



WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 11th October 2021 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, Dan Kinsey (Chair), Claire McIlvenna, Vince Merrick, Alan Peace, John Pike, Robert Reade, Daisy Tait, Ken Upton

Acting Clerk: Judy Vasiljevic

Public: 7 Members of the public and PCSO Alex Rathbone.

The Chairman welcomed all Members and members of the public.

55/21 – Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Cheryl Davies and Mary Roberts.

56/21 – Declarations of Interest

Councillor Robert Reade declared an interest in planning and other discussions that refers to South Staffordshire Local Plan and the preferred sites. Councillor Alan Peace noted he was a member of Wombourne Best Kept Village Committee, Wombourne Carnival Committee and Wombourne and District Community Association. Councillor Dan Kinsey also noted he was a member of BKV Committee.

57/21 – Public Participation

- a) The Chairman presented Gurvinder Hayer, the representative from Flaming Fires with the shield and a certificate as winners of the Wombourne in Bloom best business premises for 2021.
- b) PCSO Alex Rathbone provided an update on the issues dealt with during the last month. There had been 9 reports of vehicle crime some on which were linked to ongoing investigations and 2 reports of anti-social behaviour, neither were at Brickbridge Playing Fields and this suggested that locking the park gate was working. She confirmed letters had now been issued to all owners of Honda and Toyota vehicles advising they can have their catalytic convertors marked with smart water through their local dealership to deter thefts.

The Chairman sought permission to suspend Standing Orders as it was clear public participation would extend beyond 15 minutes. Members agreed to this.

- c) Resident from Foley Grove – the resident requested Cllr Davies speak on her behalf and that of 2 other residents who were present and also lived in Foley Grove. She had raised an issue previously about trees backing on to their properties which they considered dangerous. Cllr Davies reported that he had spoken

with Staffordshire County Council who own the land and was waiting for an inspection to be carried out and would contact them again for an update.

- d) Resident x 2 from Apse Close – the resident spoke regarding the Local Plan and expressed his concerns regarding the public consultation for preferred sites. He quoted that in previous years the percentage of residents responding to public consultations were very low and he wanted as many people as possible to be made aware of the sites allocated for development in Wombourne, so as they could make their views known. He asked for the help of the Parish Council in raising awareness of the Local Plan. Cllr Claire McIlvenna thanked the resident for attending the meeting and appreciated him raising this issue.
- e) Resident from The Warings – resident informed members he did not wish to speak and was attending just to observe.

58/21 – Approval of Minutes

- a) It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Meeting held on 13th September 2021 having previously been distributed be signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

59/21 – Reports from Committees

- a) Councillor Barry Bond presented a short report on the Civic Centre Management Committee meeting held on 27th September 2021. He reported that the Craft Fayre held in the Council Chamber on 18th September had been a success and stall holders had requested another one which had been planned for 4th December. Further investigations had been undertaken on the Civic Centre roof and some repairs undertaken. The building surveyor had attended a virtual meeting to discuss options on making the roof watertight for 10/20 years. There had been a request from the resident next to the bungalow to have a tree lopped that protruded into their garden. The gas contract and electric contract for the Civic Centre had been reviewed and renewed for fixed periods of 3yrs for gas and 2yrs for electric. All pantomime tickets had been sold and members had discussed holding 2 performances next year. CCTV quotes had been obtained for new cameras. Talks had been held with the Crime Prevention Officer, Kuldeep Tanda, regarding the buildings security and a meeting was awaited.
- b) Councillor Alan Peace presented a short report on the Planning and Development Committee meeting held on 20th September 2021, confirming the appointment of Councillor Dan Kinsey as Vice-Chairman. He reported the online consultation in respect of the Local Plan was not acceptable. Environmental considerations were very important and something the Committee would consider insisting on for all new build properties. All planning applications received since last meeting had been responded to.
- c) Councillor Ken Upton presented a short report on the Recreation & Amenities Committee held on 27th September 2021, advising that the Clerk had talked members through a presentation for the proposed public consultation in relation to the lease at Brickbridge Playing Fields. Members had agreed to take the programme forward and Councillor Peace would be distributing flyers around the area notifying residents of the forthcoming meeting.
- d) Vice-Chairman Mike Davies reported that the Chairman had sent her apologies, she was unwell and he wished her a speedy recovery. He noted all members would have received a copy of the minutes from the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 27th September and asked if there were any questions. There were none raised.
- e) Councillor Daisy Tait presented a short report on the High Street Recovery & Rejuvenation Committee held on 4th October 2021, reporting that there had been 3 events held in the village recently which had been very successful and proved popular with retailers and performers. An event in Common Road was being planned with a Guy Fawkes theme being considered and it was hoped a Christmas themed event could take place on 4th December. A report for South Staffordshire District Council was in hand.

60/21 – Reports from Members appointed to Outside Bodies

- a) **Wombourne and District Community Association** – Councillor Alan Peace noted that Members would have seen the report requesting a bench be located partway up Windmill Bank and investigations need to be made into who owns the land. He reported that the Community Association were taking over the Rotary Club sleigh and were looking into housing this at the rear of the village hall in a secure storage container.
- b) **Wolverhampton Airport Consultative Committee** – Councillor Alan Peace advised there was nothing to report.
- c) **Police Liaison** – Councillor Vince Merrick informed Members that he had been in discussions with the police and all were positive with regards to dispersal notices. Traffic wardens from outside the area were being brought in to do spot checks around Wombourne. He had spoken to the Police Commissioner on the Police Plan and was advised they were getting close to releasing a new plan. Councillor Alan Peace asked if traffic wardens were being brought into the area what would they tackle. Councillor Merrick confirmed they would be given lists that were of high priority. He informed members that the role of Police Liaison was unique in Staffordshire and was a good initiative for future practice.
- d) **Wombourne and Swindon in Relief Charity** – Councillor Mike Davies reminded members that funding was available for people in genuine hardship. Assistance from the hardship fund could be used towards purchases such as school uniforms, white goods and towards funeral expenses. Councillor Robert Reade asked if was for a specific area and Councillor Davies confirmed it was for Wombourne and Swindon residents only.

61/21 – Parish Council Finances and Administration

- a) It was **RESOLVED** that the finances for September 2021 be authorised.

62/21 – Planning and Development Responses

Members noted the responses.

63/21 – Co-option for North Ward

Members noted that the vacancy for the North Ward would be filled by co-option and applications were to be received by midday Thursday, 28th October 2021.

64/21 – Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

65/21 – Chairman's Business

- a) The Chairman gave a breakdown of his whereabouts as follows:
 - i. 18th September 2021 – he attended the Fairy Tales Event supporting local businesses and reported that it was very well supported and greatly attended by children who thoroughly enjoyed the day.
- b) The date for the Co-option Meeting to interview candidates would be Monday, 1st November 2021.
- c) It was **RESOLVED** the next date for the Full Council Meeting would be Monday 8th November 2021.
- d) It was **RESOLVED** the dates for the Committee Meetings would be:
 - i. Civic Centre Management Committee – Monday 18th October 2021 at 7pm
 - ii. Finance and General Purposes Committee – Monday 18th October 2021 immediately following Civic Centre Management Committee
 - iii. High Street Recovery and Rejuvenation Sub Committee – Tuesday 19th October 2021 at 5pm
 - iv. Recreation and Amenities Committee – Monday 25th October 2021 at 6.45pm

- v. Planning and Development Committee – Monday 25th October 2021 immediately following Recreation and Amenities Committee.

The meeting closed at 8.16pm.

Signed: **Dated:**