



WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on **Monday 4th July 2022** at 7.15pm

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, Dan Kinsey BEM, Claire McIlvenna, Vince Merrick, Alan Peace, Martin Perry, John Pike, Robert Reade, Mary Roberts, Daisy Tait

Absent without apologies – Councillor Elizabeth Keeling

Clerk: Rachael Wright

Public: 1 member of the public and Sergeant Jason Dorrington.

Councillor Dan Kinsey welcomed everyone to the meeting, noting he hoped everyone was enjoying the fine weather we were currently experiencing.

94/22 – Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Cheryl Davies.

95/22 – Declarations of Interest

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

96/22 – Public Participation

A resident from Bratch Lane informed Members in 1995 the reported issues in his street of overweight lorries using the canal bridge, no weight signs, brambles sticking out in the carriageway and weeds covering signs. He said the same issues still applied today. He also commented on the drains being blocked and said pedestrians got soaked when walking along the street when it rained. He felt the Parish Council should be doing more to pursue the Police in dealing with the overweight lorries and pursuing the other levels of Government for the other issues.

Councillor Mike Davies informed the resident there was a 7.5 tonne weight restriction sign at every entrance to the village, and it was an enforcement issue and not something the Parish Council could deal with. He agreed to follow up on the drainage issue which had not been reported to him previously.

Councillor Barry Bond MBE informed the resident he had raised concerns over HGVs in the village previously and had asked for a weight restriction sign for Poolhouse Road, but Staffordshire County Council had declined the request citing the cost of £8500 as a factor.

Councillor Robert Reade explained in some instances there may be a legitimate reason for the HGVs to travel through the village, and it was difficult to establish who had a genuine need and not, also blaming sat navs for people getting lost and travelling on restricted roads.

Councillor Dan Kinsey explained there was a Community Speed Watch team who have operated in Bratch Lane and do record vehicles such as HGV's who are not meant to be in the area, however, to date they have not recorded any. He encouraged the resident to join in with the group.

97/22 – Police Report

Sergeant Jason Dorrington provided the following update on crime statistics since the last meeting:

Vehicle Crime

- Bratch Locks – 07/06 – At approximately 15:00 hrs a vehicle was broken into by smashing a window and taking a bag from within. No CCTV or witnesses.
- Station Road – 09/06 – Between 18:00 -18:30hrs a vehicle was parked up whilst owner out walking, when she returned her car had been broken into by smashing a window and a bag was taken from within. No CCTV or witnesses.
- Railway café – 07/06 – Between 12:00-15:00hrs a vehicle was parked by the railway café whilst owner out walking when she returned the sat nav had been taken from within. No CCTV or witnesses.
- Station Road – 03/07 – At 14:30 whilst parked up giving child and dog a drink a handbag was put into the boot which was left open. At this time 3 motorbikes went by and were circling the vehicle, one motorbike stopped, the dog moved a short distance, so owner went to retrieve it, when back at the vehicle she found the bag had gone. A member of the public found the bag dumped unfortunately the purse had gone, one of the cards had been attempted to be used in a McColl's shop but location not known. No witnesses or CCTV.
- Sytch Lane – 20/05 – 18/06 – Report received that a lock up garage had the up and over door forced open and an Escort 1600 sport in red with a black vinyl roof was taken from within. No witnesses or lines of enquiry.
- Bull Lane – 29/06 – At approx. 02:00hrs, a van which was parked up had various tools and items taken from within. This was captured on CCTV but unfortunately the quality was not clear enough for identification.

ASB hotspots

- 11 x ASB reported this month, ranging from nuisance youths to neighbour disputes.
- Brook at the bottom of Civic Centre car park – reports of nuisance youths congregating, being abusive and noisy. Local officers aware of the issue to pay passing attention to the location. South Staffordshire Council have been contacted in regard to planting more shrubbery / foliage where persons are congregating to alleviate issue.
- Bull Lane /Hazel Grove– Reports of youths being rowdy in the street. Suspicious activity with vehicles coming and going from the location.
- **No repeat locations this month** however attention paid to areas such as Brickbridge Playing Fields, Maypole and Wombourne Library/Community Centre.

Following the instalment of additional cameras at the Community Centre, 5 offenders for graffiti damage have been identified by working closely with Wombourne High School. Arrangements are being made for them to clean the graffiti off with Police supervising. They have also been given the times of Wombourne boxing club for them to attend.

Proactive news

- **Operation Cable** targeting ASB hotspots and **Operation Lightening** targeting vehicle crime is up and running frequently, with officers utilising both marked and unmarked vehicles. Up-to-date information regarding these operations can be found on Twitter and Facebook.

98/22 – Approval of Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting on Monday 6th June 2022.

99/22 – Reports from Members appointed to Outside Bodies

- a) Senior Citizens Day Centre – Councillor Mark Evans informed Members he regularly visits the centre and there are no current issues.
- b) Locality Forum – Councillor Dan Kinsey informed he would provide an update after the next meeting.
- c) Wombourne and District Community Association – Councillor Martin Perry informed Members the AGM had been rescheduled for 8th September 2022.
- d) Wolverhampton Business Airport Consultative Committee – Councillor Mary Roberts informed Members there was no update as no meeting had taken place.
- e) Wombourne Carnival Committee – Councillor Mary Roberts informed Members lots of preparation had taken place before the Carnival, there was an issue on the day with 2 cars being parked on the car park, but they were later moved, there were 21 stalls, 15 pitches and 9 vendors in total, all of whom had a good day. The WI presentations and Tea Room went ahead as normal. Since there had been an issue with obtaining lorries for floats, there were some walking parades, an open top bus, and a retailer – Fierce Hairdressing – took part for the first time. The Committee estimated around 5-6k people attended, and the donations from the day were yet to be counted but will be donated to local charities. There were lots of positive comments on Facebook, and Councillor Alan Peace should be applauded for his hard work as he was in attendance from 7am to 7pm, as was the Clerk.
Councillor Dan Kinsey informed Members the Carnival Chairman Vicky Bratt would have liked to attend to say thank you for the use of the Civic Centre and grounds but was away with her Scout Group at present.
- f) Wombourne Charity Trustees – Councillor Mike Davies reminded Members to refer anyone they felt was facing financial hardship, he has stepped into the role of Interim Chairman for anything up to 1 year until Rev. Preb. Paul Brown's replacement was appointed. He explained Councillor Bev Wood had resigned from Swindon Parish Council, so they were currently looking to replace her position.
- g) Wombourne Best Kept Village Committee – Councillor Dan Kinsey informed Members there had been positive feedback from the piece of kit funded by Councillor Mike Davies. The team had put out a request for suggestions of locations to be tackled, and Planks Lane onto the Wombrook Walk had been suggested which the group would be concentrating on next week.
- h) Wombourne Retailers Liaison – Councillor Daisy Tait informed Members there were 52 retailers on the WhatsApp group now. She noted it was lovely to see Fierce Hairdressing getting involved in the Carnival and hoped to see more retailers involved next year. She also noted her thanks to Charlotte at Hills Florist for hosting the Corgi trail sheets in her shop.
- i) Police Liaison – Councillor Vince Merrick noted the shortage of Police Officers based in Wombourne and agreed to address the issue. Councillor Barry Bond MBE asked Councillor Merrick to address his questions over the number of CCTV cameras in Wombourne, how effective they are and whether local

Officers could access them 24/7. Councillor Dan Kinsey informed him he would take up those questions with the Overview and Scrutiny Team at South Staffordshire Council.

100/22 – Parish Council Finances and Administration

Members approved the payments for June 2022.

101/22 – Planning applications

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

102/22 – Correspondence

- a) The Clerk informed Members she had received confirmation she had gained her CiLCA qualification, and therefore the Council could resolve at the next meeting to adopt General Power of Competence, and briefly explained what that meant for the Council. Councillor Mary Roberts proposed a formal congratulations should be recorded to the Clerk for her hard work and thanks for her obtaining CiLCA qualification enabling the Council to resolve to adopt General Power of Competence. Councillor Mike Davies seconded the proposal, and all Members were in favour.
- b) The Clerk read out an email congratulating Councillor Dan Kinsey on being awarded his British Empire Medal, noting how active he was in the village.

103/22 – Chairman's Business

- a) The Chairman gave a breakdown of his whereabouts as follows:
 - i. 11th June he visited the Flower and Music Festival at Wombourne Methodist Church, noting the effort Councillor John Pike and Mrs Doreen Pike had gone to in organising the event.
 - ii. 15th June he attended the Wombourne Best Kept Village Committee Meeting.
 - iii. 19th June he attended the Civic Sunday service for South Staffordshire Council at St Nicholas Church in Codsall followed by a meal at Wergs Golf Club, noting it was nice to meet other Parish Council Chairmen.
 - iv. 22nd June he celebrated 50 years of Wombourne Volunteer Bureau and would like to remind Members and members of the public they are always looking for additional volunteer drivers.
 - v. 27th June to 1st July he spent the week off work and a lot of time in the History Room tidying and starting to prepare an index.
 - vi. 30th June he litter picked around the village, along the Wombrook, Railway Walk, Bratch Lane and Bull Meadow noting he was pleased there was not much litter around to pick up.
 - vii. 3rd July he attended Wombourne Carnival, attending slightly later than Councillor Peace and others, but led the Carnival parade on foot around the village whilst later meeting residents and stallholders. He also awarded prizes at the WI event, and thanked everyone who attended and joined in.
 - viii. He attended the Friendly Faces Café every week.
- b) It was RESOLVED the date of the next Full Council meeting will be Monday 5th September 2022.
- c) It was RESOLVED the Committee meetings would take place as follows:
 - a. Recreation and Amenities – Monday 11th July at 7pm
 - b. Civic Centre Management – Monday 11th July following Recreation
 - c. Finance and General Purposes – Monday 18th July at 7pm
 - d. Planning and Development – Monday 18th July following Finance

The meeting closed at 8.26pm.

Signed:

Dated: