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CHESLYN HAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Wednesday 7th March 2018

at the Village Hall, Pinfold Lane, Cheslyn Hay at 7.00 pm

**1. 07/03/207 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

1.1 No members of the public in attendance.

**2. 07/03/208 - MEMBERS PRESENT**

2.1 Councillor S. Hollis (Chair)

Councillors :- P. L. Appleton, B. L. Bladen, E. A. Davison (Mrs), J. C. Davison,

R. Denson, A. W. Emery, L. Emery, G. Keatley, P. Wilkinson,

B. Woolley.

District Councillor B. Williams

Melanie Brown – Parish Clerk

**3. 07/03/209 – APOLOGIES**

3.1 Apologies for absence from Councillors P. Appleby, J. King, A. Pugh (Mrs) and

C. Wilkinson (Mrs).

**4. 07/03/210 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

4.1 Councillor Woolley declared an interest in agenda item 9, financial reports.

**5. 07/03/211 – MINUTES**

5.1 That the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21st February 2018 be recorded as a true record.

**RESOLVED:**

**Proposed by Councillor B. L. Bladen and seconded by Councillor E. A. Davison that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 21st February 2018 be recorded as a true and accurate record.**

**6. 07/03/212 – COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

6.1 County Councillor B. Williams reported that there will be a 5 million pound investment in Staffordshire County Council in this financial year for pothole repairs.

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6.2 County Councillor B. Williams reported on the response from Staffordshire County Council Highways in relation to the recent pothole repairs in Cheslyn Hay. He reported that Staffordshire County Council found the pothole repair to be of an acceptable standard as this was a safety defect and urgent action was required to make safe, although it is not aesthetically pleasing. Under the terms of the contact a Compliance Officer carries out ‘spot checks’ before and after repairs to potholes are carried out to check the quality of the work. Payment is not paid per job or per day but an annual contract measured by the overall condition of the roads so there is no incentive for less than satisfactory work.

6.3 Members reported that there was a chronic under-investment in the roads in Staffordshire which needs to be addressed. County Councillor B. Williams reported that all County Councillors are unhappy with the current service and have spoken to Mark Deaville, Cabinet Member for Commercial, regarding their concerns and will keep pushing for a better service.

6.4 Members stated that Staffordshire County Council has a legal obligation to repair the roads and, if repairs are not carried out correctly and a member of the public is hurt, they will be responsible.

6.5 Members suggested the following for consideration:-

* Giving Parish Council’s the finances to carry out their own pothole repairs;
* Arranging for the pothole repair teams to work in one area for a period of time to ‘blitz’ the area before moving on;
* Arrange penalty clauses in the contract so the contractor is held accountable for poor repairs.

6.6 County Councillor B. Williams thanked Councillor Appleton and his team of volunteers for clearing the soil along the gutters and covering the drains in Landywood Lane. Staffordshire County Council will now arrange for the drains to be cleaned and emptied.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Clerk send a letter to Mark Deaville, Cabinet Member for Commercial, stating that Cheslyn Hay Parish Council is not happy with the response regarding pothole repairs from the Highways Team at Staffordshire County Council and the current contract in general.**

**7. 07/03/213 – DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT**

7.1 District Councillor L. Emery reported that she has been involved generally in Finance at South Staffordshire Council, which is producing some good work in terms of self-funding, and particularly in the Audit Committee looking at risks and asset investment, which she hopes to report back on shortly.

7.2 District Councillor S. Hollis reported on the Wellbeing Committee he attended yesterday evening which discussed making provisions for death in terms of making wills, their website address is [www.dyingmattersstaffs.org](http://www.dyingmattersstaffs.org) and offers support for end of life care. He reported that the average life span for a male in South Staffordshire is 80.6 and a female 84.1.

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7.3 District Councillor B. Williams reported on the new Laney Green depot in Bilbrook which has been refurbished to house the new directly employed South Staffordshire Council grounds staff, previously work was carried out by contractors. He reported on:-

* Programme for purchasing new equipment and training;
* Number of cuts a year to be provided;
* Litter picking;
* Road sweeping;
* Shrub pruning.

Councillor Williams reported that Parish Councils are now being encouraged to use their reserve funds to contract services such as road sweeping at £1,100.00 per month and to carry out duties such as litter picking and shrub pruning due to the lack of resources at South Staffordshire Council. Members enquired if community service/probation services could assist South Staffordshire Council with their shortfall of staff resources.

7.4 Members requested District Councillors to action the following requests:-

* Details of the Community Fund when available;
* Key Performance Indicators regarding average lifespan for Cheslyn Hay and Great Wyrley residents in particular or by Locality 3 in comparison to the rest of South Staffordshire;
* Enforcement action required at Campions Wood Quarry for contravening the approved HGV routes and for not using the wheelwash and at Rosemary Quarry for not using the wheelwash;
* Current structure for South Staffordshire Council Electoral Services and how they will improve their service before the next local elections in 2019;
* Repairs required at the ‘button island’ Saredon Road/Wolverhampton Road, which are now dangerous.

**RESOLVED:**

**That District Councillors action the items listed at 7.4.**

**8. 07/03/214 – PLANNING**

8.1 Planning application 18/00147/FUL – ground floor rear extension at 37 Berwyn Grove, Cheslyn Hay, WS6 7DW.

8.2 The Clerk reported that she had received a response from South Staffordshire Council enforcement team regarding Monway Sawmill on Saredon Road. They have stated that there is no breach of planning control in terms of the use of the site as there has been no change of use, however the open barn structure does require planning permission and they will need to submit an application no later than the 26th March 2018.

