

# LOWER PENN PARISH COUNCIL

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## MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held on THURSDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2024 at the VICTORY HALL, LOWER PENN

### PRESENT:

Cllr Mrs B Southall – Chair  
Cllr Ms H Fuller – Vice-Chair  
Cllr K Crane  
Cllr D Everett

County and District Councillor Mrs V Wilson  
District Councillor R Reade

8 Members of the Public

		Action
189/24	<b>APOLOGIES</b> Received from Cllr Mrs Brazenell, Cllr Mrs Taylor, Cllr S McEwen and Staffordshire Police.	
190/24	<b>MINUTES</b> Proposed by Cllr Ms Fuller and seconded by Cllr Everett and carried that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7 December 2023 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.	
191/24	<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b> None recorded.	
192/24	<b>POLICE REPORT 05/12/2023 - 31/01/2024</b> Received and circulated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Attempted break-in – Springhill Park</li><li>▪ Vehicle Crime: Springhill Lane – number plate stolen</li><li>▪ A number of vehicle/burglary crimes occurring in the locality recently – residents to be vigilant.</li><li>▪ Cllr Ms Fuller said she had attended the recent Parish Summit and had spoken to Police Officers who advised that the content/consistency of Police Reports will be improved.</li><li>▪ The Clerk was asked to enquire whether Police Reports can be posted on social media.</li></ul>	
193/24	<b>LOCAL PLAN</b> Cllr Mrs Wilson reported that preparations are nearing completion and that a public consultation period is imminent.	Clerk
194/24	<b>UPDATE FROM DC OFFICERS</b> Carry forward to next meeting.	
195/24	<b>COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT</b>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ White Railings Dimmingsdale – damaged by STW: County Council will be repairing these at some future date.</li> <li>▪ Chevrons – Dene Road: These have been damaged – one missing and one on floor. Cllr Mrs Wilson to report.</li> <li>▪ Pot Holes: County Council has been given £3.1 million this year although this falls far short of repair costs involved. Residents urged to report Springhill Lane large pot hole.</li> </ul>	<b>VW</b>
<b>196/24</b>	<p><b>DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Age UK: discussed at Parish Summit</li> <li>▪ Dog Fouling: Stickers and posters available from Andy Aston. To be contacted.</li> <li>▪ Care Home 107 Springhill Lane: no update available</li> <li>▪ AFC Wulfrunians – retrospective application to be submitted</li> <li>▪ The Lindens, Penstone Lane: caravan permission terminates mid-March 2024.</li> <li>▪ Sandhills Nursery – Outstanding BREEM: as the Nursery is occupied, the Certificate for consideration will take a lot longer.</li> <li>▪ Sandhills Nursery – increase in pupil numbers: this not affected by the ongoing BREEM. Applicants have submitted a noise assessment to cover the appeal reasons for upholding their decision. This will be assessed by the Environment Officer and the decision will be made on the outcome of this report.</li> <li>▪ Disability Facilities Grant: A new partnership has been formed which has improved the service by reducing application time and work implemented.</li> </ul>	<b>All</b>
<b>197/24</b>	<p><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pupil numbers – Sandhills Nursery: objections re increase in traffic, more staff, lack of parking spaces, noise impact, sewerage system not adequate.</li> <li>▪ Gullies: many are blocked throughout Lower Penn – Cllr Mrs Wilson to follow this up.</li> <li>▪ Dog Fouling: Persistent offenders can be reported to the District Council.</li> </ul>	<b>VW</b>
<b>198/24</b>	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p> <p><b>App No: 23/01011/FUL Demolition of existing dwelling to create C2 Care Home – 107 Springhill Lane</b> The Meeting agreed to object to this application – Cllr Mrs Brazenell to collate objections.</p> <p><b>App No: 22/00724/VAR Vary Condition 2 - Winander, Radford Lane</b> Revised plans appear to show the building taller than previous and drains appear to run under the TPO tree. District Cllr Reade advised that enforcement is checking this.</p> <p><b>App No: 24/00042/VAR Change of Condition 5 to increase pupil numbers to 150 – Sandhill Day Nursery, Springhill Lane</b> The Meeting agreed to object on the grounds of increased traffic, noise impact, adequate FWD system, lack of parking spaces.</p> <p><b>App No: 24/00048/BUHOEX Additional storey – 83 Springhill Lane</b> The Meeting agreed to object.</p> <p><b>App No: 24/00021/TREE – Tree works, Charlton House Springhill Lane</b> The Meeting agreed to take the advice of the District Council’s Arboricultural Officer.</p> <p><b>PLANNING APPLICATIONS PENDING</b> App No: 23/00464/FUL Replacement Dwelling – Radford Lodge, Radford Lane App No: 23/00928/FULHH Ashmore Nurseries, Radford Lane App No: 23/00944/TREE – TPO Langley Hall, Langley Road App No: 23/01030/FULH – Extensions The Barns Pool Hall App No: 23/01036/VAR – Removal of Conditions, Battery Farm, Land off Railway Walk</p> <p><b>APPLICATIONS REFUSED</b> 23/00782/FUL: Replacement single dwelling – 83 Springhill Lane 23/00994/FUL: Retrospective detached garage – Three Ridings, Radford Lane</p>	<p><b>KB/Clerk</b></p> <p><b>KB/Clerk</b></p> <p><b>KB/Clerk</b></p> <p><b>KB/Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>

	<p><b>APPLICATIONS APPROVED</b> 23/01051/HEDGE: Removal – land off Market Lane/Drivefields – Severn Trent Water</p> <p><b>APPEALS</b> 58A Springhill Lane: Appeal for Outbuilding and boundary fence</p> <p><b>MATTERS ARISING</b></p>	
199/24	<p><b>Enforcement Issues:</b> <b>Sandhills Nursery (19/00048)– Breach of Condition Notice 4</b> Case Ref: 22/00132/BOC Condition 4 BREEAM – Preparation of information required is timely due to occupation of the Nursery.</p> <p><b>AFC Wulfrunians, Castlecroft Road</b> The Club has been asked to submit a retrospective planning application as soon as possible.</p> <p><b>Unauthorised Wall/Pillars – 20 Springhill Park</b> Notice is being served on householder.</p>	
200/24	<p><b>Severn Trent Water-Expansion of Drainage Scheme – Lower Penn/Railway Walk</b> Cllr Everett advised that STW are repairing/replacing water pipes along Langley Road and that they are happy to hold a drop-in session to discuss this. Cllr Everett undertook ascertain further details and to arrange a suitable date and time for this session to be held at the Victory Hall.</p>	DE
201/24	<p><b>Dimmingsdale Bridge</b> Following a further accident, traffic lights are now in situ again and it was reported by a resident that the bridge brickwork will be finished at the weekend and a barrier will be installed. Concerns were raised about the signage on the approach to the bridge which is misleading and Cllr Mrs Wilson agreed to follow this up.</p>	VW
202/24	<p><b>Battery Storage Facilities</b> The Chairman said that she had contacted Cllr Mrs Wilson regarding a pre-application for a battery storage facility at Pool Hall, Lower Penn (23/00473/EIASCRC) although to date she had received no reply. Carry forward to next Meeting.</p>	VW
203/24	<p><b>Temporary Caravan - The Lindens, Penstone Lane</b> Caravan permission terminates mid-March.</p>	
204/24	<p><b>Community Speedwatch/Speeding Issues/SID's</b> Cllr Crane confirmed he will make enquiries into Speedwatch training.</p>	KC
205/24	<p><b>Fly Tipping/Litter</b> Incidents appeared to be on the increase and residents were urged to report this.</p>	
206/24	<p><b>Victory Hall</b> Nothing to report. Bring forward to next meeting.</p>	
207/24	<p><b>Castlecroft Playing Field</b> Nothing to report.</p>	
208/24	<p><b>White Posts – Springhill Cross Roads</b> Cllr Ms Fuller is obtaining further quotes.</p>	HF

209/24

**St Dominic’s Grammar School**

Residents have been in contact with the school, but they report that the situation has not improved greatly. To be kept under observation.

210/24

**Staffordshire Parish Councils Association**

Carry forward to next meeting.

211/24

**Role of District Councillors**

Carry forward to next Meeting.

212/24

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Penstone Lane**

Cllr Crane reported that the footpaths along Penstone Lane were in a very poor condition. Cllr Mrs Wilson advised that due to the number of broadband installations currently planned over the next few years, the County Council will not be replacing footpaths at this present time. However, dangerous sections of footpath can be reported for repair on the County Council’s ‘Report It’ website. Cllr Mrs Wilson also said she would make enquiries into the provision of an additional street light at the Dimmingsdale end of Penstone Lane.

**KC  
VW**

213/24

**Signage – Market Lane/Dene Road**

Cllr Ms Fuller agreed to report the poor ‘Give Way’ signage in this location.

**HF**

214/24

**ACCOUNTS**

The following accounts were presented for payment and cheques signed accordingly:

DBS (Midlands)	Quarterly fees	£24.00
Bluelight Design	Annual Website Maintenance	£415.00
Ms H Fuller	Reimb – Speedwatch/Social Club Items	£21.66

**Clerk  
Clerk  
Clerk**

215/24

**FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT**

Nothing to report

216/24

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday 7 March 2024 at the Victory Hall commencing at 7.15pm**

**Signed: ..... Chairman**

**Dated: .....**

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