

MINUTES of the meeting of BOBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 20 February 2019 in the Jubilee room at Bobbington Village
Hall at 7:30pm

PRESENT: Councillor: Mrs L Jones (Chairman)
 Councillors: M Snelson, W J Snelson, Mrs. J Humphries, Mrs. I Rees, Mrs J Stanton and R Lewis
 Victoria Morris – Clerk to the Council
 3 Members of the public

1616. APOLOGIES:

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of County Cllr Mrs. V Wilson.

1617. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

1618. MINUTES:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Bobbington Parish Council held on 16 January 2019, a copy having previously been circulated to each member of the Council, be approved.

1619. MATTERS ARISING:

a. Tree Update (Brantley Lane / Crescent)

It was reported that oak tree has now been cut down. It has not been cut down to ground level, instead being left at hedge height. It is anticipated the remaining trunk will be carved into a seat. Ms Haughtey was present and thanked the Council for their assistance. The Chairman also gave thanks to Cllr. Mrs Stanton and Cllr. M Snelson for their contributions.

The Clerk reminded those present that the planning condition was still to be satisfied. Steve Dore of South Staffordshire Council had already emailed to acknowledge the removal of the tree and remind the Clerk that a replacement needed to be planted. A brief discussion followed. It was agreed that Cllr. M Snelson would review the planning conditions to ensure a replacement tree was planted before the September deadline.

b. Affordable Housing

The Clerk had pre-empted some of the questions that may be raised during the discussion to be held tonight, and had, therefore, emailed Lesley Birch (Housing Plus) in advance. Lesley had responded as follows:-

- Would there be an opportunity to revisit the original housing needs survey and re-gauge interest? As you will recall some of the Councillors were concerned that the mix of houses was not representative of the current need. I am conscious that this would have a cost and, therefore, if the planners will accept the "expired" survey the Housing Association may not wish to meet this cost

We would only carry out a new Housing Needs survey if we definitely had a site agreed.

- Is it possible to seek confirmation that the planners would accept the survey/consultation?

The Planning officers have stated that they will no longer accept the existing Housing Needs survey, as it expired in September 2013. They were only supporting us because we had a site.

A discussion followed concerning affordable housing and the possible sites. Lesley had offered to contact the purchaser of the preferred land, if details were known, to ascertain whether they would be willing to sell a portion for affordable housing. It was agreed that the original land would be pursued before any other options were considered.

c. Defibrillator

As reported at the last meeting Cllr. Lewis has provided the information required by Diane at Staffordshire Highways. It was agreed at the last meeting that the Parish Council will fund the sign. Nothing further has happened. It is the Clerk's understanding that the work is contracted by Staffordshire Highways, who then invoice the Parish Council. Cllr. Lewis will speak to Diane and confirm the Council's instructions to proceed.

d. EE rural cell trial

Cllr. Mrs Stanton confirmed that in accordance with the last correspondence there will be no further movement until Spring at the earliest.

e. Bobbington Bash

Cllr Mrs Stanton has attempted to contact the Chair of the Enville show, however, no response has been received to date. She agreed to follow this up if nothing had been heard in the next week.

The meeting was reminded that the original driving force was the tree in Brantley Lane / Crescent – the Councillors were asked whether they still wished to pursue this event, given that matter had now been resolved. It was agreed that further research should be carried out, with a view to continuing.

f. Trees at Halfpenny Green

Cllr M Snelson stated that he understood Steve Does at South Staffordshire District Council would contact the Smithy property owners directly to resolve this issue. It had been agreed that the District Council was responsible for the land, however, unless the trees posed a danger it was unlikely any action would be taken. It is not known whether any contact has been made with the property owners, however, they have not returned to the Parish Council. As such, it was agreed this matter was now concluded.

1620. HIGHWAY MATTERS

a. Meeting with Diane Firkins – Community Traffic Management Officer

Cllr. Lewis reported that he had observed Council operatives attending at the site of recent flooding on Tom Lane. The gulley was cleared and culvert was reinstated. It is also understood, as reported at the last meeting, that worksheets have been raised for many of the other issues reported.

It was agreed that the issues on Whittimere Lane will require regular attention – a one off remedy will not cure the problem, unless considerable funds are invested.

1621. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

Village Hall

The next committee meeting will be held at the end of the month. It was noted that there has been an incident of fly-tipping on the front car park. There are also a number of black bags outside the kitchen door.

Church of the Holy Cross

Two quotations have been received for lopping the Ash tree, the Parochial Council are considering their options.

Corbett School

The fence by the Village Hall has been repaired.

Community Speed Watch (“CSW”)

The Clerk has liaised with Michelle Shaker and arranged a training session for willing volunteers on 3 April 2019 at 11am in Wombourne. Michelle has also agreed to review Gospel Ash Road, with a view to a site being risk assessed along this road.

The CSW team, local police and Clerk will advertise the session closer to the time. It was suggested that the Clerk contact Mrs Southall, to request her assistance in informing local parents of the need for more volunteers.

Cllr. Lewis has agreed to meet with Michelle following the training so that she can assess the Whittimere Lane / Tom Lane / Six Ashes Road junction and Gospel Ash Road.

SSRP Grant Fund

This scheme has been discussed at previous meetings. A founding member of the CSW team and parishioner had suggested an application be submitted to fund SIDs. At both the last meeting and the meeting in November 2018 it was agreed that whilst SIDs could be researched in advance of the application window, alternative solutions would also be reviewed and brought to this meeting, so that the Council could consider all the available options, prior to submitting an application when the funding period opened on the 1 March 2019.

Cllr Lewis reported that he had spoken to Michelle from CSW with respect to the grants and SIDs. He had subsequently completed an application for £5,000 (the maximum grant available). The Chair and Clerk sought confirmation of the actions that had been taken. Cllr. Lewis confirmed that he had submitted an application in the name of Bobbington Parish Council for funding. It was agreed by those present that this had not been ratified by the Council.

A discussion followed and alternatives to SIDs were discussed, although the associated costs were unknown. Whilst it was agreed that SIDs / VASs were the most effective, further thought was needed with respect to the grant application and the project costs / funding. It was agreed that Cllr. Lewis should forward

copies of all documentation submitted to the Clerk and Chair for review to determine whether the application should be withdrawn, there was concern as to what had been submitted given information listed in the guidance notes would not have been available to Cllr. Lewis.

Cllr. Lewis apologised for his error, stating he had acted in good faith and was concerned the grants were on a first come basis and the application needed to be submitted.

Police Accountability forum

Cllr. Mrs Stanton had attended the forum on behalf of Bobbington Parish Council. She provided a full written report (see attached) which will be circulated to all Councillors. A brief overview was given to the meeting.

1622. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

One question was raised by the members of the public present namely:

- Industrial skip lorries are driving through the village at least 3 times per day, everyday in recent weeks. Does anyone know where these are going / what they are for?

It was agreed by several present that these lorries are regularly passing through the village; it isn't clear where they are heading, however, Kings Nordley is one possibility.

1623. FINANCE

There were no finance matters for discussion or approval.

1624. PLANNING MATTERS

a. Received:

- i. PA 19/00055/FUL Tuckhill Farm Tuck Hill Six Ashes Bridgnorth South Staffordshire WV15 6EW - Single storey extension – The Councillors had not reviewed the plans. They were, therefore, asked to forward comments to the Clerk before the end of the week.
- ii. PA 19/00077/TREE_T - 16 Brantley Crescent Bobbington DY7 5DB Tree Preservation Order 83/1986. T14, Oak - 20% crown reduction and remove dead wood – No objections

b. Responded to:

- i. PA 19/00003/FUL 2 Brantley Crescent Bobbington Stourbridge South Staffordshire DY7 5DB – Single storey extension and storm porch – No objections

c. Outcomes:

- i. Appeal Ref: APP/C3430/W/18/3207145 Land at Six Ashes Road, Bobbington, Stourbridge DY7 5BZ - demolition of steel-framed barn and erection of 1x3 bed dwelling and 1x4 bed dwelling off a new access-appeal allowed, planning permission granted

d. Enforcement matters:

- i. It was noted that a further building appears to be being erected at Brelades, Long Common – the Clerk agreed to report this.

1625. AIRFIELD MATTERS

Cllr. Mrs Rees reported that the next meeting of the consultative committee is due to be a virtual meeting, however, Cllr. Victoria Wilson and Cllr. Mrs Rees will be requesting a face to face meeting.

It is understood that many pilots and users of the airfield have concerns with the planning proposals. A meeting will be held next week between the Parish Council and some of those concerned.

Several items of correspondence had been forwarded by email over recent weeks. A discussion followed with respect to the proposals for housing. Cllr. Mrs Rees will review the information provided to date and draft a list of concerns / objections to date.

1626. CORRESPONDENCE

South Staffordshire shire Council (SSC) – campaign re dog fouling

Circulated by email prior to the meeting:-

CSW engagement meeting Feb 2019

South Staffordshire Council (SSC) – Let's work together 25/2/19

SSC – Elections newsletter week3 and week 4

SSC – Street Scene update 1/2/19

SSC – Council News round-up issues 101, 102, 103, 104,
105

SSC – SHELAA and local plan review FAQs

VAST 31/01/2019;

1627. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 20 March 2019 at 7:30pm.

Meeting Closed