

**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 20 NOVEMBER 2024**

PRESENT: Cllr Doug McCowan (Chairman)  
Cllr V Cook  
Cllr A Hough  
Cllr A Lowe  
Cllr R Newton  
Cllr N Parton (Vice Chairman)  
Cllr P Maddocks

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P Delaloye – Parish Clerk  
Cllr M Sutton – Staffordshire County Council

APOLOGIES : Cllr L Cross  
Cllr D Holmes – South Staffordshire District Council  
Cllr S Szalapski – South Staffordshire District Council  
Cllr W Sutton – South Staffordshire District Council

3244 **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None

3245 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 25.09.2024 be approved as a correct Record and governance of the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr R Newton and seconded by Cllr A Lowe

3246 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Nil

3247 **Coopted Parish Councillor**

Cllr Alec Hough was introduced to the Parish Council having been elected from the nominations received for the position.

3248 **VISITORS**

Mr and Mrs Highman and Steve Farrow from Bradford Estates

Mr and Mrs Highman who said that they had again come to the meeting to ask the District Councillors why the Objections to the Application Number: 24/00345/VAR Proposed: Variation of condition 3 to planning reference 24/00020/COU. To increase the maximum number of dogs from 30 to 60 at the day care at any one time, were not seemingly taken into account by the SSDC Planning Committee or called in. They had contacted the District Council but not received any real answer. They were still very concerned about the Road Safety aspects with the increased traffic as concerned the Risk assessment for it was poor. Also that there were no passing places although the Highways document states there are, so that there is still a Health and Safety issue. One option the Highman's suggested was a Mirror system at the junction to counter the blind spot. They also pointed out that Brockhurst Road was not on the Gritting list.

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Steve Farrow asked if he could have the Higman's contact details to discuss the issues, for which had not come to light to the Bradford Estates, to see if there were any options they could come up with to try and resolve some of the issues as they were involved with the premises and then report back to the Parish Council. The Highman's then left the meeting.

Steve Farrow then reported that the Bradford Estates were going to be planting around 330 acres of new Woodland with 15 to 17 kilometers of signed Public Paths which should be completed by May 2025 north of Tong Mere for which it was hoped that the Public would take advantage of.

Cllr P Maddocks said that people would think that this was a way of gaining public support for the Estates plan to build many thousands of houses the other side of the A41. Steve Farrow, responded by saying that the J3 development was still on the Estates agenda but whether it came to fruition or not the Woodland planting is happening anyway and has no ties to it. Cllr R Newton asked who was to be responsible for the maintenance of the footpaths. Steve Farrow said that they had their own maintenance team for that task.

3249 **REPORT OF The COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr M Sutton Reported:

- A Community Grant of £850 had been approved for Community work in the Blymhill area organised by Cllr L Cross
- Blymhill Village to the A5 is part of the Gritting routes
- Staffordshire County Council is putting a lot of investment into a number of areas such as the Visitor Centre at Cannock Chase, Chasewater and new signs for the Staffordshire Way
- The Staffordshire History Centre opened on the 6<sup>th</sup> November to the public in Stafford.
- More families can take advantage of the offer in the coming months after the eligibility for a funded place expanded in September, to include working parents of babies from nine months old.
- After a trial more Recycling centres are taking donations for charities. They also now are opened pots of paint to be reused. They also are able to receive old medical equipment – such as walking frames and walking sticks etc. and pieces of old Technology – Laptops etc.

3250 **REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

None as none of the 3 District Councillors were in attendance

3251 **PLAY AREAS**

- Cllr N Parton reported that following the annual ROSPA inspection reports there were no areas for action, only to keep an eye on some of the wooden equipment that is showing some signs of decay.
- Cllr V Cook said that she had been asked if the combined climbing frame and slide that had had to be removed from the Weston under Lizard play area would be replaced. The Parish Clerk responded by saying that some years ago Bradford Estates, whose land it is, wanted to take back that area and gave more land by the field, which is why the tunnels and other equipment are where they now are. Steve Farrow said he would look into seeing if there were now any plans and agreed to meet with Cllr N Parton to review the site.
- This then brought on the subject of the Permissive path that went from Rectory Drive to the Old School and had almost disappeared. The Parish Clerk said that this had issue had previously been raised Bradford Estates. Steve Farrow said he would look into this as well

3252 **FOOTPATHS AND HIGHWAYS**

Footpaths

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- Cllr R Newton reported he would resend 3 sites to Cllr D Holmes for the Street Scene team as discussed for action by the SSDC team. Cllr V Cook was asked to see if the Justice People would also be able to assist with this.

