

LOWER PENN PARISH COUNCIL

www.lowerpennnpc.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on THURSDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2021

At THE VICTORY HALL, LOWER PENN

PRESENT:

Cllr N Cox – Chairman
Cllr Mrs B Southall – Vice Chair
Cllr S Bradley
Cllr Mrs K Brazenell
Cllr Ms H Fuller
Cllr Mrs K Preece
Cllr Mrs C Taylor

District Cllr D Kinsey
5 Members of the public

		Action
135/21	APOLOGIES Received from Cllr D Williams, County Cllr Mrs V Wilson and District Cllrs Reade and Bond	
136/21	MINUTES Proposed by Cllr Mrs Southall and seconded by Cllr Ms Fuller and carried that the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 5 August 2021 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.	
137/21	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS None declared	
138/21	POLICE REPORT None received	
139/21	LOCAL PLAN District Cllr Kinsey reported that the Local Plan review is almost complete. There have been a number of engagement sessions held at the District Council and members will be meeting on 16 September 2021 to view the preferred options document before the public consultation period at the end of September. In response to a member of the public, District Cllr Kinsey stressed that the District Council has carried out assessments on all submitted plots and that these are the only reports that will be taken into consideration when submissions are finalised. A letter had also been received from a resident in Radford Lane advising he has a right of way over the proposed site in the Local Plan. Letter to be acknowledged.	Clerk
140/21	Rural Services & Facilities Audit 2019/20	

141/21	<p>Cllr Mrs Brazenell reported that the earlier 2012 audit stated that Lower Penn was a hamlet with no facilities but that Lower Penn is now not mentioned in the above most recent audit. She agreed to forward details to District Cllr Kinsey in order for an explanation to be given.</p>	KB/DK
	<p>Battery Storage Facility – land off Penstone Lane/Blackpit Lane It was reported that no planning application had yet been submitted and that no response to the Council’s queries had been received from the developer or agent. An updated list of questions had been prepared by Cllr Mrs Preece and it was agreed these would be sent to the Clerk for distribution to all councillors and then submitted to the developer for a response. It was also noted that the developers had met with District Council officers. District Cllr Kinsey reported that there are 3 potential applications for battery storage facilities within Lower Penn, although the Bhylls Lane site application is likely to be refused because of access difficulties. He stressed that the District Council is now developing a strategy to deal with applications of this nature.</p>	KP/ Clerk
	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p>	
142/21	<p>Temporary Barrier – Railway Bridge Greyhound Lane The broken barrier has now been reported twice and the Clerk was asked to follow this up.</p>	Clerk
143/21	<p>Broken Fence – Railway Walk Market Lane To be reported to Baggeridge Ranger.</p>	Clerk
144/21	<p>PA System – Victory Hall A member of the public asked if a PA system could be installed as it was difficult to hear members speaking at the rear of the Hall. The Parish Council agreed to consider this.</p>	All
145/21	<p>COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT No report available.</p>	
146/21	<p>DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT Following the death of Cllr Brian Edwards, District Cllr Kinsey said that Cllr Roger Lees, Deputy Leader, was currently standing in as Leader until 14 September 2021 when a new leader of the Council would be appointed, together with a new cabinet.</p>	
147/21	<p>PLANNING Now that face to face meetings have re-commenced, it was agreed that all current planning applications would, in future, be discussed at Parish Council meetings.</p>	
	<p>App No: 21/00863/FUL Detached garage – Three Ridings Radford Lane The Parish Council notes that this is an additional application to 21/00595/FUL where an extension was granted in July 2021. The Parish Council has no objection providing it complies with all relevant planning policies.</p>	Clerk
	<p>App No: 21/00836/VAR – Ref. 03/00173/FUL Condition No. 2 – reinstatement of Permitted Development rights – 119 Springhill Lane The Parish Council agreed to object on the grounds that the new building was considerably extended in the original 2003 application and PD rights were extinguished to comply with South Staffordshire’s SDP and the 20-40% rule. Reinstating PD rights would lead to in appropriate development in the green belt and also would result in loss of openness on the Springhill ridge. No special circumstances have been given to outweigh the harm to the green belt.</p>	Clerk
	<p>Plans Considered mid-Meeting: 21/00795/FUL Works to Castlecroft Farmhouse, Radford Lane – no objection 21/00605/FUL Extensions/loft conversion – 58 Springhill Park – no objection 21/00766/FUL Orangery – Dee Hills, Wynne Crescent – no objection 21/00616/FUL Alterations – The Barns Trescott – no objection</p>	

	21/00696.VAR – Static caravan Wton Rugby Club – no comment	
	<p>APPLICATIONS APPROVED</p> <p>21/00573/FUL – Extensions The Croft Langley Road – approved July 2021. 21/00595/FUL – Extensions Three Ridings, Radford Lane – approved July 2021 21/00509/FUL – Extensions Orchard Farm, Springhill Lane – approved July 2021 21/00487/FUL – Extensions 8 Drivefields – approved July 2021 21/00505/FUL – Sand based manege for horses, Langley Road – approved July 2021</p> <p>APPLICATIONS PENDING</p> <p>21/00440/FUL – Battery storage plant, land off South Staffs Railway Walk</p> <p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>Sandhills Nursery – Discharge of Conditions Refusal of discharge of conditions for Nos. 4, 5 and 9</p> <p>Enforcement Issues Access Road/58 Springhill Cottage The Meeting noted that the above enforcement issues were not listed on the recent Enforcement List and the Clerk was asked to make enquiries into this.</p> <p>Market Lane</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overgrown Footpath –Cllr Mrs Southall reported that no remedial work has been carried out as Highways do not consider this as a priority issue. ▪ Flooding - Cllr Mrs Southall reported that gullies had been cleaned early in August but that as the drain outside 44 Market Lane is on private land, the County Council is unable to address the problem. However, the County Council will be installing raised kerbs to help alleviate the flooding problems down the lane and it was agreed to keep this issue under observation. ▪ Missing Road Sign – this has been reported to the District Council. <p>Community Speedwatch/Speeding Issues Cllr Mrs Southall reported that a visit to Orton Lane had been carried out the day before and 600 cars had been logged in a 2-hour period. She said that the Speedwatch initiative was in danger of folding due to lack of volunteers and encouraged residents to apply for volunteering duties which would involve as little as 2 hours per month.</p> <p>Fly Tipping/Litter Cllr Mrs Taylor agreed to arrange for members of the public to be involved in future litter picks.</p> <p>Drug Issues – Lower Penn Slight increase in the number of incidents observed – to be kept under observation.</p> <p>Government Rural Broadband Scheme Carry forward to next meeting.</p> <p>Victory Hall Cllr Mrs Southall reported that bookings were very good and that the Management Committee were in the process of making decisions regarding the kitchen, stage and rear meeting room. A Macmillan Coffee Morning is being held on 9 September 10.00 – 12.00</p> <p>Plaque for Ex-Cllr Harry Brown Cllr Mrs Southall reported that this was in hand but the shop was having problems with obtaining brass for plaques – to be followed up.</p> <p>Overhanging Trees – Penstone Lane Further letter to be sent requesting a follow-up report.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>CT</p> <p>BS</p> <p>Clerk</p>
148/21		
149/21		
150/21		
151/21		
152/21		
153/21		
154/21		
155/21		
156/21		
157/21		

158/21	<p>Weight Limit Restrictions – Springhill Lane Cllr Williams confirmed he had submitted photos to County Cllr Mrs Wilson regarding the problems being experienced. The Parish Council agreed to consider match-funding for any costs involved. To be kept under observation.</p>	DW																								
159/21	<p>Parish Notice Boards It was agreed to retain the notice boards and Cllr Williams said he would carry out a site inspection to assess the maintenance involved. It was also agreed to enlist the help of any volunteers by means of social media.</p>	DW																								
160/21	<p>BT Red Phone Box The Meeting discussed options for the use of the telephone box and it was suggested that this be moved to the Victory Hall to make it more accessible. Cllr Mrs Taylor said she would assist with the re-painting of the box.</p>	CT																								
161/21	<p>The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Beacons – 2 June 2022 The Meeting discussed the possibility of lighting a beacon in conjunction with Springhill Cricket Club and the Chairman agreed to contact the Club about this. The Meeting also agreed that the Parish Council would organise a Jubilee Tea Party in the Victory Hall to commemorate the event and Cllr Mrs Taylor agreed to organise this.</p>	NC CT																								
162/21	<p>Climate Change Group The Meeting agreed the formation of a sub-committee comprising Cllr Mrs Preece, Cllr Bradley, Cllr Ms Fuller, Cllr Mrs Brazenell and Cllr Mrs Taylor. Cllr Ms Fuller suggested that a poll be carried out to ascertain the views of Lower Penn residents and their level of interest. The meeting also discussed the possibility of a budget for this group and whether the Parish Council is registered with the ICO for the retention of email addresses.</p>	HF Clerk																								
ANY OTHER BUSINESS																										
163/21	<p>Attendance at Parish Council Meetings It was agreed that all 3 District Councillors would be invited to all Parish Council Meetings. It was also agreed that Cllr Mr Solway-Blower be contacted regarding his non-attendance at Council Meetings.</p>	Clerk Clerk																								
164/21	<p>ACCOUNTS The following accounts were presented and it was proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr Mrs Brazenell and carried that these be approved and cheques signed accordingly:</p> <table data-bbox="207 1534 1404 1848"> <tr> <td>Mrs J Footman</td> <td>Clerk’s Qtrly Accommodation</td> <td>£105.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DBS Ltd</td> <td>For HMRC – PAYE/NIC</td> <td>£161.68</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs J Footman</td> <td>Clerk’s Qtrly Salary</td> <td>£1586.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BG Gd Maintenance</td> <td>August Account</td> <td>£330.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">The following cheques had been issued mid-meeting during July:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DBS Ltd</td> <td>Internal Audit Fees</td> <td>£144.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DBS Ltd</td> <td>Qtrly Wage Fees</td> <td>£24.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BG Gd Maintenance</td> <td>June Account</td> <td>£330.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>VAT Return Received for the year 2019/2020 in the sum of £81.06 – paid into Bank.</p>	Mrs J Footman	Clerk’s Qtrly Accommodation	£105.00	DBS Ltd	For HMRC – PAYE/NIC	£161.68	Mrs J Footman	Clerk’s Qtrly Salary	£1586.00	BG Gd Maintenance	August Account	£330.00	The following cheques had been issued mid-meeting during July:			DBS Ltd	Internal Audit Fees	£144.00	DBS Ltd	Qtrly Wage Fees	£24.00	BG Gd Maintenance	June Account	£330.00	Clerk Clerk
Mrs J Footman	Clerk’s Qtrly Accommodation	£105.00																								
DBS Ltd	For HMRC – PAYE/NIC	£161.68																								
Mrs J Footman	Clerk’s Qtrly Salary	£1586.00																								
BG Gd Maintenance	August Account	£330.00																								
The following cheques had been issued mid-meeting during July:																										
DBS Ltd	Internal Audit Fees	£144.00																								
DBS Ltd	Qtrly Wage Fees	£24.00																								
BG Gd Maintenance	June Account	£330.00																								
165/21	<p>FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT Nothing to report</p>																									
166/21	<p>SECTION 17 Nothing to report</p>																									

167/21

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11 October 2021 at the Victory Hall commencing at 7.15pm

Signed: **Chairman**

Date:

--	--	--

--	--	--
