

# **FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs G Burton (Chairman)  
Councillor J W Cornwall  
Councillor Miss S Farr  
Councillor Mrs C Hopley  
Councillor Mr F Hopley  
Councillor P Jones  
Councillor Miss J P Morris  
Councillor A J Mould  
Councillor Mrs P Shufflebotham  
Councillor Mrs N Stanier  
Councillor A E Wilson  
Councillor B Yates

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Residents (8)  
Mrs D Plant Clerk

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies were received from County Councillor W. Day, Councillor J Burgess.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Member declaring interest</b>	<b>Nature of interest</b>
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 - Highway Issues	Councillor P. Jones	Personal – Staffordshire County Council Highway Officer Mary Anne Raftery personal friend.
Tesco		Personal – employee of Tesco.
Foxfield Steam Railway	Councillor A. J. Mould	Personal – volunteer at Foxfield Railway.
Staffordshire County Council – William Amory Primary School. Staffordshire County Council – Rights of Way Issues.	Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham	Personal – Governor at the William Amory Primary School. Personal – Daughter employed by Staffordshire County Council in the Rights of Way Department.

**3. OPEN SESSION.**

Standing Orders were suspended.

3.1 Residents Issues.

Mark from Foxfield Steam Railway attended the meeting as a member of the public and provided an update on the forthcoming events for the railway.

1 – 4 May – A caravan rally will take place with approximately 40 caravans.  
16-17 May – A military day with approximately 60-70 display vehicles and a 2 plane fly over  
Aug 14 – 16 – A caravan rally with approximately 40 caravans.

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Chairman Councillor Mrs G Burton asked if the events were to be marshalled and mark explained that they provide marshalling at the time of the events and extra parking had been provided at an adjacent field by Heath House Farm.

He also explained that the venue operates a resident's scheme where local residents enjoy a reduced price to ride on the trains and on purchases from the bar.

He went on to explain that they had experienced problems with anti-social behaviour. A group of local teenagers aged between 13 - 15 had been using a disused tanker on the line to congregate and this had now been moved with the consequence of displacing the group. As a result they had been the victims of vandalism to the cost of approximately 3 – 4 thousand pounds.

The local police officer from Cheadle is aware and Chairman Councillor Mrs G Burton asked if the clerk could make contact with Cheadle Police Station to discuss.

### 3.2 The Slow sign on Cheadle Road

It was reported that the sign had been hit by a vehicle Clerk to report to Staffordshire County Council.

### 3.3 County Council Report.

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

**Standing Orders were reinstated.**

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

Chairman Councillor Mrs G Burton explained that she had recently attended the Parish Assembly meeting with Councillor Farr and Councillor Mould. The meeting was mainly to discuss the format of meetings going forward and minutes would be emailed to us in due course.

## **5. TO APPROVE THE DRAFT MINUTES OF: Council Meeting of March 16<sup>th</sup> 2015 RESOLVED – TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES AS A CORRECT RECORD.**

**5.1 Chairman Councillor Mrs G Burton brought to the Parish Councils attention the item under Financial 12.2 of the matter of the clerk's replacement computer as agreed by Councillors.**

## **6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.**

6.1 Page 127 – Councillor F Hopley explained that he had recently spoken to Cheadle Police and they had explained that the staff to answer the 101 non-emergency number had been moved to the control room in Stafford and on some occasions there were only two staff available to answer the calls – this may have resulted in the delays Councillor Hopley had experienced.

The Clerk to contact Cheadle Police to ascertain the present position regarding the Police Control Room

6.2 Email from Sir William Cash regarding his support for the campaign against the travellers sites in Blythe bridge and Forsbrook

Chairman Councillor Mrs G Burton read out the correspondence.

Councillor Hopley said that the owners of the land had made it clear that they were not going to sell for travellers sites and Dai Lerner from SMDC had stated that the authority would not.

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be compulsory purchasing land

Councillor Mould stated that Mr Elkin who owns the site at Calverhay Farm has resubmitted plans to build houses on the site. SEE AGENDA ITEM 9.1

## 7. CLERK'S REPORT.

- 7.1 Agenda enclosures, correspondence outgoing and emails not detailed as separate agenda items were noted.
- 7.2 Flag Pole – The quote for the replacement flag pole express was received £245 for a 6 metre fibre glass pole with an internal halyard. To have Flagpole express fit the pole is an extra £400. It was agreed that the clerk should order the pole and ask the Parish council Lengthsman to fit it.
- 7.3 The Clerk explained that in line with the Transparency for Local Authorities Act implemented in December 2014 The Parish Council could consider looking at to look at the Parish Web Site to enable The Parish Council to publish items of expenditure etc., and to also allow the web site to be more up to date in terms of technology. The Clerk had received 1 quote for the development of the web site and is awaiting a second quote which she will bring to the next meeting for The Parish Council to make a decision.

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE.

**Note: All correspondence/documents were available to view on the evening of the Council Meeting or by prior arrangement with the clerk.**

- 7.4 Faye Lambert from The North Staffordshire Community Rail Partnership has emailed the Clerk requesting that the previous arrangement for The Parish Council to provide flowers for the planters at the Railway Station and include them in the Parish Council watering contract be maintained. It was agreed that this arrangement continue and the Clerk will contact Faye Lambert to inform her.
- 7.5 David from Premier had contacted the clerk to ask if we required their services for watering the floral displays in the parish for another year at a cost of £437.50 plus Vat per month for four months regardless of how many watering visits are made. – It was agreed that the Clerk contact him to arrange.
- 7.6 Staffordshire County Council has emailed to say that The Neighbourhood Highways team will be starting in the area mid-April.

## 9. PLANNING.

- 9.1 Planning Applications:

SMD/2015/0097 – 63 Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge – Demolition of existing detached garage and porch and erection of side entrance porch and rear detached studio workshop.

**Resolved** – To ask that the scale and design are in keeping with the street scene and that the studio is not used for commercial purposes

SMD/2015/0143 – 116 Ingestre, Caverswall Road, Blythe Bridge – Front Porch and single storey side extension.

**Resolved** – To ask that the scale and design are in keeping with the street scene and the privacy of adjacent neighbouring properties is not compromised.

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SMD/2015/0153 – 9 Dove Road, Forsbrook – Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

**Resolved** – To ask that the scale and design are in keeping with the street scene and the privacy of adjacent neighbouring properties is not compromised.

SMD/2015/0201 – Land at Calverhay Farm, Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge – Outline permission with some matters reserved for erection of 4 detached dwellings.

Chairman Councillor Mrs G Burton briefed members on the 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 bedroom dwellings have frontage car parking's and large rear gardens. The site 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 separations 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 is minimal 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 the A521

As regard 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 proposals and the necessary ecological studies and surveys have been undertaken at the appropriate time.

The site 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.

Reference was also made to to the Ecological Assessment, tree Survey, not within an area at risk from flooding and the conclusion of the Design and Access Statement dated April 2015

Chairman Councillor Mrs G Burton therefore proposed that the Council fully support the application.

**Resolved – That the Council raise no objections – that the scale and design in the Green belt location are acceptable and that the privacy of adjacent neighbours is not compromised.**

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SMD/2015/0167 – 80 Brooklands, Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge – Loft conversion required raised ridge height with dormers to the rear elevation.

**Resolved** – To ask that the scale and design are in keeping with the street scene.

9.2 Planning Approvals:

SMD/2015/0038 – 91 Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge – Two storey side extension and rendering property.

9.3 Planning Refusals

SMD/2014/0562 – 20 Draycott Road, Forsbrook – Demolition of existing garage and store buildings and replacement with a chalet bungalow.

**CEMETERY.**

10.1 Cemetery Report.

Chairman of the Cemetery Committee Councillor Mrs P Shufflebotham explained that following the Cemetery Committee Meeting 18.3.15 the fees for the forthcoming financial year had been increased as detailed:-

	Residents	Non Residents
New grave 2 people	£200	£500
Reopening of grave for 2 <sup>nd</sup> burial	£150	£400
Plot for cremated remains	£150	£400
Reopening for 2 <sup>nd</sup> cremated remains	£130	£330
New grave for a child or still born infant	£80	£250

It was agreed that the non-resident criteria is to remain the same.

It was agreed that the memorial fees for the financial year 2015/2016 would be:-

Fee for placing a memorial	£70
Additional inscription	£40

**RESOLVED – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING OF 18.3.15**

She went on to explain that there had been an issue recently with The Co-operative Funeral services where a funeral had taken place without the clerk being present and asked the Clerk to explain the circumstance.

The Clerk stated that the burial had gone ahead without the green form being checked against the coffin name plate. After taking advice from the SPCA they had advised The Parish Council contact the Institute of Cemetery and crematorium Management and it would be good practice that The Parish Council are members.

Resolved – That Forsbrook parish Council join the ICCM at a cost £90 pa

**11. ENVIRONMENT.**

## 11.1 Environment Report.

Councillor Chairman Mrs Gill Burton Chairman of the Environment Committee explained following on from the Environment meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> march 2015 the fees for the football changing rooms had increased to £600 pa.

**RESOLVED – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF 18.3.15**

## 11.2 Environment Issues.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action</b>
Damaged to the bus shelters opposite John Rice Garage and Travis Perkins.	Clerk explained that SCC had made contact that day and the work was iniment
The litter bin next to the Dr Surgery adjacent to Jubilee Gardens was empty – could this be resited to Jubilee Gardens to enable people to use it.	Clerk to contact SMDC to action
Light column on pedestrian crossing in Blythe Bridge Centre is not straight and difficult to see.	Clerk to contact SCC
Public Toilets are being used as a smoking shelter for local students.	Clerk to contact Blythe Bridge High School and PCSO
Barriers on Tesco roundabout are a in a state of disrepair	Clerk will speak to Clerk at Fulford Parish Council
Parking in the entrance to Millbrook Gardens is becoming a safety issue	Clerk to contact SCC

**12. FINANCE.**

## 12.1 Bank balance.

It was noted that the bank balances are

Co-operative Bank plc – 30 March 2015	16471.37
Unity Trust Bank – 31 March 2015	100211.00
<b>Total</b>	

## 12.2 March 2015 accounts.

The following cheques were presented for payment.

	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Gross</b>
402436	Clerk Salary			763.38
402438	Forget me Not Flowers			25.00
402445	Clerks expenses for items for the parish	215.43	11.00	226.43
402444	Community Council of Staffs membership			25.00
402439	Village Hall hire for Parish Council meetings			234.00
402441	Quality Office supplies – stationary	132.24	26.45	158.69
402442	Big Brother CCTV changing rooms	1102.17	220.44	1322.61
402440	SMDC Street Cleansing	300.80	60.16	360.96
DD	Eon			66.00

**RESOLVED:**

- **To approve payment of March 2015 accounts.**

**Clerk to the Council**

**Chairman**