**Hammerwich Parish Council Minutes**

**20 April 2022**

**In attendance:**

Councillors Wasdell, Greenway, Place, Thurlow, Ennis, Taylor, Grundy, King and Mears

**Also in attendance:**

No Councillors from Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

No Councillors from Lichfield District Council (LDC)

1 Member of the Public

**Clerk:**

Ellen Bird

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| **1.** | **Apologies for Absence** |
|  | Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Ho. Councillors David Smith (SCC) and Silvester-Hall (LDC) also submitted 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.  Councillors Greenway, Wasdell, Mears, Thurlow and King declared an interest in Planning Application 22/00412/FUH – New House Farm  **Noted** |
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| **3.** | **Approval of Parish Council Minutes from the meeting held on 16 March 2022** |
|  | **The minutes of the meeting from 16 March 2022 were approved.** |
| **4.** | **Matters Arising** |
|  | There were no matters arising. |
| **5.** | **Chairman’s Announcements** |
|  | The Chairman welcomed a Parishioner to the meeting. He reported that this person was responsible for the decoration of the village Post Box. He thanked her on behalf of the Council for all her efforts.  **Noted** |
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| **6.** | **County/District/Police Reports** |
|  | **Councillor Smith (SCC)**  The Chairman reported Councllor Smith (SCC) had contacted him supporting the council’s response to the Boundary Review Consultation currently being run by LDC.  Councillor Smith had requested that the Chairman inform the Council that his Community Fund Grant was now available and local organisations for grants of either £250 or £500.  Councillor Silvester-Hall  Councillor Silvester-Hall had sent a report by email which was read to the Council.  Police Reports  Councillor Greenway reported that she had requested Police reports for the Concil on a more regular basis.  She had been informed that currently, crime was down slightly in the Rural District Division which Hammerwich was part of.  Councillors noted distortions in the figures were likely due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.  **Noted.** |
| **7.** | **Boundary Review** |
|  | Councillors thanked Councillor King for drafting a strong and comprehensive response on behalf of the Council.  Councillors noted 2 responses had been submitted so far both supporting the status quo.  **Resolved to ask the Clerk to submit the response by the deadline - 25 April 2022.** |
| **8.** | **Jubilee Planning** |
|  | Two meetings of the planning committee had been held. Roles had been agreed and the plans were now coming together for what promised to be an exciting event for the village.  Councillors queried whether raffle prizes for local charities could be bought from public funds. The clerk agreed to check.  The Council thanked Hammerwich Cricket Club who had agreed to provide the facilities for the event free of charge.  Councillors discussed advertising for the event.  **Noted** |
| **9.** | **Planning Issues** |
|  | 22/00412/FUH – New House Farm  Councillors had no comments on this application  **Noted** |
| **10.** | **Speedwatch/Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS)** |
|  | Councillor Taylor reported she was due to resume speedwatch in April and new recruits were being trained.  She reported continuing problems with one of the SIDS.  **Resolved to thank Councillor Taylor and her husband for all her help with the SIDS. They agreed that if problems continued the unit needed to be replaced whilst it remained under warranty.** |
| **11.** | **Highways and Footpaths** |
|  | Finger Posts  The posts had now been received. The QR codes were ready and the process of installing them would begin shortly.  **Resolved to**   1. **Thank Councillor King for his work on this project** 2. **Put out a press release when they were installed asking people to stick to the paths**   The Triangle  Councillor Wasdell had visited the area and reported the problem with parking seem to have improved  **Resolved to monitor the situation.** |
| **12.** | **Parks and Open Spaces**  Tree maintenance Oakfield Park |
|  | This work had been completed.  Oakfield Park Benches  This was ongoing – Councillor Greenway to report back to a future meeting.  Bins  Councillors approved a bin to go in Oakfield Park at the quoted cost of £550 + VAT.  **Resolved to ask the Clerk to order the bin**  Nature House Oakfield Park  Councillor Taylor reported LDC officers had suggested there may be grants available for this type of project  Oakfield Park Outdoor Gym  Councillor Taylor reported LDC officers had suggested there may also be grants available to purchase equipment for an outdoor gym  **Resolved to ask Councillor Taylor to continue gathering information and to report back to a future meeting.**  The Triangle – Trees at Water Sub Station  Councillors reported that the trees around the sub station were becoming an increasing problem as they were getting very tall.  **Resolved to ask the Clerk to contact the water board again to see if they could be cut back.** |
| **13.** | **Correspondence Report** |
|  | The Clerk reported on correspondence received and sent since the last meeting.  **Noted** |
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| **14.** | **Accounts for Payment**  The statements for the Business Current Account and Savings Account as at 08.04.2022 were £35,127.62 and £8,289.63 respectively.  Councillors are asked to approve the following accounts for payment:   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Cost | VAT | Invoice No | Cheque Number | | Clerk’s Wages April including 12 months back pay and 1 month new payrise. (Monthly pay now circa £557.22) | £911.25 | - | 1 | £533.70 Paid by SO 15/04  £377.55 chq 101265 | | WCAVA (Payroll and HMRC Payment | £180.83 | 1.65 | 2022007 | 101266 | | Barnard and Westwood (stationary London Bridges) | £374.23 | 62.37 | 35065 | 101237 | | Clerk Expenses (Zoom) | £14.39 | - |  | 101268 |   The Parish Council are asked to note the following income:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Source | Amount | Reference | | Lichfield District Council – Precept Payment (received after bank statement so not shown in total above) | £25, 900 | 3669 | |
|  | **The accounts for payment were approved** |

**15. Public Participation**

No items were raised.

**16. Items for consideration at future meetings**

* Notice Boards on the Triangle/Oakfield Park
* Burntwood Dragons

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

**Please note from May meeting meetings will commence at 7pm.**