

FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Dawn Plant. 18 Hillside Avenue, Forsbrook, Staffordshire, ST11 9BH

Tel: 07919 911938 or 01782 394626

forsbrookparishcouncil@outlook.com

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21 DECEMBER 2015 AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL. 7.30 PM

Members Present:- Chairman Councillor Hopley
Councillor P Jones
Councillor A Mould
Councillor B Yates
Councillor R Mancey
Councillor K Giblin
Councillor A E Wilson
Councillor J Morris
Councillor C Hopley
Councillor I Herdman
Councillor J Cornwall
Councillor Shufflebotham
Councillor Walker

In Attendance Dawn Plant – Clerk
Residents – 7
County Councillor William Day

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

District Councillor K Flunder

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item	Member declaring interest	Nature of interest
Foxfield Steam Railway	Councillor A. J. Mould	Volunteer at Foxfield Railway.
Staffordshire County Council – William Amory Primary School. Staffordshire County Council – Rights of Way Issues.	Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham	Governor at the William Amory Primary School. Daughter employed by Staffordshire County Council in the Rights of Way Department.
Blythe Bridge Village Hall Committee	Councillor Mrs C Hopley	Part of the management committee.
Blythe Bridge Village Hall Committee	Councillor Ms J Morris	Part of the management committee.
Blythe Bridge Village Hall Committee	Councillor Mr A E Wilson	Part of the management committee.
Blythe Bridge Village Hall Committee	Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley	Part of the management committee.
Staffordshire County Council – William Amory Primary School.	Councillor Mr I Herdman	Personal – Governor at the William Amory Primary School
Butchers Arms Football Club	Councillor Mrs K Giblin	Treasurer
SMDC Potential Site	Councillor I Herdman	Resident adjacent to

options		potential sites.
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3.1 OPEN SESSION Residents Issues

Mr R Bagnall – Chairman of Blythe Bridge Village Hall Committee thanked the Parish Council for the recent donation and also for the support at the recent Christmas fete. He went on to add that the event had raised £400

Austin Stated that the parking on Stallington Lane was still an issue, the area around The William Amory School was an accident waiting to happen and asked the Council if any progress had been made on finding a solution. Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley stated that he was aware that the grass verge could not be used for parking as service pipes etc were underneath and were not buried deep enough to take the weight of vehicles.

Councillor P Shufflebotham explained that she is a governor at the school and would approach the headmaster at the next meeting to ask what progress had been made.

County Councillor W Day said that District Councillor Herdman could approach SMDC and ask that particular attention is paid by the traffic warden to the area at school times.

A member of the public asked what the situation with regard to dogs on leads on the recreation ground was. The clerk stated that the bylaw does not state that dogs should be on leads. The Clerk asked the Council if she could source signs for the recreation ground stating "Please be aware that this area is a children's play area and football pitch. Keep your dog under close control" she went onto to state that this fell in line with the countryside and right of way act and also the countryside code.

3.2 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

County Councillor W Day followed up with an item from November meeting where he had walked around Elmwood Drive to look for overgrowing vegetation onto the pavement. On the day of inspection he could not find any. A member of the public said she would bring photographs to the next meeting

4. INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING OUTSIDE MEETINGS INCLUDING DISTRICT COUNCILLOR K FLUNDER

Chairman Councillor F Hopley stated that a meeting had been held at SMDC recently regarding the Housing Consultation and a discussion would be added to the agenda for January. SMDC had requested that this be confidential.

5. APPROVE DRAFT MINUTES FROM 16 November 2015

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Councillor Yates expressed concern that an item regarding Remembrance Day was bought up under cemetery in the November meeting. The Clerk explained that she felt that there were items of the parade this year that she did not have prior knowledge of and would like a manual to be compiled for next year's parade

Public session from 16.11.15 – Trees and overgrowing bushes Elmwood Drive – to receive Amey response SCC

Death with under County Councillor report

Public session from 16.11.15 – response from Butchers Arms Football team regarding debris on pitch

Chairman Councillor F Hopley read an email from the Butchers Arms Football team apologising for the debris left on the pitch

To discuss and choose the winner of the best dressed Christmas window competition

Councillor C Hopley had provided photographs of the shops who had taken part and a vote followed:

Blythe Bridge Chemist: Councillors Yates, Mould, Jones, Wilson, Morris, C Hopley

Devolution Councillors Mancey, Giblin, Herdman, Walker

Abstention Chairman Councillor F Hopley

A trophy will be presented to Blythe Bridge Chemist before Christmas and Chairman Councillor F Hopley will liaise with the press to attend.

7. CLERKS REPORT
RECEIVED

7.1 To receive and note – agenda enclosures, correspondence and emails not detailed as separate agenda items

7.2 Chairman's allowance – The Clerk explained that Chairman Councillor Hopley had not received his £250 allowance and a cheque had been raised for signature tonight

7.3 Flowers were sent to May Gimbert who was 90 on 1.12.15

7.4 The Clerk asked if The Parish Council would consider a cost £1000 for 25 fruit trees for the cemetery. Resolved to ask the Lengthsman to purchase.

8. CORRESPONDANCE

8.1 Email from Paul Edwards regarding dogs on the recreation ground.

Dealt with in open session

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8.2 Email from Stef Giblin regarding web site

Councillors agreed to the bill for the updates on the web site

8.3 Street life web site – Cllr K Giblin to speak

Councillor Giblin asked if the Council could add a small notice on to the Street Life Web Site stating “ Polite Notice to dog owners who exercise their dogs on Blythe Bridge recreation ground. We would ask that those who are NOT cleaning up after their pets please do so. This is a children’s play area and a football pitch. Be aware that hefty fines can be issued for this offence”

The Councillors unanimously agreed for the Clerk to post this on the street life website and the Parish Council web site.

8.4 Email from Douglas Macmillan regarding the Parish Council receiving a talk about the work of the hospice.

Councillors unanimously agreed to ask Douglas Macmillan to talk to the Parish Council about the work they do and to extend the invitation to people of the parish to attend.

8.5 Emails and letters from Arch, Staffs Wildlife Trust Victim Support, Blythe Bridge Village Hall, Community Council for Staffordshire, The Samaritans, Alzheimers Club, Blythe Bridge Youth Support Group, Savanna, Mencap, Cheadle and District Animal Welfare, Cheadle CAB, Girl Guiding, DMH, CPRE, Marie Curie.

8.6 Email from John Giblin regarding the Football Pitch

Duplicate item

8.7 Email from PCSO Adam Charlesworth regarding Community Speed Watch and subsequent application to County Cllr Days member’s fund.

The Clerk explained that the recent application for funding had been successful and we are awaiting a date for training.

Councillors Morris, Giblin, Wilson and Herdman said they would be willing to train as volunteer speed watch operators

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8.8 Parishes together Planning Action Meeting minutes.
Noted

8.9 North Staffordshire Community Rail Partnership Progress Report.
Noted

8.10 Email from Faye Lambert North Staffs Community Rail Partnership asking for our continued support with planters and watering for 2016/2017 and a thank you for our continued support

Councillors unanimously agreed to support for another year

8.11 Minutes to Parish together

Noted

9. PLANNING.

- 9.1 Planning Applications: NONE
- 9.2 Planning matters. NONE
- 9.2 Planning Refusals / Approvals NONE

10. CEMETERY

Councillor P Shufflebotham mentioned that she inspected the grid at the cemetery that a member of the public had complained about in the November meeting and she found it to be safe.

11 ENVIRONMENT

Councillor Yates – shared an issue regarding the Coop deliveries being timed at the same time as the school opening times, this had caused chaos and was a dangerous situation. He asked the clerk to contact PCSO Charlesworth and the Coop to discuss the matter.

Councillor Mould stated that a large pot hole had opened up on the grindley lane side of the railway station – Clerk to report

Councillor Walker stated that parking at the chip shop in frsbrook was a problem again.

Councillor Herdman stated that the pavements on Caverswall Road were still in a bad state of repair. Clerk to report again. He then went onto to say that the parking adjacent to the vets was causing problems, the people parking here were avoiding parking charges at the station. Councillor Walker asked if the clerk was asked to write to Faye Lambert and ask if cheaper or free parking could be provided to season rail ticket holders.

12 FINANCE

12.1 To receive bank balances as at 30 November 2015

12.2 To approve accounts of November/ December 2015

Cheque Number	Amount	Payable to	Description		
402559	1124.57	Dawn Plant	Expenses and salary		
402550	120	P Giblin	Repairs to fence		
402552	250	F Hopley	Chairs Allowance		
402553	102	S Giblin	Website updates		
402554	559.20	Heath House	Flowers for planters	Replacement cheque lost in post	
402555	20	SPCA	Councillor training		
402556	32.74	Quality Office Supplies	Stationery		
402551	307.20	SMDC	Litter pick		
402558	1266.00	Town and Country	Lengthsman		
402557	1164.97	HMRC	PAYE		

Earmarked reserves

The Clerk address the Council explaining that in the Unity Trust Bank Account there were £56K of earmarked reserves for the cemetery. She asked the Council if that earmark could be removed and the account be used as a general reserve account.

Unanimously agreed

Precept and budget

Councillors had received prior copies of the suggested budget for the year 2016/2017 – it was unanimously agreed to adopt this budget and as a result of this unanimously agreed not to raise the precept for 2016/2017

Sage accounting system

The Clerk asked the council if she could purchase Sage accounting system to bring the account up to date – it was unanimously agreed to purchase the system

The meeting ended 9.07 pm