



WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on **Monday 20th February 2023** at 7.00pm

This meeting was held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Gravel Hill, Wombourne, WV5 9HA.

Present -

Councillors: Barry Bond MBE, Mike Davies, Jan Evans, Mark Evans (Vice-Chairman), Elizabeth Keeling, Dan Kinsey BEM (Chairman), Vince Merrick, Alan Peace, Martin Perry, Mary Roberts, Daisy Tait

Absent without apologies – N/A

Clerk: Rachael Wright

Public: Resident from Apse Close

13/23 – Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Cheryl Davies, and Robert Reade.

14/23 – Declarations of Interest

Councillor Dan Kinsey noted he was a Member of Wombourne Best Kept Village Committee and a trustee of Wombourne and District Community Association, and Councillors Alan Peace and Mary Roberts noting they were Members of the Wombourne Best Kept Village Committee, Wombourne Carnival Committee and Wombourne and District Community Association. Councillors Martin Perry and Daisy Tait also noted they were members of Wombourne and District Community Association.

15/23 – Public Participation

The resident from Apse Close did not wish to ask questions of the Council.

16/23 – Police Report

The Chairman reported PCSO Philip Millichap had intended on being at the meeting but had been called out to a report. Unfortunately, he noted the Police Report had been sent to the Clerk after her working day had finished, so she would issue it to Members when she is back in the office. He asked for any queries to be fed back through Police Liaison, Councillor Vince Merrick.

Councillor Barry Bond MBE explained at length the issues he had noted in the village with a quad bike, as well as motorbikes driving dangerously and noisily both in the village and the outskirts of it and explained he had reported the issues to PCDO Philip Millichap who agreed to look into them.

17/23 – Community Wellbeing and Partnership Officer Report

Maggie Quinn, the Community Wellbeing and Partnership Officer at South Staffordshire Council explained South Staffordshire Council owned 12 CCTV cameras which were dispatched across the 5 localities within South Staffordshire and moved every 3 months based on police data with regards to crime / anti-social behaviour. The

cameras are monitored reactively, and South Staffordshire Council have a policy in place for their monitoring by staff and PCSO's.

They were providing Parish Council's the opportunity to purchase their own cameras, so they always have one in their village, and could determine exactly where it was placed.

She set out the costs as follows:

Purchase price - £4500 (with 24-month warranty)

Optional maintenance - £380 per annum

Structural testing - £495 per test (required each time the camera is moved)

Electrical testing - £35 per test (required each time the camera is moved)

Installation cost - £105 per instal (required each time the camera is moved)

5G sim card - £330 per month

Feedback from Members was that cost of just one camera was extremely high, and especially the monthly 5g sim card at £330 per month. Members agreed the purpose of the cameras was to provide community reassurance and to function as a deterrent to crime, rather than a tool to convict criminals, although there had been recent success in that area.

Maggie agreed to take away queries regarding the price of the units and how these differed from those that can be purchased from High Street retailers, and whether the price excluded VAT. She also agreed to seek clarity on the camera currently installed within the village and what its visibility was like.

18/23 – Resignation of Councillor John Pike

The Chairman read out the resignation from John Pike and asked for his thanks to be recorded for his dedicated service to the Parish Council. He noted John was particularly kind of him when he first became Chairman and remained his Vice-Chairman for 3 consecutive years.

Members **RESOLVED** to leave the vacancy open until the elections being held on 4th May 2023.

19/23 – Approval of Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting on Monday 30th January 2023.

20/23 – Reports from Committees

- a) Councillor Barry Bond MBE explained a Civic Centre Management Committee meeting had taken place on 6th February 2023, and members had agreed to extend the use of the Day Centre to gentlemen playing pool from Tuesday mornings to 5 days per week. They had agreed to split work on the Goode Tutoring and Council Chamber roof into two and had approved a quotation from Integral Roofing to complete the work, overseen by Baillie Kerr. A quotation from Carpvale had also been approved to replace 14 faulty windowpanes.
- b) Councillor Martin Perry explained a Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting had taken place on 6th February 2023. An update had been given to Members regarding the burst pipe at Brickbridge Playing Fields Changing Rooms. He noted his thanks to the Clerk for negotiating a later deadline for the application of S106 funding from the Beggars Bush Lane development from South Staffordshire Council, and noted quotations were being obtained for various projects to be reviewed at the next meeting.
- c) Councillor Mary Roberts noted that there had been no Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting since the last Full Council meeting.
- d) Councillor Mark Evans explained the planning applications would be dealt with under item 13 of the agenda. He expressed his thanks to all Committee Members for their efforts in responding to the applications, particularly Councillor Alan Peace who always responded in detail to the plans.

