

Minutes of the meeting of Bobbington Parish Council
held on Wednesday 23 November 2022 at 7:30pm at Halfpenny Green Vineyards

Present: Councillor: Mrs. L Jones (Chairman)
District and County Councillor Mrs V Wilson
Councillors: A Burton, Mrs J Stanton, M Slater, M Snelson, Mrs I Rees and
S Hadgett
Victoria Morris – Clerk to the Council
PCSO Wilkes
Rachel Porter – Enforcement Office South Staffordshire District Council
2 members of the public

2099. **Apologies:**
There were no apologies for non-attendance.

2100. **Declarations of Interest:**
Cllrs. Snelson and Slater declared an interest in 2110bi and 2110dii.

2101. **Minutes:**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Bobbington Parish Council held on 19 October 2022, a copy having previously been circulated to each member of the Council, be approved.

2102. **Fly tipping presentation** – Rachel Porter, Enforcement Office South Staffordshire District Council
The Chairman welcomed Rachel to the meeting. Rachel then gave an informative presentation on fly-tipping in the District before answering questions from those present. The presentation covered the main issues, penalties, responsibilities, duty of care and case statistics.

2103. **Matters arising:**
a. Stiles – Public Rights of Way (ROW)
Following the last meeting Alastair Bentley had spoken with his line manager and suggested that an application be made to the community path initiative for tools and equipment.

Cllrs. Slater and Snelson have taken delivery of some stile and footpath way-marker disks. Once the stock is positioned, we need to send its location, so the records of footpath furniture can be updated.

The teams work system has highlighted a small number of jobs in the Bobbington area, which they hope to share with us in the coming weeks.

2104. **Churchyard**
The Secretary of the PCC had confirmed that the PCC were waiting for the outcome of Rev. Richard's enquiries with the archdeacon.

Cllr. Wilson explained some of the issues that South Staffordshire District Council and Kinver Parish Council are currently encountering with respect to their closed churchyard.

2105. Highway Matters**a. Flooding –****i. Corbett School, Six Ashes Road**

Cllr. Mrs. Wilson had advised by email that Diane Firkins (Staffordshire County Council Highways Team) has been speaking directly with the Snelson family, as there's a related issue around a manhole. Cllr. Snelson provided the meeting with further information. To alleviate the flooding problem, a six-inch pipe has been inserted into a ditch lined with gravel / stone, however, the gullies on the school side of the road are blocked. A jetter is now needed to make the work completed effective. It was suggested and agreed that a member of their team attend the site visit later in the week.

Cllr Snelson also raised the area outside Devon Cottage, which has been badly flooded in the last couple of weeks. The Snelson family are willing to assist with this area also, some work has already been carried out with further work planned, subject to discussion with the County Council.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Snelson and his family, especially Mr Craig Snelson for his work.

It was noted that Six Ashes Road was “like a running river” today, however, it was agreed that there had been significant rainfall. It was suggested that some cuts be made in the verges to help to ease the flow of water.

ii. The brook adjacent to the Glebelands, Six Ashes Road

The Environment Agency had responded to the Clerk's enquiry stating that the next step would be potentially legal action. However, they suggested going back to the Lead Local Flood Authority to see if there is any further action that they could take, as they are responsible for developing, maintaining and applying a strategy for local flood risk management in their areas and for maintaining a register of flood risk assets. They also have lead responsibility for managing the risk of flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.

The Clerk had forwarded the response to Cllr. Mrs Wilson, who responded with a copy of a letter which is to be sent to adjacent to properties informing them of the responsibilities of Riparian Landowners relating to watercourse on land at Brantley Crescent, Bobbington Stourbridge DY7 5DB.

b. Tom Lane - visibility splays

The Clerk reported that she will carry out a site visit with Diane Firkins (Staffordshire Highways) and Cllr. Mrs Wilson on Friday 25 November 2022.

She has spoken to Clive Vickers who is going to see if they have any photos / paperwork that can be used to evidence the visibility splays. He suggested that the Council had purchased the land from them in order to make the visibility splays.

c. SSDC SID Poles

The Speed Indication Device will be installed in Bobbington in December for a 6 week period to monitor road usage and average speed.

2106. Friends of Bobbington

There was one volunteer for the last session, therefore, it did not proceed. It was agreed that the group should only run from March to October. Furthermore, it was agreed that the session should take place on the Saturday after the Parish Council meeting, to permit a list of jobs to be discussed. The Clerk will circulate a list of dates in February.

It was suggested that activity should be recorded on Parish online.

2107. Reports from Committee Representatives

Corbett School

Cllr. Burton stated there was nothing much to report other than the children were preparing for Christmas productions.

Village Hall

Cllr. Mrs Stanton had nothing to report.

Church of the Holy Cross

Mrs Humphries, the PCC Secretary, had informed the Clerk that the church was full for Remembrance Service with all the Air Scouts and their families. She also stated it was good to see a number of village families too.

Christmas services are as follows:

Carol Service – Tuesday 13th December at 7 p.m.

Crib Service – Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th at 3 p.m.

Community Speed Watch (“CSW”)

Cllr. Burton reported that there has been one activity since the last meeting. 21 cars passed through, 3 of which were speeding. Volunteers have been issued with lanyards with a badge and number to protect their identities. During a recent meeting at Codsall Fire station, it was confirmed that there are currently five camera vans in the local area. Three are active, the other two are unfurnished.

Police Crime Report

Burglary –

Six Ashes Road – 19/10 – Offenders have accessed residential property via rear conservatory doors and stolen a purse. Offenders believed to have been travelling in a dark coloured vehicle (Possible Audi or BMW) Forensic team attended.

