



WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held on **Tuesday 4th May 2021** at 7.15pm
This meeting was held virtually via Zoom Video Conferencing.

Present -

Councillors: Barry Bond, Cheryl Davies, Mike Davies, Elizabeth Keeling (joined 19.16pm), Dan Kinsey (Chair), Claire McIlvenna, Vince Merrick, Alan Peace, John Pike (Vice-Chair), Mary Roberts, Daisy Tait, Ken Upton.

Clerk: Rachael Wright

Public: Mrs Sarah Slater from Dementia Singing Friends and Sgt Jason Dorrington and PCSO Paula Wilkes from South Staffordshire Police.

01/21 – Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Alan Hinton, Robert Reade and Reg Williams.

02/21 – Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mary Roberts noted that she was a member of Wombourne BKV Committee and Wombourne Carnival Committee. Councillor Alan Peace noted he was a member of Wombourne BKV Committee, Wombourne Carnival Committee and Wombourne and District Community Association. Councillor Dan Kinsey noted he was a member of Wombourne BKV Committee.

03/21 – Election of Chairman for 2021/2022

Councillor Daisy Tait proposed Councillor Dan Kinsey remain Chairman for the forthcoming year. She commended him for working tirelessly during the last challenging year, and noted in addition to his role as an elected Member with Wombourne Parish Council and South Staffordshire Council, he had also offered ongoing support to Wombourne BKV Committee, Wombourne Community Assistance Group, and the local retailers to name a few. Councillor Mike Davies seconded the proposal and commended Councillor Kinsey for showing great leadership during the past year. All Members were in favour.

It was **RESOVLED** that Councillor Daniel Kinsey remain Chairman for the forthcoming year.

Councillor Dan Kinsey accepted his nomination commenting he didn't expect to remain in post for a third year, but was very honoured to be representing the Parish Council as Chairman for the forthcoming year.

04/21 – Election of Vice-Chairman for 2021/2022

Councillor Mary Roberts nominated Councillor John Pike to remain Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year. She commended him for his ongoing support to the Chairman.

Councillor Cheryl Davies seconded the proposal and all Members were in favour.

It was **RESOVLED** that Councillor John Pike remain Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year.

Councillor Dan Kinsey thanked Councillor John Pike for his ongoing support and looked forward to another year working closely together.

05/21 – Election of Deputy Chairman for 2021/2022

In accordance with Standing Orders, it was RESOLVED that Councillor Mary Roberts remain Deputy Chairman for the forthcoming year.

06/21 – Election of Chairman and Members of Committees

Councillor Mike Davies proposed Chairman and Members of Committees be agreed en bloc according to the list circulated. Councillor Vince Merrick seconded the proposal and all Members were in agreement.

- a) **Civic Centre Management** – It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Barry Bond be elected Chairman of the Committee.
- b) **Finance and General Purposes** - It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Mary Roberts be elected Chairman of the Committee.
- c) **Planning and Development** - It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Alan Peace be elected Chairman of the Committee.
- d) **Recreation and Amenities** - It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Ken Upton be elected Chairman of the Committee.

07/21 – Appointment of Members to Outside Bodies

Councillor Mike Davies proposed en bloc that Members appointed to Outside be agreed according to the list circulated. Councillor John Pike seconded the proposal and all Members were in favour.

It was noted that the remits for outside bodies would be confirmed in due course.

08/21 – Public Participation

Sgt Jason Dorrington informed Members unfortunately there had been a significant increase in the theft of catalytic converters particularly from Japanese vehicles in the past month. This was a Countrywide issue, and not isolated to Wombourne or South Staffordshire and was partly due to the cost of metal. An operation is ongoing using ANPR cameras, and sharing intelligence between forces with some arrests in West Midlands area. Analytical work was also being carried out around scrap yards who may be accepting the stolen goods. There had been 3 burglaries from social housing over a 6/7 week period, unfortunately, there were no useful leads at present. Some anti-social behaviour had been reported at Brickbridge Playing Fields however, it has since been noted that the gate would be locked at night which should assist with the issues. There had also been reports of an increase in youths gather at the Maypole, however, Sgt Dorrington noted that they weren't youths but adults gathering after pub gardens had closed. Unfortunately a change in Public Spaces Protection Orders meant that they weren't committing a criminal act, however, it was felt that once the next set of restrictions lift on 17th May, the problem should disappear.

Councillor Vince Merrick asked for stop and search figures to be included in Police reports going forward. He commented that he was looking forward to his role as Police Liaison (according to Outside Bodies) and working with the Safer Neighbourhood Panel.

Standing orders were suspended at 19.38pm to allow public participation to continue.

Mrs Sarah Slater from Dementia Singing Friends explained her support group was currently being held from the Guide Hut on Mill Lane whilst the library was closed. Her next project is to set up a community social hub for anyone of any age who may be lonely and isolated. It is proposed this would be held on a Friday at the library.

Support has been offered from Wombourne and District Community Association, and she would like to seek support from the Parish Council as well as volunteers in the community.

Councillor Dan Kinsey thanked Mrs Slater for her update and enquired as to what support she would like from the Parish Council. She informed him she would like to set up a dementia awareness evening at the Civic Centre to spread the word about dementia and would like assistance with opening up the car park at Mill Lane. It was agreed her requests would be carried forward to an appropriate Committee Meeting.

09/21 – Approval of Minutes

- a) It was agreed that minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8th March 2021 having previously been distributed be signed at the earliest opportunity as a true and correct record of the meeting.

10/21 – Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes

- a) It was agreed that minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 15th March 2021 having previously been distributed be signed at the earliest opportunity as a true and correct record of the meeting.
- b) It was agreed that minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting held on 26th April 2021 having previously been distributed be signed at the earliest opportunity as a true and correct record of the meeting.

11/21 – Reports from Members appointed to Outside Bodies

- a) Wombourne Best Kept Village Committee – Councillor Alan Peace informed Members that the group of committed volunteers have continued to go from strength to strength with more and more work being done to improve the general environment around Wombourne. In addition to the normal routine litter picking, members of the group have been undertaking tasks such as clearing weed encroachment on footpaths, in some cases resulting in almost doubling the width of the pathway; planting up the planters around the village; clearing and tidying the ground around the village hall on High Street and painting the metal fencing around the Brickbridge Playing Fields.
There are now almost 100 young people involved in the junior Litter Patrol group and many of them can be seen around the village (usually with a parent) wearing their hi vis bibs with obvious pride and pleasure.

12/21 – Parish Council Finances and Administration

- a) It was **RESOVLED** that the payments for March 2021 be authorised.

13/21 – To rescind the decision made under 09/21 of the Civic Centre Management Committee meeting on Tuesday 2nd March 2021

- a) It was **RESOVLED** that Standing Orders 7a has been satisfied and the decision had been rescinded.

14/21 – Planning and Development Responses

Members noted the planning decision as per the list circulated with the agenda.

15/21 – Correspondence

- a) Email from Mr and Mrs Tiley following their attendance to the Annual Parish Meeting to express their thanks for showcasing the work of volunteers, and for their hard work in assisting the elderly and vulnerable during the pandemic.
- b) Email from South Staffordshire Council asking for ideas to improve open spaces, such as wild meadows or vegetable plots. The email had already been circulated to Members asking for suggestions to be sent to the Clerk.

- c) Email from South Staffordshire Council advising High Street, Wombourne along with other High Streets in the District will be receiving £5000 funding with the aim to try and entice members of the public back to the High Streets. The email had already been circulated to Members asking for suggestions to be sent to the Clerk.

16/21 – Chairman’s Business

- a) The Chairman gave a breakdown of his whereabouts as follows:
 - i. Saturday mornings he has continued to help BKV, in particular he has been helping the paint the metal fencing at Brickbridge Playing Fields.
 - ii. 17th March 2021 he was a guest speaker at a virtual Girl Guide meeting, and was amazed to see how engaged and intrigued they were about the Parish Council and the local area.
 - iii. 31st March 2021 he delivered 20 Easter Eggs donated from his Chairman’s Allowance to Kingsway Church for their annual Easter Egg search. This was particularly important as it helps families using the food bank.
 - iv. 13th and 20th April he Chaired Wombourne Community Assistance Group meetings, also attended by Councillor Mary Roberts and the Clerk.
 - v. 16th April he lined the streets to see the funeral cortege for Ben Fieldhouse, a well known and dedicated BKV volunteer. He noted it was well attended, and the round of applause from BKV volunteers was emotional and a fitting tribute to such a wonderful man. The Chairman described how the current Chairman Simon Williams told him how Ben had encouraged him to join BKV whilst out litter picking himself, and therefore in some ways was responsible for the team that BKV are today.
 - vi. 17th April he met with 2 volunteers, a brother and sister team, from the BKV Litter Patrol to award them their certificates for 20 litter picks.
 - vii. 18th April he attended St Benedict Biscop Church Service to commemorate the life of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh.

- b) It was **RESOLVED** the next date for the Full Council Meeting would be Monday 7th June 2021.
- c) It was **RESOLVED** the next date for the Civic Centre Management Committee Meeting would be Wednesday 5th May 2021.
- d) It was **RESOLVED** to continue to use delegated authority to make decisions of the Committees as agreed at the Extraordinary Parish Meeting on 20th March 2020.

The meeting closed at 8.11pm.

Signed:

Dated: