**MINUTES of the meeting of BOBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 27 November 2013 at Halfpenny Green Vineyards at 7:00pm**

**PRESENT**: Councillor: T Rees (Chairman)

District Councillor R McCardle

Councillors: W J Snelson, D Kimbley, Mrs. J Humphries and Mrs. J Tudor

Victoria Morris – Clerk to the Council

PCSO Adrian Price

And 5 members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES**:

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of County Cllr. B Edwards, Cllr. Mrs. L Jones and Cllr. S Homer.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Cllr. Mrs. Humphries declared an interest in 896ai. Cllr. Mrs. Tudor declared an interest in 895ai and Cllr. Snelson declared interests in 896ai and 896aii.

1. **MINUTES:**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Bobbington Parish Council held on 16 October 2013, a copy having previously been circulated to each member of the Council, be approved.

1. **MATTERS ARISING**:
   1. **B4176 signage**.

The Chairman reported that he had arranged to meet with Mark Keeling, from Staffordshire Highways, at the B4176 and Tom Lane junction, on 11 December 2013. He and Mark have also agreed to review Gospel Ash Road verges and road signs.

Cllr. Mrs. Tudor requested they also discuss the painting of white lines, down the middle of the road from Tom Lane to White Cross crossroads. A discussion followed as to whether these were needed, as some Councillors believe the roads appear more country-like, which encourages drivers to slow down. More were in favour of not re-painting the lines, however, no formal vote was taken.

* 1. **Affordable Housing Survey**

No official communication has been received. This is anticipated in the next week.

* 1. **20mph speed restrictions**

The Chairman had spoken to Mark Keeling, who suggested that an official letter be sent detailing the proposed locations for the County SIDs. He would then do his best to have them placed in Bobbington during 2014.

It was confirmed that the school have again been selected for the 20 is plenty campaign. The SID’s are expected to be in place next term.

* 1. **Plant pots / tubs – Post Office and Blakelands**

The Chairman reported that it had been agreed that Mr. Astley would contact him in the early Spring, as there wasn’t currently much choice in the garden nurseries.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would fund the replacement tubs / pots in both locations.

1. **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

The Chairman reported that the hedges along Gospel Ash Road were still overgrown and posing a danger to road users. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to Mrs. Millward. A further letter would be sent to Highways to inform them of the problem.

1. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

**Village Hall**

Work will commence on the alterations shortly after Christmas. Cllr. Tudor informed those present, that she had resigned from the Village Hall Committee due to conflicts of interest. However, it was suggested and agreed, that she continue to attend the meetings as booking Clerk. She could then report back to the Parish Council as their representative.

The Chairman had spoken to Mr. Crump in respect of the Village Hall constitution. However, he is unsure of the whereabouts. It is believed that a management committee consisting of members representing various groups / interests in the Parish was intended to manage the Hall. It was suggested this could be something to discuss at future Parish Council meetings.

**Corbett School**

No representative present.

**Church of the Holy Cross**

A new notice board has been erected in the car-park. The board was designed and made by a local craftsman. All agreed that it looked very good.

It was suggested that the craftsman be asked to provide quotations to replace the Parish Council’s notice boards outside the Village Hall and in the bus shelter at Halfpenny Green. Cllr. Mrs. Humphries agreed to speak to the Craftsman.

The following services will be held during the run-up to Christmas

Christingle service 01/12/13 11.15am

Corbett School Carol Service 19/12/13 6.30pm

Village Carol concert 22/12/13 4.00pm

Crib Service 24/12/13 3.00pm

Christmas Service 24/12/13 10.00pm

There will again be a collection of presents for the children at the women’s refuge in Halesowen. This year, they have specifically requested that these are not wrapped. Any donations are to be left in church by 22 December 2013.

1. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
   1. Adrian Price PCSO - introduction

Ade gave a brief introduction to himself and his role. He is responsible for Trysull, Seisdon, Six Ashes, Bobbington and Enville. He also assists Wombourne. We will hopefully see him in the area during the coming months.

A recent search of the area demonstrated that there was 75% less crime / antisocial behaviour than during the previous year. He reported that a house in Brantley Crescent has been contacted by Environmental Health. He also informed those present about speed-watch.

Mr. Hayhurst, the neighbourhood watch representative, reported that all paperwork was now in place for the smart water technology. As such, he and his team will be visiting all scheme members in the coming weeks to explain the system. If people are interested they will need to pay £15 to South Staffordshire Neighbourhood Watch Association.

Cllr. Snelson made PCSO Price aware of people driving around the grass strips in fields to gain access to the rear of properties.

A general discussion followed.

1. **FINANCE**
   1. Annual donations
      1. Bobbington Village Hall (2012 £500). It was agreed that any donation would be expected to include the donation for the use of the small room for all 10 Parish Council meetings in 2014. It was agreed to donate £500. However, it was agreed to speak to the Committee chairperson in respect to whether the donation was specific or not.
      2. Bobbington Elderly Peoples Welfare (2012 £100). It was noted that there are approx. 16 members in the group, therefore it was proposed that a donation of £10 per person be made.
      3. Card & Craft Group (2012 £100). It was agreed to increase the donation to £150.

It was unanimously agreed that the groups benefiting from donations, should provide an annual report to the Parish Council, by 31 October of the following year, demonstrating how the funds were used. This should include an update on numbers and activities. This can then be utilised when deciding on the donation to be made in the following year.

* 1. Cheques

The following cheques were proposed by Cllr. Snelson and seconded by Cllr. Kimbley.

* + 1. Halfpenny Green Vineyards In Lieu of room hire £10.00
    2. Bobbington Village Hall S137 £500
    3. Bobbington Elderly Peoples Welfare S137 £160
    4. Card & Craft Group S137 £150
    5. Trevor Rees Internal Audit presentation £17.00

1. **PLANNING MATTERS**
2. Received:
   * 1. PA 13/00823/FUL Provision of pets corner and erection of portaloo, Halfpenny Green Vineyards, Tom Lane, Bobbington DY7 5EP – no objection
     2. PA 13/00906/FUL Single storey rear kitchen extension Meadow Cottage, Six Ashes Road, Bobbington DY7 5DT - No objection, subject to greenbelt restrictions
     3. PA 13/00845/FUL - Extensions and alterations to form teaching area, ball wash/dispenser and porch, Halfpenny Green Golf Club New Road Swindon Dudley South Staffordshire DY3 4PP – No objection

1. **AIRFIELD MATTERS**

The next meeting of the consultative committee will take place on 11 December 2013. Cllr. Kimbley reported that he was unable to attend. Cllr. Snelson agreed attend instead. He was requested to ask about the recent accident, if not reported.

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

South Staffordshire Council (SSC) Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

revision

South Staffordshire Citizens Advice Bureau – Donation request

War memorials trust

Supplementary planning documents for affordable housing and housing mix

revised

Best Kept Village competition 2014

Staffordshire Highways Ice-busters 2013-14

Buzz Newsletter Autumn 2013

Paul Simpson – High Court legal challenge to Core Strategy – D. Cllr. McCardle

reported that the case had now been hear and they were awaiting the

decision. The challenge only concerned Cheslyn Hay / Great Wyrley

SSC – Work club November Activities

SSC – Get your business noticed – free social media workshop

Bromford Support – advert

SSC Consultation in 2013 refresh of Staffordshire Joint Municipal Waste

Broadband update

SSC – Doing Business in South Staffordshire

SSC – Winter Parish Summit

Environment Agency – Check heating oil campaign

Crime and Anti-Social figures – October

AEF Annual report and AGM 14/11/13

South Staffordshire Connect data 15 July to 7 September 2013

Local Staffordshire Police contacts

Codsall Arts Festival press release

South Staffordshire Rural transport partnership update report November 2013

1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Cllr. Kimbley asked if anyone had noticed a reduction in mobile phone coverage – this is apparently due to a local transmitter having been turned down as a result of the introduction of 4G.**

**Carl Owen, of the Air Scouts, had contacted Cllr. Mrs. Tudor in respect of a special Jubilee they will be celebrating in 2014. He requested details of the January meeting, as he would like the Parish Council to be involved in the Jubilee.**

**Cllr. Mrs. Humphries stated that she had been contacted by a parishioner who was concerned with the state of the Royal Oak car park following the recent bonfire. It was agreed to monitor the situation.**

**Cllr. Snelson reported that the concrete patch, opposite the airfield, is currently being used by a stone company who are washing the stone, which was collected by the road sweepers, following the loose chipping exercise in the summer months. The stone will be recycled for use next year. There may be some evening work taking place.**

**The Chairman asked all members of the council to review the website, as he believed there to be out-dated areas. It was agreed to add it to January’s agenda.**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING 15 January 2014**

Meeting Closed 8:30pm.