

# FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2013 AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs. G. Burton (Chairman),  
Councillor J. W. Burgess,  
Councillor J. W. Cornwall,  
Councillor Miss S. Farr (Co-opted on 15.04.13),  
Councillor Miss J. P. Morris,  
Councillor A. J. Mould,  
Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham,  
Councillor Mrs. N. A. Stanier,  
Councillor A. E. Wilson,

**IN ATTENDANCE:** County Councillor W. Day,  
Residents (3),  
Press Officers (1),  
Mrs. C. J. Snape (Clerk).

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs. C. R. Hopley, Councillor F. J. Hopley, Councillor P. Jones and Councillor B. Yates.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton suggested that **agenda item 14 - Casual Vacancy** be discussed at this stage of the meeting. She reminded members that Sue Farr had recently resigned as a Councillor because she had moved outside the area but as she was now living within the three-mile criteria of the Parish was interested in being co-opted. Councillor Mrs. N. A. Stanier proposed the co-option of Sue Farr. Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham seconded the proposal. Sue Farr was duly co-opted and requested to join Council for the remainder of the meeting.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Item	Member declaring interest	Nature of interest
SCC Rights of Way Issues	Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham	Personal – Daughter employed by SCC in the Rights of Way Department.
Foxfield Steam Railway	Councillor A. J. Mould	Personal – volunteer at Foxfield Railway.

### 3. OPEN SESSION.

**Standing Orders were suspended.**

3.1 Residents Issues.

Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge – parking, drainage and road surface condition.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said that it was the responsibility of the police to deal with any vehicles that were causing an obstruction. The clerk was requested to ask local officers to again look at the parking situation in Caverswall Road near to the junction with Uttoxeter Road.

County Councillor W. Day said he would deal with the drainage and road surface condition under his report (agenda item 3.2).

Local Police Restructuring.

A resident asked if the Parish Council could thank PC Neil Lawton for all his support and efforts whilst carrying out his police duties in Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook. Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said that the clerk had already emailed him to this effect.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said that PC Neil Lawton was moving to Werrington and PC Lorraine Bowman was moving to Longton. Two new officers -PC Mark Warrilow and PC Alex Gould would be joining PCSO Daniel Peake and PCSO Adam Charlesworth.

3.2 County Council Report.

County Councillor W. Day gave the following report:

Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge.

A site visit has been carried out and a gully inspection has taken place. Copy of the gully inspection report was available to view, which identified specific problems together with locations. Some gullies are working efficiently but tree roots have caused some gully pots to collapse. Large patching areas need to be undertaken as individually filling potholes is not satisfactory. This work therefore needs to be included in the Staffordshire County Council Structural Plan. With the County Council elections in May the period of purdah needs to be observed by candidates. County Councillor W. Day therefore suggested that the work required on Caverswall Road be raised with the newly elected County Councillor with the request that it be included in the Structural Plan. In the meantime the clerk was requested to continue to report any potholes to Staffordshire County Council Highway Defects Department.

In response to a concern with regard to the pavement and road surface condition of **Brookgate and Eastbank Ride, Forsbrook** raised by Councillor A. J. Mould, the clerk was asked to again report this in the normal way.

**Standing Orders were reinstated.**

**4. INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING ‘OUTSIDE’ MEETINGS.**

There were no reports under this agenda item.

**5. DRAFT MINUTES OF:  
Council Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013.**

**RESOLVED:**

- **The above minutes were approved and signed.**

**6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.**

- 6.1 Minutes dated 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 – Page 120 – Agenda item 3.2.1.

Drains in Caverswall Road – Gully inspection report.

County Councillor W. Day reported on this issue under agenda item 3.2.

- 6.2 Minutes dated 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 – Page 126 – Agenda 11.2.

Vehicles for sale at Catchems Corner.

Fulford Parish Council has advised that it is the intention of County Councillor Ian Parry to install low rails, hopefully during the summer months – June/July.

- 6.3 Minutes dated 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 – Page 126 – Agenda item 11.2.

Intentions to electrify the train line through Blythe Bridge.

It was noted that Rail Community Officer Faye Lambert has no knowledge of the above.

- 6.4 Minutes dated 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 – Page 126 – Agenda item 11.2.

Blythe Bridge High School students congregating in the Public Toilets, Cheadle Road, Blythe Bridge.

It was noted that Council's concerns have been passed to the Assistant Head for Behaviour and Learning. Members agreed to monitor the situation.

**7. CLERK'S REPORT.**

- 7.1 Agenda enclosures, correspondence outgoing and emails not detailed as separate agenda items were noted.

- 7.2 Meeting Dates.

There were no outside meeting dates to note.

- 7.3 The following circulation material was received and noted:

- Rural Services Network Online (Note: Newsletters available on: <http://www.rsnonline.org.uk/news>).
- NALC – Direct Information Service Issues 805 and 806.
- LCR Online
- Staffordshire Wildlife Trust – E-news March 2013.
- Staffordshire 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector Network E-Bulletin.

- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council ‘ Walks & Activities’ Spring/Summer.
- Western Power Distribution – Newsletter.
- Staffordshire Wildlife Trust – Spring Newsletter.
- Getmapping – Parish Online Newsletters.
- Communities, Council and Clerks – Newsletter.

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 8.1 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Joint Waste Local Plan 2010-2026.

It was noted that Staffordshire County Council adopted the above Development Plan document on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and Stoke-on-Trent City Council on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013. The plan provides a strategy to manage waste development in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent for the period up to 2026, setting out where, when and how new waste management facilities will be developed and assessed. It will replace the existing Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Waste Local Plan (1998-2011) as the guide for determining waste planning applications. The Plan, together with the Inspector’s Report, the Sustainability Appraisal and the submission documents are available on the Councils’ website [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/wcs](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/wcs), at the County Council’s main office locations during normal opening hours. Internet access can be gained from all public libraries in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent or at the City and County Council main offices.

- 8.2 SmartWater Technology Limited – subject: Tracer Kits.

It was **agreed** to accept the quotation from the above company for 12 Tracer Kits at a total cost including VAT of £156.00 (£13.00 each).

- 8.3 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Highway Team work schedule for 2013.

The dates when Staffordshire County Council Highway Team will be working in the Parish were received and noted.

- 8.4 Councillor Mrs. C. R. Hopley and Councillor F. J. Hopley – subject: 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

Councillors appreciated the letter of thanks from the above for the bouquet of flowers and anniversary card.

- 8.5 Owl Online Watch – subject: Crime Incidents/Alerts.

Details of the above were noted.

- 8.6 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Watchdog Alerts.

Details of the latest Scams/Warnings were noted.

- 8.7 Staffordshire Parish Councils’ Association – subject: Weekly Updates/NALC Briefings on various issues.

The above documents were received and noted.

8.8 The following general correspondence was noted and appropriate action agreed.

<p><b>General:</b> Staffordshire Moorlands District Council</p> <p><b>Email Exchanges:</b></p> <p>Co-operative Funeral Services Staffordshire Police</p> <p>Foxfield Railway Staffordshire County Council</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Election of a County Councillor – Caverswall Division candidates.</p> <p><b>Subject:</b></p> <p>Interment form and fees. Quad bikes – Car park, Chapel Street, Forsbrook; Parking obstruction – Uttoxeter Road (junction with The Avenue), Blythe Bridge; Groups of youths congregating in various locations, causing a nuisance, intimidating residents and drinking alcohol. Invitation to Bagnall Steam Event – reply. Report on Highway defects: Potholes – Trent Road, Forsbrook. Asking for urgent attention; Pothole – footpath to the rear of The Duke of Wellington, Blythe Bridge; Blocked gullies between The Post Office and Railway Station, Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge.</p>
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**Note: All correspondence/documents were available to view on the evening of the Council Meeting or by prior arrangement with the clerk.**

## 9. PLANNING.

9.1 Planning Applications:

00262/FUL – Stonecroft, Newclose Avenue, Forsbrook – proposed first floor extension.

**RESOLVED:**

- **To raise no concerns with regard to planning application 00262/FUL providing the design and scale are considered in keeping with the existing dwelling and there is no adverse effect on the privacy of adjacent neighbours.**

9.2 Planning Approvals:

The following planning approval was noted.

00065/FUL – Butchers Arms, Cheadle Road, Forsbrook – partial demolition and building of single storey extension.

9.3 Planning Refusals:

The following planning refusal was noted.

00023/FUL - Land adjacent to Thornley, Boundary Road, Boundary – improvement of existing agricultural/horticultural access drive inclusive of parking and turning area.

*Reasons: The Council does not consider that an agricultural related need for the development has been demonstrated and therefore the development is contrary to Policy E4 of the Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan which also seeks to ensure that agricultural development harmonises with its surroundings. The site is in the Green Belt and a Special Landscape Area and has a rural character. The Council considers the development, by virtue of its siting and appearance, would be harmful to the rural character of the locality and is therefore harmful to the character and appearance of the Green Belt and Special Landscape Area. The application is therefore considered to also be contrary to policies N7, N8, N9 and B13 of the Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan, policies D5A and NC2 of the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Structure Plan and national planning policy in the form of Section 9 'Protecting Green Belt land' of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Furthermore, the Council does not consider there are any justifiable highway safety reasons that would outweigh the operation of the policies in the Local Plan or the NPPF.*

#### 9.4 Planning matters.

No planning matters were raised.

### 10. CEMETERY:

#### 10.1 Cemetery Report.

Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham, Chairman of the Cemetery Committee said that she had nothing to report.

#### 10.2 Cemetery Issues.

It was agreed to hold a Cemetery Committee meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 6.30pm at the cemetery followed by an Environment Committee meeting at the Changing Rooms at approximately 7.30pm.

### 11. ENVIRONMENT:

#### 11.1 Environment Report.

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

##### Anti Social Behaviour.

Recent incidents of anti social behaviour have been reported to the Police.

##### Dog Fouling Poster Competition.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton proposed that the Parish Council run a 'Dog Fouling' poster competition in the two local primary schools with a prize awarded for the best poster with posters displayed on the three notice boards. **Agreed.**

##### Newsletter.

A copy of the newsletter with additional news items regarding the defibrillator and alterations to the local police team was circulated. The clerk was instructed to proceed with the printing and distribution.

## 11.2 Environment Issues.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>
Heath House Farm – fun fair.	Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said she would check with SMDC Licensing and Planning Departments to see what permission, if any, was required.
Caverswall Old Road, Forsbrook – broken glass on road.	Report to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council.
Caverswall Old Road, Forsbrook – broken tree branch overhanging highway.	It was noted that this issue has already been reported to Staffordshire County Council Highway Defects Department. Clerk to report again.
Co-operative Late Shop – rats.	Report to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council Environment Services and write to the Co-operative Late Shop.
Cheadle Road, Forsbrook – overgrown hedges.	It was noted that this issue has already been reported to Staffordshire County Council Highway Defects Department. Clerk to report again.
Scrap Metal Merchants – witnessed trying to gain access to rear of Councillor’s house in Crossfield Avenue, Blythe Bridge.	Report to local Police Officers.
Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – flooding adjacent to Chandri Cottage.	Some drains have been cleared, but some are still blocked.
Dilhorne Road, Forsbrook – pothole.	Report to Staffordshire County Council Highway Defects Department.
Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – re siting of litterbin adjacent to Blythe Bridge Fish and Chip Shop closer to the bus shelter.	Councillors agreed that as this bin was quite close to the bus shelter and the intentions of the new owners of the premises was not yet known to leave the litterbin in the present location.

## 12. FINANCE:

### 12.1 Bank balance.

It was noted that the bank balance as at 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013 was:

Community Direct Account	98674.48
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### 12.2 April 2013 accounts.

The following cheques were presented for payment.

<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Gross</b>
401775	Town & Country Services	667.00	133.40	800.40
401776	SMDC	307.20	61.44	368.64
401777	B.B. & Forsbrook Village Hall	164.25		164.25
401778	Hart Memorials Limited	40.00	8.00	48.00
401779	SPCA	596.00		596.00
401780	Community Council of Staffordshire	22.00		22.00
401781	Christine J. Snape	913.55		913.55
DD	Eon	23.00		23.00
DD	Eon	(53.87)	53.87	
DD	Severn Trent Water (Changing Rooms)	49.52		49.52
<b>Total</b>		<b>2728.65</b>	<b>256.71</b>	<b>2985.36</b>

**RESOLVED:**

- **To approve payment of April 2013 accounts.**

12.3 It was **agreed** to transfer the income from burials/memorials £4471.00 and recreation £1005.85 to the respective contingency funds.

**13. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:**

It was **agreed** to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

**14. CASUAL VACANCY**

This agenda item was brought forward and dealt with at the beginning of the Council Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 8.30pm.

**Clerk to the Council**

**Chairman**