

LOWER PENN PARISH COUNCIL

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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on THURSDAY 2 DECEMBER 2021

At THE VICTORY HALL, LOWER PENN

PRESENT:

Cllr N Cox – Chairman
Cllr Mrs B Southall – Vice Chair
Cllr Mrs V Barnes
Cllr Ms H Fuller
Cllr Mrs C Taylor
Cllr D Williams

District Cllr D Kinsey
Members of the Public

		Action
235/21	APOLOGIES Received from Cllr Bradley, Cllr Mrs Brazenell, Cllr Mrs Preece, District Cllr Reade, County Cllr Mrs Wilson and Staffordshire Police	
236/21	MINUTES Proposed by Cllr Mrs Taylor and seconded by Cllr Williams and carried that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 November 2021 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.	
237/21	PARISH COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION Following confirmation from the District Council that no election had been requested, the Chairman advised that the Parish Council agreed to the co-option of a new councillor and had recently interviewed the candidate for the position. It was unanimously agreed that Mrs Victoria Barnes be elected as Parish Councillor on Lower Penn Parish Council and Mrs Barnes accepted the position. Cllr Mrs Barnes signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of all councillors present and undertook to observe the Code of Conduct. Cllr Mrs Barnes also completed her Register of Interest form for submission to the District Council.	Clerk
238/21	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS District Cllr Reade declared an interest in any housing proposals for the preferred options.	
239/21	POLICE REPORT – 2/11/21 – 30/11/21 Received and circulated. Vehicle Crime: Springhill Park 12.11.21 Items stolen from vehicle Vehicle Crime: Springhill Lane 27.11.21 Vehicle stolen ASB; No repeat locations Operation 'Androme' – targeting Catalytic converter crime. Working with vehicle manufacturers to offer free identification marking. Operation 'Cable' – targeting ASB hotspots	

	<p>Operation 'Lightening' – targeting vehicle crime Thanks to the Speedwatch Team – more volunteers required Public can report incidents via the 'Digital 101' service where a private message can be sent to Staffordshire Police on Facebook/Twitter pages, rather than phoning 101 to queue.</p>	
<p>240/21</p>	<p>LOCAL PLAN The meeting was opened to the public and a number of issues were raised, some of which the Parish Council agreed to relay to the District Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Parish Council agreed to send its submission to the District Council on 9th/10th December. ▪ The Chairman reported that the Parish Council has agreed to underwrite the cost of the consultant's report in the sum of £2437.50. He has been in discussion with a number of other parishes who would like sight of this report and has agreed contributions, between £620 and £350, from the Action Group, Kinver, Bilbrook and Essington Parish Councils. The Chairman was asked if residents could also have sight of the document and the Chairman advised that he would consider an appropriate, confidential way of making this available, possibly by means of a non-disclosure agreement. ▪ The District Council's portal was difficult to navigate and, in some cases, appeared not to accept a full submission from residents. District Cllr Kinsey advised residents to submit their comments by email if they were unable to access the portal. ▪ Cllr Mrs Southall reported that she had received an email from the Local Plan Team stating that responses are not processed until the end of the consultation period and therefore a current working estimate of responses was not available. It was also noted that the public's responses are not available to view. D. Cllr Kinsey agreed to look into this. ▪ Councillors and residents were unhappy with the District Council's lack of enabling any involvement of residents before and during the public consultation period and D. Cllr Kinsey said that this had been relayed to officers at the Council, who had decided to use the Review Magazine as a way of informing the public of the Local Plan. However, no councillors or residents present had received a copy of the magazine and D. Cllr Kinsey agreed to make enquiries about this. ▪ It was also felt that the language used in the Preferred Options document was inappropriate and difficult for lay people to understand. ▪ The meeting also discussed the legal requirements regarding duty of disclosure for the Local Plan. <p>The Clerk was asked to write to the District Council regarding the relevant issues.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>DK</p> <p>DK</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>241/21</p>	<p>Rural Services Audit No further action - take off minutes.</p>	
<p>242/21</p>	<p>Battery Storage Facility – land off Penstone Lane/Blackpit Lane District Cllr Kinsey said that a meeting with Planning Officers has been arranged to discuss a strategy for battery storage applications. The meeting noted that this application conflicts with the proposed Langley Road Local Plan site and any decision taken must take this into account.</p>	
<p>243/21</p>	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None recorded</p>	
<p>244/21</p>	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT No report available</p>	
<p>245/21</p>	<p>DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Locality 5 Forum – items discussed: options for celebrations current and for next year, including Queen's Jubilee/beacon and Commonwealth Games; responses on climate change action plan; ▪ The leader of the District Council suffered an accident, which broke his hip. 	

<p>246/21</p>	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>App No: 21/01168/FUL Extensions The Gables, 5 Radford Lane Councillors viewed this application and it was agreed that there would be no objection providing all current planning and green belt policies were followed.</p> <p>APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED MID-MEETING</p> <p>App No: 21/00863/FUL Amended – Detached Garage Three Ridings Radford Lane The Parish Council had no objection providing it complies with all relevant planning policies.</p> <p>App No: 21/01103/TREE Removal of Ash Tree – Charlton House, Springhill Lane Councillors expressed concern regarding the total removal of this tree.</p> <p>APPLICATIONS PENDING</p> <p>21/00440/FUL – Battery storage plant, land off South Staffs Railway Walk 21/00863/FUL Amended Detached garage – Three Ridings Radford Lane 21/00947/VAR Removal of Condition No. 4 Sandhills Nursery 21/00869/FUL 5 Bedroom Detached Dwelling – Springhill Farm, 70 Springhill Lane 21/01118/FUL Alterations 119 Springhill Lane 20/01029/FUL Temporary Consent for Caravan – The Lindens Penstone Lane</p> <p>APPLICATION APPROVED</p> <p>21/00795/FUL Works to Castlecroft Farmhouse, Radford Lane 21/01034/FUL – 2 storey side extension – 1 Dene Road, Lower Penn 21/00921/FUL Extensions 59 Springhill Lane</p> <p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>Sandhills Nursery – Discharge of Conditions Decision awaited</p> <p>Enforcement Issues Access Road/58 Springhill Cottage It was reported that the District Council intends to issue a breach of Condition Notice for this matter.</p> <p>Redundant Diversion Signs Now removed – take off minutes</p> <p>Overgrown hedges/verges along Castlecroft Road Clerk to write to Wightwick & Finchfield Cricket Club asked for hedges to be cut.</p> <p>Temporary Barrier – Railway Bridge Greyhound Lane Carry forward to next meeting</p> <p>Market Lane Flooding It was also reported that the Environment Agency has been in contact with local residents regarding the balancing lake which appears to require attention.</p> <p>Community Speedwatch/Speeding Issues Nothing to report</p> <p>Fly Tipping/Litter Ongoing</p> <p>Victory Hall Successful Christmas Fair held on Saturday 27 November</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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<p>255/21</p>	<p>Victory Hall Successful Christmas Fair held on Saturday 27 November</p>	

<p>265/21</p> <p>266/21</p> <p>267/21</p>	<p>CPRE Training Fee - £30.00: it was agreed that the CPRE be asked to waiver this fee and the Parish Council would gift the organisation a copy of the consultant's report and also request membership of their organisation.</p> <p>FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT Budget prepared, approved and precept finalised.</p> <p>SECTION 17 Nothing to report</p> <p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Thursday 3 February 2022 commencing at 7.15pm in the Victory Hall</p> <p>Signed: Chairman</p> <p>Date:</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
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