

FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18TH MARCH 2013 AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL.

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

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Councillor F. J. Hopley.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Item	Member declaring interest	Nature of interest
SCC Rights of Way Issues Planning 00734/OUT	Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham	Personal – Daughter employed by SCC in the Rights of Way Department. Applicant known.
SCC Highway Issues Tesco	Councillor P. Jones	Personal – SCC Highway Officer Mary Anne Raftery personal friend. Personal – employee of Tesco.
Foxfield Steam Railway	Councillor A. J. Mould	Personal – volunteer at Foxfield Railway.

3. OPEN SESSION.

Standing Orders were suspended.

3.1 Residents Issues.

No issues were raised.

3.2 County Council Report.

County Councillor W. Day gave the following report:

3.2.1 Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge (Minutes dated 18th February 2013 – Page 112 agenda item 3.1.2).

A site visit has taken place. Some patching work has been carried out. The gullies have not yet been cleaned because the machine has broken down but this work will be undertaken as soon as possible.

3.2.2 Crossfield Avenue, Blythe Bridge (Minutes dated 18th February 2013 – Page 118 agenda item 11.2).

Road sweeping comes within the remit of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council.

3.2.3 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge (Adjacent to Chandri Cottage).

A gully grid should have been repaired which it is hoped will solve the problem of flooding. If this is not the case then the issue should be raised again.

3.2.4 Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge.

The 30-mile speed sign will not be reinstated because it does not comply with current legislation.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

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

4.1 Parish Assembly Meeting – 7th March 2013.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton and Councillor A. J. Mould attended the above meeting. Minutes from the meeting will be sent to the Parish Council in due course.

4.2 Staffordshire Parish Councils’ Executive Meeting – 4th March 2013.

Councillor J. W. Burgess attended the above meeting and was introduced to the new Chief Executive Andrew McRae. The majority of the meeting evolved around HS2 and the level of compensation being paid to affected landowners.

**5. DRAFT MINUTES OF:
Council Meeting of 18th February 2013.**

RESOLVED:

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

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.

- 6.1 Minutes dated 18th February 2013 – page 117 – agenda item 11.2 – subject: Chewing Gum Removal.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council Street Scene will be removing chewing gum with a high-pressure steam machine in the worse affected areas.

- 6.2 Minutes dated 18th February 2013 – page 118 – agenda item 11.2 – Pothole in the alleyway to the rear of The Duke of Wellington, Blythe Bridge.

County Councillor W. Day will be undertaking a site visit on Thursday 21st March 2013.

- 6.3 Minutes dated 18th February 2013 – page 118 – agenda item 11.2 – Blythe Bridge Car Park – parking fine.

Councillor Mrs. C. R. Hopley reported that the matter has been investigated and the person who was fined was parked incorrectly and has now accepted the ruling.

7. CLERK'S REPORT.

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

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton referred to two items of correspondence:

- 7.1.1 Staffordshire Playing Fields Association - Legacy Fund.

Unfortunately, re-tiling and decorating of the changing rooms does not meet the criteria.

- 7.1.2 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – Changing Rooms Extension.

Planning permission expires in February 2014. The clerk has spoken to the Planning Officer to see if installation of new fencing will be accepted as commencing the project. Unfortunately, although this was a planning condition this is not considered as part of the extension. Planning approval can only be extended for a further three years. It was **agreed** to discuss the matter at the next Environment Meeting.

- 7.2 Meeting Dates.

NALC Conferences – ‘Putting Communities First’ – Guest Speaker Eric Pickles MP.

6th June 2013 – CBI Conference Centre, Centrepont, London.

11th July 2013 – Mercure Sheffield, St. Pauls Hotel and Spar, Sheffield.

19th September 2013 – Mercure Bristol, Holland House Hotel, Bristol.

- 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 803 and 804.
- LCR Online.

- Local Council Review – Spring 2013 Issue.
- Staffordshire Wildlife Trust – E-news February 2013.
- Came & Company – Spring 2013 Newsletter.
- Clerks & Councils Direct – March 2013 Issue No. 86.
- Staffordshire 3rd Sector Network E-Bulletin.
- Parish Online Newsletter - March Edition.

8. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 8.1 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Improving life for motorists.

It was noted that Staffordshire County Council has launched a new roadworks web tool that will make information on current and planned roadworks free and accessible to everyone. Information can be accessed via www.staffordshire.gov.uk/roadworks or the national site at www.roadworks.org. (Link to be added to the Parish Council website).

- 8.2 Community Council of Staffordshire – subject: Community Parish Recycling Scheme.

Details of the above scheme were discussed. Unfortunately, members could not identify any suitable accessible site for textile banks.

- 8.3 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Moorlands Together Neat and Tidy Events 2013.

Information of some of the successful work already undertaken was noted. It was also noted that Town/Parish and District Councillors are again being encouraged to work together and take part in their own ‘Neat and Tidy Events’ during the months of April, May, June, July and September. It was **agreed** for Councillors to bring ideas back to the April meeting.

- 8.4 Network Rail – subject: Blythe Bridge Level Crossings.

It was noted that Network Rail are currently experiencing a high level of level crossing misuse by motorists with 150 incidents being recorded in the last three months and who are awaiting the outcome of prosecutions. Awareness events are being planned by Network Rail.

- 8.5 Foxfield Light Railway Society – subject: ‘Built by Bagnall’.

Members of Forsbrook Parish Council appreciated the invitation for two guests to the above event on 6th April 2013 but felt that it would be unwise to accept in light of the present issues with regard to the granting by Staffordshire Moorlands District Council of Temporary Licences which are currently being investigated because of the problems experienced with regard to recent three day music events.

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

Details of the above were noted.

- 8.7 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Watchdog Alerts.

Details of the latest Scams/Warnings were noted.

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

The above documents were received and noted.

It was **agreed** to send a 'welcoming' letter to Andrew McRae the new CEO of the Association who took up his duties on 4th March 2013.

Details of the HS2 Policy Statement, which SPCA intends issuing, were noted.

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

General:

Mr. John Giblin, Manager, Draycott Potter FC

Email Exchanges:

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
County Councillor W. Day

Staffordshire Playing Fields Association
Staffordshire Police
Fulford Parish Council

Elizabeth Thomson

Staffordshire County Council

Subject:

Use of football pitch for next season.

Subject:

Changing Room planning application.
Replacement grit bin.
Litter collections.
Chewing gum removal.
Smartwater kits.
Speed signage.
Legacy Fund.
Incidents raised at February Council meeting.
Parking on the grassed area adjacent to Tesco roundabout.
Internal audit.
It was **agreed** to appoint Elizabeth Thomson as the internal auditor for year ending 31.03.13. David Ingman who has audited the Council's books for several years is taking semi retirement.
Report on Highway defects:
Potholes and flooding – Caverswall Road;
Reinstatement of 30m speed sign – Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge;
Blocked drains – A50 adjacent to Chandri Cottage;
Potholes – Trent Road, Forsbrook;
Pothole – Chapel Street, Forsbrook;
Dangerous tree branch – Caverswall Old Road, Forsbrook;
Grit bin refilling;
Missed road sweeping – Crossfield Avenue, Blythe Bridge;
Pothole on the footway behind The Duke of Wellington;
Hedge cutting debris on the junction of Elmwood Drive/Laburnum Close.

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:

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

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton provided members with the following information taken from the applicant's 'Design & Access Statement'.

The look will be traditional in style and the emphasis on old England rather than modern contemporary. A meeting room will be created to support any local interest groups and to engage with the local community. The landscaping of the frontage will create softer planting and there will be attractive railings. It will look like the kind of country pub you would hope to find in an attractive village like Forsbrook.

The design has created a terrace. This allows cover for customers wishing to smoke, as well as an opportunity for easy to access external dining. The terrace overlooks the car park and the brook and faces away from any residential areas.

Joule's Brewery have consulted with Highways who are supportive of the scheme. Discussions have been had to widen the pedestrian access by the side of the pub and also make provision for a bay for the deliveries to pull off the main carriageway.

There has been a bat and bird daytime survey undertaken in February 2013 on the existing flat roofed building. It states that during the inspection no old or new nests for birds was evident, therefore, it is considered that no impact would occur towards these species. Also as no evidence of bats was found and factors describe the building as of low potential for roosting bats, no further bat survey is considered necessary - the building may be demolished as planned.

As regards the site being within Flood Zone 2 and 3, SMDC Validation Department initially asked for a Flood Risk Assessment. The Agent has subsequently spoken with a Planning Officer at SMDC, who did not consider it necessary in view of the fact that the property was not being extended, merely taken down and rebuilding work. The Environment Agency has been asked by the Agent to confirm that is the case.

There will be car parking spaces for 26 a reduction of 2 from 28.

Hours of opening will be 12noon to 11pm 7 days a week and Bank Holidays.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton felt that this application was good news for the village and could prove to be an asset given the substantial investment being made by Joule's brewery. She said that it was very sad when pubs are sold off and cease to trade, as is the case with The Duke of Wellington, Blythe Bridge. Fortunately this is not the case in Forsbrook and Joule's Brewery should be commended.

00191/FUL – 35 East Bank Ride, Forsbrook – proposed extension to rear of existing detached bungalow to form ground floor lounge and kitchen extension with dormer over to form additional bedroom with en-suite and dressing room.

00197/FUL – 5 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – two-storey side extension.

RESOLVED:

- **To respond to the above planning applications as follows:**
 - 00065/FUL – To register no concerns and to state that Council are in total support of the proposals and investment by Joule's Brewery.**
 - 00191/FUL – To register no concerns providing the scale and design are in keeping and the privacy of adjacent neighbours is not compromised. At the same time stating that members note that the extension compared to the footprint of the original dwelling does seem large.**
 - 00197/FUL – To register no concerns providing the scale and design are in keeping and the privacy of adjacent neighbours is not compromised.**

9.2 Planning Approvals:

The following planning approval was noted.

00734/OUT - land fronting Draycott Old Road, Forsbrook – proposed erection of dwelling and demolition of existing structures.

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 reported that the cemetery was looking good. She said that she had arranged two interments whilst the clerk was on holiday – one request being for a woodland burial, which she had advised could not take place because there were no facilities for this at Forsbrook Parish Cemetery. In view of this the family were quite happy with a normal interment.

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.

Football Facilities for season 2013-2014.

Council has received a request from John Giblin, Manager of Cresswell Football Team, whose players live locally, to use the facilities for the next football season. It was **agreed** that the team could be accommodated alongside the present men's senior and ladies senior teams.

Defibrillator

West Midlands Ambulance Service has agreed to provide Forsbrook Parish Council with a defibrillator free of charge. The defibrillator will be sited on the exterior wall of Blythe Bridge Library. A further training course is to be arranged promoting this with a follow up training course for anyone who may be interested.

11.2 Environment Issues.

Issue	Action
Blythe Bridge Railway Station – embankment – Litter.	Report the issue to the Police as it is obvious that youth are congregating on the footbridge. Liaise with the Rail Community Officer Faye Lambert to see if the East Midlands Community Team can clear the debris when they undertake their ‘clean up’ on 4 th June 2013.
Blythe Bridge - electrification of the railway line.	Clerk to check with Rail Community Officer Faye Lambert to see if she is aware of these intentions.
Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – opposite the junction with The Avenue - Parking obstruction.	Clerk to provide Police with registration number of the offending vehicle.
Grassed area adjacent to Tesco roundabout - Cars for sale.	The clerk reported that she was awaiting an update from the clerk of Fulford Parish Council on County Councillor Ian Parry’s intentions.
Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge - Public toilets. High school students congregating at lunch times.	Report to Blythe Bridge High School.
Coral Bookmakers - Litter/cigarette stubs discarded on forecourt..	Write to Coral Bookmakers with copy to head office.
Crossfield Avenue, Blythe Bridge – SMDC refuse lorry damaging the grassed area.	Monitor the situation.
Trent Road/Caverswall Old Road – potholes.	Already reported to Staffordshire County Council Highway Defects department.
Mount Road, Forsbrook – dog mess.	Encourage residents to report directly to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council who respond very positively by sending someone out to clean the area.
Cheadle Road, Forsbrook – School-crossing sign still operating after 10.00am.	Monitor the situation.
Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – blocked drains from Post Office to Railway Station.	Report to Staffordshire County Council Highway Defects department.
Footpath 12 and Footpath behind Shoetime, Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – youth congregating and causing a nuisance.	Report to local police officers.

12. FINANCE:

12.1 Bank balance.

It was noted that the bank balance as at 28th February 2013 was:

Community Direct Account	100853.92
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12.2 March 2013 accounts.

The following cheques were presented for payment.

Cheque No.	Supplier	Net	VAT	Gross
401767	Staffordshire County Council	13.50		13.50
401768	S.M.D.C.	460.80	92.16	552.96
401769	Mrs. G. Burton	250.00		250.00
401770	Mrs. C. J. Snape	894.55		894.55
401771	HM Customs & Excise	740.63		740.63
401772	Mrs. C. J. Snape	193.76	18.50	212.26
401773	Town & Country Services	530.00	106.00	636.00
401774	Mr. C. Brian	395.00		395.00
DD	Eon	23.00		23.00
DD	British Telecom	88.96	17.80	106.76
Total		3590.20	234.46	3824.66

RESOLVED:

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

13. NEWSLETTER.

Members agreed the content of the Spring/Summer Parish Newsletter with the amendment of one photograph and insertion of information regarding the defibrillator if space allows.

The meeting concluded at 8.45pm.

Clerk to the Council

Chairman