

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BLYMHILL AND WESTON-UNDER-LIZARD PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE BLYMHILL HILL AND WESTON UNDER LIZARD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 2024

PRESENT: Cllr Doug McCowan (Chairman)
Cllr N Parton
Cllr R Newton
Cllr V Cook Cllr N Parton (Vice Chairman)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P Delaloye – Parish Clerk
Cllr M Sutton – Staffordshire County Council
Cllr W Sutton – South Staffordshire District Council
Cllr S Szalapski – South Staffordshire District Council

APOLOGIES : Cllr D Smith
Cllr L Cross
Cllr A Lowe
Cllr P Maddocks
Cllr D Holmes – South Staffordshire District Council

3204 **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**
None

3205 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: The minutes of the 22nd January 2024 meeting were deferred so to be amended due to attendance details being incorrect and to be reviewed and signed at the May Parish Council meeting.

3206 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Cllr D McCowan reported that with regard to the Style by the Church into the field that was still blocked, he had contacted the Landowner, who had said that there had been some walkers who had their dogs off their leads whilst there was livestock in the field which could be dangerous but also against the Country Code. Cllr M Sutton also said that the Rights of Way section said the Landowner cannot be forced to unblock the style as dogs do not have the right of way. The Electric Fence has been removed from the field in question. Cllr M Sutton and Cllr D McCowan were to see if the installation of a Kissing Gate would be a suitable alternative.

3207 **VISITORS**

Mr and Mrs Highman raised the issue that a change of use consultation notice that had been put up by a premises that was wanted to become a Doggy Day Care Centre, was only noticed a couple of weeks prior to the closure of the time available to put objections or support to the notice and no one in the area had known of it. They were worried that the amount of traffic that would use the road to the Day Centre could cause safety issues as there were blind corners and bends. They were concerned that no visible notice was seen and that the Highways department were not involved because of the Road issues as mentioned and also due to the actual physical condition of the road and that the increased traffic an approximate 130 extra vehicle trips per day would cause more Pot hole issues.

Cllr M Sutton responded by saying that the application do go to the County Highways and all

groups that might be affected, but they can only give views and cannot object or say yes or no. They can only comment on what is laid down in the Planning Highways Regulations. It is only South Staffordshire District Council that can say yes or no and that is dependent upon any objections and if contrary to any Planning laws. Cllr M Sutton said he would look at the Application and see what comments Highways made and get back to Mr and Mrs Highman. Cllr S Szalapski said that the Land Agent or Owner is supposed to put up the notification at least 6 weeks prior to the consultation cut off.

The Parish Clerk said that historically Planning applications received from SSDC were only circulated to the Parish Councillors and asked the SSDC Councillors if it was acceptable for him to put any planning applications onto Blymhill Buzz and on the notice board as well as the Parish Council Website. They said that this was acceptable. The Parish Clerk was asked to contact the Village Hall to see if they could also put them on the Village Hall notice board as well. Cllr R Newton said that he would be happy to print them and put them up. This was all agreed to happen.

Mr and Mrs Highman also spoke of Pothole and Road condition issues that are noted in the Highways section of the minutes

3208 **REPORT OF The COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr M Sutton reported:

- That there had been a request to the County Council to reopen an Historical Right of Way from Blymhill to Brineton and said he would send an email to the Rights of Way Committee to send information about this to the Parish Council.
- The Council was Re introducing Cattle back onto Cannock Chase.
- That Staffordshire's refuse tips were accepting unwanted medical equipment to reuse for others.
- As an experiment the Stafford Refuse tip was accepting used / opened Paint cans for recycling.

3209 **REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr W Sutton reported:

- Street Scene had produced it's Grass Cutting Schedule.
- Street Scene have taken on a couple of people to enable local works during the year with 12 days for each Parish Council area. The type of work they will be able to do is Hedge Cutting, Path Maintenance, Fence replacement, litter Picking and similar – It was requested if they could do the permissive Path that goes through the Weston under Lizard Play area. Cllr W Sutton this was possible. Cllr N Parton also mentioned the paths in Blymhill and Weston under Lizard where regularly the Council have had to pay for someone to clean and tidy them.
- The Local Plan has been put together that goes for consultation that covers 5 years for the period up to 2038 with Housing needs analysis done for each area and the allocation of Housing and Employment lands. For this Landowners put forward land for development and the SSDC review what might be possible and with regards to the infrastructure that is already there or can be put in and then say yes or no. If potentially yes it goes into the Local Plan but still all the normal Planning requirements would then have to be completed and agreed to. She then said a company called Bonningale, had been advertising and reporting that by some towns and villages they would be building large numbers of Houses – such as at Albrighton which had made the local TV news – but they had not put these plans to the local Councils to be reviewed for the local Plan.
- Cllr W Sutton suggested the Parish Council could do a local plan similarly which could be looked regarding new accommodation. There is though, a tiering system, Tier 1 the likes of Cheslyn Hay and Penkridge, Bishops Wood is a Tier 4 and lower would be Blymhill, with

Brineton being regarded as a Hamlet. The Tiering would take into account the size of the area and its infrastructure.

3210 **PLAY AREAS**

Cllr N Parton reported

- That Optimus Groundcare would be unable to look after the Blymhill Play area this year.
- Cllr N Parton was asked to find a replacement for the upkeep of the Blymhill play area.

3211 **FOOTPATHS AND HIGHWAYS**

Footpaths

- Cllr R Newton reported that they seemed reasonable at present but that would change when there was more vegetation growth. This could then be tied in with the Justice Pay back people and the Street Scene team.

Highways

- It was reported that although there had been a number of Pot holes repaired in the area they had not been of good quality. Cllr M Sutton responded that a lot of the Pot Holes were fixed with Temporary fillings for speed to make them safer quicker, but these do not last as long as the proper repairs but they take more time and usually need road closures or temporary traffic signals to enable the safe environment and time to repair them. He also said that any Temporary repairs would have a T marked on them. He added that the County had borrowed £30 million to repair roads which has to be paid back. The HS2 money promised from the Government was to be spread over an 11 year period. The County was to be spending £53 million for 67 capital road projects this year.
- Brockenhurst Road was still poor and covered with pot holes but also flooding, even with the Farmer digging out the Ditches and even adding a new one.
- Cllr D McCowan asked Cllr M Sutton if he would drive around the Parish and review the state of the roads with him which he said he would.
- Again all residents are asked to report Pot holes that need to be repaired etc on the County Council's computerised road maintenance system – ideally with a photograph – if safe to do
[so.https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/web/reportfault/#divSelectionHeader](https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/web/reportfault/#divSelectionHeader)
- If the pothole is on a motorway or an A road Contact Highways England. On info@highwaysengland.co.uk or 0300 123 5000

3212 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning Application considered by Parish Council since the meeting held on 22nd January 2024

Application No: 24/00056/FUL

Proposal: Conversion and extension of existing agricultural building into domestic residence

Location: Brineton Court Brineton Shifnal TF11 8NQ

You can now view these documents online at PublicAccess Please respond with your observations by 8 March 2024 in writing, via ConsulteeAccess or email to planning@sstaffs.gov.uk,

Application No: 24/00172/FULHH

Proposal: Single storey oak framed porch extension to rear of property

Location: Yew Tree Cottage Blymhill Road Blymhill SHIFNAL TF11 8LS

You can now view these documents online at PublicAccess Please respond with your observations by 22 March 2024 in writing, via ConsulteeAccess or email to planning@sstaffs.gov.uk,

Application No: 24/00191/FULHH

Proposal: Creation of a new window to the rear of the property

Location: Ox Hay Barn Brockton Grange Great Chatwell NEWPORT TF11 8NN

You can now view these documents online at PublicAccess Please respond with your observations by 31 March 2024 in writing, via ConsulteeAccess or email to planning@sstaffs.gov.uk,

Planning Applications to be Considered by the Parish Council

Nil

Planning Applications approved or refused by South Staffordshire District Council since the meeting held on 22nd January 2024

Nil

SSDC Planning Approvals, Validation and Enforcement Emails sent to all Parish Councillors when received.

3213 FINANCIAL MATTERS

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Balance as at 22 nd January 2024	£6,789.84
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Payments since meeting held on 22nd January 2024 to be confirmed

Payment Made as Approved since 22nd January 2024

Payment to be Approved

South Staffordshire District Council Grounds Maintenance 2 nd and 3 rd Quarter 2023/24	£360.68
Bradford Estates Playing Fields Rent 25.03.24 to 28.09.2024	£15.00

Subtotal	£375.68
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Income received since Meeting held on 22nd January 2024

Nil

Subtotal	£0.00
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Balance as at 25 th March 2024	£6,414.16
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Blymhill and Weston Under Lizard Parish Council Accounts
1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT AS AT 31 March 2023

Funds at 1st April 2023	£5,322.76
Income since 1 April 2023	
Parish Precept – 6 months	£6,500.00
Transfer from closure of Parish Councils Community Shop Account	£753.00
Subtotal	£7,253.00
TOTAL	£12,575.76
Expenditure since 1st April 2023	
Zurich Municipal Parish Council Insurances	£353.70
Parish Clerk's Fee Quarters 1, 2, 3 and 4	£2,00.00
SSDC Grounds Maintenance Q4 2022/2023 & Q1, Q2 and Q3 2024	£623.55
SSDC interest free loan repayment 2023	£450.00
Town and Parish Council Websites – Parish Council Website, annual web hosting fee	£302.00
St Andrews Parish (Graveyard fund)	£800.00
Brewood and District Voluntary Car Scheme	£200.00
St Marys Parish Churchyard fund	£350.00
Blymhill and Weston Parish Magazine	£250.00
Weston Club – Institute rooms	£150.00
Bradford Estates Play area rent March 2023 to September 2024	£45.00
South Staffordshire District Council Election Charges	£140.00
Staffordshire County Council Community Speed Watch Equipment	£497.53
Subtotal	£6,161.60
Funds for 31st March 2024	£6,414.16

3214 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Cllr V Cook reported that the Community Speed Watch Team had done a number of events on the A5 with the Bradford Estates assisting with the storage of the equipment. She also reported that as part of the process after approximately 6 months, Fixed permanent signs would then need to be purchased and put up. The Parish Clerk reported that the Bradford Estates had been in touch with section dealing with the Community Speed Watch and have told them that they will assist in that purchase as the signs from their Charitable trust.
- More volunteers for the Community Speed Watch group would be greatly welcomed and that anyone who wanted more information on this and the training involved should contact the Parish Clerk on phil.delaloye@googlemail.com
- Community Shop – Cllr N Parton reported it was still doing okay.
- Following Cllr D Smith being unable to continue as a Parish Councillor the Parish Clerk was asked to advertise to Coopt another Parish Councillor.

3215 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Parish Council be held on Wednesday 22nd May 2024 at as would the Annual Parish Assembly at 7.30 pm at the Blymhill and Weston under Lizard Village Hall.

Signed 
(Chairman)
Date: 22nd May 2024.....