

PARISH OF WOMBOURNE

MINUTES of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday, 24th April 2019, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

In attendance:	Councillors	Miss M Roberts D Kinsey M Davies A Hinton J Pike R Reade Miss D Tait K Upton R Williams	... Chairman ...Vice-Chairman
		Sgt Kelly Wareing Mrs R Wright	... Staffordshire Police ... Clerk
		3 members of public	

01/19 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Bond, Bond, Peace and Tudor.

02/19 MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25th April 2018 were approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman.

03/19 BUSINESS ARISING THEREFROM

There were no matters arising therefrom.

04/19 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS OF WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The audited accounts for 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018 were available for inspection. It was proposed by Councillor Davies and seconded by Councillor Hinton that the accounts should be accepted, this being approved unanimously.

05/19 AN UPDATE ON MODERN POLICING ACROSS STAFFORDSHIRE

Sgt Kelly Wareing introduced herself as Deputy Commander for Staffordshire Police.

Sgt Wareing explained the set up of the local policing team in response hubs and that there were three shifts covering any 24 hour period.

The number of PCSO's in the area will be reducing as a few have joined the Police force and have not been replaced.

Staffordshire Police are working closely with neighbouring Police with partner forces setting up cross border operations. Recently over a two night operation, over 200 cars were stopped and arrests were made for stolen vehicles, driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol, possession of Class A drugs, theft from motorbike as well as apprehending a prisoner on the run.

In the past year, crime in South Staffordshire has reduced by 1% with 577 less crimes reported. Crime in Wombourne is down 7% with 377 less crimes reported.

Antisocial behaviour in South Staffordshire is down by 27% and down by 18% in Wombourne.

One of the biggest issues in Wombourne is rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour and Sgt Wareing encouraged everyone to report these incidents to 101 so that local patrols have specific areas on their radar to patrol.

Vehicle crime is currently a priority for the force and a number of tactics are currently being used to deal with this issue.

Q&A Session

Q – Are ANPR cameras fitted in all police vehicles?

A – Not as standard.

Q- Do all Police officers start their shifts in Cannock?

A – Briefings start in the Watling Street Station in Cannock and then officers are deployed to deal with 999 calls and other local issues.

Q – What is being done to tackle rural crime?

A – There are officers in Wombourne trained to deal with rural crime. Initiatives such as issuing stickers for rural vehicles and machinery alerting people to call in if they see them out after 10pm or before 5am to alert the Police are being used successfully.

Q – It was recently National Stalking Awareness Week to help victims of stalking however, there were lots of comments on social media that Staffordshire Police were not taking the issue seriously, can you comment on that?

A – A representative from Staffordshire Police attended events during National Stalking Awareness Week and would be feeding back to local officers. There are lots of initiatives in Staffordshire Police around stalking including 60 second briefings, information published on internal websites and posters to raise awareness of the issue.

06/19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to discuss.

The meeting terminated at 8.15 p.m.