

BLYMHILL AND WESTON-UNDER-LIZARD
ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MINUTES AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 14 MAY 2018.

THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY OF BLYMHILL AND WESTON-UNDER-LIZARD TOOK PLACE IN THE BLYMHILL AND WESTON-UNDER-LIZARD VILLAGE HALL.

1 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING –

Were read and approved at the 11th September 2017 Parish Council meeting.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES –

None other than Highways that would be covered in the Vistors

2 REPORT ON THE BUSINESS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING – the report for the year was read out by the Parish Clerk of the Parish Council – attached to this document.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORT

None

3 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PARISH PRESENT AT THE MEETING –

None

4 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Mark Sutton had nothing to report as not in attendance, but had sent apologies

5 REPORT FROM SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR:

Cllr R Wright Reported:

- SSDC was in the National finals for the most imaginative Recycling Award for Councils
- The 4 Ashes Freight Terminal proposal has still not had any decisions made.
- Regarding the Site Allocation Consultation for the Birmingham Overspill there would be nothing within this Parishes Boundary's.

6 REPORTS OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE LOCAL CHARITIES

None in attendance

7 VISITORS

The Parish Clerk reported that he had invited the local Police Inspector but had been told they would not attend a Parish Council Meeting. Cllr R Wright suggested trying again as there was a new_inspector starting in May and they may be more open to attending a meeting.

Cllr D Maddocks asked the members of the Public if they had anything they wanted to say.

Both members of the public had also been in attendance last year when the Community Liaison Officer from Staffordshire County Council Highways Department dealing with Potholes, Lighting, Parking and Surface had been in attendance, who reflected what had previously been said last year with little being done especially with the terrible weather that had been endured over the last 6 months that had worsened the situation. They said that they had been in touch with AMEY, the councils contractor, and even 3 months nothing had been done. This as the County Council had abdicated the control of the whole

process and left Amey to self- police themselves. That the County Council had no quality control process to check up on what had been done and to what level of quality. They appreciated that the Parish Council had tried to get things done and were frustrated by the inability of the Contractor and the County Council to change their way of working.

Cllr R Wright said the County Council were aware of the situation of the condition of the roads and the government has given extra money as the County Council has a 1,000 miles of roads. He said that the District Council has complained to the County Council many times about Amey but nothing is done.

Amongst some of the questions asked:

- Why the present contractor for the Council does not have its work inspected by the County Council
- Why some Pot holes are repaired and not others a few yards up the same road
- Why poor temporary fixings used that come out with the first drop of rain
- Why marked and not dealt with for long periods of time so that they had to be marked out again.

It was decided that the Chairman and the Parish Clerk would write to the Leader of the County Council on the matter.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
None

The Assembly finished at 20.15 and the Chairman, Councillor David Maddocks thanked Cllr Mark Sutton, the Staffordshire County Councillor and then the District Councillors, Cllr Brian Cox and Cllr Roy Wright, for all their support during the past year. He also thanked the members of the public for the input and views which have mirrored the views and thoughts of the Parish Council and its work trying to get better quality of work and processes used in dealing with Potholes.

BLYMHILL AND WESTON-UNDER-LIZARD
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017-2018

V FESTIVAL - 2017

The following matters were raised

- Noise levels seemed to be acceptable for the main part but some objections were raised regarding the Bass levels.
- Traffic Management still an issue for the Friday and Monday but improving.

Overall most agreed that it gets better organized year on year.

Only £7,000 was given as a V Festival donation by Roseclaim due to the lack of numbers attending the Festival. They also announced that there would not be a Festival in 2018

BLYMHILL VILLAGE HALL

The Parish Council wishes the Village Hall Committee well and for it to have continued success with it being financially sound and with the completed extension.

FOOTPATHS AND HIGHWAYS

Council Members expressed their continued concern regarding the worsening situation relating to pot holes in a number of roads around the Parish especially with the winter conditions this year. County Councillor Mark Sutton is also being pro-active in looking at the issues and although there has been

considerable work done there are still areas that need work and some areas that Cllr Mark Sutton is taking Highways officers back to after work has been completed.

The Clerk reminded members that residents could help the situation by recording details of potholes; flooding etc on the County Council's computerised road maintenance system –

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/transport/staffshighways/roadworks/schemeinfo/Potholes.aspx> .

If the pothole is on a motorway or an A road Contact Highways England.

On info@highwaysengland.co.uk or 0300 123 5000

The Parish Council have received a grant from Cllr M Sutton's funding to part pay for a new Solar Powered SAM Speed Warning Sign for the A5 at the entrance to Weston under Lizard to help address road safety issue following difficulty with suppliers and County Council process a supplier has been appointed and the sign should be installed by the end of June 2018

PLANNING

The Parish Council has been involved in consultation relating to 14 planning applications during the past twelve months, included extensions, changes of use and 2 Garages. A large majority of all these applications, to which no objections were raised except for the 1, have been approved by the District Council.

There has been some discussion about the Proposed Rail Interchange in 4 Ashes off the A449 and A5. These do not go directly to the District or County Council but to the Secretary of States Department and its Inspectorate.

FINANCE

The Parish Council has continued to monitor carefully expenditure of the precept, and has kept the precept at £4,960.

In addition the Council has continued to undertake the distribution of the donation from the V-Festival organisers for local organisations including the Village Hall. A further £2,232 had been donated to a variety of good causes in the current year, that included Children's events - both in the summer and at Christmas, St Andrews Church, St Marys Church, and Christmas lunch for the Blymhill and Weston Old Friends Club.

The Parish Councils Accounts for 2016 to 2017 have been audited by the Grant Thornton Accountants for the Audit Commission.

PLAY AREAS

The Blymhill Play area has been inspected by ROSPA, as has the Weston under Lizard Play area.

THANK YOU'S

Thank you to all the members of the Parish Council for their support and commitment during the year. Thanks also go for the regular reports and support received from our District Councillors, Brian Cox and Roy Wright and our County Councillor Mark Sutton. Also thanks were given to Tony Townsend who acted as Internal Auditor for the Parish Council Accounts.