

# LOWER PENN PARISH COUNCIL

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## ANNUAL MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL held on TUESDAY 7 MAY 2024 at the VICTORY HALL, LOWER PENN

### PRESENT:

Clr Ms H Fuller – Acting Chair  
Clr Mrs K Brazenell  
Clr K Crane  
Clr D Everett  
Clr S McEwen  
Clr Mrs C Taylor

11 Members of the Public

- 31/24 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**  
Nominations for the position of Chairman were invited and it was proposed by Cllr Ms Fuller and seconded by Cllr Mrs Taylor and carried with one abstention that Cllr Mrs Southall be elected Chairman for the coming year. The Clerk was instructed to advise Cllr Mrs Southall accordingly and arrange for her to sign her Declaration of Acceptance of Office as soon as possible.
- It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Brazenell and seconded by Cllr Ken Crane and carried with one abstention that Cllr Ms Fuller be elected Vice-Chairman for the coming year. Cllr Ms Fuller accepted the position and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Council.
- 32/24 APOLOGIES**  
Received from Cllr Mrs Wilson, Cllr Reade, Cllr Mrs Southall and Staffordshire Police.
- 33/24 MINUTES**  
Proposed by Cllr Mrs Brazenell and seconded by Cllr Crane and carried that the minutes of the Council's April meetings held on 4 April 2024 be approved and signed as a true and correct record
- 34/24 ROLE OF PARISH COUNCILLORS**  
Speedwatch/SID's: Cllr Mrs Taylor and Cllr Crane  
Planning: Cllr Mrs Brazenell with assistance from Cllr Everett  
IT Content Creator: Cllr Ms Fuller
- 35/24 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**  
None recorded.
- 36/24 POLICE REPORT 07/04/2024 – 07/05/24**

CT/KC  
KB/DPE  
HF

KA

	Attempted vehicle break-in on 7 May on the car park at the Greyhound Public House. Offenders were disturbed and no items taken – no CCTV available.	
37/24	<b>Lower Penn Feastival 30 June 2024</b> The organisers of the above Feastival being held at Springhill Cricket Club, attended the meeting to provide details of the event and to answer any questions or concerns that residents may have. The Council thanked them for the information and for organising this.	
38/24	<b>LOCAL PLAN</b> The Chair confirmed that all documents were available to view in the Victory Hall and that she had compiled guidance notes to assist with residents' responses. Residents were urged to comment on the Plan to ensure that green belt spaces are essential to prevent urban sprawl.	
39/24	<b>COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT</b> No report available.	
40/24	<b>DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT (by Voicemail)</b> Sandhills Nursery – BREEAM Condition 4: No report available 20 Springhill Park – Wall/Pillars: Pending 23/01011/FUL:107 Springhill Lane – Care Home: Likely to be approved. Cllr Mrs Wilson to be asked to update urgently as to the reasons why approval is being considered. Three Ridings Radford Lane: No decision on boundary wall – building already refused The Lindens, Penstone Lane- Temporary Caravan: No report available Ivydene, Radford Lane: being dealt with by Cllr Wilson.	KB/Clerk
41/24	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Overgrown Hedge – Langley Road: Clerk to contact Street Scene</li> <li>▪ Overgrown Hedge – Radford Cottage: Clerk to contact property owner.</li> </ul>	Clerk
42/24	<b>PLANNING</b>  <b>PLANNING APPLICATIONS PENDING</b> App No: 23/01036/VAR – Removal of Conditions, Battery Farm, Land off Railway Walk App No: 23/01011/FUL C2 Care Home – 107 Springhill Lane App No: 24/00107/FUL Erection of new Score Box – Old Wulfrunians Club, Castlecroft App No: 24/00173/FULHH Extensions/Outbuilding – 43 Springhill Park App No: 24/00235/FULHH: Extensions 77 Springhill Park  <b>APPLICATIONS APPROVED</b> App No: 22/00724/VAR Vary Condition 2 - Winander, Radford Lane It was agreed to contact Enforcement regarding concerns that the new drainage plan would run very close to the protected tree roots.  <b>APPLICATIONS REFUSED</b> App No: 24/00042/VAR Change of Condition 5 to increase numbers to 150 – Sandhills App No: 24/00208/VAR Removal of Cond. 12 – Springhill Farm, 70 Springhill Lane  <b>APPEALS</b> 58A Springhill Lane: Appeal for Outbuilding and boundary fence – Both A & B Dismissed.	
43/24	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b> Enforcement Issues:  Sandhills Nursery (19/00048)– Breach of Condition Notice 4 Case Ref: 22/00132/BOC Caravans – Ivydene, Radford Lane	

42

<b>Unauthorised Wall/Pillars – 20 Springhill Park</b> <b>Three Ridings Radford Lane – Case Ref: 23/00176/UNDEV</b> <b>The Lindens, Penstone Lane – Temporary Caravan.</b>		
44/24	<b>Ivydene Radford Lane</b> Reports received regarding 3 mobile homes currently in situ on this property. The Parish Council had written to the Planning and Enforcement officers who had undertaken a site visit. Cllr Everett agreed to speak to the Chairman prior to writing to Cllrs Reade and Mrs Wilson about the situation.	DPE
45/24	<b>Severn Trent Project</b> It was agreed that all recently installed gateways would be removed and hedges reinstated at the end of the works – Cllr Everett to monitor the situation.	DPE
46/24	<b>Battery Storage Facilities</b> Cllr McEwen reported that he will circulate 4 draft fact sheets when completed, for councillors' comments. Cllr McEwen and Cllr Everett agreed to make contact with other local groups regarding the concerns over the number of battery storage sites.	SM/DPE
47/24	<b>Community Speedwatch/S.I.D'S</b> The meeting considered the positions required to install the posts for the devices. It was agreed that the Radford Lane post would be situated close to the speed limit sign, and the Langley Road post is to be further determined. It was also noted that it could be possible for a third post to be installed in Market Lane. Clerk to contact Andy Aston about this.	HF/ Clerk
48/24	<b>Fly Tipping/Litter</b> Litter Pick – Sunday 12 May 2024 at 11.00am – lay-by Langley Road.	
49/24	<b>Victory Hall</b> The Clerk granted dispensation for those Parish Councillors who are also members of the Victory Hall Committee to speak and vote on all matters pertaining to the Hall. Cllr Mrs Taylor reported that there is a lot of interest in bookings and that she will be monitoring the enquiries.	CT/BS CT
50/24	<b>Castlecroft Playing Field</b> Nothing to report.	
51/24	<b>White Posts – Springhill Cross Roads</b> Cllr Ms Fuller is obtaining further quotes as several companies had failed to provide quotes.	
52/24	<b>Role of District Councillors</b> Carry forward to next Meeting.	SM
53/24	<b>Penstone Lane Footpaths</b> Cllr Crane advised that he had contacted County Cllr Mrs Wilson regarding repairs to the footpath and had received no response and would continue to report problems as they arise.	KC
54/24	<b>Signage – Market Lane/Dene Road</b> Cllr Ms Fuller confirmed she had reported the poor 'Give Way' signage to Eon.	HF
55/24	<b>Robins Nest</b> Cllr Mrs Taylor reported the damage being caused to the road, verges, hedges, etc. during past and current building work and agreed to provide photo evidence.	CT
56/24	<b>Notice Boards</b>	

HF

Cllr Crane offered to inspect the notice boards in the Parish to ascertain whether any maintenance work could be carried out at the end of June.

KC

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**57/24 Replacement of Gas Mains – Springhill Lane**

Cadent will be carrying out replacement works between the end of May and end of June 2024 to those mains already installed.

**58/24 Personal Safety Alarms**

A number of alarms had been provided by the District Council and were given to councillors for distribution to those residents who required one.

All

**59/24 ACCOUNTS**

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

Zurich Municipal	Annual Insurance Policy	£633.15
BG Ground Maintenance	April Account	£270.00
Cllr Holly Fuller	Reimbursement for Social Club Refreshment items	£33.41

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

**60/24 FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Clerk reported that she had completed the Council's annual Audit and that all documents had been given to DBS for internal auditing.

Clerk

**61/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 6 June 2024 at 7.15pm in the Victory Hall.

Signed:  Chairman

Dated: 