Six Ashes Road – 22/10 – Offenders have gained access to shed in the rear garden of a property at the location. Offenders have further attempted to access a larger storage unit but been unsuccessful. Nothing stolen. Sadly, no CCTV / witnesses.

Six Ashes Road – 12/11 – Offenders have entered front porch of property and stolen a black ‘Giant’ bicycle. No witnesses and no CCTV.

Suspicious Incident:

Leaton Lane – 14/11 – At approx. 2200hrs, 2 x males seen near to vehicles parked on the driveway of a residential property, appearing to possibly tamper with same. Offenders possibly travelling in a Toyota Hilux or similar. Awaiting CCTV.

ASB hotspots –

No repeat hotspots

0 x ASB reported this month.

PCSO Wilkes reported that there are currently a high number of Land Rover and Range Rover thefts. A black Toyota Hilux is currently connected to a number of crimes.

2108. **Public Question Time**

Further information was sought on the problems with the Brook between Glebelands and Brantley Lane. The issues and potential solutions were discussed.

2109. **Finance:-**

a. Message of thanks to our internal auditor

The Chair thanked the internal auditor for his input.

b. Annual donations

i. **Review of donation to Holy Cross Church**

Further to the last meeting the Clerk had obtained a copy of the Church's accounts, costs incurred for 2021 and 2022 and details of the work that is carried out. The Councillors discussed the information which had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was concluded that the churchyard is a main feature of the village and as discussed at the previous meeting helps to bring visitors to the parish who support local businesses. It was, therefore, agreed that the Parish Council would continue to support the costs of the upkeep of the churchyard. The Chairman proposed the S137 payment of £1,000 stand, this was agreed by all present.

ii. **Bobbington Village Hall booking clerk (2022 £500)**

The Clerk was in receipt of an annual report from Margaret Southall, Chair of the Committee (attached). A discussion was held following which a donation of £500 was proposed by Cllr. Mrs Stanton and seconded by Cllr. Burton. As a result of the discussion, the Clerk was asked to request a key to the gate padlock, as access to the Jubilee room for less able bodied parishioners can currently be difficult.

c. Cheques

The following cheques were proposed by Cllr. Burton and seconded by Cllr. Mrs Stanton

i.	Bobbington Village Hall	Donation towards booking clerk	£500
ii.	Halfpenny Green Vineyards	In lieu of room hire	£ 30.00
iii.	Staffordshire County Council	Website	£261.90

2110. **Planning matters**

a. South Staffordshire Local Plan Review – Consultation from 11 November until 12 noon 23 December 2022.

It was agreed that there was little that specifically related to our area. Cllrs Mrs Stanton and Hadgett agreed to review the plan in detail and draft a response.

b. Received:

- i. 22/01044/FUL Proposal: Conversion of existing oak framed leisure building into single detached dwelling along with the demolition of existing glass house Location: Land Adjacent to Meadow View Cottage

Six Ashes Road Bobbington Staffordshire DY7 5DT – Objections to be raised based on greenbelt and inappropriate development.

- ii. It was noted that single storey extension applications had been submitted for both Horse Chestnut Cottage and Dutch Barn House, Six Ashes Road – neither of which required consultation
- c. Responded to:
- d. Outcomes:
 - i. 20/00893/OUT - Wolverhampton Business Airport Crab Lane Bobbington STOURBRIDGE DY7 5DY - Mixed use development comprising the erection of three new hangar buildings, the refurbishment of existing airport infrastructure, the provision of new hard standing for external plane and fuel tanker parking, additional grassed informal plane parking; the demolition of up to 7 existing single storey commercial / retail buildings and the erection of new / replacement commercial / retail / community and, the erection of 112 dwellings as enabling development (all matters apart from access reserved) - Application refused
 - ii. 22/00671/FUL Land Adjacent To Meadow View Six Ashes Road Bobbington Staffordshire DY7 5DT -Conversion of existing oak framed leisure building into single detached dwelling along with the demolition of existing glass houses to allow for proposed garage block as a trade-off – Application refused

2111. **Airfield matters**

Cllr. Mrs Rees had attended a meeting on 9 November 2022. It was reported to have been a busy year. The hangars are full and there is a waiting list in operation. There was one complaint. The planning application has been refused. There have been several burglaries with respect to the antiques centre, where the chains on the gate were cut. There is some intelligence but no proof. The airport manager, Brian is very positive about the future. The East / West runway will be back in use at the end of November. There have recently been visits from the Royal helicopter and military helicopters.

2112. **Correspondence**

Circulated by email prior to the meeting:-

Voluntary sector news for Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent (VAST) 27/10/2021

VAST State of the social sector survey

South Staffordshire Council (SSDC) - Council news round-up – 285, 286, 287, 288, 289

Staffordshire Parish Councils Association (SPCA) bulletin – 31/10/22, 14/11/22

Staffordshire libraries Discover your library in November

Staffordshire libraries news and events December

SSDC Local Plan response to Lower Penn PC from Annette Roberts at SSDC

The Community Foundation – new funding launched “The recovery fund!

Staffordshire County Council (SCC) Road closures – Himley Hall firework event

Cllr. Mrs Wilson Covid Commemoration

SCC Highways bulletin 30/10/22

CSW focus groups – various dates / venues November 22

SSDC 2023 Boundary review proposals published

SSDC Street Scene update Issue 18

SCC Holiday activities and food programme (HAF) School holidays

SSDC Locality forum meeting invitations / agenda 24/11/22
SSDC Local Plan review – publication of the plan consultation
SPCA AGM and Annual report 5/12/22

2113. **AOB**

There was no other business to be discussed.

Date of the next meeting 18 January 2022

Meeting Closed