within South Staffordshire as often as possible but due to other commitments that take priority we are unable to do as many sessions as we would like. This is were community speed watch groups can be a valuable asset to combating the issues of excess speed in the area. Due to multiple requests I arranged and set up speed watch awareness sessions and a full training course specifically for residents of Wombourne, Himley, Lower Penn Swindon, Seisdon, Trysull and Bobbington which was advertised around villages and on social media in June / July of last year, despite a large amount of interest and requests to join only one person came to the sessions, a community speed watch group cannot run with one person so unfortunately the group was closed.

Our aim is to create one big group to cover all of the above mentioned areas, Lower Penn already has a speed device and arrangements will be made to bring all groups together and operate using once device with residents doing speed watch in their own areas, this will enable the group to be formed with no cost as a device is already available, however, if any independent parish’s or a collaboration of parish’s wish to purchase a second device for use by the group this would also possible.

If you or anyone you know has interest in joining a speed watch group please make contact with community speed watch direct on: 01785 232702 or visit the website at: http://www.staffssaferroads.co.uk/my-community/community-speed-watch

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:–

* Gareth Bowen has pursued a further channel of funding for Superfast Broadband and found that £2500 vouchers were available for each business who will take up the option and each business would enable a voucher of £500 for 10 residents. This would bring the cost of installing Superfast Broadband to the premises down dramatically. He is now looking for any other business registered in Himley and a few more households which could bring the cost of installation virtually down to zero with households only having to pay the final connection from the pole to the house.
* The problem of parked cars near the bend in Himley village remains and more near-misses have been reported. PCSOs were asked to monitor the situation but have not contacted us. Clerk to write to the offending resident explaining the situation and ask County if double yellow lines could be provided to prevent a serious accident.
* Fir Street litter was removed by Baggeridge Country Park staff.
* Benches: SSDC quoted £120 for installation only of a bench, not including a concrete base. Cllr Nock visited the supplier of the Commemorative Bench with a view to buying one for the Playing Field and one for Baggeridge Village Green. After asking DWH for permission to install a bench on The Green, the clerk learned that DWH will be supplying and installing one. Cllr Nock to ask for a quote for the installation of a concrete base on the Playing Field.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* 19/00212/REM – Land at Beggars Bush (in Wombourne), Seeking approval for the layout, scale, appearance and landscaping in accordance with condition 2 on the outline approval 18/00559/OUT. The outline planning application was not subject to an environment impact assessment. Val 19.03.19, consult to 19.04.19, deadline 18.06.19, C.O. Jennifer Mincher. Cllr Nock was concerned that sewage from the site might go to Himley sewage farm which is almost at capacity and the clerk had asked the Case Officer but has not received a reply. She will ask again.
* 19/00226/ADV – Himley Hall, To display 3 non-illuminated free-standing signs (at entrance gates). Val 22.03.19, deadline 17.05.19, C.O. Lucy Duffy, no consultations requested. No objection.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION:-

* 19/00112/FUL - The Old Barn, Stourbridge Road, Replacement oak-framed garden shed, Val 20.02.19, consult to 22.03.19, deadline 17.04.19, C.O. Matthew Hurley. No Objections
* 19/00265/COU - 1 Wood Farm Barns, Proposed manège area, Val 12.03.19, consult to 10.04.19, Deadline 07.05.19, CO Debbie Hall. No Objections

APPEALS AWAITING A DECISION:-

* 16/00779/FUL dormer bungalow, applicant wishes to use garage as a living room. Val 03.05.18, consult to 28.05.18, deadline 28.06.18 C.O. Laura Moon.
* 18/00365/FUL – 12A Himley Lane now called 89A School Road, Double garage and boundary wall.

PLANNING DECISIONS :-

* 18/00193/FUL – Land east of Red Lane, storage building. Approved 26.03.19 subject to conditions and a Section 106 Agreement 26.03.19. Planning obligations, also known as Section 106 agreements (based on that section of The 1990 Town & Country Planning Act) are private agreements made between local authorities and developers and can be attached to a planning permission to make acceptable, development which would otherwise be unacceptable in planning terms. The land itself, rather than the person or organisation that develops the land, is bound by a Section 106 Agreement, something any future owners will need to take into account.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS:-

* It was decided after the previous meeting when the clerk had left the meeting that the clerk’s salary would be £1750 per annum from April 2019. There has not been an increase for 3 years and there is an increased workload.
* HPC had previously told C Cllr Wilson that we would use our share of the fund she has to share between parishes on highways to have gullies emptied. However, after being notified of the costs involved and being asked if we could match it, HPC Cllrs decided not to use reserves which have been ear-marked for other projects, with auditors notified of this intention, and an emergency reserve must also be kept. Cllrs decided that we should instead use our share to improve the appearance of the villages by having weeds removed and road signs cleaned and clear the 5 known blocked gullies.
* The Grounds Maintenance invoice for 4th quarter 2017-18 is £24.36.
* A car boot sale on 14th April next to The Railway Walk caused chaos, not only for main road users but for residents with parking causing dangerous obstructions. SSDC was informed and enforcement ordered the Easter car boots to be held at Botterham instead.
* SSDC were informed following residents’ complaints about the excessive noise from afternoon to midnight from Dubs in Wonderland at Himley Park over Easter weekend.
* HPC has received prior notification from LNT Care Developments that they will be submitting a planning application for a 66 bed Care Home to be built off Brick Kiln Way, as per the original plans for the site.
* David Wilson Homes is holding up the transfer of the Baggeridge Village site to SSDC and has been told that the transfer is urgent.
* Posters were distributed for the noticeboards.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT –

* 100447 £24.36 – SSDC grounds maintenance
* 100448 £517.96 – Zurich Insurance Co
* 100449 £55.72 – S Farley stationery and stamps expenses for 2018-19 year

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **WEDNESDAY 15th MAY 2019 at 7pm**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.48pm.