

FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17TH MAY 2010 AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. G. Burton (Chairman),
Councillor Mrs. S. M. Edwards,
Councillor Miss S. Farr,
Councillor S. P. Fox,
Councillor P. Jones,
Councillor A. J. Mould,
Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham,
Councillor Mrs. N. A. Stanier.

IN ATTENDANCE: PC Neil Lawton,
Mrs. C. J. Snape (Clerk),
Members of the public (10),

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs. S. Harrison, Councillor J. W. Burgess, Councillor A. E. Wilson, Councillor Rev. B. L. Whittaker and Councillor B. Yates.

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. |
| SCC Highway Issues | Councillor P. Jones | Personal – SCC Highway Officer Maryanne Raftery – personal friend. |
| Planning Application - 00337/FUL – 1 Egerton Close, Blythe Bridge | Councillor Mrs. G. Burton | Personal – neighbours at 2 Egerton Close are acquaintances. |
| Planning/Enforcement - 459 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge. | Councillor S. P. Fox | Personal – friend. |

3. ELECTION OF: Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillor to oversee finances.

Chairman.

Councillor P. Jones proposed re-election of present Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton. Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham seconded the proposal. There were no other nominations and Councillor Mrs. G. Burton was duly re-elected. ‘Acceptance of Office’ to be signed.

Vice Chairman.

Councillor P. Jones proposed re-election of present Vice Chairman Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham. Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton seconded the proposal. There were no other nominations and Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham was duly re-elected.

Councillor to Oversee Finances.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton proposed re-election of Councillor P. Jones. Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham seconded the proposal. There were no other nominations and Councillor P. Jones was duly re-elected.

Standing Orders were suspended.

4. OPEN SESSION.

4.1 Residents Issues.

4.1.1 Police Issues.

PC Neil Lawton introduced himself to residents and asked if there were any issues they or Councillors wished to bring to his attention.

Gill Edwards owner of Shoetime said that she was experiencing anti social behaviour problems in Swan Passage, which was behind her premises, particularly when children were leaving school. Fords Timber Merchants were also experiencing similar problems.

PC Neil Lawton agreed to pay this area attention.

4.1.2 Planning Application - 00339/FUL 222 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge.

Eight residents attended the meeting to ask for Council's support in objecting to the above planning application for extensions and conversion into 2 ground floor retail units and 3 first floor apartments and raised the following concerns:

- a) The applicant operated retail outlets similar to Bargain Booze and the official address of the applicant is a Bargain Booze outlet.
- b) Any type of retail outlet, particular one selling cigarettes and alcohol with opening hours of 6.30am to 11.00pm will have an enormous detrimental effect on the lives of adjacent neighbours.
- c) Traffic safety on Uttoxeter Road will be exacerbated by this proposal, with insufficient parking spaces off road for customers and residents of the apartments, together with insufficient room being allocated for delivery vehicles.
- d) The proposal will compromise the proactive work of the police in trying to address the problems of drink/drugs in the area.
- e) There are sufficient retail outlets in Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook together with empty retail premises and a nearby Tesco, which is open 24/7.

4.1.3 Planning Application - 00337/FUL – 1 Egerton Close, Blythe Bridge

Mr. Birks, 2 Egerton Close, Blythe Bridge said that he had attended the meeting to object to the above planning application, which was not significantly different to a recent previous application, which was refused by Staffordshire Moorlands District Council. Whilst the revised application has made adjustments to address the 45-degree horizontal angle, the chimney still juts out and Environmental Health are only interested if the chimney poses a pollution problem. He further advised that he had consulted Building Control regarding the height of the chimney and whilst at first they were very helpful later said they could not comment due to legal reasons. He felt the size of the extension was excessive and if approved would set a precedent. He was also concerned that the extension would be built over drains.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said that Council would be discussing the above two planning applications under agenda item 12 and residents were more than welcome to stay.

4.2 Report from County Councillor W. Day.

In the absence of County Councillor W. Day there was no report.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

5. ELECTION OF MEMBERS FOR THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

Cemetery: Environment: Finance: Newsletter: Remembrance.

Members advised the clerk on which Committees they wished to serve.

6. NOMINATION FOR REPRESENTATIVES FOR: Staffordshire Moorlands Parish Assembly – 2 (and voting member): Village Hall Committee.

