

FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17TH JUNE 2013 AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. G. Burton (Chairman),
Councillor J. W. Cornwall,
Councillor Miss S. Farr,
Councillor C. R. Hopley,
Councillor F. J. Hopley,
Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham,
Councillor Mrs. N. A. Stanier.

IN ATTENDANCE: Residents (2),
Mrs. C. J. Snape (Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Councillor J. W. Burgess, Councillor P. Jones, Councillor A. J. Mould, Councillor A. E. Wilson, Councillor B. Yates and County Councillor W. Day.

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.
Planning Issues	Councillor F. J. Hopley Note: Councillor F. J. Hopley left Council Chambers whilst planning related issues were being discussed.	Personal – Member of the Staffordshire Moorlands District Council Planning Committee.

3. OPEN SESSION.

Standing Orders were suspended.

3.1 Residents Issues.

3.1.1 Trees on the open space adjacent to Blythe Bridge Library.

Youth dressed in Blythe Bridge School Uniforms were witnessed breaking branches from trees. A resident has reported the incident to the Police and Blythe Bridge High School.

3.1.2 Vehicle parked on the grass verge adjacent to 80 Cheadle Road, Forsbrook.

The clerk reported that she has already written to the occupier (date of letter 29th May 2013). As the land is in County ownership the issue can be raised at the forthcoming site meeting with County Councillor W. Day and County Council Officers. It was noted that the Police will only deal with this if they consider the vehicle to be causing an obstruction.

3.2 County Council Report.

In the absence of County Councillor W. Day the Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton updated members on some County Council issues that have been raised.

Site Visit.

County Councillor W. Day has arranged a site meeting for 27th June. Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton and the clerk will represent Forsbrook Parish Council at the meeting.

Junction Box – Uttoxeter Road at the junction with Stallington Road.

County Councillor W. Day is pursuing this request with County Council Officers.

Bollards – Stallington Road at the junction with Crossfield Avenue.

County Council Officers do not feel that the installation of bollards to deter vehicles damaging the grass verge at the above location is a viable solution, as the bollards will continually be damaged necessitating the cost of ongoing maintenance.

Councillor F. J. Hopley reported that he has spoken to Huws Gray to see if alternative arrangements can be made regarding delivery/collection vehicles entering their depot without the need for them to use Crossfield Avenue as a turning area.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

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

Councillor F. J. Hopley reported that he had recently attended a Health and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting at which he reported on Welfare Reform and the effect on Disability Benefits. Members of the Committee agreed to invite representatives from CAB and DWP to their next meeting.

5. DRAFT MINUTES OF: Cemetery Committee Meeting of 15th May 2013. Environment Committee Meeting of 15th May 2013. Council Meeting of 20th May 2013.

RESOLVED:

- **To approve and sign the minutes.**

RESOLVED:

- **To accept the recommendations of the Cemetery Committee and Environment Committee as detailed in minutes dated 15th May 2013.**

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.

- 6.1 Minutes dated 15.05.13 (Environment Meeting) – Page 15 – Agenda Item 4.2.

It was noted that Ian Jackson, Staffordshire County Council Leader Programme Manager has a CMB Plaque that can be used, to save the cost of Council getting a sign manufactured and that any weekday in September or October will be suitable to arrange the official launch day.

- 6.2 Minutes dated 20.05.13 – Page 18 – Agenda Item 8.

It was noted that agricultural land can be used for events for 28 days in any year without the need for planning permission.

- 6.3 Minutes dated 20.05.13 – page 23 – Agenda Item 13.2.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton reported that she has spoken with Andrew Stokes, Financial Director of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council with regard to Newcastle Borough Council being awarded an additional £1.4m for exceeding their 50% recycling target and he has promised to look into how these payments are awarded.

- 6.4 Update on issues raised at previous Council meetings.

Building of BMX track and fly tipping/litter – Tater Lane, Forsbrook.

It was noted that Staffordshire Moorlands District Council Community Project Officer Vicki Ellis and Staffordshire County Council Officer Rob Steele have visited site and cleared litter and cut some of the hawthorn hedge back, which has opened the area up a little more for those walking along Uttoxeter Road. New fencing will also be installed to deter any further creation of a BMX track. Other security measures have also been put in place and will be shared with local Police Officers who have also been monitoring the area.

A50 Underpass, Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge.

It was noted that Connect Roads have carried out a site inspection and can find no paving that is in need of attention/repair work.

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>).
- LCR Online
- Staffordshire Wildlife Trust – E-news June 2013.
- Local Council Review – Summer 2013 edition.

8. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 8.1 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Parish Assembly.

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2013 together with accompanying documents and agenda for meeting scheduled for 27th June 2013 were received and noted.

- 8.2 Leek Town Community – subject: Street Soccer.

It was noted that Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and Your Moorlands are able to follow on the success of last year and offer free Street Soccer sessions for a 12-week period to anyone aged between 8 and 18 starting in July on Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook recreation ground. Members of Forsbrook Parish Council welcomed this initiative.

- 8.3 Alison Allerton, Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge – subject: Parking Issues.

Contents of email from the above resident complaining about the dangerous parking in Caverswall Road near the junction with Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge were noted. The concerns raised were due to be discussed at the site meeting arranged by County Councillor W. Day.

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

Details of the above were noted.

- 8.5 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Watchdog Alerts.

Details of the latest Scams/Warnings were noted.

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

The above documents were received and noted.

- 8.7 The following general correspondence was noted and appropriate action agreed.

General:

Stoke-on-Trent City Council

Email Exchanges:

Faye Lambert, Community Rail Officer
Playdale
Staffordshire Police

Subject:

Hot Food Takeaway Draft Supplementary Planning Document. Details available online at www.stoke.gov.uk/ldf

Subject:

Volunteer day at Blythe Bridge Station.
Replacement parts for play equipment.
Invite to new Police Officers to attend a Parish Council meeting.

Premier UK
Staffordshire County Council

Staffordshire County Council

Staffordshire County Council

Watering of planters for 2013.
Speed limit in Caverswall Old Road – 30mph and 60mph.
Confirming ownership of land in Caverswall Old Road, Forsbrook.
Highway Defects Reports:
Weed treating of gutters;
Overgrown hedge – adjacent to Brookside, Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge;
Pothole – Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge;
Uncut grass verges – Cheadle Road, Forsbrook.

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:

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton briefed members on issues included in the documents, which accompanied some of the planning applications, details of which are shown in italics.

00492/FUL – 104 Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge – two-storey extension to dwelling.

RESOLVED:

- **To raise no concerns providing the scale and design are in keeping and there is no adverse effect on the privacy of adjacent neighbours.**

00506/FUL – Holly House, 83 Draycott Old Road, Forsbrook – proposed kitchen extension and orangery.

A previous planning application for an extension to the property was refused on 21st December 2012 and the Notice of Refusal States – “Within Green Belt and Special Landscape Areas there is often Policy Support for domestic extensions subject to them being of a modest size and good design which respect the character of the original dwelling and does not result in its loss of identity.”

Whilst the property lies within Green Belt and Special Landscape area the planning application before Council is different from the previous one in that it is more modest and of a better design, which respects the character of the original dwelling.

RESOLVED:

- **To raise no concerns providing the planning officer is satisfied that the scale and design are in keeping, that the privacy of nearby neighbours is not compromised and that all planning policies/guidelines have now been met.**

00330/CL_PRO – Moor Green House, 120 Chapel Street, Forsbrook – proposed kitchen/family extension.

This site is in Green Belt and Special Landscape area. There have previously been large extensions to this property and the question arises as to whether this further large extension is considered acceptable as compared to the original footprint of the dwelling. The application does state that the proposed extension is under permitted development extending 4m from the original rear elevation and not more than 4m high.

RESOLVED:

- **To raise no concerns providing the extension is acceptable considering previous extensions, that the scale and design are in keeping and that there is no adverse effect on the privacy of adjacent neighbours who, it is accepted, do not live in near proximity.**

00489/FUL – Thornley, Boundary Road, Boundary – parking, unloading and turning area.

This is a retrospective application in part only. Members are aware of the history of this site. A planning application was refused in 2011. The applicant then appealed and the Planning Inspectorate upheld the refusal. A further planning application was submitted and this was again refused on 21st March 2013. The site lies within Green Belt and Special Landscape Area. In the Design and Access Statement which accompanies the planning application it states “The applicant purchased the application land on 25th August 2010 and since that time has significantly increased the free range organic egg production and is to increase the rare breed chickens in the future inclusive of adding to the duck numbers and also investing in an incubator so as to hatch the eggs and rear the chicks. The land has an agricultural holding number. There is a local demand for the eggs and the applicant currently cannot meet the demand and is therefore expanding the enterprise to meet the demands.”

RESOLVED:

- **To ask the Planning Officer to carefully consider the difference in this latest planning application compared with previous applications and to judge whether there is a material difference for approving the proposals.**

00579/FUL – 15 Manifold Road, Forsbrook – first floor side extension over existing utility area.

RESOLVED:

- **To raise no concerns providing the scale and design are in keeping and there is no adverse effect on the privacy of adjacent neighbours.**

9.2 Planning Approvals:

The following planning approvals were noted.

00262/FUL – Stonecroft, New Close Avenue, Forsbrook – first floor extension.

00338/FUL – 1 Cedar Avenue, Blythe Bridge – single storey rear extension plus dormer roof extension.

00241/LBC – 1 Cash Heath Cottages, Cash Heath, Forsbrook – satellite dish to gable end.

9.3 Planning Refusals:

There were no planning refusals to note.

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 no matters to report.

10.2 Cemetery Issues.

No cemetery issues were raised.

11. ENVIRONMENT:

11.1 Environment Report.

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

Date and arrangements for the official launch of the **Jubilee Gardens, BMX track, play and fitness equipment** need to be considered.

It was **agreed** to:

- a) Arrange the launch day for a weekday in September (25th commencing at 10.30pm now confirmed).
- b) To book the Village Hall for the provision of refreshments – scones/biscuits, tea, coffee and soft drinks. Members of Council to serve the refreshments.
- c) To draw up an invitation list and to include:
CMB Panel members,
Chairman of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – Councillor Sybil Ralphs.
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council Officers Mark Forrester and Vicki Ellis.
County Councillor W. Day,
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust,
Churches,
Schools,
Village Hall Members.
- d) To issue a Press release so that members of the community know they are welcome to join in.
- e) To approach Blythe Bridge High School to see if they can send members of their Brass Band.
- f) To obtain quotation for the supply of a bespoke sign for the Jubilee Gardens.

Defibrillator Course by West Midlands Ambulance Service.

It was agreed to arrange the course in July. Members to be advised of the date when confirmed by West Midlands Ambulance Service.

Note: Date for Defibrillator Course – Saturday 20th July 2013 at 10.00am at Blythe Bridge Library.

Blythe Bridge Railway Station. – Volunteer Day.

The station is immaculate, with no evidence of any litter. The planters and shrubs are very colourful with a good variety of flowers and look lovely. Fencing has been repaired and painted. Volunteers should be very proud of what they have achieved.

11.2 Environment Issues.

Issue	Action
Zip wire seat missing; Broken wooden slat on the Bo Beep Activity Centre.	Replacement parts have now been received and will be fitted.
Dog fouling – footpath 4a.	This was reported to SMDC Environment Department who cleared the dog mess on Thursday 13 th June along with the dog mess on footpath 12. Request to be made to SMDC Environment Enforcement Officers to see if they can monitor between the hours of 7.30-8.00am.
Forsbrook Primary School – Bonfire Display 4 th November 2013.	Councillors appreciated the invitation from the Head Teacher.
Dog Fouling poster competition.	Agreed for judging to take place at the next Council meeting on 15 th July 2013. Clerk to investigate if aluminium signs can be produced, using the artwork, for erecting on the recreation ground and open space adjacent to The Butchers Arms. .
Students from Blythe Bridge High School still congregating in the Public Toilets at lunchtime.	Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton reported that she has seen Mr. Mottram from Blythe Bridge High School patrolling the area. It was agreed to continue to monitor the area and liaise with the School.
Public footpaths.	Maintenance has now been carried out.
Youth Support Group Talent Show	Scheduled for 29 th June 2013.

12. FINANCE:

12.1 Bank balance.

It was noted that the bank balance as at 31st May 2013 was:

Page 33

Community Direct Account	£125881.80
--------------------------	------------

12.2 June 2013 accounts.

The following cheques were presented for payment.

Cheque No.	Supplier	Net	VAT	Gross
401790	Town & Country Services	1609.00	321.80	1930.80
401791	Staffordshire Moorlands District Council	384.00	76.80	460.80
401792	Playdale Playgrounds Limited	188.94	37.79	226.73
401793	Christine J. Snape	913.55		913.55
401794	HM Revenue & Customs	676.58		676.58
401795	Quality Office Supplies Limited	53.12	10.62	63.74
401796	S. A. Blackwood	134.40		134.40
DD	British Telecom	132.63	26.53	159.16
DD	EON	23.00		23.00
Total		4115.22	473.54	4588.76

RESOLVED:

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

The meeting concluded at 8.30pm

Clerk to the Council

Chairman