

LOWER PENN PARISH COUNCIL

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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on THURSDAY 3 MARCH 2022

At THE VICTORY HALL, LOWER PENN

PRESENT:

Cllr N Cox – Chairman
Cllr Mrs V Barnes
Cllr S Bradley
Cllr Mrs K Brazenell
Cllr Ms H Fuller
Cllr Mrs K Preece
Cllr Mrs B Southall
Cllr Mrs C Taylor
Cllr D Williams

District Cllr D Kinsey
County Cllr Mrs V Wilson
PC Andrew Clifford – Staffordshire Police
Members of the Public

		Action
303/22	APOLOGIES Received from District Cllr Reade	
304/22	MINUTES Proposed by Cllr Mrs Brazenell and seconded by Cllr Mrs Preece and carried that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3 February 2022 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.	
305/22	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS None recorded	
306/22	POLICE REPORT :03/02/2022 – 02/03/2022: Received and circulated. Vehicle Crime: Castlecroft Road 06.02.2022 catalytic converter stolen Vehicle Crime: Springhill Park 28.02.2022 Attempted break in to vehicle Vehicle Crime: Furnace Grange Road 20.02.2022 vehicle abandoned in Trescott Ford and removed by unknown persons the following day ASB; No repeat locations Operation 'Cable' – targeting ASB hotspots Operation 'Lightening' – targeting vehicle crime Thanks to the Speedwatch Team – more volunteers required Incidents can be reported on 101 or on a private message on Facebook/Twitter pages, rather than phoning 101 to queue. P C Clifford informed the meeting that Staffordshire Police Authority is undergoing a completely new structure to manage the resources available which should be implemented	

	<p>in June this year. Police officers will now be based at a centralised hub at the Council Offices in Codsall and will comprise a sergeant and 8 officers per shift and this new model should have a very positive impact on crime in South Staffordshire.</p> <p>He also confirmed that fly tipping is a huge problem in our area and that Staffordshire Police are looking into the possibility of acquiring covert cameras to be located in hot spot locations. It was agreed the Clerk would forward the Chairman's contact details to PC Paula Wilkes to discuss this project further.</p> <p>Cllr Williams also mentioned an incident that had occurred in Springhill Lane recently to which no response had yet been received – PC Clifford said he would follow this up.</p>	Clerk/ NC
307/22	<p>LOCAL PLAN</p> <p>The meeting was opened to the public.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gerald Kells Report: donation received from Essington Parish Council (£450) ▪ Review Magazine: will continue to be used and a Media Officer now appointed by the DC in order for this to be managed and communications improved. ▪ Volume of submissions and feedback – D Cllr Kinsey to follow this up ▪ Timescale – next public consultation Autumn 2022 ▪ District Council surgery – to be arranged for public questions/comments. ▪ Green Space Designation – D Cllr Kinsey to ascertain further details. 	DK BS/DK DK/NC
308/22	<p>Appeal - Battery Storage Facility – Langley Road/Railway Walk</p> <p>The Meeting was opened to the public.</p> <p>Responses cannot be sent until the Appeal has officially commenced and a reference number given. Appeal decision likely to be between mid-May and mid-August.</p>	
309/22	<p>Battery Storage Facilities – Penstone Lane</p> <p>The Meeting was opened to the public.</p> <p>The Council and residents present agreed to oppose the two applications.</p> <p>Suggestions for reasons to oppose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The impact of these sites on the openness of the GB1 ▪ The suitability of the road network and type of traffic likely to be generated ▪ Concerns regarding loss of amenity, visual traffic and noise impacts ▪ Loss of habitat, hedgerows and wild life ▪ No special circumstances in green belt apply to second or future sites <p>D Cllr Kinsey agreed to follow up the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Check if a biodiversity report been carried out? ▪ Is this a 'minor' or a 'major' development – a 12 week consultation for major developments ▪ Section 106 Agreement – does this apply? 	DK DK DK
310/22	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <p>Accidents- corner Dene Road/Penstone Lane/Blackpit Lane. County Cllr Mrs Wilson agreed to follow this up to ascertain whether any road signs/markings could be implemented to improve the situation.</p>	VW
311/22	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Covid: data figures given regarding PPE, LFT's and incidents of restriction breaches ▪ Queens Jubilee: County Council will assist with road closures for street parties and identifying beacon sites ▪ Councillors' Fund: Parish Council to advise Cllr Wilson of requests as soon as possible ▪ Community Fund: Chairman to advise Cllr Mrs Wilson as soon as possible. ▪ Bus Service: The Government is removing subsidies for bus companies and it is unlikely that a bus service will be provided in this area. ▪ Ice Breakers: This project to be carried forward to next year. 	All NC
312/22	<p>DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Covid: data figures given for Wombourne North/Lower Penn 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PPE Masks: not recyclable ▪ Fly Tipping: District Council continuing to apply for Orders to install covert cameras – fines have doubled for perpetrators of fly tipping incidents ▪ Staffordshire Police: new hub based at Council Offices Codsall 	
313/22	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>App No: 22/00044/FUL Battery Storage Facility – Field at (Penn 1) Penstone Lane Councillors agreed to object to this application and comments would be collated and agreed before the consultation date of 15 March.</p> <p>App No: 22/00045/FUL Battery Storage Facility – Field at (Penn 2) Penstone Lane Councillors agreed to object to this application and comments would be collated and agreed before the consultation date of 15 March.</p> <p>APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED MID-MEETING</p> <p>App No: 22/00150/TREE Removal of Fir Tree – ‘Chimneys’ Springhill Lane No objection</p> <p>App No: 22/00146/TREE Pruning of Yew Tree – ‘Chimneys’ Springhill Lane No objection</p> <p>APPLICATIONS PENDING</p> <p>21/00947/VAR Removal of Condition No. 4 Sandhills Nursery 21/00869/FUL 5 Bedroom Detached Dwelling – Springhill Farm, 70 Springhill Lane 21/01103/TREE Removal of Ash Tree, Charlton House 21/01240/FUL Extensions 5 Dimmingsdale Road 21/01356/FUL (Retrospective) Extensions The Barns, Pool Hall</p> <p>MATTERS ARISING</p>	<p>KB/All</p> <p>KB/All</p>
314/22	<p>Sandhills Nursery – Discharge of Conditions Notification awaited as to Appeal status– to be followed up by D Cllr Kinsey</p>	DK
315/22	<p>Enforcement Issues Access Road/58 Springhill Cottage D Cllr Kinsey to follow up issues relating to drainage scheme, fencing and landscape scheme.</p>	DK
316/22	<p>Overgrown hedges/verges along Castlecroft Road No response to Council’s two emails.</p>	
317/22	<p>Willow Trees – Greyhound Lane Baggeridge Ranger to arrange for removal or cutting back during the winter period. To be kept under observation.</p>	
318/22	<p>Trees – Castlecroft Playing Field Clerk to contact District Council Legal Department regarding query on Conveyance of land.</p>	Clerk
319/22	<p>Market Lane Flooding - Raised Kerbs County Council report that no work is necessary – Cllr Mrs Southall to liaise with County Cllr Mrs Wilson</p>	BS/VW
320/22	<p>Community Speedwatch/Speeding Issues Speedwatch visits to commence March/April.</p>	
321/22	<p>Fly Tipping/Litter Cllr Williams congratulated Street Scene on speedy collection of oil drums at the Roughts. D. Cllr Kinsey to make enquiries into the purchase of covert cameras.</p>	DK
322/22	<p>Victory Hall</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ June PC Meeting falls on a bank holiday – new date arranged for 9 June 2022 ▪ Discussion on change of day for all Parish Council meetings – carry forward to next meeting ▪ Victory Hall will be opened for tea/coffee/biscuits on Thursday/Friday/Saturday 2nd/3rd/4th June between 10.00am and 1.00pm 	All															
323/22	<p>Plaque for Ex-Cllr Harry Brown Cllr Mrs Southall reported that this was now with the engraver.</p>	DW															
324/22	<p>Weight Limit Restrictions – Springhill Lane County Cllr Mrs Wilson to obtain a copy of the Road Traffic Regulation Order for Springhill Lane.</p>	BS															
325/22	<p>BT Red Phone Box Cllr Williams to arrange for disconnection of electricity supply and for transportation of the phone box to the Victory Hall.</p>	VW															
326/22	<p>The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – 2 June 2022 Event at Cricket Club/lighting of beacons – being organised by Cllr Mrs Taylor.</p>	DW															
327/22	<p>Climate Change Group Cllr Mrs Preece provided a presentation on the proposals regarding tree planting and the Chairman signed a Landowner Pledge from DEFRA – Trees for Climate, agreeing to meet the criteria required.</p>	CT															
328/22	<p>Bus Service Update County Cllr Mrs Wilson advised that government subsidies for bus companies were being withdrawn and it was unlikely that a service could be provided. Take off minutes</p>																
329/22	<p>Spring Newsletter In progress</p>	HF															
330/22	<p>Ice Breakers Scheme Will be deferred to winter 2022. Take off minutes.</p>																
	ANY OTHER BUSINESS																
331/22	<p>Report on Chairman’s Meeting with District Council Officers Brief summary given.</p>																
332/22	<p>ACCOUNTS The following accounts were presented for payment and cheques signed accordingly:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">DBS (Midlands) for HMRC</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Quarterly PAYE/NIC</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">£161.68</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs J Footman</td> <td>Clerk’s Quarterly Salary</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1586.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs J Footman</td> <td>Clerk’s Quarterly Office Accommodation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£105.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Defib Machines</td> <td>Annual Standing Order for Defibrillator</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£438.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Defib Machines</td> <td>Annual Standing Order for Defib Cabinet</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£438.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>Monies Received Essington P. Council Contribution to G. Kells’ Report £450.00</p>	DBS (Midlands) for HMRC	Quarterly PAYE/NIC	£161.68	Mrs J Footman	Clerk’s Quarterly Salary	£1586.00	Mrs J Footman	Clerk’s Quarterly Office Accommodation	£105.00	Defib Machines	Annual Standing Order for Defibrillator	£438.00	Defib Machines	Annual Standing Order for Defib Cabinet	£438.00	Clerk
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333/22	<p>FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT Annual Audit – to be carried out by DBS Ltd.</p>	Clerk															
334/22	<p>SECTION 17 Nothing to report</p>																
335/22	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p>																

Monthly Parish Council Meeting: Thursday 7 April 2022 commencing at 7.15pm in the Victory Hall

Annual Parish Meeting: Thursday 7 April 2022 following Council Meeting

Signed: Chairman

Date:

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