Highways

- The potential to get a new Speed Indicator Device (SID) was discussed. The Parish Clerk said that he had spoken to Andrew Aston of Street Scene, and that if there was a post in situ the Parish Council could match fund SSDC (Circa £1,300), but that would be for a Battery operated SID. If the Parish Council wanted it to be Solar powered that would be an extra £600 which the SSDC would not be involved with. Following short discussion Cllr A Lowe proposed and Cllr P Maddocks seconded that the Parish Council move forward with the SID in solar powered format so that it was self sufficient. This was then approved by the rest of the Parish Council
- The Parish Clerk recommended that issues with drains as well as pot holes be reported on the Staffordshire County Council Website.  
<https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/web/reportfault/#divSelectionHeader>

3253 **PLANNING MATTERS**

**Planning Application considered by Parish Council since the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

Application No: 24/00970/COM

Proposal: Installation of 3no. kiosks and a new access point

Location: Severn Trent Water Authority Sewage Treatment Works Brineton Shifnal TF11 8NH

You can now view these documents online at PublicAccess Please respond with your observations by 28 November 2024 in writing, via ConsulteeAccess or email to [planning@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:planning@sstaffs.gov.uk),

Application No: 24/00969/FUL

Proposal: The Installation of three biomass boilers and associated flues to provide heating to the buildings.

Location: Unit 5 Bradford Estate Office Weston Bank Watling Street Weston Under Lizard SHIFNAL TF11 8JU

You can now view these documents online at PublicAccess Please respond with your observations by 8 December 2024 in writing, via ConsulteeAccess or email to [planning@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto: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 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

Nil

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

3254 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

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Balance as at 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	£5,565.49
<b>Payments since meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to be confirmed</b>	
<b>Payment Made as Approved since 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b>	
Clerk's fees 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	£500.00
Bradford Estates Play area rent September 2024 to March 2025	£15.00
<b>Payment to be Approved</b>	
Nil	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>£515.00</b>
<b>Income received since Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>	
Precept	£3,250.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>£3,250.00</b>
Balance as at 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	£8,300.49

**Blymhill and Weston Under Lizard Parish Council Accounts**  
**1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31st March 2025**

<b>Funds at 1st April 2024</b>	<b>£6,328.22</b>
<b>Income since 1 April 2024</b>	
Parish Precept – 12 months	£6,500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>£6,500.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£12,828.22</b>
<b>Expenditure since 1st April 2023</b>	
Zurich Municipal Parish Council Insurances	£353.70
Parish Clerk's Fee Quarters 1, 2 & 3	£1,500.00
Staffordshire Parish Councils Association Annual Subscription	£242.00
SSDC Ground Maintenance 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter and 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	£350.03
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 March 2025	£30.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>£4527.73</b>
<b>Funds for 31st March 2025</b>	<b>£8,300.49</b>

**BUDGET 2025 TO 2026**  
**BLYMHILL AND WESTON- UNDER- LIZARD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE FROM 1 APRIL 2025 TO 31 MARCH 2026**

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	£
Insurance (awaiting new quote)	400.00
Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association	229.00
Donations	
- Churchyards	1150.00
- Parish Magazine	250.00
- Brewood and District Voluntary Car Scheme	200.00
- Weston Club / Weston Institute Rooms	150.00
Rent for Playing Field	30.00
Clerk's Fee	2,000.00
South Staffordshire District Council Loan	450.00
Grounds Maintenance	500.00
Stationary	100.00
Audit Fee	360.00
Parish Council Website hosting fees	310.00
<b>Lloyds Bank £4.25 per month a/c charge</b>	<b>51.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6,180.00</b>

## ESTIMATED INCOME FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015

Parish Precept	£6500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6500.00</b>

ESTIMATED EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	£320.00
ESTIMATED BALANCE AT BANK - 31 MARCH 2025	£7,500.00

**DO WE WANT TO INCREASE THE PRECEPT?**

Loans Outstanding: SSDC Village Hall (to 2025 £450 pa)      £450.00

Following discussion on the Budget it was proposed Cllr A Lowe an increase in the Precept of 5% to take the Precept to £6,825 for the year April 2025 to March 2026. This was seconded by Cllr A Hough and passed by the Parish Council.

**3243 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Cllr V Cook reported that the Community Speed Watch Team had done a number of events on the A5 with usually 8 caught in a half hour session with the Bradford Estates assisting with the storage of the equipment and had purchased the permanent community Speedwatch signs that would be installed in the village. But 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](mailto:phil.delaloye@googlemail.com)
- Community Shop – still doing okay.

**3243 CORRESPONDENCE**

A response to the Letter that was received from the Weston under Lizard and Neighbouring Villages Residents group was sent with thanks for the suggestion that the Parish Council invite a representative of the Bradford Estates to attend to keep up good 2 way communication. For which was actioned and Steve Farrow's attendance was the result.

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~~3249~~ DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**RESOLVED:** That the next meeting of the Parish Council be held on Monday 27th January 2025 at 7.30 pm at the Blymhill and Weston under Lizard Village Hall.

Dates of the other meetings for 2025 –  
Then the following dates but at 7:40

24.03.2025

19.05.2025

15.09.2025

10.11.2025

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Signed

  
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(Chairman)

Date:

..... 27th January 2025.....