

**Minutes of the meeting of Bobbington Parish Council**  
**held on Wednesday 15 March 2023 at 7:30pm in the Jubilee Room at**  
**Bobbington Village Hall**

**Present:** Councillor: Mrs I Rees (Chairman)  
Councillors: A Burton, Mrs J Stanton, M Slater, S Hadgett and Mrs. L Jones (part of meeting)  
Victoria Morris – Clerk to the Council

**2129. To elect the Chair of the meeting**

The Clerk opened the meeting and gave the apologies of both the Chairman and Vice Chairman. As the meeting was quorate, she called upon those present to elect a Chairman for the meeting. Cllr. Mrs Stanton proposed Cllr. Mrs Rees, Cllr. Hadgett seconded the proposal. Cllr. Mrs Rees was elected Chairman of the meeting.

**2130. Apologies:**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted by Cllr. M Snelson and District and County Councillor Mrs V Wilson. Cllr Mrs Jones had submitted apologies for the first half of the meeting.

**2131. Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**2132. Minutes:**

RESOLVED that the amended minutes of the meeting of Bobbington Parish Council held on 15 February 2023, a copy having previously been circulated to each member of the Council, be approved.

**2133. Matters arising:**

**a. Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer vacancy**

The Clerk had produced an advert and job description which had been approved by Cllr. Mrs Jones, as Chairman of the Parish Council. The vacancy had been posted to facebook and will be sent to Staffordshire Parish Councils Association, Cllr. Mr Victoria Wilson, the website and Bobbington Neighbours facebook page, once the timeline has been discussed.

After much discussion it was agreed:

Closing date for applications: 7pm 19 April 2023

Shortlisting: 19 April 2023 7pm

Interviews: 26 April 2023

Interview panel: Cllrs: Burton, Snelson and Stanton

The Clerk was asked to extend her employment by a month or two to permit a handover period. She agreed to remain in post until the earlier of no longer being needed or 5 August 2023.

**2134. Churchyard**

The Secretary of the PCC had confirmed the churchyard issue has been referred to the Diocesan Advisory Committee and it's expected they will contact Revd. Richard soon.

With respect to PCC meetings being open to the public she had responded to say: The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) is open to all parishioners. It is always held in church and this year will be on 28th May 2023 after morning service. However, if any Parish Councillors wish to come along to an ordinary meeting to discuss particular issues they would be most welcome; the next meeting is on Monday 15 May 2023 at 7 p.m.

Cllrs. Mrs Stanton and Hadgett agreed to attend on 15 May 2023.

2135. **Highway Matters**

**a. Flooding – a review of problem areas**

i. **The brook adjacent to the Glebelands, Six Ashes Road**

The Clerk is awaiting further information from Staffordshire County Council – nothing further to report.

ii. **77-79 Six Ashes Road**

The Clerk is awaiting further information from Cllr Mrs. Wilson / Staffordshire County Council – nothing further to report.

**b. Tom Lane - visibility splays**

The Clerk is awaiting further information from Staffordshire County Council Highways Team – nothing further to report.

**c. SSDC SID Poles**

The Clerk has contacted Andrew Aston at South Staffordshire District Council to obtain the recent statistics and raise concerns as to the operating times of the SIDs.

2136. **Friends of Bobbington**

The first event of 2023 will be held on 18 March 2023. A number of apologies have already been received. The Clerk has sent a whatsapp to the volunteers and advertised the dates on facebook. Any activities will depend on numbers, however, it was agreed that the stiles will now be completed separately.

2137. **Reports from Committee Representatives**

**Corbett School**

Cllr. Burton had obtained the following report from Mr Craig, Interim Headteacher:

Activities undertaken since last meeting:

- Safer Internet Day – week of activities undertaken to teach children how to keep themselves safe online
- Children's Mental Health Week – series of lessons and activities to promote mental health and wellbeing, including fundraising event for Turkey & Syria earthquake
- World Book Day – Shakespeare themed day included activities such as the children writing with quills and parchment, re-enacting scenes from The Tempest, and their favourite activity – Shakespearian insults!
- Weekly collective worship assemblies on topics such as Easter, Lent, and core values such as trust and respect.

- Positive Playtime training for all staff and introduction of traditional playground games at break and lunch times aimed at keeping children positively engaged, reducing behaviour incidents, and reducing playground accidents.
- Red Nose Day – comic relief inspired fundraising activities
- We have managed to stay open on each of the national strike days
- Olympic athlete visiting school 17/3/2023
- Headteacher interviews commencing 17/3/2023. We received ten applications from which the strongest four candidates have been shortlisted for interview.

### **Village Hall**

Cllr. Mrs Stanton had nothing of any significance to report.

The committee believe that planning permission is not required for the advertising signage as this will not be a permanent fixture. The board is to be attached to the school fencing, permission has been sought from the school for this.

It was noted that the Jubilee room had not been tidied / cleared.

### **Church of the Holy Cross**

Mrs Humphries, the PCC Secretary, had provided the following report:

- Interviews were held on 14 March for the post of Team Rector following Revd. Paul Brown's retirement. Two candidates have been interviewed.
- The obligatory Quinquennial Inspection of the church will be carried out on 31st March by our (Diocesan approved) architect. This involves a detailed inspection of every aspect of the medieval building and its surrounds and advice on repairs to be done. A full electrical check and certificate has also to be provided to the architect, and this is underway.
- The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) is open to all parishioners, it is always held in church and this year will be on 28th May after morning service.
- CCTV will be kept under consideration. A 'nature' camera could possibly do the same job without the need for the dauntingly complicated procedure of installing CCTV. Mrs Humphries will consult other members on the use of the Parish Council's very kind gift last year for the purpose of anti-vandalism measures and will of course pass on the comments of the P.C.S.O., and keep the Parish Council informed of any decisions reached.
- On Monday 3rd April at 7.30pm, there will be a Team Service at Bobbington when members from other churches will be attending also.
- The Easter Sunday service is at 10am on 9 April, the church will be decorated with Easter lilies.
- A wedding is planned for the following weekend.

Cllr. Mrs Stanton raised concerns as to the range and quality of images from a nature camera unless a high-quality camera was acquired. It was agreed that this could be raised when they attend the PCC meeting in May.

A discussion followed with respect to the monies given for anti-vandalism purposes last year. As opposed to taking any further action now, it was agreed that should the funds donated not be spent on anti-vandalism measures, they would be deducted from the next contribution to the upkeep of the churchyard.

### **Community Speed Watch ("CSW")**

Cllr. Burton reported that there has been no activity since the last meeting.

### **Health & Wellbeing**

Cllr Hadgett reported that the health check trailer has been booked for 22 April 2023 (10am-4pm). The school have given permission for it to be parked in the playground. It was agreed that Cllr Burton would print double sided flyers promoting the health checks and coffee morning. Cllr Rees will deliver these to Gospel Ash Road. Cllr Mrs Stanton and Cllr Hadgett will deliver to Six Ashes Road. The Clerk will put posters on the noticeboard and promote the events on facebook.

It was agreed that the coffee morning will be held in the village hall from 10am-12noon. Cllr Mrs Stanton, Cllr Mrs Rees and Cllr Hadgett will attend. The Clerk agreed to purchase supplies. Cllr. Mrs Jones gave her apologies.

### **Police Crime Report (16/02/2023 – 13/03/2023)**

#### Burglary (residential):

- 21/02 – At approx. 0130hrs on the stated date, offenders have accessed stables on Church Lane. A ride on lawnmower and power tools were taken, with a total approx. value of £10,000. It is believed that offenders accessed the location via neighbouring fields. Offenders turned CCTV cameras round to avoid detection. CCTV was obtained however sadly, unable to ID offenders.

