



FEATHERSTONE AND BRINSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Thursday 10th June 2010 at 7.00 pm
in the Community Centre, Baneberry Drive, Featherstone

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

In Attendance: Two Members of the Public
G Hughes, Village Agent
R Young, Clerk to the Council

1) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr and Mrs Goodwin outlined the details of re-siting a bus stop outside their house on New Road, Featherstone. Confirmed existing bus stop moved 30' outside their home. Mrs Goodwin confirmed their requests to re-position the bus stop so that it was not outside their lounge window were rejected by Staffordshire County Council officials.

Councillor Mike Lawrence agreed to contact Staffordshire County Council's Director Richard Higgs and the Parish Clerk to forward a letter to the County Council.

2) APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Beardsmore and District Councillor R Cope.

3) VILLAGE AGENT

The Village Agent, G Hughes, circulated details of the Featherstone Festival update meeting held on 9th June 2010. The Featherstone Festival to be held on 15th August 2010.

The following points were discussed:

- G Hughes confirmed chairs were not required for the festival.
- R Tucker asked whether sponsorship was available.
- G Hughes confirmed fencing will be installed.
- G Hughes reported that he had forwarded proposals / plans for a youth room but the recipient had not received details. Will send again.

J Brindle requested details of plans and proposals including the design of the youth room.

- Requests for funding – committee organising Featherstone Festival:
 - Donation of £250.00 from Featherstone and Brinsford Parish Council.
 - Licence for entertainment required.
 - Loose Women – team building day £160.00.
 - Loose Women – successful bid from M Lawrence for container to store equipment plus shelving and a trolley.
 - Require plastic containers £235.00

- Funding obtained during the year as follows:
 - Loose Women - £3,850.00 (sports equipment)
 - Loose Women - £1,300.00 (container)
 - Loose Women - £1,950.00 (grass roots sports trainer)
 - Loose Women - £ 500.00 (door training)
 - Loose Women - £1,000.00 (Featherstone dancing)
 - Loose Women - £2,200.00 (Outward school group)
 - Loose Women - £1,000.00 (CLP)

- G Hughes commented that an event licence was required from the District Council for the festival. J Brindle commented that George Henry from the fair has a rolling licence.

4) **POLICE MATTERS**

The Chairman, F Beardsmore, confirmed a meeting had been arranged with Staffordshire Police for 6.00 pm on Monday 14th June 2010 at Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre. Local Police Officer and Sergeant Cooke to attend with Councillors F Beardsmore, D Hill and K Nightingale.

5) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillors J Brindle, D Hill, F Beardsmore, J Hayward, and R Tucker declared an interest in relation to matters concerning or relating to Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre.

6) **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH MAY 2010**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th May 2010 be approved as a true and correct record.

Resolved:

- **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th May 2010.**

7) **MATTERS ARISING**

7.1) **Featherstone Chapel**

- F Beardsmore commented that access to a water supply was needed for the planters. Councillor J Brindle agreed to arrange a meeting with T Nichols. The Clerk to forward a letter of thanks to Mr Davies, 1 North Crescent and Mr Rushton, 1 The Avenue, for water supplied.

8) **PLANNING**

8.1) **Applications for Consideration**

- 10/00398/FUL
Single storey side and rear extension
10 Brooklime Gardens, Featherstone
- 10/00399/REN
First floor rear extension (renewal of 07/00641/FUL)
12 Cranesbill Close, Featherstone

8.2) **Decisions Received**

- 10/00249/FUL
Two storey extension to the rear, side and front
49 – 51 Penderell Close, Featherstone

Refusal of Planning Permission

8.3) **Other Planning Matters**

- RBS Planning
 - The Clerk to advise Katherine Else, Principal Planner with RPS Planning and Development, of the Parish Council's comments regarding the Persimmon proposals.
- South Staffordshire Housing Association
 - The Clerk to request an urgent reply from the Housing Association regarding the housing needs survey produced by John Lancaster as regard to the Housing Association's preference and requirements for the parish.

9) **CLERK'S REPORT**

9.1) **Hanging Baskets and Planter Sponsorship**

The Clerk confirmed he had approached the RPS Group (Persimmon), South Staffordshire Housing Association and Featherstone Prison regarding the sponsorship of the hanging baskets and planters.

9.2) Public Works Loan Board

At the May 2010 meeting the Parish Clerk apologised for an oversight in not arranging payment of the PWLB instalment at the April 2010 Parish Council meeting. The Clerk confirmed an interest charge of £12.82 had been incurred. The Clerk offered to reimburse the Parish Council and apologised for this error.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to accept the apologies of the Parish Clerk for the error in not paying the PWLB instalment at the April 2010 Parish Council meeting.

Resolved:

- **To accept the apologies of the Parish Clerk for not paying the PWLB instalment in April 2010.**

10) REPORT OF MEETINGS INCLUDING COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

a) County Councillor M Lawrence

County Councillor M Lawrence reported the following:

- Building Schools for the Future – Government has stopped proposed developments.
- Government has stated that the funding to County Councils will be reduced by £1.166B.
- Four Crosses Incinerator – contract to be signed in Euro's with preferred bidder Veolia. Poplars incinerator to be built. District Councillor F Beardsmore commented he was concerned at the prospect of waste being brought in from outside the area.

b) District Councillor F Beardsmore

No matters to report.

11) WAR MEMORIAL (14th January 2010)

Councillor J Brindle reported he had visited the school and had discussed the proposal for children to give proposals for the design of a War Memorial with the Headteacher.

12) MILE WALL (12th June 2010)

The Clerk referred Councillors to an email from N Glasper stating that completion of the work has been delayed due to problems with needles and a problem with delivery of supplies.

The Clerk to reply and mention the following points:

- Ask where all of the coping stones have gone.
- Last 30 metres of wall no coping stones and concrete used.

F Beardsmore commented that he thought the wall would continue to opposite the Post Office (The Avenue).

13) WHITGREAVE PRIMARY SCHOOL – UPDATE (13th December 2007)

No matters were reported.

14) BRIGHTEN UP THE VILLAGE (8th November 2007)

- Meeting held with Mr and Mrs T Nichols on Friday 21st May 2010. Attended by F Beardsmore, D Hill, B Pickering, R Tucker and J Brindle.

Matters discussed:

- Painting of ramp
 - Tidying up of grounds
 - Bench repair
 - Removal of barrier gate
 - Ramp at front door to be painted
 - Letters to neighbours
- The Chairman, F Beardsmore, thanked Barry Pickering, Jayne and Steve Vogan, Heather Padley, Stephen and Angela Pickering, David Hill, and John Brindle for the work completed at the chapel.
 - Bench and noticeboard need repairing.
 - Parishioner brought his sit on mower to the chapel to cut the grass plus parishioner who cut back grass with his strimmer.
 - B Pickering gave a detailed report on the work completed.
 - Police have reported that hanging baskets are being stolen.
 - F Beardsmore commented that he had received very positive feedback from parishioners regarding planters and hanging baskets.
 - Councillors reviewed options regarding the watering of plants.

W Stewart available to undertake watering of plants seven days a week.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that £40.00 per week should be paid to water hanging baskets and planters.

Resolved:

- **To pay £40.00 per week to have the hanging baskets and planters watered.**

Councillor J Hayward declared an interest

- B Pickering commented that there was a need to maintain the watering of hanging baskets throughout the parish.
- Councillors reviewed the options regarding the Parish Handyman carrying out some of the work.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Bob Edwards should be paid a one-off amount of £50.00 to carry out watering of plants.

Resolved:

- **To pay Bob Edwards a one off payment of £50.00 to undertake the watering of plants.**

Councillor J Hayward did not vote on this item.

- D Hill said there was a need to walk around the village to see what work needed to be done. A walk-about was arranged for Wednesday 16th June 2010 at 7.00 pm.
- Two benches at the chapel need painting with Hammerite. J Brindle agreed to arrange painting.

T Nichols had agreed to paint the handrails.
- The Clerk to write to residents adjacent to the chapel who had installed a roof and another a steel fence and request a tidy-up. J Brindle to email the Clerk address details.
- J Brindle agreed to contact T Nichols regarding the painting of the railings at the front of the chapel.
- Councillors reviewed the advertising posters and application form for the Garden Competition.

15) BRINSFORD POST BOX

Liam Fletcher of the Post Office confirmed that EON had confirmed movement of the post box would not affect their cables – Post Office engineers to scan the site during the next six weeks.

16) HIGHWAY MATTERS (INCLUDING ROAD SIGNS AND NOTICES AND MOTORWAY / A460 J1), PLUS HIGHWAY AGENCY, M54

- Councillor R Tucker reported the potholes at the junction of Brookhouse Lane and East Road still require attention.
- The Clerk reported that M Keeling of Staffordshire County Council Highways had commented as follows:
 - Dark Lane – struggle to install additional “No Right Turn” sign.
 - Dropped kerbs at Brinsford included on work schedules.
 - Outstanding name signs to be installed as soon as possible.
 - Oaks Drive – order issued to install signs and re-line on the junction.
- R Tucker reported that HGV’s were travelling through the village en route to the prison. The Clerk to request Staffordshire County Council Highways to install “No Access” signs.
- The Clerk to check with Staffordshire County Council Highways whether the vegetation over the footpath at the M54 / A460 footpath had been cut back.
- Bus service Route 10, Brinsford. Councillor B Pickering gave details of a request to Adrian Hunt of Staffordshire County Council to change the Route 10 at Brinsford. A Hunt had stated the route could not be changed for 56 days.
- F Beardsmore agreed to contact S Poyser of South Staffordshire District Council regarding the additional streetlight requested for Featherstone.

17) DEFRA – WHAT CHEMICALS ARE USED ON THE FIELDS AT THE BACK OF WHITGREAVE SCHOOL (12th March 2009)

The Clerk reported that Peter Sands had agreed to provide details of chemicals used and the frequency of applications.

18) FIRST RESPONDERS (8th November 2007)

This service to the community is ongoing.

19) SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE HOUSING ASSOCIATION (10th July 2008)

The Clerk reminded Councillors of the “walkabout” arranged with Emma Cooper on 24th June 2010.

20) BUS STOP – COMMUNITY CENTRE (12th March 2009)

It was agreed the re-drafted letter giving details of the possible installation of a bus stop on Baneberry Drive should be circulated to residents.

21) WEBSITE (9th January 2008)

The Clerk to obtain details of the procedure to access the Parish Council section of the Borough Council website.

22) FEATHERSTONE AND HILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

- J Hayward circulated to Councillors a copy of the management accounts for April 2010.
- The Chairman, F Beardsmore, reported Viking Electrics had quoted £916.00 to install a replacement lighting column.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to accept the quotation of £916.00.

Resolved:

- **To accept the quotation from Viking Electrics for £916.00 to install a replacement lighting column.**

23) REVIEW OF FOOTPATHS (9th January 2008)

This matter was ongoing.

24) BURIAL GROUND EXTENSION (11th September 2008)

The Chairman, F Beardsmore, reported the acquisition of extension and additional work would be completed by September / October 2010.

25) FEATHERSTONE PRISON – FINANCIAL BENEFIT

Howard Meddicot had confirmed that he would keep the Parish Council posted regarding any developments.

26) CORRESPONDENCE

The incoming and outgoing post had been noted.

- South Staffordshire District Council. Letter dated 2nd June 2010 from Elaine Swadling, Chairman's Secretary, regarding a ceremony to be held at the Council Offices concerning the "Armed Forces Day", Monday 21st June 2010. Councillor K Nightingale to attend.

27) FUNDING DROP-IN CENTRE (14th January 2010)

G Hughes had confirmed that he needed to obtain feedback regarding proposals.

28) CCTV – FEATHERSTONE AND HILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE (14th January 2010)

The Chairman, F Beardsmore, commented that CCTV options will be reviewed with Staffordshire Police at the meeting to be held on Monday 14th June 2010.

29) BULK COLLECTION / FLY TIPPING

This subject to be deleted from the agenda.

30) COMPUTERS FOR COUNCILLORS (10th June 2010)

- Councillor J Brindle commented that the Council should consider the provision of computers for Councillors.
- M Lawrence said used computers are sold by the District Council.
- Broadband cost to be reviewed.
- Councillors agreed to consider the provision of computers for May 2011.
- The Clerk to forward the minutes of Parish Council meetings to Councillors with computers.
- The Clerk to obtain costs for a scanner / printer.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

31) FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Cheque Payments

It was proposed, seconded and agreed the following cheques should be issued:

Item	£
Veolia Environmental	143.94
South Staffordshire District Council (Ground Maintenance)	125.57
R Young (Expenses)	76.00
B Pickering (Expenses)	16.44
MIS (Hanging Basket Brackets)	238.00
J Brindle (Expenses)	39.45
Featherstone and Hilton Community Centre	571.50
Came & Co (Parish Insurance)	1,754.95
Wolverhampton City Council (Newsletter)	120.04
Ian Whitfield Associates	460.00
Towergate (FHCC Insurance)	2,165.41
Loose Women (Donations)	
Featherstone Fete	250.00
Team Build	160.00
TOTAL	£6,121.30

Resolved:

- **To issue the above cheques.**

b) Parish Council Insurance

Parish Councillors reviewed the Parish Council insurance schedule. The Clerk to enquire with insurers whether any items included on the schedule can be deleted and thereby reduce the premium.

c) Annual Return 2009 / 2010

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Parish Council Chairman and Parish Clerk should sign the Annual Return for 2009 / 2010, as detailed by the receipts and payments schedule for 2009 / 2010 reviewed by Councillors at the May 2010 Parish Council meeting.

Resolved:

- **That the Parish Council Chairman and Parish Clerk sign the Annual Return for 2009 / 2010.**

32) ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OR FUTURE AGENDA

- Parish Clerk – Error Liability.
- Meeting with new Member of Parliament.

33) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Thursday 8th July 2010.

The Chairman of the meeting, Councillor F Beardsmore, thanked all those present for attending and declared the meeting closed at 10.28 pm.

F Beardsmore
Chairman