

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

held on Wednesday 18th September 2024 at 7.30pm at Bobbington Village Hall.

Present: Cllr L. Jones (Chair), Cllr M. Snelson (Vice Chair), Cllr A. Perry. Cllr A. Burton, Cllr M. Slater

Guests in Attendance: Mrs E Jones, Corbett School

Public in Attendance: 0

Minute Taker & Clerk: Kate Pritchard, clerk@bobbington.staffslc.gov.uk

24/077. Apologies: Cllr J. Stanton, Cllr S. Hadgett, Cllr V. Wilson and Cllr R. Reade sent their apologies.

24/078. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: None

24/079. Minutes: It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 17th July 2024, having been circulated, be confirmed, and signed as a correct record.

24/080. Matters arising from the Minutes: Matters were NOTED.

24/081. Highway Matters:

- a) The update for the worn pavement outside the Red Lion was NOTED
- b) The update for the worn Pavement outside Church was NOTED
- c) The update for the raised Utility Grid on pavement outside 26 Six Ashes Road was NOTED
- d) The update for the worn/ uneven pavement opposite Thistle close, Six Ashes Road was NOTED
- e) The update for the cracked/ uneven pavement opposite 91 Six Ashes Road was NOTED
- f) The update for the rough/ uneven pavement opposite 99-103 Six Ashes Road was NOTED
- g) The update for the cracked/ eroded pavement in front of field adjoining Bannockburn, Six Ashes Road was NOTED
- h) The update for the pavement from School to Red Lion was NOTED

Further Highways Matters Raised:

Tom Lane – **ACTION:** Clerk to contact Cllr V. Wilson for an update.

Six Ashes and Gospel Ash Rd – **ACTION:** Clerk to thank Cllr V. Wilson on behalf of the Parish Council for the update. The job is not yet finished; however, the Council are happy to see the work has begun.

Six Ashes before Alders Farm – the pothole that is half filled with a line around it requires repair. **ACTION:** Cllr. Burton to send the 3-word location to the Clerk for reporting to Highways.

24/082. Friends of Bobbington: Bus shelter and styles to be repaired. **ACTION:** Cllrs to send before and after pics.

24/083. Airfield Matters: No issues to raise. Another consultation meeting is due to be arranged after the audit. Visitors have been flying in and enjoying a meal at the onsite café.

24/084. Reports from Committee Representatives:

Corbett School: Head Teacher, Mrs E. Jones reported that Corbett Primary School has won the small schools' sports day and the Platinum award for sports. The school put on a fantastic performance at the

end of the year from the choir and instrumental groups. There was also a Theatre performance of Peter Pan. This term they have learnt about first aid skills. The SATs results were very promising, with 100% reading for KS2. Years 5& 6 have been busy working on their enterprise project which generated a £99 profit. The school has visited the fire station, learning about the local community. Transition morning for new classes went well. Due to the financial commitments of the school, four classes have now decreased to three classes. There are 72 children attending currently. The new term has got off to a positive start with a committed team. They have held a welcome evening for parents. New gates and fencing have been erected. Due to the charity grant organised by the school Governors the sensory garden has been refurbished.

Upcoming news: The Harvest festival will take place the first week of October with a scarecrow competition. For Mental Health awareness week, the children will be wearing yellow. The Christmas fair will be the 30th of November. The children will be learning about Diwali celebrations. The PGL will take place W/C 23rd September. All ideas to increase footfall in the school are welcomed.

Bobbington Village Hall: The Committee reported that they recently held the Village Hall AGM and general committee meeting where it was decided that the rate of hire for the village hall was to be increased with immediate effect. Now a non-refundable deposit of £25 on a booking is to be made on a half day rate of £100, which is up to four hours and the full day rate up to eight hours will be £200. It was also decided that the Local Authority rate for a booking, i.e. for an election, would be a flat £500. The high increase is necessary due to the ongoing cost of running the hall.

The drainage problem is still ongoing. We are still waiting for a quote for the work.

Holy Cross Church: The Church thanked the Parish Council for the generous grant for churchyard maintenance. Due to church warden leave the church will not be open each day (apart from services) for a month.

Community Speed watch: No activity currently. Cllr A. Perry is now trained on the speed watch. Risk assessment is due. **ACTION:** Clerk to find alternative contact.

Health and Wellbeing: None

Crime Report: None

South Staffordshire Locality Forum: **ACTION:** Clerk to check the date for the forum

National Network - Micro Councils: The Chair attended NALC's national network for Micro Councils – aimed at local (parish and town) councils with an annual budgeted precept or turnover of £10,000 or less – held its inaugural meeting on 25 July 2024. Cllr Mark Valladares was elected co-chair, with other network members encouraged to put themselves forward to fill the remaining co-chair vacancy. The network heard from the Centre for Ageing Better about actions micro councils could take to make their communities Age Friendly. The meeting also discussed its purpose and how members could share good practice. The next meeting will take place on 4 October 2024.

24/085. Public Question Time: None.

24/ 086. Financial Matters: It was RESOLVED to approve the letter for Unity Trust Bank.

24/087. Planning:

- a) To consider new application/s:

Reference	Address	Details	Bobbington Parish Council comment	SSC decision
24/00645/TT REE	Sundown Church Lane Bobbington STOURBRIDGE DY7 5DH	TPO 60.1981: Ash (G1) - dismantle and remove	No objection	Awaiting decision

b) To report decisions on previous applications:

Reference	Address	Details	W&H comment	SSC decision
24/00381/TE L	Vodafone Limited Telecommunications Mast Wolverhampton Halfpenny Green Airport Crab Lane Stourbridge Bobbington DY7 5DY	Proposed Base Station telecommunications installation. Proposed installation of 22.5m High Monopole c/w Headframe on new concrete foundation, together with 3No Antennas, 2No.Dishes, 2No. Cabinets, 1No. Meter Cabinet and associated ancillary works	No objection	Approved 27.08.24
24/00287/TT REE	Bobbington Sewage Treatment Works, Brantley Crescent	TPO 83/1985. T1 Willow - Prune specific limbs to main stem, G1 Silver Birches x7 - dismantle and remove, T2 Alder - prune specific limbs back to main stem and T3 Oak - Prune specific limbs back to main stem	No Objections. Responded to.	Split Decision 24.05.24

24/088. Correspondence: The Correspondence list was NOTED.

24/089. Policies:

- a) It was RESOLVED to approve the Document Retention Policy
- b) It was RESOLVED to approve the Grievance Policy
- c) It was RESOLVED to adopt the Health and Safety Policy

24/090. HR Implications:

- 1) It was RESOLVED to have a second set of Keys cut for the Clerk. **ACTION:** Cllr M. Snelson. **ACTION:** Clerk to ask SLCC mentor about essential files being backed up.
- 2) It was RESOLVED for Cllr L. Jones & Cllr M. Snelson to conduct management activities such as appraisals.
- 3) It was RESOLVED to approve the grievance policy.
- 4) It was RESOLVED to approve the health and safety policy. **ACTION:** Clerk to create a homeworking risk assessment.

- 5) It was RESOLVED for the Clerk to send Passport and driving licence to Chair & Vice-Chair.
- 6) It was RESOLVED to take steps to limit any harassment towards Councillors or the Clerk by adding a respectful pledge into the beginning of every agenda and the Parish Council will not tolerate aggressive behaviour.

24/091. Any other business discussion: The former Royal Oak car park requires tidying. List of future meetings for Cllr M. Snelson to add to the notice board. Change of date for November meeting to 20th November.

24/092. Items for future meeting: Items were NOTED, and it was RESOLVED to approve £30 vineyard deposit.

24/093. Date of future Parish Council meeting: Dates were NOTED.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:50.

..... Signed Date

DRAFT