**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 15th MARCH 2023 at 7.30PM**

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

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

**MR R LEES, MRS M SINCLAIR**

**APOLOGIES:- MR P HEMMING, CCLR V WILSON**

**OTHERS :- MRS S FARLEY CLERK**

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:- MR R PAINTER**

**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 ; 22/02/23 - 10/03/23 as received:-**

**Public bodies can only disclose information if they have the power to do so. Section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act provides a power to exchange information where disclosure is necessary to support the local Crime Reduction Strategy and Partnership in achieving the aims of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy and objectives outlined within it.**

**The degree of disclosure that takes place must be proportionate and relevant to the level of social ill or criminality it is intended to counter or prevent.**

**The information is only to be processed in relation to crime and disorder purposes. Information will be handled in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, the Human Rights Act 1998 and any other relevant legislation governing disclosures and will ultimately be disposed of in a secure manner.**

**Statistics:**

**Burglary (residential):**

* Nothing reported

**Burglary (business):**

* **01/03 –** Sometime over the past weeks, a till was stolen from inside a secure burger van at a Golf Course. The till was located a short distance away. Sadly, no CCTV and no witnesses.

**Vehicle crime:**

* **21/02 –** Overnight, offenders have broken into a van parked at a hotel on School Road. The lock on the door was drilled allowing offenders entry. Offenders have stolen power tools to the approx. value of £2500. CCTV obtained however did not offer any information in regards to ID of offenders.
* **02/03 –** Overnight, offenders have gained access to a van parked at a hotel on Wolverhampton Road. Offenders have drilled the lock on the vehicle, allowing access. Nothing stolen. No CCTV coverage where vehicle was parked and no witnesses.
* **08/03 -** Overnight, offenders have gained access to a van parked at a hotel on Wolverhampton Road. 9 x batteries and a Dewalt radio were stolen. *Investigation ongoing.*

**Anti-social behaviour:**

* **Baggeridge Country Park –** On 26/02 at approx. 1730, there were 9 electric motorbikes seen at the location. Local officers aware of ongoing issues and are visiting the location regularly, keeping in contact with the Rangers.

**Policing operations of note:**

* A Public Space Protection Notice is in place at Baggeridge Village which prohibits vehicles parking up when the craft village is closed. This has had some positive effect coupled with additional Police patrols.
* Operation BORMUS have continued their good work targeting serious acquisitive crime, carrying out pro-active patrols throughout the locality and working in conjunction with neighbouring forces to target cross border criminals utilising arterial road networks to carry out their criminality. To date the operation has yielded a number of positive arrests and enquiries and investigations remain ongoing.

With thanks from your local officers,

**PCSO Paula WILKES** (06635)  
Email: [paula.wilkes@staffordshire.police.uk](mailto:paula.wilkes@staffordshire.police.uk)

**PCSO Alexandra RATHBONE** (23938)  
Email: [alexandra.rathbone@staffordshire.police.uk](mailto:alexandra.rathbone@staffordshire.police.uk)

**PCSO Phillip MILLICHAP** (28983)  
Email: [phillip.millichap@staffordshire.police.uk](mailto:phillip.millichap@staffordshire.police.uk)

**Helpful links**

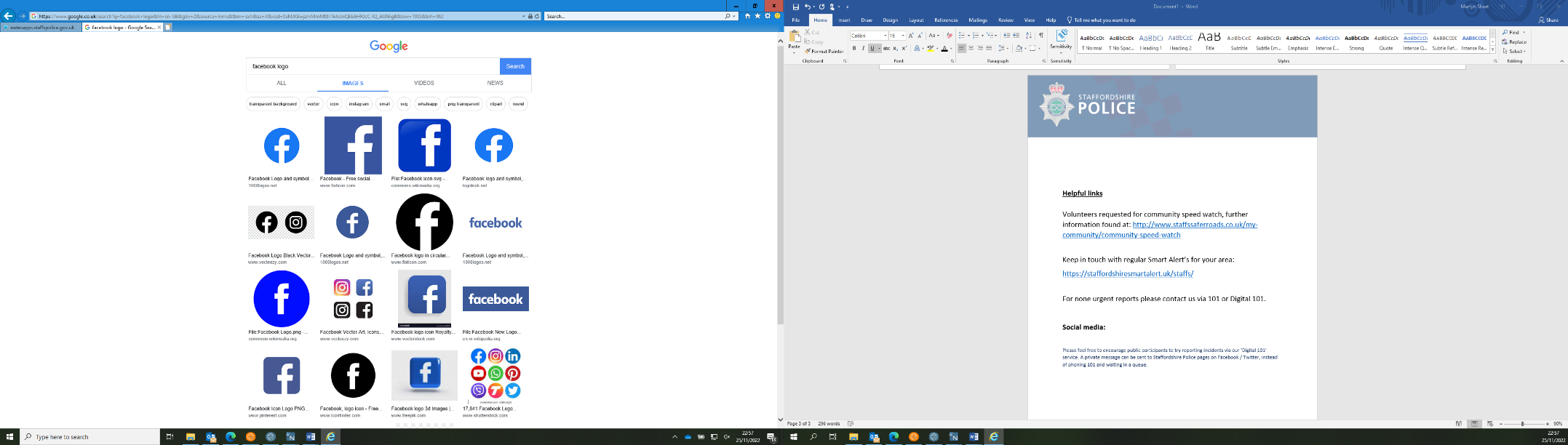
Volunteers requested for community speed watch, further information found at:

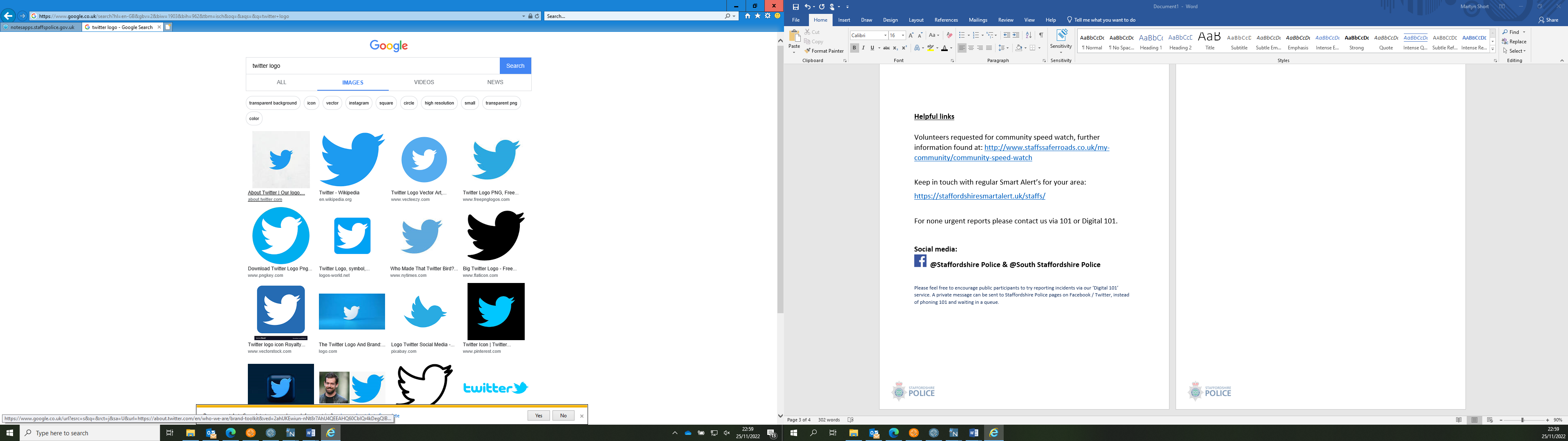
<http://www.staffssaferroads.co.uk/my-community/community-speed-watch>

Keep in touch with regular Smart Alert’s for your area:

<https://staffordshiresmartalert.uk/staffs/>

**Social media:**

 **@Staffordshire Police & @South Staffordshire Police**

 **@SStaffsPolice**

Please feel free to encourage public participants to try reporting incidents via our ‘Live chat’ service accessible on our website, instead of phoning 101 and waiting in a queue.

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:–

* Defibrillators should be fitted within the next month.
* Replacement plaque for the by-pass - It has not been possible to confirm who from SCC came to assist with the opening but we have confirmed that Terry Dix was the principle person who opened the by-pass.
* Playing Field - Work to replace webbing and re-seed under the swings will begin soon, depending on the weather.
* Cllr Nock has been requested to remain as a Cllr.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :- None

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION :-

* 22/01104/FUL   The creation of a playground at Himley Hall.  Val 05.12.22, Consult to 28.12.22, Deadline 30.01.23. C.O. Laura Moon. Consultees have objected, including the Arboricultural Officer that it should not be sited where suggested for reasons such as need to remove a category B tree which is likely to have a long term impact on the health of those trees to be retained,  maintenance regimes that could be applied to the nearby trees will always pose some degree of risk, a risk to the long term health of the trees from construction and ground compaction during normal use of the playground, there is an acceptance in law that no tree can ever be 100% safe so there cannot be any justification for exacerbating that risk by intentionally constructing a playground beneath them. Other objections received from the County Ecologist and Historic England.
* 23/00071/FULHH     Ranchette, Cherry Lane. Remodelling and extension of dwelling to include demolition of existing front porch, erection of two storey side extensions and two storey rear extension, replacement of roof, and erection of detached garage. Val 14.02.23, consult to 14.03.23, deadline 11.04.23, C.O. Emma Posillico. Councillors expressed concerns that the detached garage was not within Permitted Development and in Green Belt, but it was deemed to be a waste of time to log a formal objection to the application as it would have no effect on the openness of the Green Belt and therefore be approved.

DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS :-

* 20/01067/COND3    10 Penn Road, Discharge of Condition 3 (materials) Roof Tiles.

PLANNING DECISIONS : -

* 23/00021/FUL    Himley House Hotel, Installation of four electric vehicle charging bays in the existing hotel car park. Val 11.01.23, consult to 08.02.23, deadline 08.03.23. No objections. Refused 07.03.23.  The proposal would cause less than substantial harm to the setting of the Grade II Listed Building. The public benefits arriving from the proposal are not considered to outweigh the harm caused and is contrary to Chapter 9 of the NPPF and policy EQ3 of the Core Strategy. Proactive Statement - Whilst paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2021) requires the Local Planning Authority to work with applicants in a positive and proactive manner to resolve issues arising from the proposed development; in this instance a positive solution could not be found and the development fails to accord with the adopted Core Strategy (2012) and the National Planning Policy Framework (2021).
* 23/00053/FULHH     4 Wood Farm Barns, Orangery. Val 24.01.23, consult to 24.02.23, deadline 21.03.23. Plans have been amended and C.O. is Laura Moon. Approved with conditions 08.03.23
* 22/01152/FUL   15 Chalmers Road, Single Storey Rear Extension. Val 10.01.23, consult to 08.02.23, deadline 07.03.23, C.O. Natalie Ioannou. No objections. Approved with conditions 03.03.023

HIGHWAYS DATA –

SCC have announced an additional investment of £15m into the county's roads, with £5.2m used to fund major road resurfacing projects. On top of the structural maintenance work already taking place, the extra investment has enabled County to target an additional eight important locations across Staffordshire. These roads have been chosen based on their current condition and the fact they are major gateways for traffic into our towns; Stone, Stafford, Saredon, Blithe Bridge, Burntwood, Essington, Rolleston and the A34 Stafford.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* The Clerk and Chair had virtual meeting with SSDC CEO to discuss any issues within the Parish. Green Belt issues – no current land parcels known included in plans, only a solitary one, HCH, we have not been informed of any homeless, Baggeridge ASBO problems – more barriers to be installed, large rocks to prevent access to car park, CCTV and SS Council is pursuing D Wilson Homes to complete the turnover of land near the craft units to SSDC.
* High Arcal Road   Flooding of road on 30.12.22 was reported, fault 4303765. It was inspected on 03.03.23 and reported back ‘Unable to action’; ‘We have visited the location provided with your report but have been unable to identify any defects that require remedial works at this time.’ However, temporary traffic lights have been installed both sides of the bend
* Enforcement   23/00007/BOC    Land East of Red Lane. Alleged breach of Condition 3 of Grant of Planning Permission 21/01255/FUL. Report that additional unauthorised lighting has been added to the site. No problem found.
* Wood chips have been offered for the Playing Field but Cllrs agreed that they would be a safety issue.
* Cllr Lees will report the blocked gullies and flooding under the Railway Bridge in Himley Lane.
* No Cllrs attended the Parish Summit or Locality meeting or the compulsory S106 training
* The offer of a meal was accepted by Gareth Bowen in gratitude for all his work involved in procuring Superfast Broadband for Himley Village and this invoice paid.
* ASB problems with bikes are continuing near Baggeridge Craft Village; Police have stepped up patrols.
* Bank statements were presented for information.
* Reminders that photo ID is required for the forthcoming elections in May will be required by voters.
* There is a candidate briefing scheduled for Thurs 6th April at 5pm in person and via TEAMS.
* SSDC Street Scene Update :-

Grass cutting of Grounds and verges and weed treatment started this month. Street sweeping continues this month in other areas. Bin emptying and litter picking all over the district is to schedule. Our Locality, 5, had 40 cases of fly-tipping in February. At present, they are completing a survey on all of trees which are owned by the Council which is an ongoing process.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -

* HSBC bank charges £10 for period 20/1 to 19/2 debited 13/3/2023
* Lloyds cheque 000003 G Bowen meal invoice - £91.85
* Lloyds online payment - S Farley wages £514.10

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **WEDNESDAY 19TH APRIL 2023**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.12pm