



High Offley Parish Council

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

Councillors Present.

E. Halls (Chair); P. Haslop; M. Smith; M. Turvey and Stafford Borough Councillor S. Spencer, together with the Clerk

Public Open Forum.

One member of the public attended the meeting along with Lisa Powell (PCSO).

Chair reported a member of the public had informed her prior to the meeting, of a blocked drain at the top of Dicky's Lane, just off the A51. Chair had reported this to Staffordshire County Council (SCC) prior to the meeting. Report reference: 4349876.

Chair informed Councillors a member of the public had contacted her prior to the meeting to ask if a defibrillator was anonymously and entirely donated, whether HOPC would take responsibility and maintain it. Councillors agreed as the Council are actively seeking funding for 2 new defibrillators and cabinets.

Chair also informed Councillors that the Headteacher of Woodseaves Primary School had requested permission to display banners within the Parish following a 'Good' Ofsted report. Chair to advise the School to put in an application to Stafford Borough Council for planning permission.

A member of the public who was present at the meeting reported that the Dicky's Lane road sign has been knocked into a hedge and is no longer visible. Chair informed Councillors that this has been reported to SCC. Councillor M. Smith advised that this is a Stafford Borough Council matter. It was also highlighted there is no official sign at the Shebdon end of Aldershaw Lane.

Clerk to contact SBC regarding the damage Dicky's Lane road sign and the missing Aldershaw Lane sign.

Chair informed Councillors and member of the public that Councillor M. Winnington is meeting with Dianne Firkins on Friday, November 10th and she had asked them both to look and assess – the blocked drain, Dicky's Lane sign, damage to Woodseaves sign on Stafford Road and to look at options for Dicky's Lane to help with traffic and speeding concerns.

Action:

Chair to advise School Headteacher to request planning permission.

Clerk to report road signs.

23/128: To Receive any Apologies and Record any Absences.

Cllrs R. Hockenhull, P. Mason, D. Turpin and Staffordshire County Councillor M. Winnington.

23/129: To Receive and Consider the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 12th October 2023.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th October 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record.

23/130: To Note any Declarations of Interest.

E.Halls declared declaration of interest in the item related to Woodseaves Primary School in the Public Open Forum.

23/131: To Discuss Highway Issues.

a) To receive an update on overgrown hedge reported on the High Offley Road.

Chair informed Councillors that some hedge cutting had taken place. Resident had contacted the Clerk following an issue with correspondence and had asked for clarification on which part of the High Offley Road had been reported as overgrown. Chair to contact resident to discuss.

b) To receive update on large tree on Glebefields.

Chair had attempted to contact the resident but had no response. Clerk confirmed she had written to resident regarding concerns previously raised and had not yet received a response.

c) To receive an update on Dicky's Lane.

Chair informed Councillors that a visit was being conducted by Councillor M. Winnington and Dianne Firkins from Highways to look at viable options for concerns that have been raised. Chair confirmed she would also attend the site visit. Chair informed Councillors that a member of the public had suggested double yellow lines between the school and the junction of Stafford Road. Chair informed Councillors she had emailed Councillor M. Winnington with the suggestion of double yellow lines and will discuss this during the site visit.

20.00 hours – PCSO Lisa Powell arrived.

PCSO L. Powell informed Councillors that the Police had received a report regarding the amount of mud on the road. PSCO L. Powell had referred the member of the public to report it to Highways.

PCSO reported crime (date range tbc) figures for Woodseaves, High Offley and Shebdon.
1 ASB, 2 Suspicious, 7 Crime (1 Theft), 6 Missing Persons, 2 Miscellaneous, 6 RTC.

Chair informed Councillors of a road closure notice received for Dicky's Lane for work to commence on or near January 11th 2024, for one day for 'boundary box renewal works'. Clerk to contact Highways for clarification.

Chair reported a member of the public had contacted her querying the gritting schedule for Dicky's Lane this winter. Councillors discussed and agreed this had previously been requested to Staffordshire County Council (SCC) and at that time Dicky's Lane had been added to the planned schedule. Chair to email Councillor M. Winnington to confirm if this still is the case.

PCSO advised Councillors that the Police are able to carry out Community Speed Watch but would require some volunteers to assist.

d) To receive an update on Mowing schedule for verges.

Councillor S. Spencer reported back that Staffordshire County Council replied to his enquiry regarding the verges mowing schedule. SCC continue to maintain summer cut until ideally August and remove vegetation after it is cut. Chair suggested the item remain on the Agenda for the HOPC December meeting to discuss further with Councillor M. Winnington.

PCSO left at 20:20 hours.

e) To receive an update on the blocked public footpath.

Councillors discussed blocked footpath at High Offley 10 previously reported to the Public Rights of Way team. Chair to contact SCC to discuss further and request path is restored.

Actions:

Chair to contact Glebe Lane resident.

Clerk to contact Highways.

Chair to email M. Winnington suggesting double yellow lines on Dickies Lane.

Chair to email PCSO regarding Parked Vehicles concerns.

Chair to email SCC PROW regarding blocked footpath.

23/132: To Receive an Update on Planning Applications.

None received.

23/133: To Receive an Update Regarding Meecebrook Garden Village following HS2 Decision.

Clerk had emailed SCC planning regarding Meecebrook Garden Village plans. Clerk received a response stating it was still in the Local Plan. Councillor S. Spencer informed Councillors SBC are still finalising plans, which they hoped would be completed by the end of the year and that the Local plan will be discussed at the joint meeting with Gnosall Parish on November 21st 2023 where there will be an opportunity for Parish Councils to give input.

23/134: To Receive an Update Regarding the Defibrillator Located by One Stop Shop.

Chair informed Councillors that Clerk had made three different applications for funding. Clerk had reported to the Circuit that the Defibrillator is incorrectly showing that it is 'available' and ready to use. Clerk also contacted the guardian, who confirmed with the circuit that he had decommissioned and removed the defibrillator. Clerk informed Councillors there was some confusion with who was the registered guardian for the Offley Grove Defibrillator which is being investigated by the circuit. Councillor P. Haslop informed Councillors the owner of the One Stop Shop was in agreement for the Woodseaves Defibrillator to be located on the front of the shop when a new one is installed.

23/135: To Receive an update on Defibrillator at High Offley.

Clerk informed Councillors she had been informed the Guardian of the High Offley Grove Defibrillator was the same as the registered guardian for the Defibrillator at Woodseaves, it is believed this is the previous guardian. A. Turner current guardian has advised he will attempt to make contact with the previous Guardian to clarify with the circuit.

23/136: To Receive an Update on Speed Indicator Sign for Stafford Road.

Clerk informed Councillors she had requested risk assessment and copy of the insurance from a contractor who had quoted for the work to install the post for the Speed Indicator Sign. Contractor had informed Clerk they were waiting to receive their 'New Road and Street Work License from Birmingham Council and until that is received, were unable to provide a requested risk assessment and insurance. Clerk to monitor and look for other possible contractors.20:35 Hours Councillor S.Spencer left the meeting.

23/137: To Consider Finance Matters.

Councillors agreed for payments totalling Net: £588.83 Gross: £588.83

Elizabeth Nicholls Wages September - £213.12

Woodseaves Village Hall - room hire - £269

Stafford Borough Council Uncontested Election Charges - £76.71

23/138: To Receive an update on Clerk Vacancy.

Chair reported no applications had yet been received and informed Councillors Clerk had offered to continue to Clerk for Decembers HOPC meeting.

23/139: To Request Items for the Next Meeting Agenda.

The following items were requested for the Agenda for December's meeting along with all unresolved items:

Mowing schedule, Dicky's Lane, Blocked Footpath, Meecebrook.

23/140: To Confirm the Time and Date of the Next Meeting.

The time and date of the next meeting was agreed as being at 18:30 hours on Thursday 14th December 2023.

The meeting was closed by the Chair at 20.45 hours.

B.Nicholls, Clerk to Council. Friday 10th November 2023.