6.1 Staffordshire Moorlands Parish Assembly.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton (Voting member) and Councillor Miss S. Farr agreed to again represent Council at the Parish Assembly. Councillor A. J. Mould also expressed an interest in attending Parish Assembly meetings. The clerk did not think this would be a problem.

6.2 Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Village Hall Committee.

Councillor Mrs. N. A. Stanier agreed to continue as a Parish Council representative on the above committee.

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

There were no reports from outside meetings.

**8. TO APPROVE DRAFT MINUTES OF:
Council Meeting of 19th April 2010.**

RESOLVED:

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

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.

- 9.1.1 Minutes dated 19th April 2010 – Page 20 – agenda item 11.2.
Smithfield Hotel, Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge.

The following email response from SMDC Building Control Manager Andrew Turner was noted:

“I am in receipt of a copy of your letter dated the 21st April 2010 to Head of Development Services, Mike Green, regarding the above where you make reference to an unsafe building. I have inspected this building (24th April 2010) and it is apparent the building’s condition is deteriorating generally. I am sure you are aware it was the subject of fire damage in 2008. It is clear that the current condition of the roof is in fact however very similar to that as it was left in 2008, this evident from the photograph evidence collected by this Section at the time of the fire. At this time there is little action I can request the owners of the building to undertake in terms of public safety. I will though continue to monitor the condition of the building and should this deteriorate whereby public safety is compromised, I will then request that appropriate action to remove this is undertaken by the building’s owner. I will also at this time write to the owners advising them of the condition of the building and remind them of their public liabilities in doing so. I am sure Planning Enforcement will reply to you separately regarding the other issues you raised relating to the site in your letter.”

- 9.1.2 Minutes dated 19th April 2010 – Page 14 – agenda item 6.
Minutes dated 15th March 2010 – Page 293 – agenda item 6.
Minutes dated 15th February 2010 – Page 287 – agenda item 10.1.
Planning applications 00985/00057/00089/CL_EXG- 459 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge.

The following email response from SMDC Head of Development Services Mike Green was noted:

“My apologies for the delayed response on this matter. I have now been able to discuss this with colleagues in the Enforcement and Planning Applications teams. The position is that the Enforcement Team has given this site some close attention over the past 5 years, ever since they were asked by the Parish Council to investigate the storage of caravans on the land. This initial investigation led to the eventual removal of the caravans. However, these recent considerations revealed that there is significant enforcement history, which relates to this site and stretches back to the early 1990’s. In February 1990 planning permission was granted to use the site in connection with the owner’s agricultural plant and contractor’s business and conditions restricted the storage of vehicles and plant to an area of land, which now forms the new dwelling plot. Importantly in 1992 two Enforcement Notices were issued and served on the land in respect of the indiscriminate storage and repair of vehicles across the whole of the site,

respect of the storage of materials and bricks. All three of these notices remain on the land and importantly they prevent any claim that uses covered by these notices could ever be lawful. To a large extent the presence of these Enforcement Notices is the reason why the Council is in a strong position in relation to the three Certificate applications. It does seem that throughout the 1990s and into 2000 different uses have come and gone and compliance with the notices and the requests of officer's has fluctuated. However, recent efforts have seen the Council serve three separate enforcement notices in 2008 in respect of boat building, the erection of two sheds, aggregate storage, gas bottle storage and freight container storage. These notices have been appealed through the written representation process and the Inspector has recently visited the site in preparation for issuing a decision on the appeals. It is fair to say, from this history, that the Council has been very active over a prolonged period in addressing the various breaches of planning control at the site. I hope this helps to clarify the Council's handling of these matters. Should there be any further queries or if this account is at odds with how the Parish Council views the matter, then please feel free to contact me again. I will arrange for you to be notified as soon as the Certificate applications have been determined which is likely to be at the end of next week."

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said that had the Planning Enforcement Department kept the Parish Council informed as to what action was being taken it would have eliminated numerous unnecessary correspondence. She proposed writing to SMDC Head of Development Services Mike Green highlighting this fact and thanking him for all the enforcement work that has taken place over the years.

Councillor Mrs. S. M. Edwards added that some matters are dealt with confidentially so that all parties concerned are not warned as to any proposed action. She said she was pleased to report that Staffordshire Moorlands District Council has won all the cases against planning contravention at 459 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge with the only concession being that instead of allowing three months for the applicant to comply to the conditions, he has been given six months.

10. CLERK'S REPORT.

10.1 The clerk's report was received and noted.

10.2 Dates and Venues of 'outside' meetings were noted as follows:

- Staffordshire Moorlands Neighbourhood Watch Association AGM – 3rd June 2010 at 7.30pm in the Council Chambers, Moorlands House, Stockwell Street, Leek.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton reported that she would be attending the above meeting as a District Councillor and will also represent the Parish Council.

- Staffordshire Moorlands Parish Assembly – 24th June 2010 at 7.30pm in the Council Chambers, Moorlands House, Stockwell Street, Leek.

10.3 The following circulation material was made available to members:

- NALC – Direct Information Service Issues No. 732 and 733.
- Owl Messaging Newsletter.
- Clerks & Councils Direct – May 2010 Issue.
- Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Archive Service Newsletter.
- Link Staffordshire Bulletins
- Staffordshire 3rd Section Network (S3SN) E. Bulletin issues.
- Rural Services Network – Parish Newsletter – May Issue.
- Rural Services Community Newsletters.
- The Wildlife Trust Magazines.

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

11.1 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Highway Survey.

It was noted that the above survey needs to be completed by end May 2010.

11.2 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Enterprise Work.

It was noted that the County Council Enterprise team will be in the area from 2nd June to 8th June 2010. Council need to identify suitable work, in order of priority, for the team to carry out.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton proposed arranging a site meeting with Staffordshire County Council Highway Officer Rob Steele, as some work from the last visit was not carried out.

Members agreed for the Chairman and clerk to identify work and attend the site meeting.

11.3 Staffordshire County Council – subject: The William Amory Primary School – Local Authority Governors.

It was noted that the term of office for Local Authority Governors Mrs. Patricia Shufflebotham and Mrs. Margaret Mountford at the above school are to end on 31 August 2010. The closing date for nominations is 8th June 2010.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton proposed that both the above governors be nominated, as they are committed, attend all meetings and have a teaching background. **Agreed.**

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

Email Exchanges.

Staffordshire Parish Councils Association

Councillor Rev. B. L. Whittaker
East Midlands Trains
Community Rail Partnership Officer

Playdale Limited
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Staffordshire County Council

Nalc Mailbox

Issue

Local Food Support Package for Village Shops;
Weekly Updates;
Freedom of Information Act;
Small Scale Hydro Power Workshop;
Watchdog Scams;
Stafford Hospital and Health Scrutiny.
Visa/Mastercard Scam.
Volunteers Meeting – July 15th 2010.
ACORP Awards for Station Development Most Improved Station – B.B. has been entered.
ACORP National Station Adoption Seminar.
Annual Inspection.
Parish Assembly Representatives.
Article for ‘My Moorlands’ on work at B.B. Station;
Moorlands Together Action Days;
Links to meetings/agendas etc;
Service reports on litter/fly tipping;
Watering of flower containers;
Parish Assembly Agenda and Terms of Reference and Standing Orders.
Communities Mean Business funding;
Outstanding requests for Traffic Regulation Orders;
Meeting with Highway Officer Maryanne Raftery;
Clarence issues: Condition of pavement surfaces; potholes; missed grass cutting; collapsed drains; blocked drains; vandalised bus shelter; faulty street light.
Events Bulletin

12. PLANNING.

12.1 Planning Application:

00311/FUL – Land at Brook Close, Blythe Bridge – communal parking area and associated landscaping.

00337/FUL – 1 Egerton Close, Blythe Bridge – single storey rear extension.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton read copy of letters sent to SMDC Head of Development Services Mike Green by Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Birks, 2 Egerton Close, Blythe Bridge and J. Corden and M. J. Colclough of 3 Egerton Close, Blythe Bridge. She said that this was the second application for a single storey rear extension and from studying the plans felt that there was little difference other than in the second application adjustments had been made to allow for the required 45 degree horizontal angle. The first application 001031/FUL was refused because it was contrary to the provisions of ‘Saved’ policy B13 and Appendix 3 ‘Space About Dwellings’ of the Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan together with adopted Supplementary Planning Guidance ‘Design Principles for Development in the Staffordshire Moorlands’ and at the national level PPS1 ‘Delivering Sustainable Development’.

00339/FUL – 222 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – extensions and conversion into 2 ground floor retail units and 3 first floor apartments.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton reported that Council has received excellent documents and photographs from residents supporting the case as to why this planning application should be refused, which were all made available for Councillors to study.

RESOLVED:

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

00311/FUL – to raise no objections.

00337/FUL – to raise the same concerns as registered for the previous application and in view of the public interest to ask for this to go before the Planning Committee.

Note: A copy of the letter sent to the Planning Department and Building Control Department is appended hereunder:

“Enclosed herewith is copy correspondence from occupants of both 2 and 3 Egerton Close, Blythe Bridge raising concerns about the above proposal and we assume that you have received the original letters.

This is the second application for a single storey rear extension; the first 01031FUL was dated and signed by the applicant on 20th October 2009. Forsbrook Parish Council raised several concerns regarding this first application namely:

- i) Over-development in that the size of the proposed extension would be unacceptable on this site.*
- ii) Privacy of adjacent neighbours (and the applicant) would be compromised.*
- iii) Water table would be affected because the extension would take up a large part of the garden thus removing part of the natural soak away.*
- iv) Pollution as the extension includes a multi fuel stove with chimney the same height as neighbour’s first floor rooms.*

The planning application was refused because it was contrary to the provisions of ‘Saved’ policy B13 and Appendix 3 ‘Space About Dwellings’ of the Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan together with adopted Supplementary Planning Guidance

The above revised application seems to have altered very marginally from the original. Some adjustments to the size have been made, obviously to try and accommodate the 45-degree horizontal angle measured from the ground floor principal window of number 2. The chimney is still however, a dominant feature.

The concerns of Forsbrook Parish Council, which were registered against planning application 01031/FUL and as detailed above still stand. It should also be noted that when planning permission was granted for the original development of four properties in Egerton Close in 2000 it was on the condition that there would be landscaping to the front and rear of the properties. The proposals for number 1 Egerton Close will remove the majority of the rear garden.

Trusting you will support Council in again refusing this application.

00339/FUL – Following a lengthy debate and taking into account concerns raised by residents at the meeting it was agreed that there were several objections which could be registered against this planning application; - invasion of privacy, outside the commercial boundary and inside the residential boundary, no demand for this type of retail development, vacant retail premises in the vicinity, road safety (congestion and pedestrian/vehicle conflict), area in a flood zone and deed of covenant legally stating that the property must always be used as a residential dwelling. A copy of the letter sent to the planning department listing all the concerns raised by members of Council is appended below. It was also agreed that in view of the wide public interest to ask for this to go before the Planning Committee.

“Members of Forsbrook Parish Council studied the above planning application and accompanying documentation from John Rose Associates in great detail at our Parish Council meeting yesterday evening. Many residents from Uttoxeter Road also attended the meeting to voice concerns about this proposal.

First of all, may we correct what appear to be discrepancies in the documentation from John Rose Associates?

1) *Page 3 – item 2.02- states that “222 Uttoxeter Road is a large two-storey detached property, which is currently vacant and which was previously used as a children’s day nursery for up to 60 children.”*

This statement gives the wrong impression. Child places at this nursery never reached 60 and averaged out at around 25/30. Councillors also recall that when planning permission was given it was on the understanding that there were to be alterations to the parking provision/access/egress of the site to meet highway concerns. These alterations were never carried out.

2) *Page 3 – item 2.03 states “there are two storey detached properties to both sides of the application site.”*

There is a detached property 220 one side and semi detached 224 the other.

3) *Page 8 – item 4.20 states that “the proposed frontage car parking area would be surfaced in tarmac as it is currently and the existing site boundaries would be retained as extant, which comprise of close board*

As you will note from the enclosed photographs the rear boundary fencing and mature trees have all been removed.

- 4) *Page 9 – item 4.25 states that “delivery vehicles could either park within the two front spaces whilst unloading takes place, or ideally reverse down the west side of the property in order that they would be in close proximity of the proposed storage accesses and avoid the need for goods to be transported across the car parking area. Parked service vehicles would temporarily block access to the rear parking area, but only for short periods of time and the applicant is entirely confident that this could be managed without causing inconvenience.”*

It is obvious that this proposal is not practical and there will be a pedestrian/vehicle conflict. There is insufficient room on Uttoxeter Road for a large delivery vehicle to reverse into the proposed frontage without mounting the pavement, which is illegal.

- 5) *Page 18 – item 7.17 states “that a 60 bed care home operating at full capacity would require more parking spaces than the proposed level of retail floorspace”.*

This is a detached property, which has never operated or had planning permission for a 60 bed care home. This assumption is ludicrous and completely misleading.

