

FORSBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Dawn Plant. 18 Hillside Avenue, Forsbrook, Staffordshire, ST11 9BH

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MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2015 AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE HALL. 7.30 PM

Members Present:- Councillor F Hopley (Chairman)
Councillor C Hopley
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 – 8
District Councillor Mr K Flunder
County Councillor William Day

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Councillor P Jones, 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
Butchers Arms Football Club	Councillor Mrs K Giblin	Treasurer
SMDC Potential Site options	Councillor I Herdman	Resident adjacent to potential sites.

3 OPEN SESSION

3.1 Residents Issues

Litter across the recreation ground is being mowed, causing the cans and bottles to be strewn across the area. – Clerk will speak to the Lengthsman.

Certain properties along Elmwood Drove are allowing their front garden plants to grow into the pavement making it difficult for buggies and pedestrians to pass. – Clerk to contact SCC Highways

Various pieces of football paraphernalia were presented to the Parish Council (hammer, spikes, tapes) these items had been left on the pitch along with a step ladder following on from Sundays game. A discussion took place and Councillors asked the Clerk to write to The Butchers Arms Football team and state that should this happen again the cost of cleaning the area up would be passed onto them.

A member of the public asked why the Parish Council had not publicised the answers to SMDC Public Consultation on the housing sites. The Clerk explained that the response had been submitted to SMDC and should anyone wish to view the hard copy response then they could come visit the clerk's house to see it or she could email it to them. Chairman Councillor Frank Hopley stated that the Parish Council were doing their best and that they had been kept in the dark over a lot of the issues. County Councillor W Day reiterated that planning issues at SMDC were tricky and that the consultation had been a disaster.

The same member of the public went onto to ask why the Parish Council had not held a cemetery meeting since 2013. The clerk explained that there was a meeting held in March and if the minutes were not on the web site this was unfortunately an oversight and she would arrange for them to be added the next day. He then went onto ask about a grid at the cemetery which he had reported a few months ago. The clerk stated that it had been repaired, unfortunately he did not feel that it was a satisfactory standard. Councillor P Shufflebotham said we would inspect and if the Parish Council thought it necessary they would ask for further repairs to be instigated.

It was reported that the green area on Elmwood Drive was overgrown. Cler to report to SMDC

3.2 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley welcomes back Councillor W Day.

Councillor Day reported the following:-

The Library had recently been hit by a vehicle which has caused substantial damage. As a result the library was going to undergo a programme of repair:-

1st Phase – 23.11.15 Library will be open whilst the repairs are ongoing.

2nd Phase – 7.12.15 – 21.12.15 the Library will be closed whilst these repairs are undertaken.

Any books which are due back during the closed period will not incur fines.

Councillor Day went onto to explain that he had recently been to a meeting at Staffordshire County Council regarding the medium term financial strategy.

As from 2020 SCC will not receive any funding from central government and will need to look to other areas of raising funds. This would obviously have an impact on Council Tax bills and people should be prepared to expect a rise in the amount they pay.

Councillor T Mould asked if SCC would be expected to give money to the government, Councillor Day said no.

Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley said that he anticipated that a lot of the small voluntary groups would disappear.

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

District Councillor K Flunder briefed the meeting on the progress of the local housing consultation.

He stated that local people needed to support the most feasible option from the sites. Councillor Fluner and Councillor Herdman were attending a workshop in December to look at the local responses for their area and this will be followed by the Parish Council meetings at SMDC where all responses will be able to be viewed and discussed.

There will be two further periods of consultation in and the final results will be forwarded to the Home Office in March 2017.

Chairman Councillor Frank Hopley said the road infrastructure was the main issue and that we cannot keep building houses.

County Councillor W Day advised that The Parish Council ask for an area review.

5. APPROVE DRAFT MINUTES FROM 19 October 2015 and to approve the Cemetery and Environment minutes of 19 October 2015

RESOLVED TO APPROVE

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

12.3 – 19.10.15 – Donations information about Arch and Cheadle CAB

Resolved to include them in the annual donations list

11 19.10.15 Email from PCSO Adam Charlesworth

An email was read out to the meeting from PCSO Adam Charlesworth regarding Community Speed Watch.

I have asked about a Community Speed Watch group being set up in the area in 2012, but there was no real interest at the time. A few years ago, these were the following prices:

"To begin with the scheme will require a minimum of 6 volunteers and will need funding support from either the local Councillor or Parish Council. The equipment costs £801 for the hand held device, £107 for 2 fold out road signs and high visibility waistcoats are priced from £5.15 to £7.48 dependent on size. Some schemes have 3 high visibility waistcoats which are shared and other schemes have 1 garment per volunteer. Obviously the more high visibility waistcoats that are purchased the greater the costs."

I will double check these prices with you and get back to you when I can. Ideally, if the Council agree to pay these costs to set up the group, and six volunteers can be found, then I will need the details of somebody picked to be the co-ordinator and pass them onto the Speed Watch department. Somebody there will go through invoicing etc. and organise for training sessions for the volunteers and set it all up.

County Councillor W Day stated that if the Parish Council could find the volunteers he would fund the equipment via his County Council Members initiative so long as he received an application before 06.12.15

Councillor R Mancey stated that this could only be beneficial to any objections we may have for housing consultation.

Clerk – will investigate the current costs and future costs of the scheme and apply for the grant.

