**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT HIMLEY CRICKET CLUB ON WEDNESDAY 16th JUNE 2021 AT 7.30PM**

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

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

**MRS M SINCLAIR, CCLR V WILSON**

**APOLOGIES:- MRS S FROST**

**OTHERS :- MRS S FARLEY CLERK**

**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 as received :- 19/05/21 – 15/06/21- the report was missed by the clerk prior to the meeting so figures were distributed to Cllrs after the meeting.

Vehicle crime - Wolverhampton Road A449 - 30/05/2021 – Between 1100hrs – 1200hrs unknown offenders have smashed the window of a car parked on the carpark of a sporting venue. They have stolen a wallet containing bank cards from within. Sadly no CCTV and no witnesses.

Burglary - Fir Street - 04/06/2021 – Overnight, unknown offenders have gained access to a secure business premises. They have removed office equipment e.g. laptops, TV’s, walkie-talkies. Our forensic team attended and we are awaiting results - Investigation ongoing.

Theft – Baggeridge Country Park – 15/06/2021 – Unknown offenders have stolen a galvanised metal field gate from The Straits entrance (St Michaels Road) No CCTV, no witnesses.

Anti-Social Behaviour- Baggeridge Craft Village – 19/05/2021, 25/05/2021 & 26/05/2021 – Reports of nuisance persons on mopeds and in vehicles driving erratically on evenings. On 25/05/2021 call received at 1810hrs – Sgt Dorrington’s team attended at 1830hrs however persons had moved on. Follow up visits were conducted at 1930hrs & 2250hrs however no persons present. We continue to pay passing attention to the location moving forward. It has been noted that there is an amount of litter on the carparks at this location which would indicate it is being used as a ‘hang out’ spot.

• Baggeridge Country Park – 01/06/2021 – Report of large gathering of youths with possible cannabis use at 1700hrs. Patrols attended however due to demand this was some time after the report – no persons present upon officer arrival.

• Himley Park – 02/06/2021 – Report of youths setting fires in woods on an evening time. Officers attended with the Fire Service and a small camp fire was discovered – this was extinguished by Fire service. No persons with the fire at time of officer arrival.

ASB hotspots -Himley Park, Baggeridge Country Park, Baggeridge Craft Village

Himley Country Club – The premises remains closed but officers have conducted a search when made aware there may have a cannabis grow inside. We continue to keep sight of comings and goings at the Hotel on our local patrol strategy. On 05/05/21 a former employee aged 25 was arrested after PC Fortey seized his VW Golf from outside for no tax. He then stole the keys from a recovery truck. The thief is on CCTV from the recovery yard but CPS have yet to authorise a charge. These actions, we feel have deterred the number of cars and persons visiting the hotel.

Proactive news – Staffordshire Police have recognised the dramatic increase in the theft of Catalytic converters and have set up Operation Androme. 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.

• Codsall District Council Community Safety (Maggie Quinn) and Biffa Waste disposal have provided funds for additional patrols to combat the issues caused by Off Road bikes. Operation Scramble utilises additional resources including specially trained officers from the Roads Policing Team. These operations are at least once a month.

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:–

* The lease holder of Himley Country Hotel has stated that following remedial work and decorations, the hotel will re-open after August. The planning application is in its final stage.
* Playing Field :-A permanent sign was made for No Right of Way over brook and fixed to a tree. Photos were taken.
* The Play area fence gate is continually being left open, caused by people opening the drive-in gate. Cllr Lees to ask for a suited padlock which will prevent dogs entering.
* One of the new Lime Trees had been broken off at ground level. SSDC to replace the tree.
* Plans for tree planting on Playing Field are going ahead.
* SSDC has not yet cleared the debris from around and in the brook.
* School Road parking - Double yellow lines were requested for both ends of the road. C Cllr Wilson informed us that the minimum charge to HPC would be £5,000 and residents would have to be consulted. Cllrs felt this was a large sum of money to pay without any guarantee that this matter would be enforceable even if the lines went ahead.
* Cllr Nock had confirmed to HSBC that under their guidelines, all councillors of Himley Parish Council collectively are the Key Controller of HPC; she is only responsible for urgently needed cheques up to £250. HSBC have confirmed that they have received all the relevant information and the review is now entering the final state of completion; they will notify us by letter of the completion.
* Following multiple visits by police, the contractors working at 10 Baggeridge Close are now not parking on both sides of Fir Street but are still causing a problem at the junction with Gospel End Road. C Cllr Wilson to seek help from the traffic Warden.
* C Cllr Wilson had asked if any Highways works were required and she was informed of gullies in Dudley Road, Wolverhampton Road and School Road that needed attention.  Some are part of the tri-annual cleanse, the other jobs will be actioned. SSDC was asked to road sweep these areas.
* Pavement clearance to the east of The Rocks to the Dudley border. Due to the high cost of this operation for County and their lack of finances, HPC agreed to share the cost due to its dangerous situation. C Cllr Wilson to seek best possible price. The owner of one hedge needs to have hedge cut before work on the pavement begins.
* Bus Shelter hazard in Wolverhampton Road  No quote has yet been received.
* Slabs for Gospel End notice board  - The contractor is unavailable at present and as this causes more of a problem in the winter it was decided to wait and contact him in a few months.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* 21/00545/FUL    32 Penn Road. Proposed conversion of existing outbuilding into granny annex. Val 17.05.21, consult to 23.06.21, deadline 12.07.21. Case Officer Laura Moon. Object: Green Belt, not suitable, difficult access and intrusion on neighbour’s property
* 21/00547/FUL   The Firs, new External Lobby and Reception Area, new access door to rear Courtyard, Fire exit door and Bin Enclosure. HPC to comment that this extension would remove an area where compos mentis residents have a seating area where they enjoy meeting and chatting, not only to other residents but to people visiting the establishment.
* 21/00617/TTREE     6 Churns Hill Lane, Tree Preservation Order 84/1985, T41 and T44. 2 Lombardy Poplars – Fell. Val 10.06.21, consult to 24.06.21, deadline 05.08.21, C.O. Steve Dores

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION :-

* 19/00922/COU Wood Farm, Gospel End Road. Change of use of existing farm building from equestrian use to dog day-care and training facility, val 25.09.19, consult to 29.10.20, deadline 19.11.20 C.O. Planning team.
* 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.
* 20/01045/FUL 25.05.21. Change of description. Himley Country Hotel, The demolition of part of the former Hotel, and erection of 9 dwellings with garages and car parking, the refurbishment of the retained former School Building / Private Residence to a 2 Bed Bungalow with garage, together with private amenity and new gated private road from the existing access from School Road to The demolition of part of the former Hotel, and erection of 8 dwellings with garages and car parking, including the provision of two affordable dwellings, the refurbishment of the retained former School Building / Private Residence to a 2 Bed Bungalow with garage, together with private amenity and new gated private road from the existing access from School Road. Val 04.01.21, consult to 25.01.21, deadline 05.04.21, C.O. Thomas Cannon.. HPC commented Himley Parish Council wish to support this application as they feel it will enhance the village of Himley. They do however have concerns over the amount of parking available for these properties and would like planners to consider this. Most houses of the sizes within this development have 3 or 4 cars and there is insufficient space at each dwelling for this They do not want overflow parking along School Road to become a future problem on an already very busy road. This application has been amended to 8 dwellings plus the former school building. Nine properties; comprising two 4-bed houses, three 3-bed houses, two 2-bed bungalows, one social rented 2- bed semi-detached bungalow and one 3- bed semi-detached bungalow of shared ownership.

PLANNING DECISIONS :-

* 21/00067/FUL   6 Whitehall Farm Barns, Cart Barn, erection of a temporary timber summerhouse structure within the curtilage of a private garden in a Conservation Area. Val 07.02.21, no consultation, internal target 04.04.21., C.O. Kate Taylor. Refused 28.05.21.
* 21/00309/FUL   Land east of Red Lane. Demolish existing derelict building, hard standing to be made good with new concrete, proposed prefabricated offices positioned on new hardstanding. Val 13.04.21, consult to 04.05.21, deadline 08.06.21, C.O. Laura Moon. Refused 08.06.21.
* 21/00366/FUL  5 Hughes Road, single storey side extension. Val 07.04.21, consult to 04.05.21, deadline 02.06.21, C.O. Laura Moon. Approved with conditions 21.05.21.

COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT: None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* Residents reported that 85 School Road was using front garden as a builder’s yard – windows, skips, rubbish bins with much litter.
* Residents from Park Farm complained about youths entering park over fences. Clerk to inform police.
* The Play Safety inspection will take place during August.
* Highways Data :-Weeks commencing 17th, 31st May, 7th June, Enquiries raised 761, 716, 561, enquiries closed 1040, 808, 746, gullies visited 1916, 1406, 1335, 82.16%, 83.2%, 85.54% cleansed at first visit, potholes patched 872, 921, 744, emergency jobs completed 9, 11, 7, pothole jobs completed by category of pothole\*, 336, 356, 340, Cat 3 - 221, 238, 228,,Cat 2 – 108, 104,  109, Cat 1 – 3, 9, 3, emergency – 4, 5. \*Please note a number of potholes could be patched under a single job, hence the difference in numbers between potholes patched and pothole jobs. Data provided on a monthly basis due to ratification process to ensure accuracy of figures. Data provided on a monthly basis due to ratification process to ensure accuracy of figures.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -

* 100502 – £4.80 - YP Nock – playing field sign
* 100503 – £25.00 - S Farley – auditors gift
* 100504 – £500.00 - S Farley – wages
* 100505 - £125.00 - HMRC

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **Wednesday 21st July 2021 7.30pm - TO BE HELD AT HIMLEY CRICKET CLUB**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.42pm.