**Hammerwich Parish Council Minutes**

**15 June 2022**

**In attendance:**

Councillors Wasdell, Greenway, Place, Ennis, Taylor, King, Smith and Mears

**Also in attendance:**

Councillor Smith from Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

2 Members of the Public

**Clerk:**

Ellen Bird

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| **1.** | **Apologies for Absence** |
|  | Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Grundy, Thurlow and Ho.  **Noted and accepted.** |
| **2.** | **Declarations of Interest** |
|  | Councillors Place and Greenway declared an interest in planning  application 22/837/FUH – 11 Coppy Nook  Councillor Mears declared an interest in Planning Application 22/0883/FUH – Hammerwich Place Farm  **Noted** |
|  |  |
| **3.** | **Approval of the minutes of 18 May 2022**  **The minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 18 May 2022 were approved** |
| **4.** | **Matters Arising** |
|  | Members details on website  Councillor Place reported inconsistency in the details of Members on the Council Website.  **Resolved to ask Councillors to contact the Clerk if they wished their details to be changed on the website. The Clerk agreed to contact LDC to ensure Councillor Mears’ Declaration of Interests were available on the Website.** |
| **5.** | **Chairman’s Announcements** |
|  | The Chairman reported he would be attending Burntwood Dragon’s Prize giving ceremony with the vice- chair.  **Noted** |
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| **6.** | **County/District/Police Reports** |
|  | Councillor Smith  Councillor Smith responded to Councillor Questions regarding Potholes/Road and Gully Maintenance/Speeding  **Noted.** |
| **7.** | **Receipt of the Internal Auditors Report 2021/22** |
|  | **Councillors received the Internal Auditors report produced for the 2021/22 annual audit return.** |
| **8.** | **Approval of the Annual Governance Statements 2021/22** |
|  | **Councillors approved the Annual Governance Statements 2021/22** |
| **9.** | **Approval of the Annual Accounting Statements 2021/22**  **Councillors approved the Annual Accounting Statements 2021/22** |
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| **10.** | **Jubilee Report** |
|  | Councillors felt the Jubilee celebrations they had organised in collaboration with local residents and organisations had been a great success despite the wet weather on the day.  The Parish offered thanks to all those who had contributed to the day – particularly the Cricket Club for the use of their grounds and facilities.  Councillors were meeting all the other organisers to review the event and any lessons learnt for future events.  Councillor Mears volunteered to remove and dispose of the advertising banners appropriately.  **Noted with thanks to all involved in organising the event.** |
| **12.** | **Planning Issues** |
|  | 22/00754/FUH – The Nursery Bungalow, Overton Lane  **Councillors requested the Clerk report the Councillors support of the Rights of Way Officer’s comments.**  22/00669/FUH – Strawberry House  Councillors had no comments on this application  **Noted**  21/01179/FUL – Spring Hill Farm  Previous comments made on this application by the Council remain relevant  **Resolved to ask the Clerk to report that the Council’s comments on this application had not changed.**  **The Council had no comments on the following applications**   * 22/00735/CLE – Bethany Cottage * 22/0069/FUH – 1 Overhill Road * 22/00748/FUH – 132 Lichfield Road * 22/0837/FUH – 11 Coppy Nook * 22/00883/FUH – Hammerwich Place Farm |
| **12.** | **Speedwatch/Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS)** |
|  | Councillor Taylor reported the broken SID had been fixed and returned by the company and was now back in situ  **Noted with thanks to Councillor Taylor for her work on this.**  Councillor Taylor reported concerns about speeding on Norton Lane  **Noted** |
| **13.** | **Highways and Footpaths** |
|  | Finger Posts  8 posts had now been put in place. Further posts would be installed later in the week.  **Resolved to thank Councillor King for his work on this and to approve a budget of up to £60 for a contractor to help with the Post Installation.** |
| **14.** | **Parks and Open Spaces** |
|  | Fields In Trust  Councillor Greenway requested permission to look at registering Copy Nook Park, Mansion Drive and Oakfield Park with Fields in Trust to help protect the spaces in the Parish for future generations.  Councillors discussed whether the Fields in Trust Legal team/an independent firm or LDC Legal team should be used to progress this application  **Resolved to request that Councillor Greenway continue with the application but report back to the Council before agreeing any expenditure.**  Burntwood Dragons  LDC officers had managed to reach Burntwood Dragon’s Committee to agree opening times for the gates to the Car Park.  Councillor Greenway had managed to make contact also and had been promised that repairs to the playground would be done. They also promised that other issues would be discussed at an upcoming meeting.  The Club had informed Councillor Greenway that alterations to the club house no longer remained a priority.  **Noted**  Oakfield Park Gym Equipment  Work on this was progressing and Councillors would return to the Council with more detailed plans and costs for adult gym equipment for the park at a later date.  **Noted**  Copy Nook Park Bins  It was noted that the bins in the park were very full and required emptying  **Noted**  Notice Boards  Councillors discussed noticeboards for The Triangle. There were mixed views about whether they were an effective way to communicate with local residents.  It was suggested that QR codes similar to those placed on the fingerposts could be used as an alternative directing people to the Council’s website.  **Resolved to add Noticeboards to the July Agenda** |
| **15.** | **Correspondence Report** |
|  | The Clerk reported on correspondence received and sent since the last meeting.  **Noted** |
|  |  |
| **16.** | **Accounts for payment**  The statements for the Business Current Account and Savings Account as at 09.06.2022 were £59,568.28 and £8,290.25 respectively.  Councillors are asked to approve the following accounts for payment:   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Cost | VAT | Invoice No | Cheque Number | | Clerk’s Wages June | £566.02 | - | 3 | £533.70 Paid by SO 15 of month  £32.70 chq 274 | | WCAVA | £12.80 | £1.10 | 12.80 | 275 | | Lichfield District Council (Bins) | £2,257.63 | £376.27 | M0075908506 | 276 | | Councillor Mears (Banners Jubilee)) | £151.08 | - | - | 277 | | Landmark (Fingerposts) | £9,060.52 | £1,510.09 | - | 278 | | Hammerwich Cricket Club (Jubilee) | £1,866.22 | - | - | 279 | | ~~Councillor Greenway (Jubilee)~~ | ~~£823.72~~ | ~~-~~ | ~~-~~ | ~~280~~ | | Councillor Taylor (Jubilee) | £29.83 | - | - | 281 | | Councillor M Greenway Jubilee | £823.72 | - | - | 282 (to replace 280 written incorrectly) |   The Parish Council are asked to note the following income:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Source | Amount | Reference | | No income |  |  | |
|  | **The accounts for payment were approved** |

**17. Public Participation**

The 2 residents present wished to discuss Norton Lane Woodland. A local resident was concerned about development on the site and the removal of many trees.

The other resident present was the owner of the land and stated

* They had needed to thin the woodland to encourage growth, remove dangerous and dead trees and to create a firebreak
* An area had been cleared to enable their cars to move the cars safely whilst they were accessing the site.
* They had no plans to develop the land and had no hidden agenda. The aim was to preserve and restore the woodland
* A container would be put on site to store tools/ seating etc for the site
* They aimed to secure the site with improved fencing and a gate.

**Noted**

**The Council’s 2-hour time limit was reached. Councillors voted to extend the meeting for a further 5 minutes to complete the business**

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

* Notice Boards on playing fields
* Flagpole
* Burntwood Dragons
* Administrative Issues to include the placement of public participation higher up the agenda, using first names in meetings.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm