



FEATHERSTONE AND BRINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
held on Thursday 13th May 2010 at 6.30 pm
in the Community Centre, Baneberry Drive, Featherstone

Present: F Beardsmore, K Nightingale, D Hill, J Beardsmore, J Brindle, A Brindle,
B Pickering, J Hayward, M Griffiths, M Lawrence, and R Tucker.

In Attendance: D Pattison
G Hughes
One Member of the Public
R Young, Clerk to the Council

Prior to the commencement of the Annual Parish Meeting at 6.30 pm the Chairman, F Beardsmore, requested D Pattison to give details to Councillors of several issues.

D PATTISON

The following points were discussed:

a) Le Farge – Bickfords

- D Pattison written to Le Farge who state they have legal use. If site has been used for 10 years, then use can continue.
- Stated Goodyear traders on site 1985 – 2004.
- If this usage can be proven then no legal action can be taken.
- Received letters from Bickfords, Goodyear, and CC Auto Electrics claiming usage of site over ten year period.
- Can test for abandonment.
- D Hill said he could only confirm no usage from 2004.
- B Pickering stated he could confirm non-usage of the site from 1992.
- J Brindle gave history of site up to 1979.
- J Hayward confirmed she could give details of non-usage of the site.
- D Pattison said he would review the details given by Councillors regarding the history of the site.

b) Dog Fouling

- The Clerk commented that in some areas PCSO's and police officers can issue fines for dog fouling.
- F Beardsmore commented that Mark Jones of Staffordshire Police referred the Parish Council to the District Council.
- B Pickering enquired regarding exclusion areas.
- The Clerk mentioned the Clean Neighbourhood Act.
- D Pattison confirmed the Parish Council can set out orders themselves. Also gave a résumé of the procedure for banning dogs from an area. Procedure would take up to 6 months.

c) Taxi's - CRB

- J Brindle asked why does it take so long to approve licensing.
- D Pattison gave a review of the procedure for obtaining CRB checks.

d) Oak Tree Site

- D Pattison said he was very disappointed at the final result.
- D Hill asked that South Staffordshire District Council carry out regular site visits.

The Chairman, F Beardsmore, thanked D Pattison for attending the meeting. F Beardsmore requested PC Michael Percival to give his report.

POLICE MATTERS

- PC Percival gave statistics and details on police activity.
- Statistics for the period 10th February 2010 – 10th May 2010:

Burglary	-	5
Theft of Motor Vehicles	-	0
Theft from Motor Vehicles	-	3
Violence	-	9
Anti-social Behaviour	-	35

Commented that police activity was 31.3% down on last year.

- PCSO monitoring car parking at Whitgreave.
- Damage to the Community Centre including lighting column.
- D Hill recommended police visit the shops at variable times.

- J Hayward asked if police could look at the parking of vehicles in The Avenue.
- M Griffiths said that at the corner of Brookhouse Lane / Cat and Kitten Lane cars parked on waste land reducing visibility.
- J Brindle asked for continued monitoring of the car boot sales.
- F Beardsmore said the last 12 months was the worst for vandalism and property damage in the last 12 years.
- Community contact forms need to be re-instated.
- F Beardsmore said a meeting was needed with Mark Jones and Sgt Cooke of Staffordshire Police.
- J Beardsmore said she had seen officers around the Community Centre on more occasions.
- Evidence and statements needed for police to take action.
- J Hayward said that police should visit a resident of Penderell Close who has kept a diary of activity for 4 years.
- Mile Wall damaged on 4 occasions.
- D Hill asked why do we not see PCSO's in the parish.
- The Clerk asked PC Percival if he could request a meeting with Inspector Mark Jones and Sgt Cooke.

The Chairman, F Beardsmore, resumed the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.34 pm.

1) **CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS**

The Chairman of the Parish Council, F Beardsmore, reported the following matters:

- Too many gypsy sites in the parish – lost appeal.
- Need face to face meeting with police.
- Community Centre – damage to building worse than ever.
- Footpaths to be improved in parish.
- Dr Lee's surgery now signed over and work to commence in two weeks.
- Burial ground at Shareshill extended.
- Thanked Graham Hughes for work with the youth club.
- Funding provided for chapel although problems with ramp.

- Improvements to Mile Wall coming to fruition.
- First Responders carry on good work.
- J Hayward, J Beardsmore and Committee do a very good job in the circumstances.
- Request the Clerk to circulate the minutes two weeks after each Parish Council meeting and the Clerk's report and agenda one week before the next Parish Council meeting.
- Councillors to receive copies of letters for each subject.
- Propose that Parish Council meetings are limited to 3 hours duration.
- Need to review information available regarding CCTV for the Community Centre.
- Village Agent not successful with the Playbuilder application.
- Need to look at the clean-up day.

The Chairman, F Beardsmore, thanked Councillors for their support during the last year.

2) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No matters were raised.

3) **VILLAGE AGENT**

The Village Agent, Graham Hughes, gave details of work undertaken in the village:

- The "Loose Women" group has been a great success for the children in the parish. Start up on youth service courses and a need to find funding. The "Loose Women" are now running the Youth Club on their own.
- Older children using the equipment in the container.
- Youth Forum growing in strength and the Youth Forum meeting held without adult supervision.
- Need to get the "Youth Room" progressed.
- Playbuilder event to be held on 26th May 2010.
- Councillor D Hill asked G Hughes what he would be doing with his time now that some jobs had been delegated. G Hughes confirmed he would be researching sources of fund raising.
- D Hill and J Brindle requested details of funding obtained.

- J Brindle asked if G Hughes set his own duties or should the Parish Council be involved.
- R Tucker commented it was better to spend time on the causes of problems and not the cure. Need involvement with youngsters in the parish.
- F Beardsmore commented that G Hughes or a youth worker should assist with the Youth Forum.
- B Pickering commented regarding the need for a drop-in centre and the need for adult supervision.

The annual meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

F Beardsmore
Chairman