**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 18th MAY 2022 at 7.30PM**

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

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

**MR R LEES, MR P HEMMINGS**

**CCLR V WILSON, MRS M SINCLAIR,**

**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 19/04/22 - 16/5/22 as received:

Main headlines since the last meeting:

Vehicle Crime –

•School Road – Himley Country Club Hotel – 10/05 at 21:15 Offenders have arrived on the car park in a Black Ford Fiesta, parked behind a Vauxhall \combo van and have gained entry by drilling a hole in the van door taking tools from within. The number plates were cloned from a vehicle in Kidderminster. The number plates from the offending vehicle and an item taken from the van were found discarded in Tipton. No cctv at the location.

ASB –

•Baggeridge Craft Village – 04/05 Report of youths congregating in vehicles on the coach car park possibly drug taking/dealing.

Pcso Millichap and Pc Wayne Green have had a meeting with land owner, Council and residents to resolve this issue.

•Baggeridge Park – 20/04 Youths congregating in the bandstand.

In relation to the ongoing Anti-Social Behaviour at Baggeridge Park, we are taking positive action by working with South Staffordshire Council and Local Schools to get the involved youths identified

Proactive news –

•Operation Cable targeting ASB hotspots and Operation Lightning targeting vehicle crime are up and running frequently, with officers utilising both marked and unmarked vehicles

•On Tuesday May 16th South Staffordshire Neighbourhood Officers conducted a joint operation with West Midlands Neighbourhood Officers doubling the resources enabling more vehicles to be stopped to help target vehicle crime. Numerous vehicles were stop and checked, 1X wanted male arrested, a quantity of drugs recovered, several traffic offences dealt with along with one vehicle being seized and recovered as well as an offensive weapon taken off the streets.

Up-to-date information regarding these operations can be found on Twitter and Facebook.

Please follow South Staffs Police on Twitter: @SStaffsPolice

Facebook: ‘Staffordshire Police’ & ‘South Staffordshire Police’

•Staffordshire Police are currently in the early stages of a working model restructure. This is set to see a number of response officers be based permanently in South Staffordshire on rotating shifts meaning better coverage for the local communities. We will update you when the transformation is due to go live over the coming months.

•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:–

* Himley Superfast Broadband: Openreach are continuing to prepare and are now installing the main link from Battlefield Island to Himley village.
* Defibrillators: A quote of £222 plus VAT for each defib has been received. The Summerhouse has agreed to install, we await a response from The Dudley Arms.
* Bank Account: The clerk is in the process of collecting personal information from Cllrs which is required by the new bank.
* Bus Shelter vandalism: A letter was sent to all parents in Bridgnorth Road and Plantation Lane who have children of an age similar to those who vandalised the bus shelter, asking them to talk to their children about the impact that vandalism has on the community, in the hope that it will nip this behaviour in the bud.
* Photographs for the intended Welcome signs were discussed before sending to the manufacturers.
* Accounts End of year accounts are being prepared.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* 22/00380/FUL 4 Wood Farm Barns, Proposed Orangery. Val 11.04.22, consult to 03.05.22, deadline 06.06.22, C.O. Laura Moon. No objections. This application was withdrawn 11.05.22
* 22/00445/FUL Himley House Hotel. Alter existing partition wall between bedrooms 19,20 and in toilets between bedroom 20,21 on the ground floor. Merge bedroom 2,3,4 into larger rooms, relocating door opening inside bedroom 6 toilet and store on first floor. Extend external terrace with stone piers and glass balustrades around. Form a new metal and glass veranda with brick fireplace around. Val 29.04.22, consult to 02.06.22, deadline 24.06.22., C.O. Emma Posillico. No objections.
* 22/00446/LBC Himley House Hotel. Alter existing partition wall between bedrooms 19,20 and in toilets between bedroom 20,21 on the ground floor. Merge bedroom 2,3,4 into larger rooms, relocating door opening inside bedroom 6 toilet and store on first floor. Extend external terrace with stone piers and glass balustrades around. Form a new metal and glass veranda with brick fireplace around. Val 29.04.22, consult to 02.06.22, deadline 24.06.22., C.O. Emma Posillico. No objections.
* 22/00469/FUL 20 Bridgnorth Road, Proposed brick wall to side boundary, inside hedge from existing wall to rear boundary, solid wall, height to match end of existing wall. No objections.
* Licensing The Stack House Café at the Craft Village in Brick Kiln Way has submitted an application for a license to sell alcohol on the premises. No objections.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION :-

* 21/00770/COND Sedgley Court (Land Adjacent to Sedgley Court Care Home), Brick Kiln Way Gospel End. Discharge of Condition 3 (Materials), Condition 4 (Landscape Scheme), Condition 5 (Boundary Treatment), Condition 6 (Finished Floor Levels) and Condition 7 (Drainage Plan). Val 13.01.22, consult to 09.02.22, deadline 07.04.22, C.O. Laura Moon.

PLANNING DECISIONS :-

* 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. Approved with conditions 21.04.22.

HIGHWAYS DATA FROM SSDC;-

The May 2022 bulletin was received from County who look after 6,000 kilometres of roads and investigate roughly 4,000 reported issues a month from the public. They are investing an extra £15 million of the council’s own capital in the coming year into local road maintenance, but it won't solve problems completely. What it will do is allow County to fix around 9,000 more potholes than they would normally fix, and they will continue to lobby central Government for the money necessary to keep Staffordshire’s roads in the condition we expect.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* A message of thanks was sent to Street Scene with congratulations to the mower operative following the excellent verge cut on 25th April. A resident had commented that it was the best cut ever. Cllr Lees explained that new equipment had been purchased.
* Cllr Hemmings commented that the traffic Islands on the A449 had high weeds which were never removed. C Cllr Wilson explained that weeding traffic islands had been dis-continued due to cost-cutting.
* SmartWater : There were plans by County to re-introduce SmartWater for local parishes. We had it available in Himley in 2013 when Cllr Nock made it available from Neighbourhood Watch but very few residents bought it and there is too little interest in any parish that has now been canvassed to make it viable.
* Cllr Crisp stated that the trees/bushes planted near the eastern boundary of the Playing Field had been planted by The Forest of Mercia too close to the existing hedge and had not left sufficient room for the tractor to cut the grass properly. Street Scene would be asked if they could relocate some of the plants.
* A resident commented on the proliferation of ‘For Sale’ boards on Gospel End Road for house sales in Baggeridge village. Enforcement to check if there is any breach of planning regulations.
* There was a request for advertising on the notice board. Clerk to reply that following previous requests for advertising, the decision to refuse was taken as legal anomalies or problems could ensue.
* Cllr Lees reported that anyone living on roads that will be closed for The Commonwealth Time Trials will be contacted by SSDC
* The clerk proposed that we set up a continuity plan for future Himley Cllrs. Cllr Lees reported that a scheme would be launched by SSDC in the autumn to recruit District and Parish Cllrs and he would advise of the details once these were available for HPC to adopt.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -

Automated debit HSBC bank charges £10

100526 S Farley new HPC printer £44.00

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **Wednesday 15th June 2022**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.05pm