

FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2012 AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. G. Burton (Chairman),
Councillor J. W. Burgess,
Councillor J. W. Cornwall,
Councillor C. R. Hopley,
Councillor P. Jones,
Councillor Miss J. P. Morris,
Councillor A. J. Mould,
Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham,
Councillor Mrs. N. A. Stanier,
Councillor B. Yates.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor W. Day,
Mrs. C. J. Snape (Clerk),
Members of the public (3).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Councillor Miss S. Farr, Councillor F. J. Hopley and Councillor A. E. Wilson.

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.
SCC Highway Issues Tesco	Councillor P. Jones	Personal – SCC Highway Officer Mary Anne Raftery personal friend. Personal – employee of Tesco.

3. OPEN SESSION.

Standing Orders were suspended.

3.1 Residents Issues.

Overgrown hedges – adjacent to Butcher’s Arms, Forsbrook and footpath 4a.
Potholes and sunken grids – Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge.

It was noted that these concerns have already been reported to Staffordshire County Council Highways Department. County Councillor W. Day asked the clerk to let him have the incident references so that he could ask for a progress report.

3.2 County Council Report.

County Councillor W. Day gave the following report.

Warning on two Scams.

A scam has been identified regarding bags being pushed through doors requesting food. There is a card in the bag but no contact details. A vehicle registration number has been handed to the police who are investigating this scam alongside Trading Standards.

Owners of motorcycles who advertise them for sale are receiving interest from prospective buyers. When they inspect the cycles they imply that they are not what they are looking for only to return to steal them.

Parking in Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge.

A meeting can be arranged regarding the above with the Parish Council, County Councillor W. Day, Staffordshire County Council Highways Officer and the concerned resident.

30 mile speed limit sign in Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge.

Signs can only be erected in accordance with current legislation. A Staffordshire County Council highway officer will undertake a site visit.

20 mile speed restriction around Schools.

A request has been made for the proposed 20 mile speed restriction around Blythe Bridge High School to be extended to cover Forsbrook Primary School.

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 17th September 2012.

RESOLVED:

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

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.

Minutes dated 17th September 2012 – pages 68/69/70 agenda item 8.1 – subject: Street Lighting.

The results of the recent consultation on the above were that 33% strongly agreed and 33.1% agreed with the proposals to dim street lighting from late evening to early morning.

Minutes dated 17th September 2012 – page 75 - agenda item 11.2 – subject: Talent Show Final.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton reported that as a judge, along with Councillor P. Shufflebotham, PC Neil Lawton and PCSO Adam Charlesworth they found it very difficult to choose the best acts as all finalists gave an excellent performance. She thanked Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Youth Support Group and members of Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Village Hall.

Minutes dated 17th September 2012 – page 75 - agenda item 11.2 – subject: Railway Crossing Sign, Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge.

It was noted that this has been reported to Staffordshire County Council Highway Defects Department. The clerk was asked to provide County Councillor W. Day with the incident reference.

7. CLERK'S REPORT.

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

7.2 There were no 'outside' meeting dates to note.

7.3 The following circulation material was received and noted:

- Rural Services Network Online.
- NALC – Direct Information Service Issues 793 and 794.
- LCR Online.
- North Staffordshire CRP Progress Report 2011/12. (Copy distributed to all members). It was noted that news articles on Blythe Bridge Railway Station are featured on the front and back pages and also pages 3, 5, 6 and 7.
- Parish Online Newsletter – October edition.
- Came & Company – Newsletter.

8. CORRESPONDENCE:

8.1 Mrs. B. Nicklin – subject: Thursday Afternoon Pensioner's Club.

Council has received a request for a donation, from the above newly formed club. It was noted that the clerk has acquired funding opportunity information from SMCVS.

RESOLVED:

- As the Council give donations in the region of £2000 every year to registered charities it was agreed to forward the funding information to Mrs. Nicklin together with contact details for SMCVS.

8.2 Came & Company – subject: Policy Renewal Documents.

The above documents were received and noted including the condition that weekly inspections of play equipment should take place.

8.3 HMP Oakwood – subject: Board members.

It was noted that the above Private Prison, which opened in April 2012, is looking for unpaid volunteers to monitor the day to day life of those being detained and to ensure that all relevant rules and conditions are complied with. Board members should ideally live within a 20 mile radius of the prison. Contact details: Telephone: 01902 799902 – email: Pamela.Pritchard@uk.g4s.com.

8.4 Staffordshire County Council – subject: 2013 Volunteer Staffordshire Awards.

It was noted that nominations can be made via www.volunteerstaffordshire.org.uk/awards or by telephoning 0300 111 8000.

8.5 Online Watch Link – subject: Crime Incidents.

Details of recent crime incidents were noted.

8.6 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Scam Warnings.

Details of recent scams together with dates of future Community Watchdog Scheme meetings were noted.

8.7 Staffordshire County Council/Stoke-on-Trent City Council – subject: Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Joint Waste Core Strategy 2010-2026 Development Plan Document. Notice of Consultation on Proposed Additional Modifications Following Examination.

It was noted that the Table of Proposed Additional Modifications, the Tracked Change Version of the Strategy, the Policy Map and the Sustainability Appraisal of the Proposed Modifications are available to view on www.staffordshire.gov.uk/wcs and www.consult.staffordshire.gov.uk/portal and at the main Council Offices. Responses can be made by emailing programme.officer@staffordshire.gov.uk, by telephone on 0773 791390 or in writing. Responses must be received no later than 11th November 2012.

8.8 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Core Strategy.

It was noted that the Revised Submission Core Strategy was submitted to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination on 12th September 2012. The above documents, representations and information relating to the examination can be viewed on the District Council's website at www.staffsmoorlands.gov.uk/sm/examination.

8.9 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Standards Arrangements.

Information on the presentation given by Mark Trillo on the above was received and noted.

- 8.10 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Council Tax Benefit Changes – Have your Say.

It was noted that SMDC are inviting organisations and community groups to complete a Local Council Tax Support Scheme Consultation Paper.

Further information is available at www.staffsmoorlands/sm/counciltaxconsultation. Copies are available at Council Receptions and Libraries across the district and copies can also be posted by contacting customer services on 0345 053012 or emailing policy@staffsmoorlands.gov.uk.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said that if any member wanted a copy of the Consultation document she would be happy to collect one from the District Council Offices.

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

The above documents were received and noted. No questions were raised.

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

General:

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Subject:

Police and Crime Commissioner Election on 15th November 2012. (Notice displayed on main notice board).

Email Exchanges:

County Councillor W. Day

County Councillor W. Day

Subject:

Blythe Vale Business Park update.
30 mile speed sign – Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge.

Staffordshire County Council

Staffordshire Police

Parking – Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge.
Parking – Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge;
Vandalism to flower planter in Blythe Bridge;
Motor cycles on recreation ground and open space adjacent to the Butchers Arms.

Blythe Bridge High School

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust

DT Leisure

Vandalism to flower planter.

Invoice for wild flower beds.

Invoice for bmx track and wet pour safety surface.

Faye Lambert (Rail Community Officer)

Anti social behaviour at Blythe Bridge Railway Station.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust

Courses such as willow weaving, woodcarving, photography and watercolour painting are being held at The Wolseley Centre or Westport Lake Visitor Centre. Anyone interested should visit the SWT website or telephone 01889 880100.

Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Village Hall

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Missing dog fouling bin.

Reports:

Fly tipping – Tater Lane, Blythe Bridge;

Damaged bus shelter – adjacent to The William Amory School;

Dog fouling – footpath 4a. (Reported twice).

Owner of dog now identified.

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:

00854/REM – 11 Cypress Grove, Blythe Bridge – landscaping of the site.

00847/OUT – 56 Cheadle Road, Forsbrook – erection of 2 detached two storey dwellings.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton read to members an extract from the accompanying Design and Access Statement for the above planning application 00847/OUT as detailed below:

“This application seeks outline planning consent for the erection of 2no. detached dwellings served by a new vehicular access off the Cheadle Road. The application represents a resubmission following a previously refused scheme for 4no. dwellings which included the demolition of the existing building on site. The Council expressed concern that this building is a heritage asset and should be retained. This scheme therefore now seeks to retain the building, thus overcoming the previous objection to the redevelopment of the site. The proximity of the retained property, its associated outbuildings and the presence of a number of important, mature trees serves to reduce the developable area of the site somewhat. It is considered that the erection of 2no. dwellings on the site is appropriate having regard to these constraints. The proposed dwellings will be no more than two storeys in height with the aim of ensuring that the new development does not impinge upon the setting of the historic asset when viewed from the surrounding area. The existing three storey property and its associated garage and outbuildings will be retained. The proposed dwellings will be sited alongside the existing retained building, in such a way that they will safeguard the heritage asset and achieve a satisfactory relationship with surrounding development. Each dwelling will benefit from its own private amenity space and will also provide for a minimum of two off-road parking spaces to serve each dwelling along with associated manoeuvring space. A tree survey was commissioned to accompany the previous application and it is clear from this survey that the siting of the proposed two dwellings will not impinge upon the health or well being of the two most important trees on the site (Copper Beech T1 and Sycamore T2). A number of poorer quality trees are likely to be removed to accommodate the proposed development, but there is capacity within the site for supplementary planting and landscaping to be undertaken in mitigation. The application is made in outline with all matters except access reserved for subsequent approval. The detailed design and appearance of the development is therefore not known at this stage. It is nevertheless anticipated that the design of the proposed dwellings will take its cues from development in the surrounding area and in particular the adjacent heritage asset. Access to the site is to be secured via a new access off the Cheadle Road. This is considered to be the only suitable location for a new access in terms of achieving an acceptable level of visibility on egress.”

00899/FUL – 4 Oakdene Close, Blythe Bridge – single storey side and rear extensions.

00827/FUL – Farm Cottage, Cheadle Road, Blythe Bridge – dropped kerb.

RESOLVED:

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

00854/REM - To raise no concerns providing the landscaping scheme fits in with the street scene and is not visually unacceptable for adjacent neighbours.

00847/OUT – To state that these proposals are an improvement on the previous application that was refused and to raise no concerns providing the area of the site is large enough to accommodate the additional dwellings, that the scale and design are in keeping and that the privacy of the adjacent neighbour is not compromised.

00899/FUL – To raise no concerns providing the scale and design are in keeping and that there is no adverse effect on neighbouring properties.

00827/FUL – To raise no concerns.

9.2 Planning Approvals:

The following planning approval was noted:

00726/FUL – Meadowsley, 25 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – two storey side extension.

9.3 Planning Refusals:

There were no planning refusals to note.

9.4 Planning matters.

Planning Application 00177/OUT – ‘Westview’ Quabbs Lane, Forsbrook – erection of dormer bungalow.

It was noted that Mr. P. Mellor has appealed against the refusal of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council to allow planning permission for the erection of a dormer bungalow. Representations needed to be made before the 28th September in writing (three copies) quoting reference APP/B3438/A/12/2181029/NWF to the Planning Inspectorate, Room 3/26b, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

10. CEMETERY:

10.1 Cemetery Report.

Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham, Chairman of the Cemetery Committee said she had no issues to report.

10.2 Cemetery Issues.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton briefed members on recent incidents at the cemetery including the shed being broken into. The police have been advised and are monitoring the situation. The gates to the car park entrance have been locked.

11. ENVIRONMENT:

11.1 Environment Report.

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

Smartwater Kits.

Eleven members of Council wanted to purchase one of the above. County Councillor W. Day advised that he could arrange to order these at a cost of £10.00. It was agreed for the clerk to place the order.

Missing Dog Fouling Bin – Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Village Hall.

The clerk has reported the above to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council. They no longer supply new bins but can install a used bin for £65.00. The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee has been informed.

Flower Planters in the Centre of Blythe Bridge.

On the 5th October 2012 recently planted pansies from one of the planters were uprooted and scattered around the paved area. This happened between 2.30-3.30pm. Blythe Bridge High School has been informed and Mr. Mottram is investigating to see if anyone at the High School has any information. The police have also been informed and are checking CCTV footage.

Motor Bikes.

Motor bikes have been on the Recreation ground in Blythe Bridge and also on the open space adjacent to the Butchers Arms in Forsbrook between lunchtime on Wednesday 3rd October 2012 and 7.30 am on 4th October 2012. The police have been informed and have the matter in hand.

Graffiti.

Graffiti on the bus shelter in Cheadle Road opposite Bridgwood Road in Forsbrook has been reported to the police. The graffiti has been removed.

Dog Fouling – Footpath 4a.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council are dealing with this complaint. (Update received on 16.10.12. Area has been patrolled. A warning letter has been sent to the dog owner who has been identified. Forsbrook Primary School has received a talk on pet responsibility and dog fouling).

11.2 Environment Issues.

Issue	Action
Waiting restrictions and removal of parking bays, Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge.	The SMDC Joint Parking Committee has prioritised this and an investigation will be undertaken in 2012/13.
Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge, adjacent to The Bake Shop – parking on double yellow lines.	Agreed to write to Terry Crawford at Staffordshire Moorlands District Council asking if he will arrange for Enforcement Officers to make regular visits to Forsbrook and Blythe Bridge.
Money wastage by SMDC in sending out by post large quantities of recycling bags to replace worn ones.	Noted.
Cars parking on Staffordshire County Council land on Uttoxeter Road, adjacent to the Tesco roundabout.	It was noted that County Councillor Ian Parry is considering having low rail barriers installed.
Councillor John Burgess said that the support of Forsbrook Parish Council for local businesses is appreciated.	Noted.
Vehicle obstructing pedestrian access on the footpath behind The Duke of Wellington.	To monitor to ensure pedestrians do continue to have right of access.
Cars are already parking on the newly resurfaced pavements.	Noted.

12. FINANCE:

12.1 Bank balance.

It was noted that the bank balance as at 30th September 2012 was:

Community Direct Account	116667.90
--------------------------	-----------

12.2 October 2012 accounts.

The following cheques were presented for payment.

Cheque No.	Supplier	Net	VAT	Gross
402219	Arch (North Staffs) Limited	50.00		50.00
402220	British Red Cross	100.00		100.00
402221	Cheadle Citizens Advice Bureau	100.00		100.00
402222	Cheadle Home Link	100.00		100.00
402223	Cheadle & District Animal Welfare	100.00		100.00
402224	Community Council of Staffordshire	50.00		50.00
402225	CPRE	50.00		50.00
402226	Donna Louise Trust	100.00		100.00
402227	Douglas Macmillan Hospice	100.00		100.00
402228	Marie Curie Cancer Care	100.00		100.00
402229	Mencap	100.00		100.00
402230	Royal British Legion	100.00		100.00
402231	Samaritans	100.00		100.00
402232	Savana	100.00		100.00
402233	St. John Ambulance	100.00		100.00
402234	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust	50.00		50.00
402235	Victim Support	50.00		50.00
402236	Vitalise	50.00		50.00
402237	Women's Royal Voluntary Service	100.00		100.00
402238	Longton Central Hall Marching Band	150.00		150.00
402239	Royal British Legion (Poppy Appeal)	66.50		66.50
402240	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust	200.00	40.00	240.00
402241	Premier 1 (UK) Limited	437.50	87.50	525.00
402242	SMDC	365.00	73.00	438.00
402243	Staffordshire Playing Fields Ass.	15.00		15.00
402244	Christine J. Snape	894.35		894.35
402245	DT Leisure (UK) Limited	14545.00	2909.00	17454.00
402246	Town & Country Services	959.00	191.80	1150.80
DD	Eon	31.79	1.21	33.00
DD	Severn Trent Water	28.39		28.39
Total		19292.53	3302.51	22595.04

RESOLVED:

➤ **To approve payment of October 2012 accounts.**

- 12.3 Income and Expenditure Accounts for six month period ending 30th September 2012 had been circulated to members with the agenda. No questions were raised.

The meeting concluded at 8.40pm.

Clerk to the Council

Chairman