



WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 17th January 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, Mark Evans, Dan Kinsey (Chairman), Claire McIlvenna, Vince Merrick, Alan Peace, Martin Perry, John Pike (Vice-Chairman).

Clerk: Rachael Wright

Public: 1 member of public

The Chairman welcomed all Members and the member of the public to the meeting, wishing everyone a Happy New Year, and noted he hoped 2022 would be a full and active year for the Council.

He informed Members over the Christmas period, Ken Upton resigned from his position as Parish Councillor in the South East Ward, he was a substantial member of the Council, and agreed everyone wished him well in his retirement.

01/22 – Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Cheryl Davies, Mary Roberts and Daisy Tait.

02/22 – Declarations of Interest

The Chairman noted he was a member of the BKV Committee. Councillors Alan Peace noted he was a member of the BKV Committee and Wombourne Community and District Association Committee.

03/22 – Public Participation

- a) Resident from Wombourne Park – The resident assumed Members had heard about the road traffic accident on Bridgnorth Road and asked if there was anything that could be done to extend the 40mph speed limit beyond the new housing estate.

Councillor Bond informed the resident a recent consultation had taken place to consider a traffic order in the location. Councillor Alan Peace agreed and confirmed he had responded to the consultation.

Councillor Mike Davies agreed to follow up on the traffic order.

04/22 – Update on local policing from Chief Inspector David Wain

The Chairman explained unfortunately, the Chief Inspector was unable to join the meeting this evening, but he will endeavour to attend very soon.

05/22 – Approval of Minutes

- a) It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Meeting held on 6th December 2021 having previously been distributed be signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

06/22 – Budget and Precept 2022/2023

Councillor Mike Davies informed Members the budget was inspected line by line using the spreadsheet prepared by the Clerk. Adjustments were made to some figures to see the consequence of the out-turn. He referred to the Council's own Reserves Policy which states the Council will keep general reserves equivalent to 50% of the precept. He proposed an 8% increase on the 2021/2022 with a budget of £390,205 and a precept of £238,736 which at Band D equates to £46.29 per annum or 89p per week.

Councillor Vince Merrick seconded the proposal, and all Members were in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that the budget for 2022/2023 be £390,205 with a precept of £238,736.

07/22 – Reports from Members appointed to Outside Bodies

- a) **Police Liaison** – Councillor Vince Merrick informed Members that Chief Inspector David Wain would be in attendance at one of their meetings soon. He said Operation Cratchett in relation to drink and drug driving had now stopped, with good results. Councillor Merrick said he hoped to approach the Crime Commissioner soon regarding funding for CCTV in the village.

Councillor Barry Bond suggested the request for additional CCTV in the village had not been discussed by the Council, and before anything is agreed, he would like to know what happens with the current portable system in terms of, how effective it is, how many officers actively look at it when live, and if it has been used to convict anyone.

Councillors Vince Merrick agreed to obtain the answers to Councillor Bond's queries and is sure that when Chief Inspector Wain attends a meeting, he will support his idea for additional CCTV in the village.

08/22 – Parish Council Finances and Administration

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

09/22 – Planning and Development Responses

Members noted the responses.

10/22 – South East Ward vacancy

Members noted that there was a vacancy in the South East Ward due to the resignation of Ken Upton. The Chairman informed Members they were waiting to hear whether an election would be called.

11/22 – Correspondence

- a) Thank you email from Councillor John Pike for the collection and gift presented to him from Councillors and office staff on the occasion of his 90th birthday.
- b) Update from South Staffordshire Council on S106 funding. No funds were due to be received from Bridgnorth Road development. £10,000 were due to be received from Giggetty Lane earmarked for new play equipment at Poolhouse Play Area, and £76,000 from Beggars Bush Lane development to improve community facilities.

12/22 – Chairman's Business

- a) The Chairman gave a breakdown of his whereabouts as follows:

- i. 15th, 16th and 19th December he joined other volunteers to take the old Rotary sleigh around the village. He noted there was a great atmosphere, and it was a pleasure to bring so much joy to the community, especially children and those who had been isolating. Councillor Barry Bond congratulated the group noting it most definitely brought joy to the community.
 - ii. 20th December he attended the pop-up vaccination centre at the fire station, which although was a last-minute arrangement was very well attended since it was pushed via community WhatsApp groups.
 - iii. 21st and 22nd December he supported an initiative to provide Christmas meals for the homeless in Wolverhampton which took place at the Volunteer Bureau. They welcomed over 150 homeless people, including families with young children. He subsequently joined the soup kitchen to assist with the same initiative.
 - iv. 24th December he bought cakes from Windmill Bakery and delivered them to the staff on shift at the Police office based at Wombourne Civic Centre to thank them for their dedication and hard work. He also visited Councillor John Pike to present him with a gift from fellow Members and office staff for this 90th birthday.
 - v. 26th and 30th December he joined fellow BKV volunteers to litter pick the village.
 - vi. 4th January he attended Co-op on Giggetty Lane to see how the staff were after the robbery that took place there.
 - vii. 7th and 14th January he attended the Friendly Faces Café where almost 100 people were in attendance, he noted the team were concerned no one would attend, particularly on 7th January, but given the numbers who attended it proved how valuable the service was. Councillor Barry Bond noted that he had spoken to many people who live alone, and this past Christmas had been particularly difficult for them.
 - viii. 15th January he attended a BKV tidy up of the A449 completing his BKV 22 challenge of picking up 22 pieces of litter in 20 minutes. He noted he completed his challenge in just 5 minutes.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** the next date for the Full Council Meeting would be Monday 7th February 2022.
- c) It was **RESOLVED** the date for the Committee meetings would take place as follows:
- a. Monday 24th January 2022 at 6pm – High Street Recovery and Rejuvenation
 - b. Monday 24th January 2022 at 7pm – Recreation and Amenities
 - c. Monday 24th January 2022 to follow Recreation and Amenities – Planning and Development
- d) Members are reminded of the open session from 3pm to 8pm in relation to the lease at Brickbridge Playing Fields.

The meeting closed at 7.54pm.

Signed:

Dated: