**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 18th JANUARY 2023 at 7.30PM**

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

**PRESENT COUNCILLORS: MR P HEMMING, MRS S OLIVER**

**MR R LEES,**

**APOLOGIES:- MRS M SINCLAIR, CCLR V WILSON, MR M CRISP, MRS S FROST**

**OTHERS :- MRS S FARLEY CLERK, PCSO Alex Rathbone – left meeting at 7.55pm**

**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**

Meeting opened 7.38pm

**South Staffs Police South. Crime and Anti Social behaviour report as received for Himley- 14/12/22- 16/1/23**

**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):**

* **21/12 –** At 0715hrs, offenders have waited for occupants of a residential property in Foxglove Way to leave; they have then climbed into the rear garden and peered through rear patio doors, before leaving empty handed. Both offenders described as white males, wearing balaclavas and black clothing, approx. 6ft tall. CCTV viewed however nothing captured that would allow ID of offenders.

**Burglary (business):**

* **16/01 –** Overnight, offenders have gained access to toilet block at Himley Park. Damage caused to doors and chain used to secure the building. It appears that an ‘outboard motor’ has been stolen. No CCTV, not witnesses.

**Vehicle crime:**

* **16/12** **–** At approx. 2120hrs, a Ford Transit van was stolen from the carpark of a hotel, without keys. Sadly, CCTV did not provide any detail in order to identify those responsible.
* **21/12 –** At approx. 2330hrs, 3 x vans were broken into (tools stolen from within) and 1 x van was stolen from the car parks of hotels in the area. *Investigation ongoing.*
* **30/12 –** On 30/12, offenders have gain access to a Nissan Navara in black, parked on hotel car park – tools, 2 x sets of golf clubs, a wedding ring and kids football kit were stolen. Forensic team attended – awaiting result - *Investigation ongoing.*
* **07/01 –** At approx. 2300hrs, offenders have stolen a Range Rover from the driveway of a residential property on Chalmers Road, without keys. CCTV obtained however did not provide any detail to assist with ID of offenders.
* **16/01 –** Overnight, offenders have attempted to access / steal a vehicle parked on the driveway of a property on Brick Kiln Way. Offenders have rolled the windows down and partially opened convertible roof, before leaving empty handed. No witnesses, No CCTV.

**Anti-social behaviour:**

* **Baggeridge Craft Village (car park)** – 2 x calls re persons parked at location playing music and possible cannabis use. Officers regularly attend the location of an evening and have been working with SSDC in order to tackle the issue. CCTV is due to be installed at the location in an attempt to identify offenders.

**Policing operations of note :**Force wide Operation Calibre has been running throughout December, aimed to raise awareness and provide advice to residents of how best to prevent instances of personal robbery, theft and burglary especially around Christmas time.

A new dedicated team has been assembled with their primary objective of tackling serious acquisitive crime, this includes a targeted approach to residential and commercial burglaries and encompasses thefts of and theft from motor vehicles. The team have commenced Operation BORMUS carrying out pro-active patrols throughout the locality, 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)

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:–

* Play Area  - Nothing new to report.
* Defibrillators - These have been received and are with the electrician for installation.
* Change of Bank - Still no news of where £30 deposited came from. An amount of money will now be transferred to the new bank and cheques issued from it.
* HMRC penalties - No definite news if our appeal was successful and HMRC website is not helpful.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-

* 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.
* 22/01172/FUL  24 Penn Road, single storey side and rear extensions. Val 17.12.22., consult to 30.01.23., deadline 11.02.23., C.O. Rebecca Porter. No objections.
* 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.

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.

PLANNING DECISIONS : -

* 22/01008/FUL     Land at Cherry Lane, erection of one dwelling with associated access, parking and amenity areas.  Val 04.11.22, consult to 06.12.22, deadline 30.12.22. C.O. Tom Nutt. Himley Parish Council objected.

Approved with conditions 18.01.23. However, Cherry Lane is a private road and as such, Staffordshire County Council is not in a position to grant access to the proposed development. Approved subject to the following condition(s):

1. The development to which this permission relates must be begun not later than the expiration of 3 years beginning with the date on which this permission is granted.

2. The development authorised by this permission shall be carried out in complete accordance with the approved plans and specification, as listed on this decision notice, except insofar as may be otherwise required by other conditions to which this permission is subject.

3. The materials to be used on the walls and roof of dwelling shall be completed in accordance with the submitted details as shown on Elevation Plan CA-226-101 received on 26.10.2022 unless agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

4. Within 1 month of any development commencing on the site a landscape scheme shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval detailing how no net loss (and preferably net gain) to biodiversity will be achieved. The Defra biodiversity metric (v3) / small sites metric should be used to determine whether mitigation or compensation is adequate. The approved scheme shall be implemented concurrently with the development and completed within 12 months of the completion of the development. The Local Planning Authority shall be notified when the scheme has been completed. Any failures shall be replaced within the next available planting season and the scheme shall be maintained to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority. The planting shall be retained and maintained for a minimum period of 10 years by the property owner from the notified completion date of the scheme. Any plant failures that occur during the first 5 years of the notified completion date of the scheme shall be replaced with the same species within the next available planting season (after failure).

5. The trees identified as 7 and 10 within the approved Dr Stefan Bodnar, Pre-Development Tree Survey should both be retained and protected in full accordance with BS5837:2012.

6. All tree protection measures shall be maintained throughout development unless agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority. Any trees that are damaged or lost during a two year period, starting from the date of commencement, due to a failure of required tree protection measures shall be replaced. The species, size, nursery stock type and location of such replacements to be specified by the local planning authority.

7. All site clearance and construction operations must comply with measures set out in section 4.3 Precautionary Measures during Development of the Phase 1 Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Dr S Bodnar, October 2022)

8. Prior to occupation, a lighting design strategy for biodiversity for all external spaces shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The strategy shall: a. identify those areas/features on site (trees and groups of trees) that are particularly sensitive for bats and that are likely to cause disturbance in or around their breeding sites and resting places or along important routes used to access key areas of their territory, for example, for foraging; and b. show how and where external lighting will be installed (through the provision of appropriate lighting contour plans and technical specifications) so that it can be clearly demonstrated that areas to be lit will not disturb or prevent the above species using their territory or having access to their breeding sites and resting places. All external lighting shall be installed in accordance with the specifications and locations set out in the strategy, and these shall be maintained thereafter in accordance with the strategy. Under no circumstances should any other external lighting be installed without prior consent from the local planning authority.

9. The development hereby permitted should not commence until drainage plans for the disposal of foul and surface water flows have been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority, and The scheme shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details before the development is first brought into use.

10. Before the development commences details of all boundary treatment around and within the site shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval. The approved boundary treatment shall be built/erected concurrently with the development and shall thereafter be retained in the approved form and position throughout the life of the development.

11. The garden area of the dwellinghouse shall be limited to the area labelled "Garden Land" south of the dashed line as shown on the approved Site Layout Plan (ref.CA-226\_102B) Received 12.01.2023. The area to the north of the dashed line is agricultural land labelled "undeveloped Green belt Land" and shall continue to be maintained/kept in agricultural use only throughout the life of the development.

* 22/01000/FUL    Himley Cricket Club, Stourbridge Road.   Proposed boundary ball-stop netting on part of southern boundary. Val 18.11.22., consult to 13.12.22, deadline 13.01.23. C.O. Gareth Dwight. Approved with conditions 23.12.22.
* 22/01005/TTREE    20 Penn Road.  Acer spp. (Sycamore) TPO No. 25/1966 - Crown lift by removing three lowest branches. Val 21.10.22, Consult to 10.11.22, Deadline 16.12.22, C.O. Gavin Pearce   Approved with conditions 19.12.22.   South Staffordshire District Council in pursuance of powers under the above-mentioned Act and Regulations hereby CONSENT to the carrying out of the following operations at 20 Penn Road, Gospel End, DY3 4AQ: • Acer spp. (Sycamore) - Crown lift by removing three lowest branches The above consent is granted subject to the following conditions: 1. All works shall be completed by an appropriately qualified and experienced arborist in accordance with the recommendations specified within BS3998:2010, Tree Work – Recommendations. Reason: To ensure acceptable standards of work are adhered to for the continued health of the tree in line with arboricultural best practice.
* 22/01073/FUL   14 Chalmers Road.  Single storey rear extension, Val 15.11.22, consult to 15.12.22, deadline 10.01.23, C.O., Laura Moon. Approved with conditions 05.01.23

HIGHWAYS DATA – None received

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* Blocked Gullies in Gospel End    On Gospel End Road, one just west of junction with Baggeridge Close and multiple gullies between The Rocks and the Dudley border are blocked and were not cleared at last visit by crews to un-block them. C Cllr Wilson had explained in a message that they were on a long waiting list to be cleared.
* Cllr Frost had to complete a Pension Regulator Declaration to HMRC. HPC has only one employee, the Clerk, but is not paid enough to be offered a pension.
* Local Plan   SSDC issued the following statement 12.01.23 :-

Council asks for clarity on government proposals

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities published a consultation on planned changes to the National Planning Policy Framework on December 22, 2022.

The framework sets out the government’s planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally-prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced. The National Planning Policy Framework must be taken into account in preparing local development plans.

The council is keen to gain clarity on a number of queries it has regarding the content of this recent national consultation document.

These include queries around the need for councils to consider neighbouring authorities’ housing needs in their plans, plus questions around the release of greenbelt land for development, says Cabinet Member for Planning and Business Enterprise at South Staffordshire Council, Councillor Terry Mason.

“These are particularly pertinent policies for areas such as South Staffordshire,” said Cllr Mason.

“We will be seeking clarity on the new national proposals and until we fully understand the potential implications, we will not be submitting the Local Plan to the Inspectorate for examination.

“While we await further information from government, we will continue working on the responses and representations made in response to our recent Local Plan consultation.

“The council believes the best way to stop unplanned development is to have a sound Local Plan in place, and the plan recently consulted on was in conformity with national planning policy.

“However, now that there is a potential for national change, we need to assess the implications to ensure that going forward, our plan meets the new requirements.”

* The Limes has had more recycling- bin problems   The flats have communal bins and blue bins were not emptied as incorrect items were being included; it was arranged for explanatory leaflets for all 33 flats to be delivered.
* The final Superfast Broadband connections in Himley were made to The Limes on 11th January 2023.
* Superfast Broadband for Himley. Gareth has not yet taken up the offer of a meal for his involvement in this project. He is to be asked if he will accept a Restaurant Voucher so that it will show in this financial year.
* A resident asked us to donate to the Babbs Mill fund for the parents of the four children who lost their lives after falling through ice. He attended a ceremony at Babbs Mill and laid a wreath from the Community of Himley. HPC sent a donation of £25
* Clerk is to advise SSDC of the new bank details following the change of account for the precept payment.
* Cllr Lees explained that there is to be a new Environmental Act; food waste will have to be collected and recycled from 2024/5 in an anaerobic digester. This is a sealed, oxygen-free tank designed for anaerobic digestion, a process in which micro-organisms break down organic matter such as food waste, without oxygen. As the bacteria consume the food waste, they give off biogas which consists mostly of methane, the primary component of natural gas which can be collected and used for energy production.
* Cllr Lees reminded us that from the next election on May 4th, all voters at Polling Stations will need photo identification.
* The next Parish Summit is to be held on 10th February

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -

* 000001 YP Nock re Babs Mill Prince’s donation £25.00
* 000002 Y P Nock re Chipmonk Computing annual web hosting costs £75.00
* Automated debit 11/12/2022 HSBC bank charges 20/10/22 -19/11/22 £9.00
* Automated debit 11/1/2023 HSBC bank charges 20/11/22 – 19/12/22 £10.00

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2023**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9pm