**RESOLVED:-**

**That the Clerk inform South Staffordshire Council that no objections were received for application 18/00147/FUL, ground floor rear extension at 37 Berwyn Grove, Cheslyn Hay, WS6 7DW. However, Members would like to report that several houses with extensions on Berwyn Grove have complained that the train line at the rear of their properties affects any building construction as it shakes the foundations and causes cracks, this is something that you may wish to consider as some of the extensions already built are only a few feet away from the track.**

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**That District Councillors speak to South Staffordshire Council to establish what information/evidence they have used in order to make an assessment of the planning history of the site on Saredon Road in relation to Monway Sawmills and to discuss the issue of HGV’s accessing the site and contravening HGV approved routes.**

**That District Councillors invite the Chief Planning Officer and Chief Enforcement Officer to a Parish Council meeting to discuss alleged anomalies with local planning decisions and processes.**

**9. 07/02/215 – FINANCE**

9.1 Report 1 - Financial Reports – The financial reports for January 2018 were discussed by the Clerk and the bank statements verified and signed by Councillors G. P. Keatley and L. Emery.

9.2 Report 2 – Payments – Payments proposed by Councillor P. Wilkinson, seconded by Councillor A. W. Emery with Councillor G. P. Keatley as third signatory.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the financial reports for January 2018 be approved and that any outstanding payments be made in respect of those items listed on the green paper circulated at the meeting.**

**10. 07/03/216 – CLERKS REPORT**

10.1 South Staffordshire Council Consultation – District Design Guide and Sustainable Development Supplementary Planning Documents – The Clerk had sent out these documents via email prior to this meeting for consideration. A discussion was held regarding the amendments.

10.2 South Staffordshire Council Consultation – Modifications to the Site Allocations Document – The Clerk had sent out this document for consideration before the meeting. Councillor Denson had researched the Mineral Local Plan for Staffordshire 2015-30 and established that the Etruria formation clay is the principal brick clay resource in Staffordshire and recognised nationally as a premium clay resource. The plan states that due to the scarcity of the resource there is a need to safeguard clays from sterilisation caused by built development which may impact on site 119. A discussion was also held as to how the Greater Birmingham Housing Market Area may impact on South Staffordshire Council’s housing needs and what proportion would be issued to South Staffordshire. It was also noted that there are plenty of brownfield sites across Birmingham, Staffordshire and the Black County which could be utilised before green belt land is allocated.

10.3 Update – Rosemary Road Turning Circle – The Clerk reported that a contractor had been on site last week to level the ground on the turning circle and clear the culvert. A discussion was held regarding the ‘unadopted land’ sign and Councillor Hollis reported that he had been in discussions with Councillor K. Perry regarding the site.

10.4 Pitch Lining Machine – The Clerk reported that the pitch lining machine, used to line the football pitches, needs to be replaced as soon as possible and discussed the quotations.

10.5 Sutherland Road Open Space – The Clerk has received confirmation from South Staffordshire Council that they will remove litter and debris from Sutherland Road open space but not on the watercourse which is the responsibility of Severn Trent Water.

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**RESOLVED:**

**That the Clerk send round the response to the Modifications to the Site Allocations Document (SAD) for members to check before the closing date of the 21st March 2018.**

**That the Clerk include the following comments in the SAD response :-**

* **Safeguarding of the Etruria formation clays adjacent to site 119;**
* **Question how the GBHMA will impact on the proportion of housing need in South Staffordshire?;**
* **Question why the builders have a right to representation in the document?**

**That the Clerk order the pitch lining machine as per the quotations discussed.**

**11. 07/03/217 – CORRESPONDENCE**

11.1 Response from consultation on South Staffordshire Council Infrastructure Delivery Plan from South Staffordshire Council.

11.2 South Staffordshire Council, Your Council Challenge Panel, Parish Survey. The Clerk requested members views before responding to the Parish Survey.

11.3 South Staffordshire Council – Enforcement cases will be now be published on the first day of each month and emailed for information – **noted**.

11.4 Free Safeguarding Training on Monday 19th March 2018, 6.00 – 9.00 pm at South Staffordshire Council, Codsall – the Clerk will be attending, Parish Councillors are also invited to attend – **noted**.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Clerk email the response regarding the Infrastructure Delivery Plan to Members for information.**

**That the Clerk respond to the Parish Survey no later than 31st March 2018.**

**12. 07/03/218 TABLED ITEMS**

12.1 Staffordshire Parish Council’s Association Bulletins of the 22nd February and 1st March 2018.

12.2 Staffordshire County Council – My Staffordshire – March 2018 edition.

12.3 South Staffordshire Council – Council News Round-up issue 57.

12.4 Staffordshire Pension Fund – Employer Focus Newsletter – February 2018.

12.5 Police – Crime Prevention Poster – Keyless Car Thefts.

12.6 Staffordshire County Council – People Helping People – supporting Voluntary Work in the Community.

12.7 The Cinnamon Trust – Request for volunteer dog walkers to support the elderly and terminally ill.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Clerk send out any tabled items for information.**

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**13. 07/03/219 – CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

13.1 No Chairman’s announcements.

**14. 07/03/220 – SECTION 17 STATEMENT**

14.1 The Chairman read the Section 17 statement.

Items 6.2, 6.4, 10.3 and 12.5

**15. 07/03/221 – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

15.1 Legal issues were discussed.

**The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.**

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