**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 19th APRIL 2023 at 7.30PM**

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

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

 **MR R LEES, MRS M SINCLAIR, MR P HEMMING,**

 **CCLR V WILSON** arrived at 8.25pm

 **APOLOGIES:- MRS S FROST**

 **OTHERS :- MRS S FARLEY CLERK**

 **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:- MR R PAINTER, MR M GRAINGER,**

 **PCSO P WILKES and SGT J DORRINGTON** left meeting at 8pm

**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 ; As received for 11/03/23 - 17/04/23**

**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.**

Burglary (residential): - Nothing reported

Burglary (business): - Nothing reported

Vehicle crime:

* 16/03 – At 23:00hrs 3 catalytic converters were taken and 3 cut off ready to be taken from gritters which were securely parked in Red Lane. Unknown offenders have entered the yard through the rear gate from the fields.
* 10/04 – At approximately 16:00hrs unknown offender/s have tried to gain entry to a securely parked Kia Ceed parked on Baggeridge car park possibly wanting to take I pads which were inside of the vehicle. No CCTV or witnesses.
* 16/04 – At approximately 17:00hrs unknown offender has tried to steal a Range Rover Evoque off a driveway on Monkton Way, Baggeridge Village. Owners of the vehicle were sat in their lounge and saw a male looking at the vehicle with some device in his hand he then got in the vehicle to which they set the alarm off with the key fob and the offender ran off. Enquiries are in hand regarding possible CCTV footage.

Anti-social behaviour:

* Baggeridge Craft village - 2 reports of vehicles parking up on the car parks, details are passed to the Council for fixed penalty notices to be issued. 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.
* PCSO’s and Officers on the neighbourhood Policing Teams have been trained to use the speed gun in conjunction with Community Speed Watch, we will be conducting speed checks around the location and will add to the reports.

Sgt Dorrington praised members of the public who have kept him advised of local unlawful matters; it has been a great help with police work.

He also advised that Police are constantly monitoring Himley Country Hotel and that the Hotel state that no asylum seekers or ex-prisoners are taken there.

With thanks from your local officers,

PCSO Paula WILKES (06635)Email: paula.wilkes@staffordshire.police.uk,

PCSO Alexandra RATHBONE (23938)Email alexandra.rathbone@staffordshire.police.uk

PCSO Phillip MILLICHAP (28983)Email: 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/>

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:–

* The defibrillators that HPC has bought are now in position; one is attached to The Limes in Churns Hill Lane and one is attached to The Summer House pub in Gospel End Road. If you ever need to use one, there are clear instructions on the box, but you do need a mobile phone with you. We hope no one ever needs to use one but they are there for anyone to use if necessary. Notices to be put in notice boards regarding their position and usage
* Replacement plaque for the By-pass. Cllr Hemmings has the plaque on order and will fix it in position.
* Playing Field - Work to replace matting and re-seeding of grass under the swings has been completed.  Thanks to Cllr Crisp for checking on the work in progress.
* Ditches that were blocked in High Arcal Road have been dug out
* ASB problems near the Baggeridge Craft Village are fewer since measures have been taken by the police and SSDC to curb the problem.

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.  This application to build a Playground at Himley Hall has been withdrawn.

PLANNING DECISIONS : -

* 20/01067/COND3    10 Penn Road, Discharge of Condition 3 (materials) Roof Tiles. Approved by letter 28.02.23
* 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. Approved with conditions 28.03.23.

HIGHWAYS DATA –

On top of the £30 million already announced to maintain and improve roads over two years, £19.8 million has been secured through the Levelling Up Fund for improvements to roads and bus and cycling routes in the county. Winter maintenance is finished, having used 3,045 tons of salt and with Spring, Preventative Surface Treatments will begin having defects corrected and potholes filled, before undergoing a surface treatment. C Cllr Wilson informed us that more Government Grants had been received to repair potholes but this would have to be restricted to areas of multiple potholes.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-

* HPC has been asked if we wanted a representative to sit on the Council’s Standards and Resources committee.
* A magnificent beech tree with a TPO in Baggeridge Country Park near Fir Street has been diagnosed with serious main trunk decay and will probably need significant height reduction. Local residents were informed by Cllr Sinclair*.*
* The Porta Loos for Wednesday, 5th April were still on the car boot site next to Sandiacre on 8th April.
* SSDC Web team want to know if we are interested in a presentation of any of the following: Fly Tipping & covert cameras, Volunteer Litter Picking, Abandoned Vehicles, Grass Cutting, Road Sweeping, Trees and Tree Survey, Bereavement Services, Leisure and Wellbeing Community Services, Everybody’s Health, Children’s Activities ( HAF Scheme, Space Scheme, Aspire, Active Youth Scheme), Waste and Recycling, Licencing of Premises and Events, Local Enablers – How can we help, None of the above or are there any other topics that we would like presentations on. None requested.
* It had been reported that the 2 large dogs who attacked 2 small dogs previously have again been seen running loose on the Playing Field: they were not on leads. Sgt Dorrington said that they must be kept under control.
* Fir street, owned by SSDC has been resurfaced FOC by Tarmac who have a building at the southern end of the road. Residents are very pleased as the road has been in a sorry state for many years.
* The Clerk had received the insurance renewal from Zurich Insurance company. She had been made aware of a similar policy with the same company for Parish Councils with a lower precept. She has obtained quotes and was asked to find out if there were any differences in excesses on the 2 policies. This will be decided upon and renewed at the May meeting.
* The next Parish Summit is on Thursday 8th June at Codsall.
* The Clerk is preparing the end of year accounts and Mr Derek Walker has agreed to independently verify these again.
* The bank statements were presented for information.
* CClr Wilson requested a list of groups of pot holes for consideration when the new funding is paid. Clr Nock will prepare this.
* CClr Lees had received interest from a resident that would like to be considered to be co-opted onto Himley Parish Council. The vacancy for a Cllr cannot be advertised until 10th May.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -

* HSBC bank charges £8 for period 20/2/23-19/3/23 debited on 10/4/23
* HSBC 100545 Mint Lawn & Weed £1450 – repair to matting, infilling and re seeding on playing field
* HSBC 100546 R Yates & Co Ltd - £580.80 – installation of defibrillators
* HSBC 100547 S Farley £55 – expenses to 31/3/2023
* The HMRC payment for the Clerk’s wages paid in March 2023 were paid from a credit which had accrued due to the refund of penalty charges made. A refund of £300 was made and the charge due in March of £128.40 taken from this. A credit balance remains of £171.60 which will be used for future HMRC liabilities as they fall due.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **WEDNESDAY 17th MAY 2023.** This will be the Annual Parish Meeting, the Annual Meeting and the Parish Council Meeting

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9pm