

Hilderstone Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25th April 2018 at 7:30p.m.

Present: Cllr. Shelley (Chairman), Cllr. R. Clark, Cllr. Crump, Cllr. Stringer (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Woodward, Cllr. P Davies, Stafford Borough Cllr. Harp and Mrs Amanda Kingston (Clerk). There was one member of the public and no members of the press present.

1. Chairman's Welcome. Cllr. Shelley welcomed Councillors and the member of the public to the meeting.

2. Apologies. None

3. Minutes of the last meeting. These were read, amended, approved and signed.

4. Matters arising.

The Jumble sale on the 7th of April was a success as was the antiques valuation afternoon which raised in the region of £300. The Elvis Tribute was well attended and raised £1560 which was split equally between the Village Hall and the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

Following the resignation of Cllr. Jones, it was agreed the Clerk write formally to thank her for her time and commitment to the Parish Council.

5. Borough Councillor's Report.

Cllr. Harp referred to Stafford Borough Council's (SBC) litter campaign, the details of which can be found at www.staffordbc.gov.uk/keepitclean SBC are keen to work with local community groups, parish councils and volunteers to organise litter pics and other event days to help keep the borough clean. Cllr. Harp informed the meeting that litter bags and pickers can be provided to support preparation for the Best Kept Village Competition if required.

Some discussion was held regarding piles of litter left at the roadside. Cllr. Harp advised contacting streetscene with any concerns regarding litter or fly tipping.

The transition to a new contractor for refuse collection has gone smoothly but there have been some reports of lost paper caddies. These will be replaced if reported to SBC.

Work is underway to install smart motorway technology on the M6 from Junction 13 Northbound, enabling average speed monitoring and lane management. It is hoped this will be managed in such a way as to cause minimum disruption to traffic in and around Stafford.

6. County Councillor's Report. Cllr. Parry was not in attendance but did provide an update on traffic and highways which is included in the relevant section below.

7. Planning. There were no new planning applications received in April 2018.

Status of Earlier Applications:

17/26465/FUL Jesmonde, Sandon Road, Hilderstone. Detached dormer bungalow to rear of Jesmonde. **APPEAL DECISION PERMISSION GRANTED**

8. Traffic and Highways. An update provided by Cllr. Parry stated that the Speed Indicator Device cannot be installed at the desired location opposite the village hall due to safety concerns. It will therefore be reinstated at the previous location.

Feedback was also received that little can be done regarding concerns over the safety of Hilderstone cross roads, although it may be possible to add double white lines to prevent

overtaking. Clerk to contact SCC and request double white lines on the Stone to Uttoxeter road and if possible, slow signs to be painted on the road either side.

The faulty 30mph flashing light on Sandon Road has been assessed by SCC Highways and passed on to the sign provider Signature for repair.

It was noted that work has been undertaken to address many of the worst potholes in the area.

Concerns were raised regarding blocked gullies and drains. Cllr's to send Clerk details of location and where possible photographs of blocked gullies and drains for reporting to SCC.

9. Footpaths/Village Maintenance/Best Kept Village.

It was suggested that photos of the village in spring be taken and displayed in the noticeboards in preparation for Best Kept Village, and an information folder including photographs be displayed in the phone box.

Cllr. Clark to produce an annual schedule of village maintenance tasks in light of the additional work to be picked up following the withdrawal of support from the Neighbourhood Highways Teams. This will be reviewed at the next meeting and agreed with the grounds maintenance contractor.

The grass at the play area needs cutting. Clerk to contact SBC play services to request it is prioritised and to establish if there is any cleaning of the play area scheduled this year.

Several fence panels surrounding the play area are damaged and in need of repair. Clerk to contact Staffordshire Housing Association and request they are repaired or replaced.

The new Best Kept Village signs have been erected throughout the village.

10. Village Events.

Forthcoming Events:

Sunflower Competition, Seedlings can be collected from the Roebuck Inn from the end of April. Seedlings cost £5 of which £2 will be donated to Dougie Mac, £2 to prize money and £1 to cover costs.

Village Dinner Party, Saturday 12th May in Hilderstone Village Hall. Host a table with friends and neighbours. Further details from Joan Carr 07837 656723.

Film Night, Friday 18th May. Tickets cost £7 and are available from the booking secretary on 07810 332559. The film will be Victoria and Abdul.

Scarecrow Weekend, Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th June in Hilderstone Village all weekend. Full details to be published on the village website and in the Parish Magazine later.

Children's Activity Afternoon, Sunday 24th June, 2.00 – 4.00pm, Hilderstone Village Hall. Further details nearer the time.

Village Summer Fete, Saturday 21st July, from 2.00pm in the field next to Lower Farm.

Jumble Sale, Saturday 15th September, 2.00pm in Hilderstone Village Hall. Donations of jumble gratefully received at the Hall from 10.00am. All proceeds to the village Christmas Party and Church funds.

Village Christmas Party, Tuesday 11th December, 7.00 for 7.30pm in Hilderstone Village Hall. Further details to follow nearer the time.

11. Correspondence.

- A formal letter of resignation was received by Cllr. Jean Jones shortly after the March meeting. The post has been formally advertised as vacant and applications will be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council in May.
- The results of the Staffordshire County Council Rights of Way consultation have been produced and can be found at <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/environment/eLand/RightsOfWay/Rights-of-Way-consultation/Consultation-rights-of-way-paths-bridlewys.aspx>
- Members' Digest 241

Members Digest 240 (Cllr. Crump). Council tax and precept levels were agreed. A breakdown was provided showing the level of in Council Tax across the borough, and for each parish council.

The following planning decisions were noted

Planning application 17/27554/COU for the change of use of land at Cresswell Road, Hilderstone to equine based therapy and learning facilities – Permitted.

Planning application 17/27556/ADV for two illuminated directional and identification signs at land at Cresswell Road, Hilderstone – Permitted.

12. Finance.

The Internal Auditor will receive the annual accounts and Governance and Accountability Return on the 27th April. The Parish Council will receive the internal auditors report and complete the Annual Governance and Accountability Return at their meeting on the 23rd May.

The end of year accounts were received and signed by the Chairman.

The monthly accounts were presented and signed by the Chairman. The current account is £13134.78 in credit and the deposit account £3121.76 in credit. Although most of these funds are allocated as indicated by the monthly accounts which are circulated to all Councillors prior to each meeting. The following payments were approved:

1. Staffordshire Parish Council's Association, Annual Subs - £192
2. Mrs A Kingston, Clerk's Salary and expenses - £242.90
3. Mrs A Kingston, reimbursement for renewal of website domain name - £47.95
4. Mr W H Holmes, Village and Highways Maintenance - £92
5. Creative Bee Ltd, Best Kept Village signs - £102.00
6. Cllr. J Crump, reimbursement for Design a sign, phone box signage - £52.38

13. Any Other Business.

As part of the legal compliance with the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) The Parish Council must adopt a privacy notice. The Clerk presented three draft privacy notices for Hilderstone, two based on NALC guidance and one on SLCC guidance. It was agreed by unanimous decision to adopt the policy based on guidance from the SLCC. This will be made publicly available on the website and will be reviewed annually. An accompanying consent form must be completed by all members of the public for whom the Parish Council holds personal data.

It was agreed the Annual Parish Meeting for Hilderstone will be held on Wednesday 23rd May at 7pm in Hilderstone Village Hall. This meeting will be followed directly by the Annual General Meeting of Hilderstone Parish Council at 7:30pm.

Mr Jim Davies informed the meeting that the Stone Town Neighbourhood Plan is in the last stage prior to adoption. Stone Town Council hold a Parish Liaison Group which Hilderstone Councillors would be welcome to attend, the next meeting will be held on the 11th July.

14. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd May 2018 at 7pm for the Annual Parish Meeting, followed at 7.30pm for the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council. The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

..... Cllr. M. Shelley, Chairman. 23.05.18