



High Offley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held at 19:30 hours on Thursday 9th March 2023, at Woodseaves Village Hall.

Councillors Present.

E. Halls; R. Hockenhull; P. Haslop; P. Mason; M. Smith (from 19:39); M. Turvey & Staffordshire County Councillor, M. Winnington, together with the Clerk and four members of the public.

Public Open Forum.

Two members of the public asked to speak in relation to Agenda item 23/025, at the relevant time.

23/021: To Receive any Apologies and Record any Absences.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Turpin. Apologies were also received from Stafford Borough Councillor, P. Farrington.

23/022: To Receive and Consider the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 9th February 2023.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th February 2023, were approved, with minor amendment, as a true and accurate record.

23/023: To Note any Declarations of Interest.

No declarations were made.

23/024: To Receive an Update on the Speed Indicator Sign for Stafford Road.

The Clerk provided an update that it appeared Staffordshire County Council had mislaid the s.50 application, which had warranted resubmission.

Councillor Turvey raised an issue regarding the recent relocation of the 30mph signs on the Stafford Road, in that drivers travelling along Riley Lane, to Stafford Road, were not presented with a 30mph sign.

Action: The Clerk agreed to raise the matter with Staffordshire County council Highways and continue to monitor the progress of the s.50 application.

23/025: To Receive an Update Regarding Works at the Sewerage Plant in Moscow Lane.

***19:39:** Councillor Smith joined the meeting.

Members of the public provided an update regarding the proposed further works at the site being postponed whilst Severn Trent negotiated with a local landowner concerning alternative access. It was also stated that James Dudgeon was no longer with Severn Trent and the point of contact was now a John Goodwood, for who contact details were provided.

Action: Councillor Halls agreed to contact John Goodwood at Severn Trent Water and invite him to the next meeting.

23/026: To Receive an Update on the Noticeboard at Shebdon.

The Clerk stated that the cost of £451.86p for the aluminium, double A2 size noticeboard, did not include it being powder coated in green and that an additional expenditure of £102.03p, plus delivery was necessary.

Resolution: It was unanimously agreed to purchase the aluminium noticeboard, in green, from Greenbarnes.

Action: The Clerk agreed to place the order with Greenbarnes.

23/027: To Consider Planning Application 22/36425/HOU at Parkfields, Park Lane, High Offley.

Resolution: Following a discussion there were no objections to this application.

Action: The Clerk agreed to update the Planning Department at Stafford Borough Council.

23/028: To Consider Planning Application 23/37008/HOU at Nutmere Cottage, Oldershaws Lane, Shebdon.

***19:50:** Councillor Winnington arrived.

Resolution: Following a discussion there were no objections to this application.

Action: The Clerk agreed to update the Planning Department at Stafford Borough Council.

The Chair asked that item 23/038 that was notified by the Clerk as an additional item, be heard next, which was unanimously agreed to.

23/038: To Consider Planning Application 22/36053/HOU, at Barn Cottage, Shebdon Road, Shebdon.

Resolution: Following a discussion there were no objections to this application.

Action: The Clerk agreed to update the Planning Department at Stafford Borough Council.

23/029: To Consider a Request for a Grant to Woodseaves Baby & Toddler Group.

Resolution: Following a discussion, councillors unanimously decided to make a grant of £250 in the current financial year to the Baby & Toddler Group.

23/030: To Discuss Celebration of His Majesty, The King's Coronation.

Councillor Halls stated that she had attended a recent meeting with the Village Hall Committee and the proposed activities on Sunday 7th May in celebration of the Coronation. At the request of Councillor Halls, all councillors indicated that they were likely to be available to help at some point during the day with activities.

Action: Councillor Halls agreed to ascertain from the Village Hall Committee if and further funding was required for children's activities on the day.

23/031: To Discuss the Replacement of the Wooden Planter Located at the High Offley Crossroads.

Councillor Haslop stated that he had been in contact with Eccleshall Fencing and that they had agreed to donate wood for the restoration of the planter, with delivery expected soon.

23/032: To Discuss the Future of the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Working Group.

Councillor Halls provided an update on the group and asked that it now run solely as a volunteer group, outside of the council, which was unanimously agreed to.

23/033: To Receive an Update on the New Website.

The Clerk provided an update that the new website would soon come online, with the old website disappearing from the internet.

Action: The Clerk agreed to update the Chair when the new website was live, so that it could be publicised.

23/034: To Discuss Highway Issues.

Councillor Smith stated that High Offley Bank was still not being gritted. Councillor Winnington said that he had raised the issue and that only the official diversionary route around the closure on Shay Lane would be gritted. Councillor Smith requested that grit bins be placed on High Offley Bank, as it remained dangerous in icy conditions. Councillor Winnington asked the Clerk to remind him again in the late Summer 2023 for grit bins to be placed on High Offley Bank in time for Winter 2023/24.

Councillor Winnington also provided an update that works to repair the collapsed culvert on Shay Lane was currently being considered for July 2023, and said he would update council when he knew more.

Councillor Smith also identified that the arm on the signpost at the T junction in Shebdon (Shay Lane at the junction with Shebdon Road) that points to Woodseaves and High Offley, was still missing.

Action: The Clerk agreed to check on the status regarding the report.

(**Update:** Staffordshire County Council call number 4253644 refers. The issue was reported at 17:48 hours, 26th August 2021. The status of the report, as of 09:03 hours on 31st August 2021, was that a Highways Officer had attended the location, completed a risk assessment, and raised a works order).

23/035: To Consider Finance Matters.

The Clerk stated that he had received an invoice for this year's Civic Amenity visits.

Resolution: It was unanimously agreed to pay £222 to Stafford Borough Council in this regard.

23/036: To Request Items for the Next Meeting Agenda.

It was requested that an item concerning the election be included on the next Agenda, together with all unresolved items.

23/037: To Confirm the Time and Date of the Next Meeting.

The next meeting was confirmed as being at 19:30 hours on Thursday 13th April 2023.

CONFIDENTIAL: Members of the Public & Press were excluded whilst Confidential Matters were Discussed.

23/037(B): Staff Matters.

The Clerk stated that he was standing down from his role, effective shortly after the May meeting.

The meeting was closed by the Chair at 20:36 hours.

S. Ridgewell, Clerk to Council. Friday 10th March 2023.