**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 15th DECEMBER 2021 AT 7.30PM**

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

**PRESENT COUNCILLORS: -MRS S OLIVER, MR M CRISP, MR P HEMMINGS,**

**APOLOGIES:- MRS M SINCLAIR, MRS S FROST, MR R LEES,**

**PCSO ROCKLEY,CCLR V WILSON,**

**OTHERS :- MRS S FARLEY CLERK 2 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**

CRIME FIGURES - 13/11/2021 - 11/12/2021

Main headlines since the last meeting:

Burglary –

•Foxglove Way – 29/11 – Overnight, unknown offenders have entered an unfinished, new-build property on new housing estate. They have gained entry by smashing the front window and stolen a boiler from inside. No witnesses / No CCTV.

•Sedgley Road – 01/12 – Unknown offenders have entered a residential property by jemmying the front window. Untidy searches were made in all rooms however nothing appears to have been taken. Forensic team attended due to muddy footprints being left at scene – awaiting results. CCTV obtained however house-to-house enquiries for witnesses proved negative.

Vehicle Crime –

•Gospel End Rd – 14/11 – Between 2230hrs-2230hrs, unknown offenders have entered a secure, unattended van and stolen 1 x drill (value £200) from within. CCTV obtained.

•Himley Lane – 17/11 – Between 1250hrs-1350hrs, victim has been out walking their dogs and upon return to the location, discovered their van had been stolen (Red Minibus) No witnesses / No CCTV.

•School Road – 18/11 – Overnight, van containing a large amount of tools stolen from car park of local hotel. CCTV obtained however poor quality. No witnesses.

•School Road – 25/11 – Between 2330hrs-0745hrs, vehicle stolen from car park of local hotel. Vehicle discovered burnt out on NEW ROAD, SWINDON later on 25/11. No witnesses.

ASB –

•Baggeridge Country Park – 13/11 – Report of vehicle driving at speed on public footpaths at location, at approx. 0700hrs. Vehicle registered to another part of the country, so possibly on false plates.

Proactive news –

•Staffordshire Police have recognised the dramatic increase in the theft of Catalytic converters and have set up Operation Anadrome. This type of crime is not unique to Staffordshire or the Midlands and is countrywide. Officers have been working alongside neighbouring forces cross-boarder to target this type of crime. We have also been working behind the scenes to launch a pilot scheme, working alongside vehicle manufacturers, to offer free ‘SmartWater’ marking for Staffordshire residents at participating dealerships – more can be read at – https://orlo.uk/Jw1ED A total of 688 Staffordshire residents were notified of this service via a personal letter.

•Operation Cable targeting ASB hotspots and Operation Lightening targeting vehicle crime are up and running frequently with the help of the road crime team and the neighbourhood task force team.

•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 - Tree cutting, concreting in of drop-bolt on gate and clearance of brook and land along and in the brook was completed 24.11.21. Only job outstanding is provision of a padlock on Play Area gate
* Forest of Mercia - Should plant trees the week before Christmas.
* Addresses of Cllrs - These were removed from both SSDC and Himley websites due to an attack and threats on other public figures.
* Roadside welcome signs Quotes for different types of signs had been received but as 3 Cllrs were unable to attend, a decision on purchase was not made.
* A report regarding the inappropriate parking that occurred on Bonfire Night was sent to H Hall for their de-brief. The whole length of School Road was taken up by parked cars.
* Street Scene asked if any signs needed replacing. Cllr Nock asked for the ‘Himley’ sign in Bridgnorth Road to be repaired/replaced.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* 21/01026FUL 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. 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.
* 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 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. 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.
* 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 Number(s): 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 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, 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.
* 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. 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. 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.
* 21/01017/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.
* 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.
* 21/01117/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.
* 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.

PLANNING DECISIONS :-

* 19/00865/COU 9 Baggeridge Craft Village. Change of use to be able to sell handmade crafts by students from our school and also offer a small range of long-life convenience products. The purpose of the unit is to provide work experience to our special needs students. Val 22.10.21, consult to 25.11.21, deadline 17.12.21, C.O. Laura Moon. Approved with conditions 16.12.21
* 21/01022/FUL Ward House, Himley Hall, Installation of air source heat pumps and construction of timber fenced compound, Val 28.09.21, consult to22.10.21, deadline 23.11.21, C.O. Laura Moon. Approved with conditions 19.11.21
* 21/01023/LBC Listed Building Consent Ward House, Himley Hall, Installation of air source heat pumps and construction of timber fenced compound. Val 28.09.21, consult to 22.10.21, deadline 23.11.21, C.O. Laura Moon. Approved with conditions 19.11.21.
* 21/01101/VAR Magnolia Cottage, Churns Hill Lane. Application Reference Number: 18/00215/FUL Date of Decision: 26/04/2018 Condition Number(s): 2+4 Conditions(s) Removal: to replace the proposal to render the building and use cement fibre cladding with Cladco fibre cement wall cladding finished in blue laid horizontally or Cedral equivalent. Val 12.10.21, consult to 10.11.21, deadline 07.12.21,

C.O. Jennifer Mincher. Approved with conditions 07.12.21.

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 for weeks commencing 18.11.21, 24.11.21and 29.11.21

Highways enquiries raised: 1395, Highways enquiries closed: 2056, Gullies visited: 2569 gullies visited 90% cleansed at first visit, Potholes patched: 1284, Emergency jobs completed: 13, Pothole jobs completed by Category of pothole: 640, Cat 3 – 340 , Cat 2 – 182, Cat 1 – 16, Emergencies – 9, Percentage of Pothole Jobs Completed On Time Cat 1 – 100%, Cat 2 – 90.7%, Cat 3 – 36.27%, Emergency – 100%

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* A new Chief Constable, Chris Noble has been appointed for Staffordshire.
* SSDC was asked to road and pavement sweep Himley Village as most leaves had fallen and pavements were slippery and gutters full of leaves. This was carried out but School Road pavements were left with leaves. Another request for sweeping pavements was sent.
* SSDC would be asked if the new ‘Himley’ sign requested from Street Scene had been authorised.
* Cllrs to look out for blocked gullies and report any blocked ones with exact position to Cllr Nock.
* Cllr Nock attended the Teams Localities Meeting 25.11.21. SSDC wants all parishes to celebrate and take part in the Queen’s Jubilee on 2nd- 5th, the June 2022 Commonwealth Games on Aug 4th when the men’s cycle time trials come through Himley Village and Gospel End and the Climate Change Festival
* Cllr Nock and our Clerk had a meeting with SSDC CEO to discuss local concerns.
* A resident was concerned that a tree next to the bus shelter in Bridgnorth Road was dropping branches. It was reported to SCC who own the verge. Report number 4263382. There has been no response as yet.
* Gareth reports that Openreach have many projects with a close project end date and ours is a little further out than others. We are still hoping for an end date of February 2022.
* Three projects that require substantial outlay were put off until more Cllrs are present.
* Precept for 2021-2022 to be decided next month.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -

100516 £500.00 S Farley wages

100517 £125.00 HMRC

100518 £27.10 S Farley postage and stationery

100519 £40.00 Swindon Community Centre Management Committee - donation re room usage Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec 2021 meetings

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -

**Wednesday 19th January 2022 7.30pm**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.