**MINUTES of the meeting of BOBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 11 September 2013 at Corbett School at 7:30pm**

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

County Cllr. B Edwards

Councillors: W Snelson, S Homer, Mrs. J Humphries, Mrs. L Jones and Mrs. J Tudor

Victoria Morris – Clerk to the Council

And 4 members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES**:

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of District Councillor: R McCardle and Cllr. D Kimbley.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Cllr. Snelson declared an interest in 872a.

1. **MINUTES:**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Bobbington Parish Council held on 17 July 2013, a copy having previously been circulated to each member of the Council, be approved.

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

Cllr. Edwards confirmed he had discussed the matter with Mark Keeling of Staffordshire Highways and would follow it up when Mark returned to the office.

It was noted that foliage was currently obstructing the existing sign – the meeting was unsure as to whether the foliage was on County Council or private land.

* 1. **Affordable Housing Survey**

The draft letter and questionnaire were reviewed and approved. The Clerk was asked to provide confirmation to the Housing Association, who will arrange for the packs to be sent to all parishioners.

* 1. **20mph speed restrictions**

Cllr. Snelson remarked that he had been asked that no further restrictions be put in place, as traffic was now appeared to travel faster than before in certain places. The Clerk and Cllr. Tudor also confirmed that they had been approached by parishioners, who were concerned over the introduction of traffic calming measures.

It was suggested and agreed that parishioners should be asked for their comments/views prior to any decisions being reached.

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to the Clerk and a Councillor at Wombourne Parish Council. The discussions were inconclusive in respect of speed bumps or similar – although there were no objections from the school, there were complaints from others.

It was noted that a lot of the restrictions in Kinver were being removed.

It was noted that the 20 is plenty sign currently conceals the speed camera sign, at certain angles when heading out of the village. The Clerk agreed to mention this to Highways.

* 1. **BT Telephone box**

BT had agreed to send an engineer to service the phone towards the end of August 2013.

1. **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

The Neighbourhood Highways Team will be in the Parish at the beginning of October. The Clerk had circulated a list of example work and requested suggestions for work to be completed. A few suggestions had been received, which were discussed.

It was noted that Craig Snelson and his team had carried out some good work on the ditches between The Red Lion and Corbett School.

1. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

**Village Hall**

Cllr Tudor reported that the Village Hall committee had met earlier in the day. They have agreed to revert to the original plan of internal alterations only, as the current funding is short of that required for the external extension. This would also allow them to assess whether a smaller room was needed / required, if so, the external alterations could be started at a later date, providing it’s within 3 years of the planning permission, which has just been granted.

Cllr. Edwards agreed to revisit his decision in respect of the application for funds made to him.

The Chairman requested the committee provide a full analysis of the costs and funds available to date, in order to assess whether funding was required / available from the Parish Council.

The Village Hall Committee treasurer is to speak to the Safety Camera Partnerships team, in respect of the letter received requesting the camera vehicle park on the car park of the hall.

**Corbett School**

Cllr. Snelson confirmed that the school numbers had increased. Various committees are currently reviewing internal alterations to the classrooms.

**Church of the Holy Cross**

The harvest festival will be held on 6 October 2013, with the harvest supper on 7 October 2013.

1. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Paul Simpson reported that he had considered areas in which to site a SID at the Six Ashes end of the village, as requested at the meeting with Mark Keeling. He had concluded that between the 30mph sign and Bobbington sign would be the most sensible.

A discussion followed in respect of the speed deterrents available. It was agreed that no further action would be taken until the proposals / recommendations had been received from Staffordshire Highways.

1. **FINANCE**
   1. **External Audit Report**

Grant Thornton had completed the external audit report. No concerns had been raised.

* 1. **Cheques**

The following cheques were proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Humphries and seconded by Cllr. Mrs.Tudor.

