



WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

held on **Monday 27th September 2021** at 7.33pm

This meeting was held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Gravel Hill, Wombourne, WV5 9HA

Present – Committee Members-

Councillors: Barry Bond MBE, Mike Davies (Vice-Chairman), Dan Kinsey, Vince Merrick, Robert Reade, Mary Roberts (Chairman), Daisy Tait.

Present – Non-Committee Members- Councillor Alan Peace.

Clerk – Rachael Wright

52/21 – Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Cheryl Davies and John Pike.

53/21 – Declarations of Interest

None.

54/21 – Approval of last Committee Meeting minutes

Members approved the minutes of the last meeting.

55/21 – Matters arising from 26th July 2021

None.

56/21 – Christmas Light Switch On

The Clerk informed Members both St Benedict Biscop Primary School and Cherry Tree School had agreed to take part in the event, there appeared to be low numbers in both choirs so they were speaking to one another to do something jointly. St Benedict Biscop were also asking their brass band if they wanted to participate. The fireworks have been booked in. It was noted that EON required the installer to be HERS registered next year, and our installer only had G39 accreditation, therefore the Clerk had informed Turnock Ltd of this requirement so that there aren't any issues next year.

57/21 – Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Members approved the social media post the Clerk had created and agreed to ask for responses by mid November to enable them to be considered before preparing for the budget.

58/21 – High Street Recovery and Rejuvenation Committee

Members approved spending of £2651.24 to date, and noted that the £10,000 grant was not from South Staffordshire Council, but a Government grant which they were acting as a conduit for. It was noted that the Committee had agreed to spend £7500 on events and £2500 on street furniture, and therefore the events would run right through to next Spring when the grant expired.

59/21 – Signatures on bank account

Members witnessed Councillors Mike Davies, Dan Kinsey and Mary Roberts sign the mandate to remove Alan Hinton and add Councillor Dan Kinsey to the account.

60/21 – Parish Council email address

The Chairman went through the Clerk's report, noting the advice from both SPCA and South Staffordshire Council was for Parish Councillors to use email addresses set up and controlled by the Council. The Clerk agreed to find out if the District Council would allow District Councillors to use their District email addresses, rather than a Parish one. In the meantime, Councillor Mike Davies proposed the Council set up Parish emails with option 2 on the Clerk's report via the website host, Councillor Daisy Tait seconded the proposal and all Members were in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would set up central email addresses for Councillors.

61/21 – Christmas Tree Festival

Members noted that Chris and Doreen Dawe would no longer be organising the festival, and had offered for someone to take their place but could not guarantee that the URC would be available to host it. Members agreed for the Clerk to inform the Community Association, BKV and Christmas Tree Committee they would offer to help to support the event if someone wanted to take it on, but would not be able to host it.

62/21 – Remembrance Sunday

Members considered the offer from the Cricket Club to host the refreshments after the Remembrance Service, if there was one, and agreed to the kind offer.

63/21 – AGAR

Members noted the completed AGAR for 2020/2021 which had been received without any qualifications or comments and congratulated the Clerk on her hard work in achieving this.

64/21 – 20mph speed limit in Wombourne

Members considered the presentation from Michael Barr from 20's plenty. They all agreed that Wombourne had worked hard over the past 12 months to form their own Community Speedwatch who had been out several times this year, and act as a community deterrent. They agreed for Councillor Mike Davies to update them on the County Council's policy on the matter.

65/21 – Gavin Williamson's email

Members considered the email Gavin Williamson had received from Debra Taylor regarding parking in Wombourne. Councillor Mike Davies agreed to request an update from County Council who he believed had or were due to carry out a review of car parks across the whole county. Members noted that 3 separate authorities control the parking in the village, and therefore any review in Wombourne would need to include all 3 authorities.

66/21 – Policies

Members agreed to approve the Code of Conduct, Complaints Policy, Open Spaces Policy, Publication Scheme, Lone Worker Policy, Lone Worker Risk Assessment and CCTV Policy.

67/21 – Exclusion of the Public and Press

It was **RESOLVED** that under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Signed:

Dated: