

BREWOD AND COVEN PARISH COUNCIL
WITH BISHOP'S WOOD AND COVEN HEATH

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, STAFFORD STREET, BREWOOD
ON THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT:

M. Alden-Court, Mrs. J. Carr, Mr R. Dakin, Mr D. Evans, Mrs J. Jeffries, Cllr Mrs D.M. Holmes, Mr G.E. Martin, Mr. G. Sibley, Dr. R.C.H. Taylor, Mrs L. Tomkins, Mr M. Webb MBE.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr. B. Cox, Cllr M. Hampson, Cllr. M. Sutton.

APOLOGIES:

Mrs L. Holmes (personal), Mr J. Pegg (personal), Cllr. Mrs W. Sutton.

The Chair advised the Council that she would be recording the meeting on a trial basis.

DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PERCUNARY INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION:

There were no requests for dispensation as required under the Code of Conduct adopted in compliance with the Localism Act 2011.

Mr D. Evans declared a personal interest in planning application 14/00940/FUL.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held 13 November 2014 were approved as being an accurate record and duly signed, with the exception of item 153. 'Clerk to write to Canal and River Trust requesting that the brickwork be repainted' had been omitted.

CRIME AND DISORDER ACT:

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, 1998 places a duty on local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications when exercising its functions and to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area. Unless otherwise stated it was not considered that the resolutions moved herein would have any adverse impact for the purposes of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

215. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair moved that the meeting be adjourned for a period of no more than fifteen minutes to allow any electors of the parish or his/her representative to raise or question any issue appertaining to proper Parish Council business.

No one from the public was present at the meeting.

216. POLICE REPORT:

No Police Report was received.

MATTERS ARISING:

183. **2013 Amendment to the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order.** Letter received on behalf of Gavin Williamson MP advising that he had written to the relevant Minister at the Department for Communities and Local Government and would send a copy of the response once received.

Matter of report.

193. **M54 and M6 Link Roads Consultation.** Meeting had been arranged for 27 November at 7.00pm, this was cancelled by the Highways Agency. Ms Stack would like to attend the meeting to be held on 8th January 2015. Clerks Report referred. M. Alden-Court, Mr R. Dakin, Mr D. Evans, Mr. G. Sibley and Mrs L. Tomkins would attend an exhibition being held at Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre, Friday 5th December from 11.00am.

It was resolved that the Clerk would clarify the meeting time and date and advise interested Members accordingly.

198a. **Gypsy, Travellers and Travelling Show People Site Allocation Consultation.** Members met on 17 November to discuss the Parish Council's response. The completed consultation form was forwarded to South Staffordshire Council on 19 November. Copy available from the Clerk. Gavin Williamson MP had advised that he had started a petition opposing the concentration of pitches in Coven and had asked people to get in touch if they were willing to help deliver petitions in Coven on Saturday 22nd November.

Matter of report.

198b. **Visit to Veolia Site at Four Ashes.** Details of availability were awaited from Veolia.

Matter of report.

387** **Flooding, Ball Lane, Coven Heath.** A meeting had been arranged for 15 December 2014 at 2.00pm.

Matter of report.

269** **Superfast Broadband.** Mr G. Grundy had confirmed that he would be attending at 7.00pm on 11 December.

Matter of report.

MATTERS ONGOING:

347**. **Wall – Rear of Amenity Area, Sandy Lane.** Email sent to Mr Twigger reminding him that work on the wall had still not been completed. He had stated that the new wall was higher than the previous one that was demolished. However, he had asked if any Members were aware of a source of stone that could be used to increase the height. The sandstone blocks in storage at the Gailey depot were unsuitable.

It was resolved that Dr. R. Taylor contact the Canal and River Trust to obtain permission to use 3 blocks of coping stone that were on the canal towpath. Cllr M. Hampson investigate if planning permission was required as the wall was replacing a previously existing one.

194. **Affordable Housing.** Email from Charlie Riley of South Staffordshire Housing Association regarding the Parish Council's response to the presentation on the proposed Rural Exception Site given on 25 September. The Housing Association had offered to carry out a further survey at no cost to the Parish

Council and explained that the allocation under SAD would not guarantee that local people would be given priority. Clerks Report referred.

It was resolved that the Clerk request additional information and report back to full Council and the matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Dr R. Taylor and Mr M. Webb MBE voted against the proposal.

25. **Dog Fouling Signs.** The two signs had been delivered. Members were requested to advise where these should be placed in the first instance. Clerks Report referred. As the signs could only be fitted to metal lampposts, Mrs L. Tomkins to advise the Clerk of a suitable metal post in Coven Heath.

It was resolved to place both signs in one village at the same time, starting with Bishop's Wood, then Brewood, Coven and Coven Heath.

105. **Wall Rear of Sandy Lane WC.** A letter was delivered by hand on 24 September but no response had been received.

It was resolved to re-send the letter by Recorded Delivery.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

217. Letter and maps received from the Highways Agency giving details of the four new link roads and three roundabouts constructed at i54. Details would be published in the London Gazette and Wolverhampton Chronical on 20 November 2014.

Matter of report.

218. Email received from Cllr Mrs S. Oatley advertising this year's Christmas lunch which would take place on Tues 23 December at 12noon at South Staffordshire Council offices. Posters had been circulated to Parish Council notice boards. It was noted that this was free of charge and transport would be available if required.

Matter of report.

219. **CORRESPONDENCE CIRCULATED:**

Staffordshire County Council Superfast Broadband Newsletter.
Gavin Williamson Newsletter.

220. **DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCIL'S REPORT:**

Cllr Mr M. Sutton reported that Cabinet had approved the Stafford Western Access route connecting the A518 Newport Road with the A34.

There would be a review of the respite provision at Great Wyrley Community Support Unit. Consultation would begin shortly and would be available online.

221. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

The Chair, M. Alden-Court, reported that she had attended the Annual Winter Parish Summit on 21 November, details had been given to the Clerk. She had also attended the Annual General Meeting of SSCVA. The Chair requested that Members attending the Christmas Party bring a bottle.

222. FINANCE REPORT:

The Council received the Finance Report from the Head of Finance, Mrs J. Carr and resolved the following matters:

- The accounts payable as at 27 November 2014 including salary payments plus additional hours Clerk 15.25 hours Car Scheme Co-ordinator 37.25 hours, **be approved.**
- The Cashbook Reconciliation for October (copy circulated prior to the meeting), **be approved.**
- Members considered setting a date for the 2015/2016 Budget and Precept meeting in December. **It was resolved the Precept meeting would be held in January 2015. Members to set a date at the next meeting of the Council.**
- Payment of half year Essential User Car Allowance to Mr M. Smith, **be approved.**
- Members considered replacing the Car Scheme Co-ordinator's PC up to a maximum of £800. Mr C. Carter, ICT Services at South Staffordshire Council, had recommended that it be replaced. **It was resolved that the Clerk seek advice from South Staffordshire Council with regard to the most appropriate machine.**

397* **Fingerpost, Coven.** Second quote received £1,125 plus materials (a copy was circulated prior to the meeting). The other two contractors approached were unable to install the fingers and/or paint the post. Additional lettering giving directions to local amenities was discussed. The Clerk to enquire whether this would increase the cost of the refurbishment.

It was resolved that the quote from Mr Cox of £500 be accepted, subject to the above.

Letter received from SSCVA thanking the Council for its donation of £350.

223. PLANNING REPORT

The Council received the Planning Report from the Head of Planning Mrs J. Jeffries and considered the planning applications received.

Building of the new Doctor's surgery would commence 1st December. Clerk to contact the contractors to request any updates were sent to the Parish Council Office's for distribution to notice boards.

224. PLAYING FIELDS REPORT

Reports received for:

- Bishops Wood playing field and skateboard park, Mrs S. Hughes had submitted a written report.
- Brewood playing field and skateboard park, Mr D. Evans would submit a written report at a later date but noted the playing fields were looking good.
- Coven playing field and skateboard park, Mr R. Dakin reported there was a lot of litter collected from the field. Aerial runway seat was not connected and there were four holes in the wire fencing around the tennis court that needed repair. The football pitch was in excellent condition.
- The Bront, Mr R. Dakin reported everything was in order.

225. **CLERK'S REPORT:**

The Council received the written report of the Clerk and noted the following:

- Dates of next year's meetings were circulated prior to the meeting. Amendments to be made and final dates to be circulated to Members.
- **Traffic Management Meeting.** Dr R. Taylor was not in agreement with some aspects of the minutes. It was agreed that the Chair of the working party liaise with the Clerk. Final minutes to be circulated with the agenda for the next meeting, subject to availability.

ANY OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT:

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm

..... Chair

**REPORT OF THE CLERK FOR THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD 27 NOVEMBER 2014**

MATTERS ARISING

193. **M54 and M6 Link Roads Consultation.** Invitation received from the Highways Agency to the public consultation on route options for M54 M6 and M6 toll, to be held on 5th December starting at 11.00am at Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre, Baneberry Drive, Featherstone.

Interested Members to advise the Clerk.

MATTERS ONGOING

194. Email from Charlie Riley of South Staffordshire Housing Association regarding the Parish Council's response to the presentation on the proposed Rural Exception Site given on 25 September. The Housing Association has offered to carry out a further survey at no cost to the Council and explained that the allocation under SAD would not guarantee that local people would be given priority.

Recommended action: the matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council in order to consider the additional information.

209** **Vice Chairman's Badge of Office.** The Vice Chair's badge of office has been returned repaired which was done free of charge.

Matter of report.

370* **Grit Box, Bishops Wood.** Simon Griffiths of Staffordshire County Council has confirmed that the Ice Busters' grit boxes are not available but has supplied a yellow box for the volunteers to use this year.

Matter of report.

391*. **School Lane Playing Field.** Details of the proposal from Mr Maddox together with a copy of the covenant have been forwarded to South Staffordshire Council's legal team for advice. Mr Bywater and Mr Maddox have been made aware.

Matter of report.

25. **Dog Fouling Signs.** The two signs have been delivered. Members are requested to advise where these should be placed in the first instance.

FINANCE

222. **Precept.** We have been advised that South Staffordshire Council will not be passing on the Council Tax Support grant next year (2015/16). This year it amounted to £13,522.

OTHER MATTERS FOR THE CLERK'S REPORT

Dates of Next Year's Meetings. Copy circulated prior to the meeting. Members are requested to approve the dates for 2015.

Traffic Management Meeting. A meeting of the Traffic Management Working Party was held on 24 November. Minutes tabled. Members are asked to ratify the recommendations as minuted.