7. **CLERKS REPORT RECEIVED**

The Clerk asked if anyone was interested in being the Parish Councils representative on the Parish Assembly. Councillor Mould agreed to be the representative and filled the form in. Clerk to forward to the Parish Assembly.

The Clerk asked who wanted to attend the meeting at SMDC regarding the Housing Consultation: Councillors Mancey, Giblin, Shufflebotham, Mould and Wilson along with the clerk will attend.

8. **CORRESPONDANCE**

8.1 – **Village Hall – Chairmans report and annual accounts**
Noted

8.2 **Receipt for Defib**
Noted

8.3 **Invoice for ½ of Defib at Red Lion Boundary**
Noted

8.4 SCC Countryside Review

Noted

8.5 Parish Assembly Information

Noted and Clerk will forward the email to Councillors Mancey, Morris and Mould

8.6 Letter from James Bailey SCC regarding Highways Winter Operations

Noted

8.7 SPCA AGM 07.12.15 and copies of annual report and accounts

Noted

8.8 Fit for Farming booklet

Noted

9. PLANNING.

9.1 Planning Applications:

SMD/2015/0656 – Greenacre, 64 Chapel Street, and demolition of existing sun room and erection of single storey front and side extension.

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

NT/2015/0037 – 44 Mount Road, Blythe Bridge – Proposed single storey rear extension, proposed extension to extend 4 metres beyond rear wall.

Resolved to comment – Whose field is the garden being extended into, comment that the development is large and not in keeping

SMD/2015/0690 – 26 Hillside Avenue, Forsbrook – Demolition of conservatory and erection of a two storey side extension and construction of a rear dormer.

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

SMD/2015/0674 – Land adjacent to 20 Caverswall Road – Proposed two storey dwellings with integral garage.

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.

9.2 Planning Refusals / Approvals

CEMETERY

- 10.1 Chairman of the Cemetery Committee Councillor Mrs P Shufflebotham advised the Council that the local Catholic Priest had been up to the cemetery and blessed the recent graves.

She also addressed the Council and requested that The Clerk becomes responsible for the running of the next Remembrance Parade in 2016. The parade has grown over the past 10 years and this year was the largest turnout we have seen. Certain items of etiquette with regard to flags etc. were not adhered to and she felt that the parade needed a single point of contact before the day and on the day.

Parish Councillors unanimously agreed that the Clerk takes control of the organising before and on the day.

Councillor Mrs P Shufflebotham then went on to thank all involved on the day and to the volunteers who helped to erect the new flag pole.

10 ENVIRONMENT

11.1

Councillor Mould reported that the footpath between Beverley Crescent and Caverswall Old Road was becoming overgrown with hedges – Clerk to report

Councillor Shufflebotham reported that the hedge between The Roebuck and The Butchers Arms was still overgrown – Clerk to follow up

Councillor Cornwall reported that parking was still an issue in the village

Councillor Wilson reported that the large van was still being parked outside the Wine Cellar – Clerk to report to SMDC

Councillor Giblin – reported that the goal mouths on the football pitch were in need of attention.

12.1 To receive bank balances as at 31 October 2015

12.2 To approve accounts of October/November 2015

Cheque Number	Payable to	Description	Vat	Total	
402537	Flagpole express	Flag pole parts	10.30	61.80	
402538	SADS	Half funded defib with Dilhorne PC		167.50	
402539	Total Pest Control	Mole control		75.00	
402540	Severn Trent –	Water at Changing rooms		87.97	
402541	Severn Trent –	Water at Cemetery		28.48	
402542	VOID				
402543	Premier 1 UK	Planter watering	87.50	525.00	
402544	SPCA	annual Subs		596.00	
402545	SPCA	training course for clerk		20.00	
402546	SMDC	Litter Picking	61.44	368.64	
402547	Town and County	Lengthsman	199.40	1196.40	
402548	Dawn Plant	Clerks salary and expenses occurred		1251.67	

Annual list of donations under S137

Arch	£50.00	
Moorlands Home Link	£100.00	
Blythe Bridge Scout Group	£50.00	
Cheadle Animal Welfare	£100.00	
Cheadle C.A.B	£150.00	
Community Council of Staffordshire	£50.00	
CPRE	£50.00	
Donna Louise Trust	£100.00	
Douglas Macmillan	£10.00	
Longton Central Hall Band	£250.00	
Marie Curie Cancer Care	£100.00	
Mencap	£100.00	
Red Cross	£100.00	

Royal British Legion	£100.00	
		Page 179
Samaritans	£100.00	
Second Forsbrook Guides	£50.00	
St. Johns Ambulance	£100.00	
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust	£50.00	
Victim Support	£50.00	
Women's Royal Voluntary Service	£100.00	
Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Youth Support Group	£100.00	
Savana	£100.00	
Fulford and District Community First responders	£100.00	
Blythe Bridge and Forsbrook Alzheimers Friendship Group	£100.00	
Blythe Bridge Village Hall	£100.00	

The meeting was bought back to agenda item 7.3

Outstanding vacancy for a Parish Councillor:-

Mr Peter Walker expressed an interest in becoming a Councillor. Chairman Councillor Mr F Hopley nominated and he was seconded by Councillors Morrison and Mould.

A unanimous vote was then taken to accept Mr Walker as a Parish Councillor.

The meeting ended 9.07 pm