

FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2010 AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. G. Burton (Chairman),
Councillor J. W. Burgess,
Councillor Miss S. Farr,
Councillor S. P. Fox,
Councillor A. J. Mould,
Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham,
Councillor Mrs. N. A. Stanier,
Councillor Rev. B. L. Whittaker,
Councillor A. E. Wilson.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor W. Day,
Mrs. C. J. Snape (Clerk),
Members of the public (1).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs. S. M. Edwards, Councillor Mrs. S. A. Harrison, Councillor P. Jones and Councillor B. Yates.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

| Item | Member declaring interest | Nature of interest |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Planning Application 00907/FUL | Councillor Mrs. N. A. Stanier | Personal – resident adjacent to area where communal parking is proposed. |
| SCC Rights of Way Issues | Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham | Personal – Daughter employed by SCC in the Rights of Way Department. |

Standing Orders were suspended.

3. OPEN SESSION.

3.1 Guest Speaker – Margy Woodhead (DCYPF), Staffordshire County Council.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton welcomed Margy Woodhead, CLP Co-ordinator for Staffordshire County Council.

Margy said she welcomed the opportunity to attend the meeting to give members an update on what the Community Learning Partnership were achieving in the area. She said that she has now been in post for two years and a lot has changed in the area in this time. One of the most important is cohesion – there are many groups now working together. In the summer school holidays there were joint activities similar to the previous police scheme, offering wide choices for children and families such as football sessions, multi sports activities (as arranged by Blythe Bridge Youth Support Group every Friday evening), cooking, jewellery making, animation etc. United Churches are also actively involved, with the support of a Café, as part of the Saturday Hub Club, which takes place between 9.00am-1.00pm and offers facilities such as arts and crafts, music and drama, and from 6th November will include soccer tots sessions. Attendance is around 60/70. These all compliment the marshall arts and karate classes held at the Village Hall on Saturdays. Attendees are regularly consulted as regards what additional activities they would like to see. On Saturday 23rd October there will be a security awareness session at Blythe Bridge Library/Egerton Centre between 10.00-12.00 where residents can have their valuable articles identified with UV marking pens. Blythe Bridge Library is designated as the information centre because it is open 48 weeks of the year and the point where details of children's services are available. A new plasma screen is being installed at the Library with all relevant information displayed and the Parish Council will be invited to the launch. There will also be a dial up system available. All schools in the cluster area will also have plasma screens so that schools and CLP information can be shared. Forsbrook Primary School has also converted two classrooms to form part of the children's centre. It is important for parents to have clear and easy access to this site and the support of Forsbrook Parish Council in requesting the County Council to erect a directional sign would be appreciated. (County Councillor W. Day agreed to look into this).

Blythe Bridge in partnership with Forsbrook Primary School is classed as only a 50% provider unlike fully functioning centres like Meir and Cheadle. Facilities offered are Jo Jingles, baby weighing, anti natal sessions etc. Information packs are being compiled giving details of all the available facilities. A copy of the October half term activity booklet was distributed to members.

Margy formally thanked members of the Parish Council and Blythe Bridge Village Hall Committee for their support for the Play Day held on Blythe Bridge Recreation ground in August 2010. There were approximately 700 attendees and the day was extremely successful with a variety of activities – Punch and Judy, bungee jumping, gladiator boxing, soccer tots etc. The feedback is that a Carnival type day would be welcome.

Margy said that it would be a travesty if government cuts affected all the efforts, which have been made over the last few years.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton thanked Margy on behalf of the Council for the huge difference she has made since being in post and for introducing community activities at the Egerton Centre.

Councillor Rev. B. L. Whittaker asked Margy what percentage of the 50% is being used.

Margy said she felt that usage was not far off 50%. Some of the commissioned services are term time only but CLP are looking at commissioning baby yoga, which will compliment the new toy library. There is also a child care consortium, which is for people who provide children centre services. When these activities are in place the 50% target will be met.

Margy responded to a question raised by County Councillor W. Day with regard to fees charged for various sessions by advising that the CLP were looking at uniforming all charges.

3.2 County Council Report.

County Councillor W. Day gave the following report.

Electoral Review – he suggested that it would be helpful for the Parish Council to send in their comments.

Safer Routes to School Scheme – this scheme will continue for Blythe Bridge.

Replacement Fencing in Lavender Avenue – there are still outstanding issues to resolve to ensure any work does not set a precedence.

Neighbourhood Highway Team Remit – copy of notes detailing the type of work undertaken was distributed to members and these notes are appended below:

“Notes to address concerns of Forsbrook Parish Council – October 2010.

In general the County Council will deal with, local highway issues, in the following way:

- ***Safety Defects** such as potholes, standing water and broken street lights should be reported to the Highways Hotline via the County Council new contact number on 0300 111 8000 or via the email highways@staffordshire.gov.uk*
- ***Other highway defects** such as overgrown footways, weeds, dirty but serviceable road signs, should be prioritised by the respective Parish or Town via the County Councillor for repair by the periodic visits of the Neighbourhood Highway Teams.*
- ***Local Highway and Transport issues** will be reviewed every six months by Highway Managers and the respective Council Councillor and a prioritised work programme established.*

The “Community Team” initially piloted in Forsbrook, a number of years ago, has gone through several stages of development and change which has culminated in the current Neighbourhood Highway Team (NHT). This team consists of a 2-man crew and is now managed by officers from the Community Highway Liaison Team. The crew operate from a single pick-up truck and only have access to small hand tools. Their remit is to carry out locally identified environmental works which would otherwise not be carried out when prioritized against highway safety defects.

Information about the NHT can be found on the Staffordshire County Council website via the link below:

<http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/transport/staffshighways/communityengagement/>

Each Staffordshire Parish has been allocated three visits from their Neighbourhood Highway Team (although the winter visit may be disrupted during adverse weather conditions). The Team will deliver a service that has been designed in advance through local discussions headed up in Forsbrook by County Councillor Bill Day.

In advance of the NHT visit, the Community Highway Liaison Officer, Rob Steele, will circulate a list of works that we, as a highway service, are currently aware of.

However, local representatives can add environmental issues to this list and the County Councillor will be asked to put the list in priority order; as it is unlikely (depending upon the length of the list) that all works will be achieved during the next NHT visit.

The remit of the NHT is constantly being reviewed in light of county-wide local demands and budgetary pressures. However, the current list of activities that can be undertaken by the NHT is listed below.

| Activity Type | Description |
|---|---|
| <i>Drainage/Ditching</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dig out gullies in verges that have become buried due to overriding of verges. • Replace non-utility ironwork (gullies/manhole covers on highway drainage) that are rattling or seized. • Dig out localised sections of ditches to improve flow. |
| <i>Cleaning/Painting</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash/Repaint street furniture |
| <i>Street Furniture</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair or replace localised items of street furniture such as bollards or pedestrian guard rails. |
| <i>Traffic Signs (work sometimes carried out by the Signing Crew)</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace faded or damaged highway signs. • Replace faded or damage verge marker posts. • Remove highway signs and posts no longer required in order to reduce 'street clutter'. |
| <i>Weeding</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pull out localised occurrences of noxious weeds. |
| <i>Verges and fencing</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut back localised hedge and tree growth that is obscuring signs and obstructing safe passage along the highway. • Side-off verge overgrowth on footways. • Localised repair of highway fencing. • Repair localised areas of verge damage using recycled material/topsoil and re-seed. |
| <i>Footway – structure</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take up and relay/replace localised areas of footway paving slabs where damaged. • Take up and relay short localised lengths of drainage systems (eg ACO drains) where damaged. • Take up and relay short localised lengths of damaged kerb. |
| <i>Carriageway</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace non-utility ironwork (gullies/manhole covers on highway drainage) that are rattling or seized (in areas that require minimal traffic management). |

Generally, all work must be within the constraints of the publicly maintainable highway.

At this time, the County Council does not have the resource to routinely inform the numerous Parishes and Community Groups of work that the Neighbourhood Highway Team achieved during their last visit. This is an element of work that we are currently developing to enable this information to be collated automatically with a view to publishing it on the County Council's website."

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton suggested all members study the notes carefully because of the disparity in work identified by the Parish Council and that carried out by the team, which seemed to be mainly 'clarence' issues such as weeds in gutters with no urgency given to blocked drains, which have been reported many times.

Councillor Rev. B. L. Whittaker asked for clarification with regard to cleaning/unblocking of drains and whether or not the machine was sent out at regular intervals.

County Councillor Day suggested writing to Staffordshire County Council asking why their new policy regarding drains was not being implemented.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton asked if there was any point in writing to the head of Staffordshire County Council.

County Councillor W. Day said that Councillor Mike Maryon was the person responsible for highways. He added that with the cutbacks, services will suffer and Staffordshire County Council are struggling in fulfilling their obligations.

Members raised several outstanding issues and Councillor Rev. B. L. Whittaker asked County Councillor W. Day for advice on the best way forward.

County Councillor Day suggested writing to SCC Officer David Greatbatch listing all outstanding issues on which Council would like a response.

For record purposes a copy of the letter written to David Greatbatch is appended below:

"At our Council meeting on Monday 18th October 2010, members of the public and Councillors raised several outstanding highway issues with County Councillor Bill Day.

Councillor Day suggested writing to you officially with regard to these issues/concerns requesting an update.

On 28th June 2010 we requested through County Councillor Day that the following be included in his Divisional Plan and they are listed below in order of priority:

- 1. Improvements to the Uttoxeter Road/Cheadle Road/Stallington Road junction, including reducing the width of the footway adjacent to The Duke of Wellington to allow two-way traffic to exit Cheadle Road.*
- 2. Pedestrian facilities for Cheadle Road, Forsbrook.*
- 3. Permanent SiD's for Cheadle Road, Forsbrook.*
- 4. Reducing speed to 20mph around schools.*

Could you confirm that these are in the Divisional Plan or indeed any other Local Transport Plan and give some indication of timescale? We do know that there is a Speed Limit Review taking place, which could well recommend reducing the speed on the A521 Cheadle Road, and that all schools in Staffordshire are being assessed for a speed limit of 20mph. We are also aware that Staffordshire County Council are considering signage for Forsbrook Cemetery and we would like to know when this will be implemented.

Several other issues have been raised with County Councillor Day as well as through the Highway Defects centre, in correspondence/emails and at meetings. These are listed below and again we would be obliged if you could give Council an update:

1. Road/Pavement Surfaces.

Cheadle Road – *this road is in a very poor condition. Some work with regard to filling potholes has been carried out but more work is desperately required. In fact, Councillors' opinion is that it should be completely resurfaced.*

Cheadle Road – *the footway surface from Portland Drive up to Forsbrook Cemetery is dangerous. The poor workmanship was reported immediately after resurfacing work took place. If the contractors were paid this was a mistake and resident's Council tax money should be spent more wisely.*

Elmwood Drive – *work has recently taken place on the resurfacing of Elmwood Drive. Again the workmanship leaves a lot to be desired and the contractors seem to have left site with the job half done.*

Drains.

Caverswall Old Road – *the drains have been blocked for decades. In heavy rain the road floods and sometimes traffic needs to be diverted. Staffordshire County Council did indicate a few years ago that work would be undertaken to improve the situation.*

Uttoxeter Road (entrance to Blythe Bridge Library/Police Station) – *as above these drains have been blocked for decades. Copy emails from Ian Turner have been provided suggesting that the Neighbourhood Highway Team dig the drains out. However, there seems to be some doubt as to whose responsibility these drains come under. Perhaps you could clarify this?*

Fencing.

Lavender Avenue – *we were led to believe from County Councillor Bill Day that he has given instructions for this work to be carried out under work prioritised in his Divisional Plan. Is there any update?*

Grit Bin.

Stratford Close - *the grit bin promised several years ago has still not been sited. Is this still in the work's schedule?*

Safety Bollards.

Forsbrook Square - *at a recent meeting County Councillor Bill Day agreed with Mary Anne Raftery to install safety bollards on the pavement adjacent to The Spar in Forsbrook. Motorists are driving and parking on the pavement posing a dangerous threat to pedestrians.*

Safer Routes to School Scheme - *we understand that this is still ongoing for the Blythe Bridge area, despite the government cut backs. The only scheme completed in our Parish so far is the traffic regulation order for Stallington Road. County Councillor Day is meeting with Colin Nash to ascertain what further work is intended and when this will be carried out.*

However, we do not believe that any of the issues raised above will form part of this scheme.

Traffic Regulation Orders - we understand from you that traffic regulation orders for Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge are in the programme for consideration. We trust you will keep us updated on this.

If you could report back on the above issues/concerns it would be very much appreciated.”

3.3 Residents Issues.

Mr. Michael Shufflebotham, Penk Road, Forsbrook raised three issues.

- 1) The condition of Cheadle Road, which he said was the worst road in the County and asked why other areas were having their roads resurfaced.
County Councillor Day said he could not answer this.
- 2) When are 20mph zones being introduced around schools in Blythe Bridge?
County Councillor Day said that this was not a priority as the speed of vehicles in Blythe Bridge around the schools was already travelling at a slow speed.
The letter being sent to Mr. David Greatbatch of Staffordshire County Council as agreed under agenda item 3.2 covers the above two issues.
- 3) Are the police going to address the issue of vehicles parking on pavements.

RESOLVED:

- **To write to Chief Constable Mike Cunningham as follows:**
“Members of Forsbrook Parish Council would like clarification on a question, which is continually being asked by residents. Is it illegal for motorists to park vehicles partly or wholly on the pavement and what is the remit local police officers are given with regard to dealing with this problem? We know that officers in our area proactively deal with owners of vehicles that are causing an obstruction, but many pavements in our Parish are being resurfaced at a considerable cost to the taxpayer and as you will appreciate can be damaged so easily by inconsiderate parking. Looking forward to hearing from you”.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

4. INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING 'OUTSIDE' MEETINGS'.

There were no reports from outside meetings.

5. TO APPROVE DRAFT MINUTES OF: Council Meeting of 20th September 2010.

RESOLVED:

- **To approve and sign the minutes as a correct record.**

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.

- 6.1 Minutes dated 20th September 2010 – page 84 – agenda item 11.1 – subject: Egerton Centre.

To receive response from Staffordshire County Council and to note that the Egerton Centre is not one of the centres which gives the greatest concern and that Project Leader Andrew Nield will be making contact with Forsbrook Parish Council to explain the timetable for engagement, which will include Parish Councils. (Copy of letter distributed to all members).

- 6.2 Minutes dated 20th September 2010 – page 86 – agenda item 11.2 - subject: Halal Meat.

To receive response from Staffordshire County Council and to note that no meat products supplied to Staffordshire schools is Halal. However, there is the option of purchasing Halal products for children who require it for religious reasons. (Copy of letter distributed to all members).

- 6.3 Minutes dated 20th September 2010 – page 86 – agenda item 11.2 – subject: Parking Issues.

To note that the local police officers will monitor the parking concerns and will take positive action against any offenders.

- 6.4 Minutes dated 20th September 2010 – page 83 – agenda item 9.4.

Councillor Mrs. S. M. Edwards has checked with the Planning Department and the barn/stable construction on land adjacent to 427 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge does meet planning guidelines.

7. CLERK'S REPORT.

- 7.1 The clerk's report was received and noted.

- 7.2 Dates and venues of 'outside' meetings were noted as follows:

Lichfield District Council – Chasewater Green Park Projects – 21st October 10.30am-2.00pm – Chasewater Innovation Centre, Chaswater County Park, Pool Road, Brownhills.

- 7.1 The following circulation material was made available to members.

- NALC – Direct Information Service Issues No. 743 and 744.
- Staffordshire 3rd Section Network (S3SN) E. Bulletins.
- Rural Services Community Newsletters.
- Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Archive Service – Events Programme and Newsletter.
- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council –Autumn/Winter 2010-11 Walks and Events for a Healthy Lifestyle.
- Owl Messaging – Report which praises the Police Force's ASB strengths.

8. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 8.1 W. Cash MP – subject: Proposed extension to Changing Rooms.

The concerns raised by Mr. James Corden of Egerton Close, Blythe Bridge with regard to the intended expenditure for the above and the responses the clerk has sent to Mr. Cash MP were noted. Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton pointed out that the correspondence was available for members to view.

- 8.2 Stoke-on-Trent City Council – subject: Local Development Framework – City Centre and Etruria Road Corridor Area Action Plan – Pre Publication.

It was noted that the technical documents accompanying the above plan are available to view on the City Council's website at www.stoke.gov.uk/ldf and at the Council's main office during normal opening hours. Deadline for representations is 5.00pm on 22nd November 2010.

- 8.2 South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust – subject: A Public Consultation on A Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.

It was noted that the above documents are available to view on the PCT's website: www.southstaffordshire.nhs.uk by clicking Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Public Consultation. The consultation period is from 1st September to 13th November 2010.

- 8.3 Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Village Hall Development Fund – subject: Balance sheet and Accounts for year ending 31st May 2010.

The above documents were received and noted.

- 8.4 Moorlands Watchdog – subject: Watchdog Alerts/Minutes of Meeting of 5th July 2010.

The above documents were received and noted.

- 8.5 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Customer Focus for Highways.

It was noted that Staffordshire County Council has signed up to a national highway survey to find out more about how they can improve the service they deliver to the people of Staffordshire. This is part of a national project involving 95 other authorities and involved households across Staffordshire chosen at random to receive a questionnaire. The public survey was carried out in June/July. In addition to seeking the views of local residents, the view of elected members is very important so this year the survey is being extended to include County Councillors and Town and Parish Councils. The link for the survey is:

<http://scorelink.econtrack.co.uk?cede0d644b904a72b474ece6203af96e>.

and the results of the survey will be lodged directly onto the database.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton asked members to feed back any specific comments to the clerk to enable the survey to be completed.

- 8.6 Owl Messaging – subject: Crime Incidents.

Details of the latest crime incidents were received and noted.

It was also noted that the Police Facebook Site is an unbridled success.

The Staffordshire Police website, and links to all Staffordshire networking sites, can be found at <http://www.staffordshire.police.uk/>

- 8.7 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Review of Polling Districts 2010.

To note that The William Amory Primary School will still be used as the Blythe Bridge Polling Station because they can provide adequate parking arrangements. (Copy of letter distributed to all members).

- 8.8 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Keep Britain Tidy ‘There’s no such thing as the dog poo fairy’ Campaign.

It was noted that the above campaign runs from 20th September until 15th October and that part of the campaign activities will see an increase in enforcement activity, with officers targeting known problem areas for dog fouling. It was also noted that the District Council is stepping up its activities to tackle fly-tipping.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said she would ask for an update on how our Parish had fared.

- 8.9 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Increase in the level of Small Business Rate Relief.

It was noted that the Parish account has been updated and awarded an additional small business rates relief for Forsbrook Parish Cemetery with effect from 1st October 2010 of £23.59.

- 8.10 Staffordshire Parish Council’s Association – subject: September 2010 Newsletter.

Members received a copy of the above Newsletter. No issues were raised.

- 8.11 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Local Development Framework – Supplementary Planning Documents.

It was noted that the District Council is committed in its revised Local Development Scheme (October 2008) to the preparation of a new Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on delivering housing which will be entitled ‘Housing Delivery SPD’. It was also noted that the District Council also intends to revise the existing Supplementary Planning Guidance on ‘Public Open Space’ with an SPD entitled ‘Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD’.

Comments on the Scoping Papers are required by 1st November 2010.

- 8.12 Moorlands Housing – subject: Communal Car-Parking for Brook Close, Forsbrook.

It was noted that work to provide communal car-parking, with some additional individual driveways will commence week commencing 11th October 2010 and should be completed by the contractors Broad Oak Properties by mid December.

- 8.13 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Volunteering Awards.

It was noted that Volunteer Centres in Staffordshire and Staffordshire County Council are calling on Parish Councils to nominate their local heroes for the Volunteer Staffordshire Awards. Nominations can be made online at <http://www.volunteerstaffordshire.org.uk/Volunteer-Awards.aspx> or at any of the Volunteer Centres or libraries in Staffordshire.

- 8.14 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: The Smithfield Hotel, Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge.

It was noted that the owners Touch Properties intend to demolish the buildings within the next few months and have indicated that work will commence week commencing 18th October 2010.

- 8.15 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Parish Assembly Meeting Minutes of 16th September 2010.

The above minutes were received and noted.

- 8.16 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Parish Online.

It was noted that five additional layers have now been added to the above software.

- 8.17 To receive and note general correspondence and to agree action as required.

From:
General Correspondence
Society of Local Council Clerks
Connect A50 Limited
Staffordshire County Council

Subject:
Details of Membership.
Annual Report
Community focus for ice busters.
Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton explained that Staffordshire County Council is making plans for the community to help with gritting in an emergency situation over winter. Salt can be dropped off in Towns and Parishes. Town and Country Services have confirmed that they can help with this providing they can get from Brown Edge to Forsbrook and will charge in the region of £125.00 per day. Clerk to clarify with Staffordshire County Council if there will be any reimbursement for our contractor's costs.

Emails:

County Councillor W. Day

Gating Order – footpath 12. Council’s views. **Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton explained that County Councillor W. Day has been approached regarding funding the gates, which he was presently considering. Responsibility for continued maintenance of the gates has not yet been identified. It was agreed by all members that it was a retrograde step to consider installing gates because the area could not be policed to the satisfaction of residents. It was noted that this would be the first gating order in Staffordshire Moorlands.**

Staffordshire County Council

Children Crossing Sign, Caverswall Old Road.

(Note: This was erected in error and was actually a replacement sign for one on Cheadle Road).

Rural Intelligence Foundation

Inviting stakeholders to participate in the Rural Insight Survey.

Wicksteed Leisure

Quotation for play equipment as part of the proposed Communities Mean Business funding bid.

DT Leisure

Quotation for play equipment as part of the proposed Communities Mean Business funding bid.

Playdale Limited

Quotation for play equipment as part of the proposed Communities Mean Business funding bid.

SPCA

Weekly Updates.

SPCA

Details of projects completed by the Parish Council on behalf of residents.

SPCA

Queen Elizabeth 11 Fields Challenge.

SPCA

An introduction to the US2 Project working in our area.

NALC

LCR Online details.

Sustainable Staffordshire

Intentions to publish directory on sustainability projects.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Acceptance of Building Regulation quotes for extension to changing rooms.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Requesting update on Blanket Tree Preservation Order.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Requesting clarification on whether the chicken coop at land adjacent to 38 Dilhorne Road, Forsbrook is acceptable.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Rubbish behind the Pizzaman, Blythe Bridge.

| | |
|---|--|
| Staffordshire Moorlands District Council | <p>Highway warning signs re Forsbrook Parish Cemetery. (Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton reported that the Community Safety Department at Staffordshire Moorlands District Council has received a complaint regarding poor visibility when egressing the cemetery. The Community Safety Department is supporting Forsbrook Parish Council in their endeavours to get the highway warning signs, as promised by SCC, installed as soon as possible).</p> |
| Staffordshire County Council | <p>Requesting Community Highway Team work clarification. (Note: reply received as detailed above).</p> |
| Staffordshire County Council | <p>Reports on Highway Defects: Caverswall Old Road - Overgrown sways/hedges. Uttoxeter Road, Forsbrook – pavement breaking up. Junction Cheadle Road/Stallington Road/Uttoxeter Road – tarmac breaking up around utility service cover in centre of junction. Tesco roundabout - vehicles parked on Council land restricting grass cutting and distracting motorists. Cheadle Road near to the Caverswall Old Road junction – trees badly leaning over and damaging stone wall. Cheadle Road – several potholes.</p> |
| John Brian (B.B. Football Team Secretary) | <p>Cleanliness of changing rooms/fees. (Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton reported that team players have complained about the cleanliness of the changing rooms. The clerk has explained that this is the responsibility of the football teams using the facilities).</p> |
| David Bickersteth | <p>Remembrance Parade – building work at St. Peters.</p> |
| Sarah Read | <p>Clarification on item 9.1 on minutes of 20th September 2010. (Note: the clerk has answered query).</p> |
| Rural Services Network | <p>Questionnaire on the Big Society.</p> |

9. PLANNING.

9.1 Planning Applications:

00851/FUL – 30 Barlstone Avenue, Blythe Bridge – front bay window.

00821/FUL – Roshni Restaurant, Forsbrook – installation of a stainless steel extractor fan duct (retrospective).

00907/FUL – 63 Bridgwood Road, Blythe Bridge – communal parking area.

RESOLVED:

➤ **To respond to the above planning applications as follows:**

00851/FUL – To raise no concerns providing there is no adverse effect on the privacy of adjacent neighbours.

00821/FUL – To ask the Planning Officer to consider any pollution implications with regard to odour from the duct in view of the usage hours from 4.00pm to 12.00am seven days a week.

00907/FUL - To raise no concerns.

9.2 Planning Approvals:

The following planning approvals were noted:

00651/FUL – 5 Cheadle Road, Forsbrook – single storey side extension and a two storey rear extension.

00673/FUL – Roadhouse Garage, Uttoxeter Road, Draycott in the Moors – single storey rear extension to commercial garage.

9.3 Planning Refusals:

There were no planning refusals to note.

9.4 Planning matters.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton proposed asking Staffordshire Moorlands District Council for an update on Forsbrook Parish Council's request to be considered as a Conservation Area. **Agreed.**

10. CEMETERY:

10.1 Cemetery Report.

Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham, Chairman of the Cemetery Committee said she had no matters to bring to the attention of Council.

10.2 Cemetery Issues.

Councillor Mrs. N. A. Stanier reported that Mr. Graham Stanier has planted the spring bulbs at Forsbrook Parish Cemetery.

11. ENVIRONMENT:

11.1 Environment Report.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton (Chairman of the Environment Committee) gave the following report:

11.1.1 Additional Play Equipment.

The clerk was obtaining quotes for additional items of play equipment in order to complete the application bid for funding from the Communities Mean Business scheme. The additional play equipment would form part of the larger project envisaged.

11.1.2 Vandalism to Telephone Kiosks.

Both telephone kiosks in Blythe Bridge have been damaged and reported to British Telecom.

11.2 Environment Issues.

| Issue | Action |
|---|---|
| Closure of TV Shop in Blythe Bridge noted by members. | No action – but hopefully the premises would soon be used again for retail purposes. |
| Cheadle Road, Forsbrook | Vehicles parked on yellow lines particularly between the hours of 5.00-9.00pm. Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton agreed to report this to the District Council Enforcement Officers and to also query why the ‘no waiting’ sign is no longer sited. |
| Overgrown hedges: Cheadle Road, Forsbrook – adjacent to The Butchers Arms Public House. Elmwood Drive/Uttoxeter Road junction. | Report to the Highway Defects Team. |
| 121 Elmwood Drive, Blythe Bridge. Tarmac laid on highway to build up access to driveway instead of dropping kerb. | Report to the Highway Defects Team. |
| Elmwood Drive, Blythe Bridge. Condition of highway and recent footway resurfacing together with contractors emptying slurry down the drains. | Report to the Highway Defects Team. |
| Light levels in Chestnut Crescent, Blythe Bridge. | Check with the Highway Defects Team to ensure that the street lights are considered adequate and meet all guidelines. |
| Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge. Shoes thrown over utility wires. | Report to Utility company responsible and notify police. |
| Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – damage to railings adjacent to the Methodist Church/William Amory School, possibly caused by motorists parking on the pavement. | Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton reported that The William Amory School has written to the LEA to ascertain who owns the land in question. |

| | |
|--|---|
| Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – Car Park Signage. | Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said she would check with the District Council parking division to see if this signage was appropriate. |
| Blythe Bridge Primary Care Centre (Dr.Pilpel & Partners) – complaint from residents regarding youth in cars congregating on the car park playing loud music. | Report to local Police Officers. |
| Footpaths – 18 and 12 – litter exposed after strimming. | The clerk reported that the situation should be addressed when the litter picker is in the area on Thursday. |
| Forsbrook – adjacent to footpath 18 – glass in brook and weed overgrowth. | The clerk explained that the removal of rubbish in the brook was the responsibility of the reparation landowners. |
| No cold calling – request for Springfield Drive. | Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton reported that this was something the District Council could implement providing 80% of the residents in the street support the initiative. |

12. FINANCE:

12.1 Bank Balance.

It was noticed that the bank balance as at 30th September 2010 was:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Community Direct Account | 47582.65 |
| 14 Day Account | 57706.26 |
| Outstanding debits | (2546.24) |
| Total | 102742.67 |

12.2 October 2010 accounts.

| Cheque No. | Supplier | Net | VAT | Gross |
|------------|-------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| 401996 | Morgan Fire Extinguishers | 119.80 | 19.84 | 139.64 |
| 401997 | Town and Country | 864.00 | 151.20 | 1015.20 |
| 401998 | C. J. Brian | 185.00 | | 185.00 |
| 401999 | S.M.D.C. | 768.00 | 134.40 | 902.40 |
| 402000 | S.M.D.C. | 40.00 | 7.00 | 47.00 |
| 402001 | Christine J. Snape | 878.95 | | 878.95 |
| 402002 | Douglas Macmillan | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402003 | British Red Cross | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402004 | Cheadle Citizen Advice Bureau | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402005 | Cheadle Animal Welfare | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402006 | Samaritans | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402007 | Savana | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402008 | St. Johns Ambulance | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402009 | Royal British Legion | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402010 | Marie Curie Cancer Care | 100.00 | | 100.00 |

| | | | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 402011 | W.R.V.I. | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402012 | Donna Louise Trust | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402013 | Vitalise | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| 402014 | Arch | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| 402015 | Staffordshire Wildlife Trust | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| 402016 | Community Council of Staffordshire | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| 402017 | C.P.R.E. | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| 402018 | Victim Support | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| 402019 | Cheadle Home Link | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402020 | Mencap | 100.00 | | 100.00 |
| 402021 | Central Hall Band | 150.00 | | 150.00 |
| 402022 | Royal British Legion | 66.50 | | 66.50 |
| 402023 | S. A. Blackwood | 199.17 | | 199.17 |
| DD | Eon | 38.09 | 1.91 | 40.00 |
| DD | B.T. | 112.40 | 19.68 | 132.08 |
| | | | | |
| Total | | 5021.91 | 334.03 | 5355.94 |

RESOLVED:

- **To approve payment of October 2010 accounts.**

13. REMEMBRANCE PARADE:

Committee members agreed final arrangements for the Remembrance Parade/Refreshments. Councillor A. E. Wilson agreed to help Councillor B. Yates with the forming and marching of the parade.

It was noted that building work was taking place at St. Peters Church but it was felt that any concerns regarding accommodating the parade both around the cenotaph and in the Church could be addressed. Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton and the clerk agreed to meet with Reverend David Bickersteth if necessary.

The meeting concluded at 10.00pm.

Clerk to the Council

Chairman