#### Burglary (business):

- None reported

#### Vehicle crime:

- 24/02 – On the stated date, a 'P' registration Volvo was stolen from the driveway of a property on Six Ashes Road. Scene enquiries were conducted however no CCTV and no witnesses.
- 12/03 – Between the hours of 1530-1620, offenders have stolen a Range Rover Sport in black from a property on Leaton Lane, without keys. CCTV enquiries conducted however nothing to aide identifying offenders. Investigation ongoing.

#### Anti-social behaviour:

- None reported

#### Policing operations of note:

Operation BORMUS have continued their good work targeting serious acquisitive crime, carrying out pro-active patrols throughout the locality and working in conjunction with neighbouring forces to target cross border criminals utilising arterial road networks to carry out their criminality. To date the operation has yielded a number of positive arrests and enquiries and investigations remain ongoing.

There were no members of the public present.

**2139. Finance:-**

- a. The following cheques were proposed by Cllr. Mrs Jones and seconded by Cllr. Hadgett:

a. Clerk	Salary & Expenses	£396.72
b. HMRC	Paye	£97.40
c. SPCA	Annual subscription	£172.23

**2140. Planning matters**

- a. Responded to:
- i. 23/00100/OFFRES - Office Building East of Lutley Lane, Bobbington DY7 5DQ; The change of use of office building falling within Class E (Formerly B1(a)) to use as two dwellinghouses within Class C3 (dwellinghouse) in association with the existing use on site – no objections, would request agricultural tie.
- b. Outcomes: Nothing to report

**2141. Airfield matters**

Cllr. Mrs Rees reported that the repaired runway returned to action on 10 March 2023. A Royal helicopter had landed and refuelled earlier in the week. The next meeting of the Consultative committee is scheduled for later this year.

**2142. King Charles III's Coronation**

Further discussions were held as to how to celebrate the coronation. It was agreed that bunting and flags would be placed along Six Ashes Road. Cllr. Rees agreed to speak to Cllr Snelson with respect to bunting remaining from the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. It is also thought the school may have further bunting.

**2143. South Staffordshire Parish and District Elections**

Various emails have been circulated since the last meeting. The first candidates' briefing is due to be held tomorrow evening. As it was unlikely anyone could attend Cllr. Mrs Wilson agreed to provide feedback on anything important. Emails should follow the event with more information.

**2144. Correspondence**

*Circulated by email prior to the meeting:-*

Voluntary sector news for Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent (VAST) 9/3/2023  
 South Staffordshire Council (SSDC) - Council news round-up – 300,301,302,303  
 Staffordshire Parish Councils Association (SPCA) bulletin – 20/2/23, 27/2/23, 6/3/23  
 Staffordshire libraries news and events April 2023;  
 Street Scene – March 2023  
 CPRE star count is now live  
 CPRE Campaigns update March 2023  
 SSDC waste & recycling collection update 16/2/22  
 Local government boundary commission - Boundary changes consultation portal  
 SSDC Election social media - Voter ID  
 SSDC Virtua locality forum 14/3/23  
 SSDC Election polls update – candidate and agent briefing

SSDC Presentations from Community Services to Parish Councils  
SSDC Wood chippings – any allotments or other needs?  
Staffordshire County Council (SCC) Road closures – various locations South  
Staffs  
SSDC IESE Cyber security parish pilot webinar  
SSDC – Training opportunity – managing projects and change  
SSDC Mandatory training for s106 requests and spending  
SSDC New website  
SSDC A note from the District Council leader March 2023  
SSDC Localities forum 14/3/2023  
CSW Monthly update Feb 2023  
SSDC Hackney carriage fare consultation  
The Community Foundation for Staffordshire – The big help out  
What's going on this March in Staffordshire's libraries  
SSDC Candidate briefing

2145. **AOB**

There was no other business

**Date of the next meeting** 19 April 2023

Meeting Closed