**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT SWINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 19th JUNE 2024 at 7.30PM**

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

**PRESENT COUNCILLORS: CLLR S OLIVER, CLLR D CLOSE,**

**APOLOGIES:- PCSO’s, CLLR R LEES, CCLR V WILSON**

**OTHERS :- MRS S FARLEY CLERK,**

**NOT PRESENT :- CLLR M CRISP, CLLR S FROST**

**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** There was no Police Report as we had been informed that Tim Norbury, the new South Staffordshire Local Policing Team Commander, together with his new Deputy Commander, Inspector Lee Walker, had a new deployment plan. We will in future receive much more informative reports but only every quarter, with a PC or PCSO attending quarterly but not in the same quarter as a report. There will be significant increases in Stop and Search, targeting the right people and a new Sergeant. HPC will have the work phone number of our local PCSO.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING :-**

* School Road Wall Collapse:   The owner of the wall is waiting for heavy rain to see if the work already taken place is sufficient to prevent any further collapses and will clad the wall later in the summer.
* Brick Kiln Way ‘For Sale’: Despite Enforcement asking the offending Estate Agents, signs have still not been removed but Enforcement process is still ongoing.
* SIDS: Cllr Nock provided County’s Mark Keeling with site suggestions for the posts as requested. We have not received any further communication.
* Sink Hole on Gospel End Road verge: Despite being reported to County on 12 February, there is still no sign of anything being done and the hole is now overgrown with tall weeds.
* Additional Street Scene Work: Himley PC was asked what priority work was required in the villages as South Staffs District Council were offering a few days’ work on extra projects. Pavements were cleared on the A449 between School Road and into Dudley Road by Himley Church, also in Bridgnorth Road by The Seven Dwellings. They lightly trimmed the hedge overgrowing the pavement on the corner of Himley Lane. It has now been determined that the hedge belongs to Staffs County Council and they are responsible for cutting it.
* Code of Conduct Meeting 12th June:   This was cancelled due to the forthcoming General Election and will take place later in the year.
* Website Update:  The clerk has completed this. There is a link to The Review and an update on The Crooked House.
* New Grounds Charges: No more info received. Clerk has chased again and is awaiting a response.
* Defibrillator: HPC has had to purchase new pads for Gospel End after the defib was used (Cllr Close was informed by ambulance service) and silicone spray was purchased to keep key pads working freely.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-** None

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING A DECISION :-** None

**PLANNING DECISIONS :-**

* 24/00024/FUL    Railings and CCTV to improve security of the Himley Hall Sailing Club Boat Park, Himley Hall, Conservation Area. Val 24.01.24, consult to 18.02.24, deadline 24.03.24, C.O. Laura Moon. HPC supported this application.      Approved with conditions 22.05.24
* 24/00124/FULM    Land at School Road, Erection of 10 affordable dwellings with associated work and access. Val 23.02.24, consult to 04.04.24, deadline 24.05.24, C.O. Laura Moon.   HPC objected    Refused 03.06.24
* 24/00203/VAR   The Firs Residential Home. Variation of Condition 2 of Application 21/00547/FUL, seeking to amend the plans to allow for changes to the design to the lobby extension. Val 09.04.24, consult to 15.04.24, deadline 04.06.24, C.O. Laura Moon.  Approved with conditions 24.05.24

**PLANNING APPEALS;**

* 23/00124/FUL   Land off School Road, erection of 11 Affordable dwellings, on-going.
* 23/01084/FUL    Northgate Health Care Ltd, The Firs for retrospective work on the construction of a staff and customer car park extension – on-going.

**HIGHWAYS DATA:-**

After one of the wetter winters on record, Staffs CC have seen a major increase in reported defects compared with previous years and have launched a year-long focus on fixing the roads. The plan means nearly £8 million will be invested into getting potholes repaired more quickly, and reducing the number of defects in the system. Money will also be spent on improving drainage, and work aimed at preparing for more extreme weather events in the future. This is in addition to the £53 million being spent on a range of major projects, vital road improvements and general road maintenance in 24/25.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS INCLUDING RESIDENTS COMPLAINTS :-**

* The large roadway sign on the A449 grass verge between Himley House Hotel and the crossroads, which fell down due to rotted posts and was reported to Highways on 22th January 2024, was inspected 17th May. It was assessed as a non-urgent risk to public safety.
* The western Housing Association site in Gospel End has continued to be tidied up; the roots and stump of a tree which had previously pushed a retaining wall out of vertical, against the drive of a bungalow, were removed, and the wall was rebuilt.
* Himley Hall Glamping: We received notification of a license application for the site for films, live music, recorded music and performance of dance, all indoors and outdoors, and the supply of alcohol (on and off sales), all, Monday to Sunday, 11am to midnight. There were four options available to object to; Prevention of crime and disorder, Promotion of Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance and Protection of children from harm, HPC has objected on all four counts, giving reasons for each.
* Wombourne Waste and Recycling Centre re-opened partially 29th May but was forced to close again on 5th June due to ground movement on the re-opened part of the site.
* Following noise nuisance in previous years from an annual end of season event at Himley Cricket Club. HPC will be asking Environmental Health, as is usual, to liaise with the organisers regarding noise levels. Clerk to contact EH.
* License Application:There has been an application from an individual for street trading consent for a mobile trolley selling on the streets in Kinver, Codsall, Wombourne, Brewood, Himley, Lower Penn, Enville, Swindon, Penkridge & Perton. He intends to sell Ice cream, snacks and drinks.
* Playsafety inspection on the Playing Field will be August
* The annual accounts had been independently verified and were presented to Councillors for their information. These were approved – 2023/24 Accounts approval.

**ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: -**

Payments were made by cheque as there was only the Clerk at the meeting who was able to make online payments.

000018 Y P Nock – 2 cans of silicon spray defibrillator £10.20

000019 D Close – replacement defibrillator pads £89.98

000020 SSDC – pavement clearance work £2057.33

000021 SSDC – grounds maintenance Q4 2023/24 £25.21

000022 S Farley- Clerk wages - £556.00

000023 HMRC – Clerk tax £139.00

In the absence of a payslip being produced for the Clerk the previous years figures were paid for the June 2024 salary to avoid HMRC fines. These will be corrected when Cllr Frost provides the payslip.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: -  **Wednesday 17th July 2024**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30pm

**COUNCILLOR VACANCY** There is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor on Himley Parish Council. Please contact the clerk via email if you would like further details regarding this – [himleyparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:himleyparishcouncil@gmail.com)

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