

BOBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Bobbington Parish Council held on Wednesday 17th April 2024 at Bobbington Village Hall.

Name :	Present
Cllr L Jones (Chair)	✓
Cllr A Burton	✓
Cllr S Hadgett	✓
Cllr A Perry	✓
Cllr M Slater	✓
Cllr M Snelson (Chair)	✓
Cllr J Stanton (Acting as Clerk)	✓
Cllr V Wilson	✓
✓ = Present A = Apologies X = Absent	

24/001. Apologies for Absence

As recorded above.

24/002. Declarations of Interest in Accordance with the Local Government Act 2000

None

24/003. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2024, a copy having previously been circulated to each member of the Parish Council, were accepted as a true record subject to one minor amendment. Proposer Cllr A burton, motion seconded by Cllr A Perry.

24/004. Matters Arising From the Minutes

The Chair reported that one application had been received for the post of Clerk and the candidate had been interviewed earlier in the day. The applicant was an experienced clerk, being already employed in this capacity for another Parish Council. The CV and proposed conditions of employment would be circulated to Councillors for review, but it was recommended that an offer of employment was made to her.

24/005. Open Reach Full Fibre Services Update

The following update was received from the Partnership Manager of Open Reach, with an offer to attend a Parish Council meeting to speak about the planned roll-out of full fibre service in the village.

As you may have seen, our engineering team have been busy building our full fibre network in Bobbington and surrounding areas recently and I'm glad to report that work is nearly complete on the first set of premises which are currently on track to be delivered by the end of April 2024. Additional premises will be delivered throughout May and June with the remaining on target for completion by the end of July 2024.

With regard to the first set of premises being delivered by the end of April, we are looking at approximately 85 premises including Leaton Lane, between the Red Lion Inn and junction of Crab Lane and Six Ashes Road in Staffordshire and Broughton Claverley in Shropshire.

Even though we have started to build, our pledge site [Connect My Community \(openreach.com\)](https://connectmycommunity.openreach.com) remains open so anyone who hasn't pledged can still do so.

Whilst we have started to build the network, a key part of the build is to make sure that no one is left behind so therefore a pledge confirms that people want the service and a commitment for Openreach to build. This is especially important for any properties on the edge/fringe of the exchange boundary so it would be great if you could reach out to any people you might know in those areas.

Another key element is getting people to validate their voucher once they receive the Government email. So far, we have received 84 validations out of the 116 pledges received so again grateful if you could help remind people to check their emails and verify their vouchers.

I attach some information which you can share amongst the wider community. These include information about the scheme and validating the Government voucher.

I'll be in touch over the coming months as more services become available and would be happy to attend a Parish meeting to update the communities. If this is something you would like me to attend, please let me know.

The Chair requested that the Clerk invite Mr Rowan to the June Parish Council meeting.

24/006. Highway Matters

a. Flooding and Road Defects

Prior to the start of the meeting, Councillors, met with Mr Mark Keeling of ~~South~~Staffordshire County Council (SCSC), to talk about the issues of flooding and potholes affecting local roads.

- (i) Six Ashes Road – There was still a lot of running water on the road, but the two major potholes on each side of the carriageway had been temporarily filled in.
- (ii) The road surface at the junction of Six Ashes Road and Crab Lane was damaged in several places resulting in numerous large potholes. These had been reported to Highways for repair.

b. Speed Indication Devices

A notification had been received from SCSC advising that Speed Indication Devices were available to purchase at a cost of £1350 each. Councillors discussed the feasibility of buying one of these, as the posts to host the devices were already in situ in the village. Before making a decision on the purchase, Cllr Wilson was asked to find out if there were any other ancillary costs around installation and maintenance.

c. Street Scene

An e-mail had been received advising that short-term extra Street Scene assistance was available to Parish Councils and details of any work required was to be submitted to SSC as soon as possible. It was agreed that a request should be made for work to be undertaken to clear the foot path between the School and the Red Lion and for cleaning of road traffic signs.

24/007. Friends of Bobbington

The meeting on Saturday 23rd March had taken place as planned and the pot holes identified as needing repair had been reported to Highways via the online

reporting system. Special thanks were extended to Mr. R. Law who assisted Councillors in carrying out the audit.

24/008. Airfield Matters

Cllr Perry reported that he had met with the new owner of the airport, who had suggested that he meet with Councillors for a walk around the site and to share with them his long term plans for the airport. The Chair asked Cllr Perry to liaise with the owner to identify some suitable dates, so that Councillors could check their availability.

Cllr V Wilson advised that Consultative Committee meetings were to be reintroduced and that there was a new contact at the airport, Jordan Timmins, who would be organising these.

24/009. Reports from Committee Representatives

a. Corbett School

Cllr A Burton read out a report received from the Headteacher of Corbett School.

The big headline news is that our Ofsted report has been published and we are officially a 'Good' school. We are thrilled that our hard work has been recognised and look forward to building on our many strengths as we continue to move forward. You can read the Ofsted report on our website. We have also launched an official school Facebook page. You can access the page by searching for 'Corbett CE Primary School'

Grounds: We are looking forward to getting back out onto the field and are still seeking solutions to our ongoing drainage issues - this is continuing. There has been significant flooding of the field and Forest school areas.

Events: Our many Easter events were very successful and the PTA raised over £500 at our Easter disco.

We have welcomed Mr Roberts, Mrs Burley and Mrs Mullett to our team and they have all made a very positive start to the term. Our new lunchtime supervisor, Jodie had her first day with us today.

FMNs had a great time during their 'inspiration day' to introduce their new topic about the Ancient Greeks - there were some fabulous outfits and the children had a day packed with exciting activities.

Our local PSCOs have led safety talks for our KS2 classes and are coming in to speak to the EYFS and KS1 classes soon. They are then coming in to lead a 6 week cadets' course for our Year 5, and then Year 6 children later this term.

We are having a movie night after school on Friday this week, and a 'break the rules' day in June to help raise funds towards the PTA's project of helping us re surface the playground. Our next big event will be taking part in the sponsored Bridgnorth walk on 6th May. Many of our families are taking part - wearing specially printed t shirts to raise money. All support (and donations!) are very welcome.

We are also looking forward to taking part in the small schools' sports day in June alongside other local schools and our own sports day in July.

b. Bobbington Village Hall

A drainage inspection had recently been undertaken at the Village Hall to investigate historic blockages. The Report, a copy of which was received by Councillors, showed that the system was in need of extensive repair work,

costing approximately £4,000. The Village Hall Committee was exploring the possibility of trying to get a grant through the Village hall Advisory Scheme.

Cllr Snelson and Cllr Slater advised that they were aware of a local contractor who may be able to dig out and replace the pipe at a lower cost to that quoted. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Lewis and pass on the information.

c. Holy Cross Church

No update received.

d. Community Speed Watch

Cllr A Burton reported that no activity has taken place since the last Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Perry reported that residents of Gospel Ash Road had asked if the Speed Watch team could be deployed in their area. Cllr Burton advised that Gospel Ash Road was not included on their list of approved sites for operation, but he would contact Michell Shaker to nominate this area as an option for deployment.

e. Health and Wellbeing

Cllr S Hadgett advised that there was nothing to report.

f. Crime Report

The Committee received a Police Report detailing crime and anti-social behaviour in the Bobbington area between 21 February 2024 to 19 March 2024.

Burglary (Residential)

- None

Burglary (Business)

- Overnight 29/03 – 01/03, offenders have accessed Bobbington Airport and stolen a trailer from within the site. Sadly, no witnesses and no CCTV.

Anti-social behaviour

- Nuisance vehicles parking near to emergency gates at Bobbington Airport.

Policing operations of note

- Due to the vehicle crime reported within the locality, the Bormus team have been covering Wombourne and the surrounding areas over the past month. The team will continue to support local patrols over the coming weeks.

24/010. Public Question Time

There were no members of the public in attendance.

24/011. Finance

a. Cheques

Payments were approved as follows:

- Parish Online subscription £72.00
- Zurich Insurance renewal £241.00

Proposer Cllr S Hadgett, seconded Cllr M Snelson

Annual Donations

Annual donations made under section S137 to

- Bobbington Village Hall (Booking Clerk) £500
- Holy Cross Church (Graveyard maintenance) £1,000

Proposer Cllr M Snelson, seconded Cllr Burton

Table of payments	
Recipient	Payment amount
Parish Online subscription (Andy Burton)	£72.00
Zurich Insurance	£241.00
Bobbington Village Hall Committee	£500.00
Holy Cross Church	£1,000.00

24/012. Planning Matters

a. Received

- Pre-planning consultation: Cornerstone, installation of telecommunications mast at Wolverhampton Halfpenny Green Airport, Crab Lane.

