



High Offley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held at 19:30 hours on Thursday 14th October 2021, at Woodseaves Village Hall.

Councillors Present.

D. Turpin (Vice-Chair); S. Celecia; R. Hockenhull; P. Mason; M. Smith; Stafford Borough Councillor P. Farrington and Staffordshire County Councillor Mark Winnington (from 19:38), together with the Clerk, S. Ridgewell and one Member of the Public.

Public Open Forum.

The Member of Public present stated that they had raised an issue with Woodseaves C of E Academy concerning the overgrown hedge alongside Dicky's Lane, that was obscuring signage. It was understood that the school had the matter in hand with their contractor and no action was required by the parish council.

21/125: To Receive any Apologies and Record any Absences.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor E. Halls.

21/126: To Receive and Consider the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings Held on Thursday 9th and 30th September 2021.

The Minutes of the last two Parish Council Meetings held on Thursday 9th and 30th September 2021, were approved as a true and accurate record.

21/127: To Note any Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

21/128: To Receive an Update on the Post Box at Grub Street.

Councillor Farrington stated that he had received no correspondence from the Royal Mail and that he would write to the manager of the local sorting office.

Action: Councillor Farrington to write to the manager at the Royal Mail Sorting Office in Stafford.

***19:38:** Councillor Winnington joined the meeting.

21/129: To Receive an Update on the Speed Signs and Speed Limit on Stafford Road.

The Clerk stated that there was no further update regarding this matter and that further information was awaited from Staffordshire County Council or Amey.

21/130: To Receive an Update Regarding the now Dissolved Woodseaves Pre-School.

The Clerk stated that a representative of the former Pre-School had been furnished with the council's bank details for transfer of the donation but, as yet, no funds had been received.

21/131: To Discuss Public Rights of Way Issues.

Councillor Turvey stated that he had experienced an issue on a local footpath.

Action: Councillor Turvey to report the issue through Staffordshire County Council's online system and advise Councillor Halls of the details for the attention of the PRow Group.

21/132: To Consider Adoption of a Revised Publication Scheme.

Resolution: The revised Publication Scheme was unanimously approved and adopted.

21/133: To Consider Adoption of a Revised Data Policy.

Resolution: The revised Data Policy was unanimously approved and adopted.

21/134: To Consider Adoption of a Revised Complaints Procedure.

Resolution: The revised Complaints Procedure was unanimously approved and adopted.

21/135: To Discuss Highway Issues.

- a) An update on the low bridge at Shebdon.

It was accepted by Councillor Winnington that this was wholly a issue for Staffordshire County Council Highways to resolve, in partnership with bordering Highways Departments.

Action: Councillor Winnington to liaise with Diane Firkins to progress this matter initially through a site visit.

- b) Correspondence from Melanie Langdown at Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership.

The recent email form Melanie Langdown had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. The suggestion of forming a Community Speed Watch was discussed and the Clerk advised that one of the local PCSO's had been attempting to get groups formed in the local area.

Action: The Clerk to contact PCSO Higgins to ascertain if there was a group locally or if there was equipment available for use by a group if it were formed.

- c) Correspondence regarding the Woodseaves Average Speed Cameras.

Councillor Winnington provided background information for the benefit of the Clerk in replying to a recent enquiry from a member of public in Telford.

21/136: To Consider Finance Matters.

- a) Proposed Budget for 2022/23.

The Clerk stated that the precept demand had not changed at all over the last four financial years. Following further discussion on this matter, the Clerk agreed to model two budget proposals to reflect the former Pre-School donation or absence of it, so that the intended installation of a speed indicator sign on Strafford Road, could be allowed for either way.

b) Income.

The Clerk stated that £998 in refunded VAT had been received in respect of the Bus Shelter at Willowcroft. Furthermore, the Clerk advised that the second precept payment would be received shortly, as he had been notified accordingly by Stafford Borough Council.

c) Expenditure.

The Clerk stated that the grant of £190 had now been made to the Woodseaves Baby & Toddler Group.

d) Clerk's Pay.

The Clerk's quarterly pay (£512) was unanimously agreed.

21/137: To Discuss Celebration of Her Majesty, The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and Receive a Report from the Clerk Concerning a Possible Tree Planting Project.

There was further discussion around options for Jubilee celebrations, including a barbeque event at the Village Hall. The Clerk's report regarding a tree at Woodseaves C of E Academy was accepted but it was agreed that any expenditure would be considered at a later stage, when the budget situation was clearer.

21/138: To Request Items for the Next Council Meeting Agenda.

In addition to regular and, as yet unresolved items, Councillor Smith raised the issue of persistent noise from Batchacre Farm.

Action: Councillor Smith agreed to draw the matter to the attention of Environmental Health at the Stafford Borough Council and report of any progress at the next meeting.

21/139: To Confirm the Time and Date of the Next Council Meeting.

19:30 hours on Thursday 11th November 2021, at Woodseaves Village Hall.

The meeting was closed by the Chair at 20:25 hours.

S. Ridgewell, Clerk to Council. Friday 22nd October 2021.