

# FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL. 7.30 PM

Members Present:- Councillor F Hopley (Chairman)  
Councillor A Mould  
Councillor C Hopley  
Councillor P Jones  
Councillor R Mancey  
Councillor K Giblin  
Councillor A Wilson  
Councillor J Morris  
Councillor I Herdman  
Councillor J Cornwall  
Councillor P Shufflebotham

In Attendance Dawn Plant – Clerk  
Residents – 9  
PCSO Staples  
District Councillor Mr K Flunder  
Mrs H Bickerton – Care and Fun Club

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
Apologies were received from Councillor B Yates
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Item	Member declaring interest	Nature of interest
Foxfield Steam Railway	Councillor A. J. Mould	Volunteer at Foxfield Railway.
Staffordshire County Council – William Amory Primary School. Staffordshire County Council – Rights of Way Issues.	Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham	Governor at the William Amory Primary School. Daughter employed by Staffordshire County Council in the Rights of Way Department.
Blythe Bridge Village Hall Committee	Councillor Mrs C Hopley	Part of the management committee.
Blythe Bridge Village Hall Committee	Councillor Ms J Morris	Part of the management committee.
Blythe Bridge Village Hall Committee	Councillor Mr A E Wilson	Part of the management committee.
Blythe Bridge Village Hall Committee	Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley	Part of the management committee.
Staffordshire County Council – William Amory Primary School.	Councillor Mr I Herdman	Personal – Governor at the William Amory Primary School

### 3. OPEN SESSION

Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley introduced Mrs H Bickerton to Forsbrook Parish Council and went on to explain that Mrs Bickerton managed The Care and Fun Club at The William Amory Primary School and also The Toy Library in Forsbrook. Mrs Bickerton had recently submitted a bid to manage Blythe Bridge Library and had been successful.

Mrs Bickerton explained that she had been running the Care and Fun Club and Toy Library for over years and this had been very successful, she was concerned that the parish was going to lose the facility of the library so had bid for the library and been successful.

Councillor Mrs P Shufflebotham asked how many other bids had been received, Mrs Bickerton did not know the answer to this.

Councillor Mrs P Shufflebotham went on to ask if the library would be running any courses in the future as in the past the genealogy courses had proved very popular. Mrs Bickerton said that she was currently investigating these sorts of options and was talking to Leek College and that it was these sorts of things and the community involvement which the future success of the library will depend. There was not any extra funding available via Staffordshire County Council at present although they were intending to maintain the building and pay for the heating etc. The current members of staff are facing redundancy and she praised their cooperation in the face of a difficult time. Staffordshire County Council will provide a "floating" member of staff who will service a number of libraries and will provide information on a wide range of issues.

Councillor Ms R Mancey asked if Mrs Bickerton was intending to hold a community consultation event. Mrs Bickerton replied yes and she would keep the Parish Council informed of the dates.

Councillor Mrs P Shufflebotham asked if the good news could be added to the library.

Action: - Clerk to Update Website.

PCSO John Staples addressed the Parish Council and explained:-

The recent spate of thefts from vehicles had now stopped. Two of the perpetrators had been arrested and two were on the run, however the Police know who they are. The thefts had been facilitated by a device purchased over the internet which allows thief's to copy the electronic codes of car keys to allow them to just open the door. He asked members of the public to be mindful about leaving valuables in their cars.

He went on to say that crime figures for the Parish are down 69% from last year.

Councillor Mrs P Shufflebotham asked if anyone had been caught for the damage on the recreation ground and he replied no not at the moment.

Councillor Mr A Mould asked if PCSO Staples could arrange a speed check through Forsbrook Village adjacent to the Spar shop.

PCSO Staples stated that patrols had been stepped up around Jasmine Close and to date no drugs issues had been found.

Councillor Ms Morris asked that now the nights are darker earlier could patrols be stepped up around the library to stop youths congregating. PCSO Staples added that Blythe Bridge High School had invited them into the school to do some work with them and he was hopeful that this would be a good preventative measure for the future.

### **3.1 Residents Issues**

Councillor Mrs P Shufflebotham asked Mr Bagnall from Blythe Bridge Village Hall and explained that she was surprised that a donation request had been received from the Village Hall and explained that the Parish Council were only able to consider donation request in the October meeting.

Mr Bagnall asked that the email he had sent be read out so that he could clarify the situation – the email was read out under 6.1

Mrs Bagnall addressed the Parish Council and explained that she now knew who owned the wall next to the library and it was in fact SMDC

A member of the public had brought along a bag on metal pegs to the meeting which had been left on the football pitch after the last match.

She went onto explain that she as a responsible dog owner picked up her dogs mess and perhaps the footballers could do the same.

Councillor Mrs K Giblin took the pegs and said she would speak to the players.

A member of the public asked if The Parish Council could contact Staffordshire Council at the possibility of the double yellow lines being extended on Stallington Lane in the region of The William Amory Primary School. The area is an accident waiting to happen.

Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley said he was having a meeting with the Head at the School and will report back but in the meantime asked the Clerk to contact Staffordshire County Council and Grays to ask if they can park more considerately.

### **3.2 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

In the absence of Councillor W Day nothing to report

#### **4. INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING OUTSIDE MEETINGS INCLUDING DISTRICT COUNCILLOR K FLUNDER**

Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley told the Parish Council that a number of the Parish Council and the Clerk had attended the Checkley and Surrounding Parishes Local Plan meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> September.

District Councillor Mr K Flunder received permission to address the meeting and answered a question posed about the housing numbers to be built by SMDC were too reduced, and this is something that could possibly happen.

Checkley and Surrounding Parishes Local Plan group were planning another meeting before the end of the year and asked if Forsbrook were going to be part of this. A vote was taken all Parish Councillors were in favour apart from Councillor Mr J Cornwall.

District Councillor K Flunder went onto explain that he was keen to ensure that the parishes in the south of the district marketed themselves. SMDC had joined forces with High Peak Borough Council and Leek was now being marketed as being part of the Peak park. The parishes in the south had to find ways of making themselves unique.

District Councillors Flunder and Herdman were intending to hold bi monthly surgeries with PSCO Charlesworth and Staples.

Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley stated that we need to be certain what is happening in Cheadle with the housing allocation as this would have a massive impact on Forsbrook. District Councillor Flunder said that Cheadle are pushing for a traffic survey.

District Councillor Flunder went on to say that the neighbourhood plans for parishes were important way to quantify the need and numbers of housing etc.

#### **5. APPROVE DRAFT MINUTES FROM 20 August 2015**

**RESOLVED TO APPROVE**

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

6.1 August Minutes item 8.16 – Donation to the Village Hall

The Clerk read the email from Mr Bagnall from Blythe Bridge Village Hall management committee. No further comments were made.

6.2 August Minutes open session – Slow signs on Cheadle Road.

Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley read an email from SCC which explained that the possibility of these signs would be considered at the Divisional Highways Programme meeting.

#### **7. CLERKS REPORT RECEIVED**

## 8. CORRESPONDANCE

8.1 Email from Mark Winnington regarding the Bus Service changes

Noted

8.2 SPCA Planning training

Councillor Mrs R Mancey asked if she could be booked onto the training on 13.10.15

8.3 Came and Company insurance renewal

RESOLVED TO RENEW

8.4 Email from Ruth Wooddisse SMDC

Councillor Mr F Hopley read an email out from Ruth Wooddisse and asked the Parish Councils permission for him to arrange a meeting with her to discuss the housing allocation for Forsbrook Parish. Councillor Mr I Herdman asked what he intended to ask at the meeting. Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley said all the things that we have objected to on our consultation response and that is was another way of making sure our voice is heard.

8.5 Quotes for the changing rooms showers

Chairman Councillor F Hopley read out the two quotes received for the work required on the showers at the football changing rooms.

Councillor I Herdman asked who carried out the work last year and why we were having to do the same work again.

Councillor K Giblin explained that no parts were replaced and that the shower heads had been cleaned only.

Resolved to ask T Bramwell Plumbing to re quote for replacement of 10 non concussive shower valves and anti-vandal shower heads (already quoted) and add to the quote a lime scale filter, and to ask him to save the old parts which were cleaned by Astan Renwables last year for inspection and possible further action if required.

8.6 Notice from Grant Thornton that Annual Return was satisfactory

Noted

8.7 Email from Tom Morris SC regarding road closure A521 on 4<sup>th</sup> October

Noted

8.8 Information regarding new planning policy in relation to reavellers sites

Noted

8.9 Email from Villages Voices Staffordshire Moorlands regarding the rect press article about Mike Worthington and SMDC Planning Committee.

Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley addressed the Parish Council and explained the situation around Councillor Mike Worthington and his recent comments at August Planning Committee which had been reported in the press.

Villages Voices has asked if Forsbrook Parish Council will support them in asking that the planning application for the cresswell development is reconsidered.

Resolved – Clerk will contact SMDC and support the Villages Voices campaign.

## **9. PLANNING.**

### 9.1 Planning Applications:

SMD/2015/0555 1 Oakdene Close, Blythe Bridge – Demolition of conservatory, bay window, and brick outhouse and erection of a single storey side and rear extension.

Resolved To comment that the scale and design is in keeping with the street scene and that neighbours privacy is considered

### 9.2 Planning matters.

Amendment to Spar Forsbrook licence

Noted

### 9.2 Planning Refusals / Approvals

Approval

SMD/2015/0338 – Full permission for development Former Kennels, Chapel Street, Forsbrook, ST11 9DA

## **CEMETERY**

- 10.1 Councillor P Shufflebotham, Chairman of the cemetery committee reported that the cemetery was looking tidy, the land had been rotated and poppies had been ordered to scatter.

## **10 ENVIRONMENT**

### 11.1 Environment Report

Wicksteed quote for replacement of safety surface under basket swing.

The cost to repair the surface was £1200.

Councillor Herdman asked that we do not replace this surface until the CCTV had been installed.

## 11.2 CCTV Quotes

The quotes from I Storm security and Pegasus Fire and Security were considered.

The least expensive quote was received from Pegasus for £3757.32

A vote was taken and unanimously:-

RESOLVED to ask Pegasus Fire and Security to carry out the CCTV installation.

## 11.2 Environment Issues

Councillor Peter Jones reported the issue of horses on the green space next to the Butchers Arms – The Clerk will investigate the bylaws and order a new signage

Councillor A Mould asked if SCC or PCSO had responded about the van parking next to Forsbrook Wine Cellars. Clerk said no but she will chase

Councillor K Giblin asked if dogs on leads signs could be added to the recreation ground. – The Clerk will investigate the bylaws and order a new signage

Councillor Herdman – asked of the hedges and nettles on Caverswall Road could be attended to – The Clerk to contact SCC

Councillor Cornwall – asked of the grids on Uttoxeter Road could be “sucked” – Clerk to Contact SCC

Councillor Shufflebotham – asked if the hedges from property next to The Roebuck could be cutback – Clerk to contact landowner

Councillor Shufflebotham – asked for permission to purchase new tablecloths and goods for Remembrance Day (resolved to agree unanimously) and asked the Clerk to send the letters out to the relevant parties.

Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley asked if we could add to the next agenda a discussion on an annual carnival.

### **Clerk to arrange Cemetery and Environment meetings**

12.1 To receive bank balances as at 31 September 2015

12.2 To approve accounts of August/September 2015

Cheques issued were:-

SMDC - £368.64 + 460.80 Litter pick

Forget me not flowers - £106.00 - (Flowers for long standing councillors retiring)

Wicksteed £1200 – New surface under basket swing due to vandalism

Morgan Fire Protection - £66.34 – Annual fire extinguisher check

Town and Country £2347.20 – Lengthsman

Staffordshire Playing Fields Association - £15 – Annual membership

Came and Company - £2111.38 – Annual Insurance renewal

Grant Thornton - £360 – Annual Audit fee

Clerk Salary and expenses incurred - £1081.34

HMRC - £1164.97 PAYE

The meeting ended 9.40pm

**The meeting ended at 9.15pm**