No objections

- TPO83/1985 T1 Willow – prune specific limbs to main stem, G1 Silver Birches x 7 – dismantle and remove, T2 Alder – prune specific limbs back to main stem and T3 Oak = prune specific limbs back to main stem. Location, Bobbington Sewage Treatment Works, Brantley Crescent.

No objections

- 24/00256/FULH Two storey extension at Honeysuckle Cottage. Six Ashes, Bridgnorth WV15.

No objections

b. Received [and responded to](#)

- 24/00087/FULHH The Chapel, Gospel Ash Road Bobbington Single storey rear extension to dwelling to provide 2 bedrooms, en-suite and new living room.

Object. The Chapel building is in the Green Belt and has already been extended to provide living accommodation, and the proposal extends the foot print of new build even further. Unlike the first extension, this proposal is not linear and the new living area forms a right angle at the rear. This changes the original shape of the building and detracts from its heritage status as an old chapel

- TPO83/1985 Lime – Reduce crown on house side to previous pruning points, crown reduction of remaining by up to 30%, crown thin by up to 20%, remove epicormic growth to the main fork.

No Objections

- LN650G/COU Application for the addition of a public bridleway in the Parish of Bobbington.

Objection on the grounds of protection of livestock that graze the area on the proposed route.

c. Outcomes

- 24/00050/COU Former car park south off Crab Lane The application is for the reuse of a former car park to be used as use B8 (storage and distribution) and for the siting of storage containers to be used for storage only by third parties.

Refused

- (ii) TPO83/1985 Lime – Reduce crown on house side to previous pruning points, crown reduction of remaining by up to 30%, crown thin by up to 20%, remove epicormic growth to the main fork.

Approved with conditions

24/013. Correspondence

List of correspondence distributed to Councillors via email:	
Correspondence received from	Subject of correspondence
SStaffs (Rachel Melville)	Wombourne Recycling Centre Update
Gavin Williamson	My Westminster Update 21 March
SC Traffic and Network Management	4380239 - Emergency Road Closure Notice - Church Lane, Bobbington
SPCA	SPCA Health and Wellbeing toolkit
SSC Andrew Aston	SID Update
SSC Andrew Aston	Effectiveness of SIDS
WHP Telecoms Ltd	Pre Planning Consultation Cornerstone 24201020
SStaffs	Works to Tree(s) with a Tree Preservation Order 24/00287/TTREE
Cllr V Wilson SStaffs	Street Scene Additional Crew
SSC Andrew Aston	SID Update
VAST	Funding opportunities for Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire
SPCA Ian Cruise-Taylor	NALC News
Gavin Williamson	My Staffordshire Update
SStaffs	24/00256/FULHH Honeysuckle Cottage Six Ashes Road Six Ashes BRIDGNORTH WV15 6EL
SPCA	FW: UKSP Funding for South Staffs area Parish Councils
SC Traffic and Network Management	4366040 - Temporary Road Closure Order - Crab Lane, Bobbington
SSC (N Reehal)	Council News Roundup 347
SPCA Ian Cruise-Taylor	The Knot
SPCA Ian Cruise-Taylor	Chief executive's bulletin
SPCA Ian Cruise-Taylor	Opportunity for local councils and community groups
Staffordshire Police	Police Report Feb/March 2024
Staffordshire Police (Michelle Shaker)	Greetings from HQ
CPRE	The countryside is ahead on rooftop solar
SSC	Community Safety Personal Alarms
SSC	PFCC election notices
SStaffs (N Reehal)	News roundup 348
Openreach	Advanced notice of Full Fibre services in Bobbington and surrounding areas
CPRE	Planning Training for Parish Councils
SStaffs	Parish council news round-up 348

SStafs	Residents Roundup 348
Govconnect	Webinar – Tools for Therapy in Clinical Practice
SC Traffic and Network Management	4384513 - Temporary Road Closure Notice - Various Streets, South Staffordshire - Road Master

24/014. Any Other Business to be Raised in Next Agenda

Cllr Wilson provided an update on Wombourne Recycling Centre that had been closed due to subsidence on the internal road. She reported that SSC had organised investigative groundworks to look for underground voids, but it was hoped that part of the site could be re-opened for light waste, i.e. cardboard. Until it was established whether the site could be fully re-opened, residents could use Bilbrook Recycling Centre. SSC were also in discussion with Dudley Council to reach an agreement to use their recycling facility in Stourbridge.

The Chair reported that the Parish Council were to receive a copy of the Local Plan Review Publication Plan 2024 and that consultation was open on this until 31 May 2024.

24/015. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 15th May at 7.30 p.m. in Bobbington Village Hall.