HAMMERWICH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting held on **Wednesday 17th September 2014** at **7.30 p.m.** at the WI Hall, Hammerwich

PRESENT: Councillors V. Wasdell (Chairman), , R. Campbell, D Bayliss, Mrs J Pope, Mrs R Bailye, Mrs J Davies, **P.** Chapman, J. Turnbull, Mrs. M. Greenway Viv Evans (Parish Clerk), and 15 members of the public

APOLOGIES Cllrs Mrs V Richards

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Action

1.1 As above

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS

2.1 Cllr Mrs Bailye for Planning Application no 14/00517 and Cllr Mrs Davies for point 7.2 on the agenda

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

3.1 Point 7.8 inaccurately described Cllr Chapman as a former Cllr and should read "is" rather than "was"

3.2 Subject to that correction, the minutes were approved

3.3 Cllr Chapman proposed and Cllr Mrs Pope seconded that the minutes be accepted as a true record

3.4 **RESOLVED:** the minutes are accepted as a true record

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Cllr Chapman asked if there was any progress on the Burntwood Football Club's ambitions to manage the Hospital Rd site

4.2 The Chairman responded that LDC were drawing up a submission document for any interested parties to apply

4.3 Cllr Mrs Davies asked if there had been any reply from Aviva to the complaints about the bus service and the Clerk replied there had not

4.4 The Clerk was asked to contact SCC to see if they could exert any influence over the operators, in their capacity as partial funders of bus services VE

6 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

5.1 The Chairman advised that he had would attend Cllr D Smiths next Staffordshire Action Group meeting

6 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

6.1 There were no objections to planning applications at the Triangle Tavern and 84 Burntwood Rd

6.2 Members had a number of comments with regard to application no 14/00517/out: VE

- Cllr Bayliss advised members the site is only a few feet outside the EA flooding boundary and all agreed that there is a problem with the existing drainage and surface water
- Cllr Bailye commented that adjacent gardens flood and Cllrs Turnbull and Davies wondered how soakaway drainage could work, given that the ground was usually sodden
- Cllr Bayliss noted that the gardens would be in virtual complete shade, not least because there were a number of large trees at the site. These trees were the subject of TPOs and he feared that these orders might be breached by any owners if the properties were to be constructed
- All Cllrs agreed that the applicant was being disingenuous when asserting that residents of Burntwood Road would have no objection to on street parking and the Council had in its records, previous representations to the WI with regard to this matter
- The Chairman noted that the photographs of the car park appeared to have been taken in the morning when there was rarely any usage of the hall
- Cllr Bailye wondered if the WI had been asked to comment and the Clerk was directed to contact the WI to see if they were aware of the application
- Cllrs also commented that the Police were aware of previous parking problems relating to the hall
- Cllrs pointed out that photo no 3 in the accompanying documentation clearly showed flooding
- All commented that whilst they might be sympathetic to affordable housing – they did not believe this site was suitable

6.3 Cllr Mrs Bailye advised the meeting that she had a conversation with someone who may be making a planning application for a housing development within the village envelope

6.4 He offered to come and discuss the matter with the Parish Council, which led to this agenda item and she was able to advise the meeting, that following her discussion with the developer, the density of the proposed site had been reduced from a possible 43 to approximately 20

6.5 She felt the Council should have an opportunity to comment on this application, before submission, when there might be time to exert some influence but other members were strongly of the opinion that allowing any presentation by the developer might infer that they were sympathetic to the application

6.6 Cllr Mrs Pope commented that "back land" development didn't have the support of the Council but Cllr Mrs Bailye reminded the meeting that developments she might have been against had allowed some in the audience to enjoy living in Hammerwich and there had to be some evolution to preserve a vibrant community

6.7 Cllr Campbell commented that the meeting was already being sucked into a discussion with regard to the form of the development and the Chairman agreed and invited a proposal

6.8 Cllr Campbell proposed that this developer should not be invited to a pre- meeting and Cllr Mrs Davies seconded this

6.9 **RESOLVED:** Members would wait until they were presented with a formal application for development

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATON

7.1 Standing Orders were suspended to allow members of the public to speak

7.2 A resident complained that sewage waste, being used for agricultural fertiliser was being dumped in large quantities, not immediately dug in, causing extreme nuisance for local residents, but Cllr Mrs Bailye advised that these matters were closely monitored and that substantial penalties applied if there were any transgressions in the handling of this material

7.3 He also complained of a gap left in the hedge by the developers of the Hospital Road site which allowed vehicles and pedestrians access

7.4 The Clerk was asked to contact the owner of the field to advise of the residents' discomfort and request that he site the stockpile further away from residents and to contact LDC to see if any enforcement measures could be taken with regard to the hedge — VE

7.5 The resident also complained that there was noise from older children at the play area, sometimes up to midnight

7.6 PCSO Bennett, who was in attendance at the meeting, agreed to feed back but advised that the PCSO officers finished work at 10.00pm

7.7 The resident then raised the issue of the Football Club which seemed to be littering the field and the players were loud and foul mouthed

7.8 Another resident raised the issue of water quality in the cul de sac off Coppy Nook Lane but Members felt they was nothing they could do with regard to this matter

7.9 A resident then complained of the amount of noise from shooting in the village and Cllrs supported the view that the noise nuisance had increased, so they requested the Clerk to seek clarification of the licensing with respect to this activity — VE

7.10 Residents complained of the state of the footpaths and hedges, in particular in Meerash Lane, Hall Lane, Coppice Lane, Hammerwich Rd and Overton Lane

7.11 As the Neighbourhood Highway Team would be in Hammerwich shortly, the Clerk was requested to contact them and the Chairman would ask the residents of Ashmole Close to clear up the areas for which they were responsbile

7.12 A resident then advised the meeting that from next year and EU directive decreed that hedge cutting should not take place before 1 September

7.13 PSCO Bennett then updated the meeting on local crimes which consisted of 4 burglaries, 3 criminal damage and 9 antisocial behaviour but this latter category could just be scrap metal dealers blowing horns, which they were no longer allowed to do

7.14 He continued that they monitored scrap metal dealers quite closely now and could confiscate their collections if the accompanying paperwork was not in order

7.15 PCSO Bennett, having completed his report, then left the meeting

7.16 Cllr Mrs Bailye proposed that Standing Orders be reinstated and this was seconded by Cllr Bayliss

8 REPORTS UPDATE

8.1 The Clerk advised that she had commenced work on the draft plan and that she had now asked members of the steering group for their specialist input into the wording of the plan

8.1.1 The next meeting of the group would take place on 30 September at the WI Hall to refine the draft plan

8.2 The Clerk reported that they had been successful in the application for a tree pack and Cllr Mrs Bailye advised that Mr Colson was identifying sites for planting

8.2.1 Cllr Chapman raised the issue of the play equipment report and Members asked the Clerk to contact LDC to ascertain if they could repair the equipment and at what cost — VE

8.2.3 **RESOLVED:** to affect repairs to play equipment as advised by PlaySafety

8.3 The Council had received an email from a resident on Overton Lane, who as a mobility scooter user, had a particular problem with highway obstruction

8.3.1 Members asked the Clerk to contact SCC Highways to report the matters raised by the resident and PCSO Bennett agreed to increased patrols in the area, paying particular attention to highway obstruction VE

8.3.2 There was discussion as to why the road markings had not been reinstated in Hall Lane but the Chairman suggested this delay might be usual to allow the surface dressing to settle

8.3.3 The Chairman agreed to check if the enormous pothole outside Gartmore Stables had been repaired as there seemed to be conflicting reports on the status of this

8.3.4 Cllr Mrs Davies reported that the public footpath from Mill Lane/Meerash had disappeared since the crop harvest and that the overgrown entrance off the road made access virtually impossible anyway

8.3.5 She also reported that it was unsafe to use the footpath from Hammerwich House Farm to the church due to the horses in the field which the footpath crossed

8.3.6 The Clerk was requested to contact SCC with regard to these matters VE

9 ANY MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

9.1 Cllr Campbell asked for the BTC/LDC Dialride scheme to be discussed as the scheme was getting a number of queries from Hammerwich residents who were not currently able to access this

9.2 Cllr Chapman advised the meeting that the LDC Local Plan might have been adopted by the next meeting in which case, there should be a report

11 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

10.1 The Chairman read out the response from Network Rail with regard to the flooding at Hall Lane Rail Bridge and their assurances that the bridge structure was not a cause for concern

10.1.1 Despite Network Rail's assertion that the flooding had been due to a burst pipe the Chairman asked everyone to continue reporting on any flooding which occurred

10.2 The meeting was advised that the only comment on the annual audit was that one box had not been dated by the Chairman or possibly Clerk (who may have undertaken to date on behalf of the Chairman)

10.2.1 Members were content that the report had only such a trivial matter to raise

10.3 The Chairman read out a letter from SCC Cabinet Member Alan White with regard to SCC's continuing commitment to deliver high quality care services

12 CORRESPONDENCE SENT

12.1 None other than that which generated the responses above

13 FINANCE

13.1.1 Cllr Campbell proposed and Cllr Mrs Bailye seconded that the accounts be approved

13.1.2 **RESOLVED:** to approve accounts for payment for September

13.2. Members had no queries with regard to the bank reconciliation

13.3 Members were advised by the Clerk that the draft budget was her suggestion for the coming year but that Members had until the December meeting to revise these figures

13.3.1 Members made a number of suggestions for alterations and it was agreed that this matter would be discussed at the next meeting

13.3.2 Cllr Turnbull queried why the Council was not getting a better rate of return on its investment but the Clerk advised that she had researched this matter and a better return did not seem to be available

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14.1 15th October

Chairman _____ 15th October

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm