**Hammerwich Parish Council Minutes**

**17 November 2021**

**In attendance:**

Councillors Wasdell, Greenway, Place, Thurlow, Taylor, Grundy, Smith, King,

**Also in attendance:**

Councillor David Smith, Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

No Councillors from Lichfield District Council (LDC)

3 Members of the Public

**Clerk:**

Ellen Bird

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| **1.** | **Apologies for Absence** |
|  | Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Ennis, Loughborough and Ho.  Councillor Little (LDC) also submitted his apologies.  **Noted and accepted.** |
| **2.** | **Declarations of Interest** |
|  | Councillor Grundy declared her husband often worked with LDC Contractors who provided services for the Parish Council.  **Noted** |
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| **3.** | **Approval of Parish Council Minutes from the meeting held on 20 October 2021** |
|  | **The minutes of the meeting from 20 October 2021 were approved.** |
| **4.** | **Matters Arising** |
|  | There were none. |
| **5.** | **Chairman’s Announcements** |
|  | The Chair announced he had attended the Remembrance Service at the local church  **Noted** |
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| **6.** | **Highways and Footpaths** |
|  | The Chair reported that a gulley Cleaning Service had been hired by the Council to tackle the worst drains in the Parish. The work would be completed on 22 November 2021.  Councillors agreed to photograph and/or report potholes at every opportunity to SCC Highways.  It was noted Hall Lane was closed as maintenance was being carried out on the bridge.  The Clerk was asked to report the speed sign that had been knocked over on Copy Nook Lane.  It was noted that the finger post project was progressing with a tender for 26 1/2/3 oak finger posts being pulled together. Councillors King/Greenway and a local resident were meeting with local farmers to progress matters and a local farmer had offered to store the posts and deliver them to the correct locations nearer the time.  **Resolved to note the update and**   1. **Ask the clerk to report the speed sign** 2. **Thank Councillors Greenway and King and Mr Coulson for the work on the finger post project.** |
| **7.** | **County/District Councillor/Police Reports** |
|  | Councillor Smith SCC  Councillor Smith reported that SCC Highways had submitted detailed objections to recently submitted planning application at Spring hill cemetery.  He reported that the County Funds he held would soon be closed to applications.  He reported that SCC had launched a Climate Change Fund to support local organisations with funding for climate change prevention initiatives.  No District Councillors or Police were present. It was suggested that Police representatives be formally invited to a future meeting.  **Noted** |
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| **8.** | **Planning Applications** |
|  | There were no items. |
| **9.** | **Neighbourhood Plan (NHP)** |
|  | The referendum on the Plan was confirmed for the 16 December by Lichfield District Council and voting cards had been sent out.  **Noted** |
| **10.** | **Speedwatch** |
|  | No speedwatch sessions had been held but 2 new cadets had been appointed.  **Noted**  Speed Indicator Devices SID  The supplier had given permission to Councillor Taylor for her husband to have a look at the device that wasn’t working correctly.  The supplier was sending a replacement part through. Councillors thanked Councillor Taylor and her husband for her work on this.  **Noted**  Moving a SID  Councillor King proposed that the SID on Hospital Road be moved to Park Road.  **Resolved to ask Councillor King to progress this idea** |
| **11.** | **Parks and Open Spaces** |
|  | Burntwood Dragons  Councillor Greenway reported continuing problems in contacting representatives at the club.  **Noted**  The Triangle  Bins at The Triangle were discussed.  **Resolved to ask the clerk to ask LDC for a quote for an additional bin on The Triangle by the pumping station entrance.**  Oakfield Park  The Clerk reported she had chased Councillor Silvester- Hall LDC regarding the bin for outside the park.  Councillors noted that work was due to start shortly to repair the homeowners broken wall that had fallen into the park. Councillor Taylor agreed to go photograph the area prior to works commencing.  **Noted**  Car Parking The Triangle  Councillor Taylor reported residents had complained again of people parking on grass verges at the roundabout. Councillors sympathised but this was a police matter.  **Noted** |
| **12.** | **Correspondence Report** |
|  | The Clerk reported on correspondence received and sent since the last meeting.  **Noted** |
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| **13.** | **Accounts for Payment**  The statements for the Business Current Account and Savings Account as at 08 October 2021 were £59,492.10 and £8,289.21 respectively.  Councillors are asked to approve the following accounts for payment:   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Cost | VAT | Invoice No | Cheque Number | | Clerk’s Wages November | £533.70 | - | 8 | 101241 - £500  101242 -£33.70 | | Poppy Wreath British legion | £20 | - |  | 101243 |   The Parish Council are asked to note the following income:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Source | Amount | Reference | | Refund Barclays | 9.24 |  |   It was noted that Councillors were working to add Councillor Place to the bank mandate but this process was unnecessarily complex.  The Clerk’s wages would be paid by SO from January 2022. |
|  | **The accounts for payment were approved** |
| **14.** | **Public Participation** |
|  | Burntwood Road Verges  A resident asked if there was any update on the proposals for Burntwood road Verges from SCC. The Clerk reported that she was still waiting for a response from highway officers.  Gully Cleaning  A resident asked why the Parish were having to pay for the clearing of gullies when this was a SCC responsibility. The Chairman explained that in order to try prevent flooding to properties in the village the Parish had decided to take urgent action as there had been no positive action by SCC Highways despite repeated requests from the Parish Council, individual councillors and local residents.  Bins in the village  A resident complained that residents used bins in the village as dog bins but agree with Councillors that this was a better alternative to leaving dog waste on the pavement.  Hedges  Parishioners asked if anything could be done regarding the hedges on Pingle Lane.  Councillors explained this was the landowners responsibility but agreed to raise this with the farmer at a meeting that was coming up on the resident’s behalf. |
| **15.** | **Items for discussion at future meetings** |
|  | * Parish Precept * Asset Register * Risk Register * Queen’s Jubilee   **Noted** |

Meeting closed at 8.50pm