In addition to the above Forsbrook Parish Council would like to register the following concerns:

- a) *This proposal is outside the retail/commercial boundary of Blythe Bridge and lies in the middle of residential property. There are already empty business premises in the area together with several retail outlets selling groceries, newspapers, cigarettes and alcohol.*
- b) *Uttoxeter Road, at this location, is undergoing a Safer Routes to School improvement scheme, as it is very congested and as you will see from the enclosed photographs, there is dangerous pedestrian/vehicle conflict. From a recent Traffic Area Survey over 50% of accidents within the Parish have occurred directly in or around this location. Because the Parish Council has raised road safety concerns in this area, a request has been made to Staffordshire County Council Highways for a Traffic Regulation Order prohibiting parking on this side of Uttoxeter Road.*
- c) *222 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge is situated in a flood risk area, as copy of the enclosed Environment Agency notice confirms. Section 2 of the planning application implies this is not the case. No Flood risk assessment has been provided. There is also no mention as to how surface water will be disposed of.*
- d) *There are insufficient parking spaces allowed for two retail outlets and 3 apartments. Lessons can be learnt from the Cameron Housing development on the opposite side of Uttoxeter Road. One and a half parking spaces was allowed for each property and there are now problems with parking, delivery vehicles, utility services etc.*
- e) *Privacy of neighbours will be severely compromised. Photographs are enclosed showing the close proximity of the neighbour living at 220 Uttoxeter Road and the area where the garage has recently been demolished to make way for a loading bay. The opening hours of 6.30am to 11.00pm will not*

only affect this resident but all nearby residents. Anti social behaviour in the area, which the police have managed to reduce will no doubt increase and the area is already subject to alcohol free zone legislation.

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- f) *Whilst this following fact may not strictly be a planning reason but will need to be the subject of a legal challenge by residents, you will see from the enclosed Deed of Covenant dated and signed on 12th January 1921 and 4th August 1922 – clause 3 states “Not to carry on or permit to be carried on on the said plot of land any trade or business whatsoever or permit the same to be used for any other purpose than as a private dwellinghouse. It is for this reason that item 3.01 on page 3 of John Rose Associates document after planning permission was granted on 02/07/1986 – 86/00346/OLDDC never materialised. The proposed purchasers were challenged legally and withdrew from the sale.*

We trust that sense will prevail and this application will be refused. If this is not the case, because of the wide public interest, could we ask that it goes before the Planning Committee.”

12.2 Planning Approvals:

There were no planning approvals to note.

12.3 Planning Refusal:

01067/FUL – 24 Poplar Close, Blythe Bridge – rear conservatory.

Reasons:

“By reasons of its 4 metre projection and large expanse of blank brick wall from the rear wall of number 24 Poplar Close, the proposed conservatory would have an unacceptable and overbearing amenity impact upon the current and future occupants of number 22 Poplar Close. The proposed development fails to take into account the Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan amenity standards contained within ‘saved’ policy B13 and Appendix 3 ‘Space About Dwellings’ by breaching the 45 degree horizontal angle when measured from the ground floor principal window of number 22”.

12.4 Planning matters.

12.4.1 Anonymous letter.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton read an anonymous letter sent to Mr. M. W. Green, Head of Development Services at Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, which she and Councillor Mrs. S. Edwards had received a copy of. The letter was complaining about development in Caverswall Road – garden extension, farm and children’s playground in what was a rural field.

RESOLVED:

- **To ask the Planning Department to take whatever action, if any, is deemed appropriate and to advise them that Council feel the location referred to is in the area to which planning application 00966/FUL (July 2008) refers.**

12.4.2 Planning Application 01502/FUL – 30 Green Lane, Blythe Bridge.

Councillor P. Jones said he felt there was considerable inconsistency with regard to some planning decisions in that planning application 01067/FUL for a rear conservatory at 24 Poplar Close, Blythe Bridge could be refused for ‘Space About

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Dwellings’ when planning application 01502/FUL for a two storey side/rear extension and carport at 30 Green Lane, Blythe Bridge could be approved. He added that the completed construction at 30 Green Lane had failed to take into account the requirements by Severn Trent Water in allowing access to the drains as these had now been built over.

Councillor Mrs. S. Edwards responded by advising that from time to time the Planning Committee visit sites to look at what is good and bad development and will ask for this site to be included for a future visit.

13. CEMETERY:

13.1 Cemetery Report.

Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham, Chairman of the Cemetery Committee drew Council’s attention to an article in the Sentinel regarding unauthorised objects being removed from burial plots in Forsbrook Cemetery. She reiterated that Council had agreed this because of health and safety issues. It was **agreed** to make no further comments to the press on this subject and not to give an interview on Moorlands Radio.

13.2 Cemetery Issues.

No cemetery issues were raised.

14. ENVIRONMENT:

14.1 Environment Report.

Moorlands Together Action Day (Minutes page 17 agenda item 8.10 and Environment Minutes page 5 agenda item 5.1.2).

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton referred to the above and reminded Councillors that requests for any work required in the area need to be submitted as soon as possible. She proposed tidying up the land between Tater Lane and Stuart Avenue – removing all litter, fly tipping, rubbish together with any ground clearance necessary. The Community Payback Team would be able to help with this type of work. Bus shelters could also be cleaned by SMDC Environment Department. Other agencies would again be taking part. **AGREED.**

14.2 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Area Survey.

A copy of the Area Survey was being circulated amongst members. Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said that she would ask Staffordshire Moorlands District Council if they could arrange to copy the survey so that each member could have one.

14.3 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Communities Mean Business Grants. (Minutes page 14 – agenda item 4.2.

A copy of the various stages for applying for the above grants was distributed to each member. Before applying for a grant it was necessary to obtain quotes for all the work

envisaged – purchasing scrubland, solicitors fees, tree work, landscaping, extensions to changing rooms and any new play equipment for submission with the ‘Expression of Interest’ form. Architect John Payne is currently drawing up sketches for the changing room extension for Council to consider after which final plans can be prepared for submission to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council.

14.4 Environment Issues.

The following Environment issues were raised:

| Issue | Action |
|---|--|
| Litter in the Millstream, which runs through the Cameron development. | To write to Cameron Property Management. |
| Noise from Finney’s Timber Merchants in Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge. | To note that residents in Blithe View have previously raised this issue with Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton and Ian Stewart from SMDC is dealing with the matter. To advise Ian Stewart that complaints were still being received. |
| Trinity Medical Centre – traffic obstruction, which was being aggravated by the building work on site. | Whilst this did not come within Forsbrook Parish boundary the clerk was asked to notify the local police. |
| Hole adjacent to Britannia Building Society, Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge. | The clerk advised that this has been reported to ‘Clarence’ on many occasions and understood from County Councillor W. Day that investigative work needed to be undertaken to determine the continuing problem. To again report to ‘Clarence’ and County Councillor W. Day. |
| Sizzatrix, Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – litter/debris on their private side access. | To write to Sizzatrix asking for their support in collecting the litter. |
| Potholes – time scale for work to make roads safe. | It was noted that many potholes in the area have now been marked by Staffordshire County Council Highways for attention. |
| Repairs to the Clapper bridge. | The clerk was asked to chase up the necessary repairs. |
| Pothole – Elmwood Drive, Blythe Bridge. | The clerk reported that some potholes have been filled and would ask the Highway team to carry out a site inspection of the whole length of Elmwood Drive. |
| Missing Bus Stop sign – Forsbrook Square. | The clerk said she would speak to Staffordshire County Council to see if they could install a bus stop sign. |
| Elmwood Drive – dog fouling. Some dog owners are picking up after their dogs but are then throwing into hedges. | To monitor the situation, try to identify culprits and report to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council. |

15. FINANCE:

15.1 Bank Balance.

It was noted that the bank balance as at 30th April 2010 was:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Community Direct Account | 40462.05 |
| 14 Day Account | 57706.26 |
| Plus outstanding credits | 90.00 |
| Less outstanding debits | (394.00) |
| Total | 97864.31 |

15.2 May 2010 accounts.

The following cheques were submitted for approval:

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 401961 | Broker Network Limited | 2092.93 | | 2092.93 |
| 401962 | Severn Trent | 41.54 | | 41.54 |
| 401963 | Severn Trent | 13.17 | | 13.17 |
| 401964 | NALC | 13.50 | | 13.50 |
| 401965 | Speedclean Cleaning | 77.02 | 13.48 | 90.50 |
| 401966 | Town and Country Services | 969.00 | 169.57 | 1138.57 |
| 401967 | Christine J. Snape | 878.95 | | 878.95 |
| DD | EOn | 38.09 | 1.91 | 40.00 |
| | | | | |
| Total | | 4124.20 | 184.96 | 4309.16 |

RESOLVED:

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

The meeting concluded at 9.00pm.

Clerk to the Council

Chairman