* + 1. Corbett School In lieu of room hire £10.00

1. **PLANNING MATTERS**
   1. Leaton Park Farm – Three parishioners, representing the occupants of Leaton Hall were at the meeting. After a brief introduction they explained the main issues, in addition to the noise they had concerns in respect of the following:
      1. Inadequate consultations
      2. The diligence in setting the permission granted – wasn’t passed to committee
      3. Extension of the agricultural tie
      4. The planning committee were not consulted despite there being a significant change
      5. They had not objected as they understood the Parish Council to have objected and therefore it was representative

They reported the following problems that have already been incurred:

* + 1. Noise from 6:30am until late evening
    2. Road access not suitable for opening a shop unit, accidents have / will occur along the lane
    3. Dogs in the grounds of Leaton Hall
    4. Dogs in the road
    5. Concerns over the welfare of animals

The Councillors explained that an objection had been filed in respect of the change in agricultural conditions, however, ultimately the decision is made by the District Council. The latter had explained that the decision had been reached as no complaints had been registered during the previous 12 months, during which temporary permission had been granted.

The visitors explained that there had been a period when fewer problems were incurred. This was considered to be at the time the applications were submitted and were being consulted on. However, the problems were again increasing. The tenants of Leaton Hall had kept noise diaries for a set period, whilst the District Council monitored the situation. However, again during this time, it was noted that the noise was less.

A further discussion followed, after which it was suggested that they write to the Cllr. McCardle and request he meet with them at Leaton Hall.

It was also agreed that the Parish Council would write to the District Council

* 1. Received:
  2. Received and Responded to:
     1. PA 13/00564/FUL 101 Six Ashes Road, Bobbington, Stourbridge DY7 5EA Proposed first floor roof alterations and ground floor front extension – no objections
     2. PA 13/00515/FUL Salters Hall Farm, Six Ashes Road, Bobbington, DY7 5DX – 36.5 x 18.2m portal-frame agricultural building – no objection
     3. PA 13/00599/FUL Bobbington Village Hall, Six Ashes Road, Bobbington, DY7 5DU – Single storey rear extension – no objection
  3. Outcomes:

1. **AIRFIELD MATTERS**

No matters to report.

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Staffordshire Police – Change of local policing team commander – Inspector

Geoff Knight 24/8/13.

Cllr. R Pritchard, Tamworth Borough Council – admitted the position of

watchman handler & successor to hold freedom of borough of Tamworth – request for Parish’s to speak to local Staffordshire Veterans and consider passing similar proposals.

Staffordshire Playing Fields Association – AGM, Annual reports and accounts

South Staffordshire Council (SSC) Local Plan – Site allocations document and

open spaces consultation

SSCVA – AGM & Community Voice Forums AGM 25/09/2013 7pm

SSC Winter Parish Summit 29/11/13 9:30-1:30

SSC October Sussed

Crime and Antisocial behaviour – July and August 2013

Eon – Save money on Highways lighting without outlay

Holy Cross Church letter of thanks

Action – Newsletter for the Voluntary and Community Sector in Staffordshire

Rural fair share petition

Donna Gibbs Chief inspector – goodbye and thank you

Patient info – share or not to share 29/10/13

SSC South Staffordshire Community Budget

NHS 111 Update Staffordshire & Stoke on Trent

Health Masterclass feedback

Safer, fairer, Communities strategy PCC Mathew Ellis

On behalf of the PCC, Cllr. Snelson appealed for volunteers to assist with the flowers and cleaning in church.

1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Environmental Health re Gospel Ash Road.**

**It was noted that Kevin & Anne Astley have been attending to the flower pots outside the post Office and at Blacklands, over recent years. All agreed that they should be thanked for their contribution. Through Cllr. Mrs. Tudor they have requested a contribution towards new pots / containers.**

**It was agreed that the Kevin would be asked to contact the Chairman, to permit the necessary arrangements to be made.**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING 16 October 2013,** 7:30pm Venue Corbett School

Meeting Closed 8.55pm.