21/23 – Report from Coronation Working Group

Councillor Mary Roberts explained the working group had met last week and had discussed suggestions of how to celebrate the King's Coronation, including a proposal from Dangerous Sheep to hold a free event on the Civic Centre car park on Saturday 6th May 2023. She said the group were keen to follow up and obtain further information from Dangerous Sheep, so a meeting had been arranged for 22nd February 2023. The initial proposal they had sent set out they would cover all aspects of the organisation, including events notice, insurance, screens, and staging, outside bar and catering. An optional £1 donation could be made for attendance which would be donated to a local charity.

Councillor Barry Bond MBE expressed his surprise the working group were considering the proposal when the instructions from the Palace were that the King wanted only low-key events, including community led street parties. Councillor Mike Davies supported this view.

Some debate took place for and against allowing Dangerous Sheep to hold the event. Members voted by a show of hands whether to allow the working group to meet with Dangerous Sheep and to report back at next week's Finance and General Purposes, with the majority voting against and suggesting they did not wish the Council to agree to the event.

The Clerk informed Members the item on the agenda was only to receive an update from the working group, and not to decide whether the event should go ahead or not. She explained she would include the item on the agenda for Finance and General Purposes to resolve the decision not to go ahead with the event.

22/23 - Report from Staffordshire County Council

Councillor Mike Davies informed Members he had a meeting planned for 28th February with the Highways team to agree what work should be conducted before the end of the financial year. He apologised to residents of the Giggetty Estate for inconvenience whilst roadworks were ongoing, but explained the area would be vastly improved once the work had been carried out. Work along the A449 still remained in the budget to be carried out.

23/23 – Reports from Members appointed to Outside Bodies

- a) Club at the Day Centre – Councillor Mark Evans informed Members gentlemen playing pool had been informed they could use the facilities five days per week going forward during office hours.
- b) Locality Forum – Councillor Dan Kinsey informed Members no meeting had taken place so there was no update.
- c) Wombourne and District Community Association – Councillor Daisy Tait informed Members the last meeting had taken place on the same evening as the Finance and General Purposes Budget Meeting, so no one had attended.
- d) Wolverhampton Business Airport Consultative Committee – Councillor Mary Roberts explained she had been unable to attend the last meeting and therefore did not have an update. Councillor Barry Bond MBE explained a third runway would soon be opening, and that it would be one of very few airports in the country to have three runways. A 1940's event would take place in July, and there would be a vintage Jaguar event sometime in the summer.
- e) Wombourne Carnival Committee – Councillor Mary Roberts explained the Committee were due to meet soon.
- f) Wombourne Charity Trustees – Councillor Mike Davies informed Members there had been a meeting which he had chaired, and there were a couple of items to resolve before funding could be given to two residents.

- g) Wombourne Best Kept Village Committee – Councillor Dan Kinsey informed Members no meetings had taken place, but that the Chairman had been seeking to pencil in dates so there should be a meeting soon.
- h) Wombourne Retailers Liaison – Councillor Daisy Tait informed Members there was nothing to report.
- i) Police Liaison – Councillor Vince Merrick informed Members he was due to meet the Chief Inspector on 10th March 2023 and had already posed questions to him on the use of the offices within the Civic Centre, and he had been assured there were no plans to close them. He explained he would be attending a Crime Panel meeting in Stafford on behalf of the Chairman of South Staffordshire Council and would report back on this next month.
- j) Giggetty Action Group – Councillor Vince Merrick informed Members minutes from the last meeting had been circulated via the Clerk, and he was pleased with the turnout at the meeting. Enquiries were ongoing with Housing Plus around stolen vehicle being stored on their land. He had also asked for some feedback from residents about the play area on the estate.

24/23 – Parish Council Finances and Administration

Members approved the payments for January 2022.

25/23 – Planning applications

Members noted the responses to planning applications made to South Staffordshire Council in lieu of a meeting.

26/23 – Correspondence

- a) An email had been received from a resident from Apse Close seeking clarification from District Council members on whether they had yet been made aware of changes to the National Planning Policy Framework and South Staffordshire Council’s response. Councillor Dan Kinsey BEM noted the consultation had not yet been completed and therefore there was no update, however, meetings had been scheduled in at South Staffordshire Council to explore what may be forthcoming in relation to the changes.

27/23 – Chairman’s Business

- a) The Chairman advised Members his official engagements had been as follows:
 - i. 10th February 2023 he had attended the Parish Summit and noted how many people wished to talk to him about the work Wombourne Parish Council were doing with key stakeholders.
 - ii. He had attended the Friendly Faces Café each week, noting its growing popularity.
- b) It was RESOLVED the date of the next Full Council meeting will be Monday 13th March 2023 at 7pm.
- c) It was RESOLVED the dates of other meetings would be:
 - i. Monday 27th February 2023 – Finance and General Purposes at 7pm
 - ii. Monday 6th March 2023 – Recreation and Amenities Committee Meeting at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.33pm.

Signed:

Dated: