

FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2014 AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. G. Burton (Chairman),
Councillor J. W. Cornwall,
Councillor A. J. Mould,
Councillor Miss J. P. Morris,
Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham,
Councillor N. A. Stanier.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor W. Day,
Residents (10),
Mrs. C. J. Snape (Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Councillor Miss S. Farr, Councillor Mrs. C. R. Hopley, Councillor F. J. Hopley, Councillor P. Jones, Councillor A. E. Wilson and Councillor B. Yates.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Item	Member declaring interest	Nature of interest
Staffordshire County Council – William Amory Primary School.	Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton.	Personal – Chairman of Governors at the William Amory Primary School.
Staffordshire County Council – William Amory Primary School.	Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham	Personal – Governor at the William Amory Primary School.
Staffordshire County Council – Rights of Way Issues.		Personal – Daughter employed by Staffordshire County Council in the Rights of Way Department.
Foxfield Steam Railway	Councillor A. J. Mould	Personal – volunteer at Foxfield Railway.

3. OPEN SESSION.

Standing Orders were suspended.

3.1 Residents Issues.

- 3.1.1 Football pitch line marking. (Minutes dated 18th August 2014 – page 63 – agenda item 3.3.7).

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton explained that Council has never officially agreed to cover the cost of the line marking of the football pitch so this would need to go before full Council for consideration at the October Council meeting.

- 3.1.2 A50 road closure and diversion of traffic on to the A521 causing dangerous traffic problems especially when two HGV's travelling in opposite directions need to pass.

County Councillor W. Day said that there was presently a public consultation on implementing traffic waiting restrictions on Uttoxeter Road and Cheadle Road, Blythe Bridge.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton added that there have been meetings with Staffordshire County Council officers regarding introducing a one way system when traffic from the A50 has to be diverted on to the A521 but in their opinion this does not happen very often so they are reluctant to consider any changes.

- 3.1.3 Cycling Event.

Traffic and parking was monitored and there were no complaints.

- 3.1.4 Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge – culvert damaged.

County Councillor W. Day said he would carry out a site inspection and arrange for any necessary repairs.

- 3.1.5 Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge – pavement and road surface condition.

County Councillor W. Day said that Staffordshire County Council would be carrying out some minor road adjustments to help with drainage issues.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton suggested a site meeting be arranged with Staffordshire County Council highway officers, County Councillor W. Day, the clerk and herself to discuss these long outstanding issues and also to discuss the road and pavement surfaces in Brookgate and Eastbank Ride, which were badly in need of maintenance work.

- 3.2 County Council Report.

County Councillor W. Day reported that Staffordshire County Council officer Rob Steele is looking at the legislation with regard to applying tigers teeth/30mile road signage in Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

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

- 4.1 Parish Assembly Meeting of 11th September 2014.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton, Councillor Miss S. Farr and Councillor A. J. Mould attended the above meeting and the minutes of the meeting will be forwarded in due course.

5. DRAFT MINUTES OF: Council Meeting of 18th August 2014.

RESOLVED:

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

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.

- 6.1 Minutes dated 18th August 2014 – Page 63 – agenda item 3.3.3 – Drains.

It was noted that sewage drains are the responsibility of Severn Trent Water. An inspection/site visit arranged by the clerk was undertaken on 22nd August 2014 (reference number 1000149989) and it was agreed that the sewage drains would be cleared. This work took place on 27th August 2014.

Surface water drains are the responsibility of Staffordshire County Council. The surface water drains in Caverswall Road discharge into the River Blithe and in times of heavy rain when the river rises, it limits the outflow. The clerk understands from Staffordshire County Council that the drains in Caverswall Road, Caverswall Old Road and Cheadle Road have been issued with a job sheet for the necessary clearing work to be carried out.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton suggested that the above information along with additional information on the individual Site Allocation options be forwarded to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council to be added to the broad comments made in Council's letter dated 22nd June 2014. **Agreed.**

- 6.2 Minutes dated 18th August 2014 – Page 65 – agenda item 3.3.11 – Hedge cutting.

It was noted that Staffordshire County Council has recently undertaken the cutting of sways in the Parish. The cutting of hedges is the responsibility of individual landowners.

- 6.3 Minutes dated 18th August 2014 – Page 71 – agenda item 11.2 – Dog fouling signs footpath 5b.

It was noted that dog fouling notices have now been erected.

- 6.4 Minutes dated 18th August – page 71 – agenda item 11.1 – Dog fouling bins.

It was noted that the cost of emptying the nine dog fouling bins in Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook at the same frequency as present will cost £2520.00 per annum. After a lengthy discussion Council reluctantly **agreed** for the removal of the dog fouling bins and asked the clerk to liaise with Staffordshire Moorlands District Council regarding providing larger litter bins in some locations where the dog fouling bins were 100% full and to also discuss the resiting of some of the existing litter bins so as to cause the least unpleasantness to residents.

- 6.5 Minutes dated 18th August – page 61 – agenda item 3.2 – Blythe Bridge Library.

To note the response from Gail Edwards to two questions raised:

- (1) John Taylor High School in East Staffordshire has a similar set up to Blythe Bridge High School in respect of the library and Egerton Centre.
and
- (2) A Staffordshire County Council property officer is looking at the question as to whether or not Blythe Bridge High School contributes towards the running costs of the Egerton Centre. Initial thoughts are that a contribution may have been made.

Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham said with regard to the John Taylor High School, the community library is sited within the school grounds so is a different scenario to Blythe Bridge library and the High School.

6.6 Minutes dated 18th August – page 64 – agenda item 3.3.7 – Changing room showers.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton reported that Draycott Potters Football Club have sent in a quotation but before disclosing details asked if Council was in agreement to discuss just this one estimate. She said that the clerk has received some information from an independent service engineer with regard to replacing one of the water heaters that is not working so has a comparison cost for replacing this one item. She stressed that if Council were not happy with basing a decision on just one estimate the matter could be deferred to enable the clerk to obtain additional quotations.

It was agreed to discuss the estimate received from Astan Renewable Energy Limited (original installers of the shower system) based on the following work:

1. Remove all 10 showerheads for cleaning and descaling.
2. Remove all 10 shower push button control valves for cleaning and descaling.
3. Supply and install one new shower boostamatic shower pump unit model Monsoon to provide shower water at 9.5 litres per shower head electrical supply 240volt 13 amp 50htz.
4. Supply and install one new LPHW instant hot water mixing unit Stiebel Eltron model DHE NR 27ks.
5. Commissioning.
6. Provide service report sheet for work carried out.

Exemptions to the quote were:

1. Any other service work other than the mentioned.
2. Any supply and installations other than the mentioned.
3. Any further mechanical supply and installations.
4. Any further electrical supply and installations.
5. Any further parts or spares required to maintain the correct shower block provisions.

Quotation Cost: £2590.00 plus VAT.

Members **agreed** to accept the quotation and to arrange for the work to be carried out as soon as possible.

7. CLERK'S REPORT.

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

7.2 Meetings.

The following meeting dates were noted:

- Community Council of Staffordshire – Annual General Meeting – 9th October 2014 at 7.30pm at Stowe-by-Chartley Village Hall, Station Road, Stowe-by-Chartley, Stafford. ST18 0LG. (Associated documents received).

- Staffordshire Playing Fields Association – Annual General Meeting – 8th October 2014 at 2.00pm at St. George’s Park Football Academy, Newborough Road, Burton-upon-Trent. (Associated documents received).

7.3 The following circulation material was received and noted:

- Rural Services Network Online (Note: Newsletters available on: <http://www.rsnonline.org.uk/news>).
- Staffordshire Wildlife Trust – E-News.
- Staffordshire Moorlands Parish Assembly – Newsletter Issue 4.
- Clerk & Councils Direct – September 2014 Issue.
- Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Magazine – Summer Issue.
- Unity Trust Bank – Newsletter – Issue 6.

8. CORRESPONDENCE:

8.1 Came & Company – subject: Insurance.

Renewal invoice in the amount of £2049.88 for period 1st October 2014 to 30th September 2015 including associated documents as detailed below were received and noted:

A Councillor’s Guide to Council Insurance;
Aviva terms and conditions of the Insurance;
Terms of business;
Locals Councils Scheme.

Agreed for payment to be made as the insurance fee and extensive cover was still very competitive.

8.2 Balfour Beatty – subject: A50 road markings.

It was noted that maintenance work has been carried out to renew the existing road markings between the Tean and Meir junctions. The A50 was closed in both directions to enable the necessary work to be undertaken.

8.3 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – subject: Dog Control Orders.

Schedule of the Dog Control Orders 2014, which came into force on 3rd June 2014, were received and noted. It was **agreed** to order the signs for the children’s fenced in area and cemetery in accordance with the artwork received from Staffordshire Moorlands District Council. It was noted that the signs need to be displayed before any enforcement action against an individual can take place.

8.4 E.On – subject: Street Lighting update and changes to cyclic maintenance regimes.

It was agreed to accept the above changes.

8.5 Owl Online Watch – subject: Crime Incidents/Alerts.

Details of the above were noted.

8.6 Staffordshire County Council – subject: Watchdog Alerts.

Details of the latest Scams/Warnings in the area were noted.

8.7 Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association – subject: Weekly Updates.

The above documents were noted.

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8.8 The following general correspondence was noted and any action agreed.

Email Exchanges:

Gavin McAlister, Your Housing

Resident

Staffordshire County Council – Rights of Way

Elizabeth McGinn, Staffordshire Police

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Grantee – burial plot CR30

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Peakstones Rock Brewery

Staffordshire County Council (Rob Steele)

Staffordshire County Council

Wicksteed Playscapes

Draycott Potter FC

SPCA

SPCA – NALC Legal Topic Notes

Subject:

Footpath linking Mount Road with recreation ground. **It was noted that the overgrowth has now been cut back.**

Police contact information.

Dog fouling signs on footpath 5b.

Parking concerns.

Planning approval – August 2014.

Overgrown hedge.

Removal of dog fouling bins.

Planning application for a change of use from A1 to A4 on Unit 1, 246 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge for a micropub.

Issues raised:

Caverswall Road – drains, road and pavement surface and speed road markings.

Highway defect reports:

Street lighting – Chapel Street, Forsbrook, footpath linking Uttoxeter Road with Elmwood Drive and footpath linking Uttoxeter Road with The Avenue, Blythe Bridge.

Overgrown hedges restricting pedestrian access on the footway – Cheadle Road, Blythe Bridge.

British Telecom inspection chamber – Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge.

Grit Bin – Roseacre Avenue (junction with Clematis Avenue).

Annual play inspection.

Quotation for improvement work to changing room showers.

75th Annual General Meeting – 1st December 2014; Motions for debate; Nominations for members of the SPCA Executive Committee.

The powers of a Parish meeting in a Parish without a separate Parish Council;

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:

SMD/2014/0523 - Calverhay Farm, Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – outline planning permission for erection of 4 dwellings.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton briefed members on the above application as follows:

The proposal is for four detached three bedroomed dwellings set within their own amenity and garden space, with integral garages. They will take their key design features from the development on the opposite side of the A521, which comprises of eleven four and five bedroomed detached homes set around a cul-de-sac. Most of the neighbouring dwellings have frontage car parking and large rear gardens. The site of the proposal presents an open gap to an otherwise built up frontage.

The design and appearance of each of the detached houses is similar to provide a themed appearance mirroring the design style of the development opposite which at the same time, are appropriate and contextual with the appearance of other large detached houses in the area and in keeping.

The layout and design of the proposed dwellings, which includes reasonable separation distances, seeks to ensure that there is no significant loss of privacy or adverse impact on the outlook or amenity of the occupiers in the existing dwellings adjoining the site. Overlooking will be minimised and there is no overlooking to the rear or front.

The properties will be two storey in keeping with other properties along this stretch of the A521. The properties will be set back in line with neighbouring properties and any mature trees will be protected where possible and incorporated into the design of the gardens. Also a unifying element of the design would be the frontage treatments extensive shrub planting facing on to the A521.

As regards Planning Policy Compliance with regard to the Green Belt, Paragraph 89 does allow for the limited infilling in villages. This site, although it is in Green Belt, offers an excellent opportunity to increase housing supply in the built up area. There is a precedent both nationally and locally for small scale infill residential development, which is in keeping with its surroundings in Green Belt locations.

The site is no longer used for agricultural purposes and the buildings associated with this farm are located immediately adjacent to the application site and are in a very poor state of repair. Some of these structures will be demolished as part of the development proposal and the necessary ecological studies and surveys will be undertaken at the appropriate time.

The site is adjacent to the main A521 and the access and egress onto the plots will be of a similar standard to existing neighbouring properties with adequate turning space within the properties boundaries to allow forward access on to the A521.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton therefore proposed that Council raise no objections other than to make the normal comments – that the scale and design in the Green Belt location are acceptable and that the privacy of adjacent neighbours is not compromised.

She also suggested to members that as it appears from the total area of the site that more housing than the four proposed could be considered to suggest this to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council for consideration under the Site Allocation proposals.

Agreed

9.2 Planning Approvals:

There were no planning approvals to note.

9.4 Planning Refusals:

There were no planning refusals to note.

9.5 Planning matters.

No planning related issues were raised.

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.

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:

Wicksteed Playscapes Limited – Annual Play inspection.

The annual play inspection is due in October/November at a cost of £71.00 for an accompanied inspection. It was **agreed** for the clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

Anti Social Behaviour and in particular incident that took place on 24th August outside the Co-op Late Shop where a vulnerable adult was pressurised to buy cigarettes and was subsequently assaulted.

Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton said that she was sure all members were concerned regarding the above very nasty incident. She continued highlighting that there used to be four police officers in our area who also covered Caverswall, Dilhorne, Draycott, Tean, Checkley and Fole and that there are now only two PCSO's, who are both excellent and work very hard, but they still have to cover the same large area and whilst there is a response vehicle, again covering a large area, this vehicle responds to incidents, and does not patrol areas, acting as a deterrent. She suggested inviting Inspector Ian Hancock, the new Police Inspector covering Staffordshire Moorlands to one of Forsbrook Parish Council meetings to discuss policing in our area.

Agreed.

11.2 Environment Issues.

Issue	Action
Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Village Hall – Barrier to be reinstated which will be locked when the Doctor’s Surgery and Village Hall are not in use. Private Car park notice will also be displayed.	Noted.
Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Village Hall Open Day on 11 th October 2014.	It was noted that official invites will be sent out.
Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – between the Post Office and Railway Station – blocked drains.	Report again to Staffordshire County Council Highway Defects Department.
Footpath linking Mount Road to Brook Close – anti social behaviour.	Advise local police officers.
Blythe Bridge Railway Station – volunteers required.	Agreed to include in the next newsletter.

12. FINANCE:

12.1 Bank balance.

It was noted that the bank balance as at 31st August 2014 was:

Co-operative Bank plc	22635.37
Unity Trust Bank	100041.92
Total	122677.29

12.2 September 2014 accounts.

The following cheques were presented for payment.

Cheque No.	Supplier	Net	VAT	Gross
402364	SMDC	307.20	61.44	368.64
402365	Came & Company (Broker Network Ltd)	2049.88		2049.88
402366	PED Bailey	280.00		280.00
402367	Mr. D. W. Shaw	80.00		80.00
402368	Grant Thornton	300.00	60.00	360.00
402369	Morgan Fire Protection ltd.	56.10	11.22	67.32
402370	Douglas Macmillan Hospice	100.00		100.00
402371	Christine J. Snape	1027.00		1027.00
402372	HM Revenue & Customs	787.61		787.61
402373	Christine J. Snape	181.56	2.28	183.84
402374	Town & Country Services	1204.00	240.80	1444.80
DD	Eon	66.00		66.00
DD	British Telecom	143.70	28.74	172.44
Total		6583.05	404.48	6987.53

RESOLVED:

- **To approve payment of September 2014 accounts.**

The meeting concluded at 8.50 pm

