

BREWOD AND COVEN PARISH COUNCIL
WITH BISHOP'S WOOD AND COVEN HEATH
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, STAFFORD STREET, BREWOOD
ON THURSDAY 12TH MARCH 2020 AT 7.00PM

This meeting was recorded by the Parish Council. The Chairman declared that the Parish Council was not responsible for any recordings that may have been made by members of the public. No members of the public declared that they did not wish to be recorded by another member of the public. The meeting of 27th February was not recorded due to equipment failure.

PRESENT:

Parish Cllrs M. Alden-Court, J. Bradshaw, D.M. Holmes, J. Jeffries, P. Knight CBE, M. Sambrook, D. Short, G. Sibley, C. Smythe, R. Taylor, M. Webb MBE.

IN ATTENDANCE:

District Cllr J. Bolton.

APOLOGIES:

Parish Cllrs A. Pupino (personal), W. Sutton (personal).

District Cllr B. Cox, County Cllr M. Sutton.

DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION:

Parish Cllr D. M. Holmes represents Locality 2 at South Staffordshire Council's Planning Committee meetings, she will therefore not vote on any planning matters brought before the Parish Council. She may remain at the meeting and any views she may express are based on the information before her at the time. These views may change in the light of further information or debate at a future South Staffordshire Council's Planning Committee meeting.

Parish Cllr D. M. Holmes declared a personal interest in planning item 20/0092/FUL.

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 27th February 2020 were approved as accurate and duly signed.

CRIME AND DISORDER ACT:

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, 1998 places a duty on local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications when exercising its functions and to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area. Unless otherwise stated it was not considered that the resolutions moved herein would have any adverse impact for the purposes of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

12th March 2020

314. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

A resident from Coven reported the issue of properties flooding due to blocked drains. County Cllr M. Sutton had agreed to visit the sites. Parish Cllr D. Holmes reported that financial support was available from the government for areas with 25 or more homes with flooding but residents were required to report the flooding to South Staffordshire Council. The same resident also commented on planning item 19/00897/LUE. See Planning.

315. **POLICE REPORT:**

No Police Report was expected for this meeting. Clerk's Report referred. The 101 service to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

MATTERS ARISING:

253. **Chairman's Civic Service.** Parish Cllr M. Sambrook was investigating ideas and would report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

MATTERS ONGOING:

97. **Wild Flower Planting.** Parish Cllr R. Taylor advised that the Parish Council had acquired around 20 trees and requested permission to plant a copse at the bottom of the playing field adjacent to the bowling club boundary and outside the gate in Engleton Lane, Brewood either side of the bench. The remainder to be planted at The Bront. He reported that he would also source shrubs for the fence along the footpath at the top of Jacob's Ladder. Parish Cllr G. Sibley advised that he and Parish Cllr A. Pupino would form a working party to select appropriate sites for wild flower planting in Coven and Parish Cllr M. Sambrook advised that she would do the same for Bishop's Wood.

The Parish Council resolved unanimous in favour that permission be granted for the planting of trees and wild flowers, in line with the Business Plan.

228. **Code of Conduct.** Clerk to obtain a copy of the new Code from South Staffordshire Council.

300. **Drainage System at BPSA.** Clerk's Report referred. Members received the report from the Parish Council's working party. The Parish Council to invite the Cricket Club to present its proposals at some future date.

305. **Keep Britain Tidy Campaign.** Clerks Report referred. It was agreed that as the start of the campaign was 20th March, it was too late for the Parish Council to become a host this year. Matter to be placed on the agenda in January 2021.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

316. Email received from Mrs R. Glover expressing an interest in being co-opted to the vacancy in Bishop's Wood ward. Unfortunately, Mrs Glover was unable to attend the meeting due to illness.

The Parish Council resolved unanimous in favour that Mrs R. Glover be co-opted to the vacancy in Bishop's Wood.

317. **Brewood and District First Responders – Changes to Service Provision.** The Parish Council was concerned about the changes proposed by West Midlands Ambulance Service and deplored the decision.

The Parish Council resolved unanimous in favour that the Clerk write to Gavin Williamson CBE MP and Jeremy Lefroy MP, with a copy to West Midlands Ambulance Service, expressing deep concern that the proposed provisions were insufficient for the needs of residents in rural areas of Staffordshire.

318. **Gents Toilets in the Parish Council Chamber.** It was proposed that consideration be given to converting the toilets to create additional storage space and provide a toilet for people with disabilities.
The Parish Council resolved unanimous in favour to undertake a feasibility study and report back to the Parish Council.

319. **Community Speed Watch Volunteers.** The service had been scaled down due to the loss of some members. Two volunteers from Coven Heath would cover both sides of the A449 twice per month.
The Parish Council resolved unanimous in favour that information be included in the next newsletter, via social media and in person at Coven Scout event in June and other future events in the Parish.

320. Letter received from Brewood Bowling Club AGM to be held on 25th March. Parish Cllr M. Webb would attend.
Matter of report.

321. The Parish Council reviewed the Employer Pension discretion Policy Statement as drafted by Staffordshire Pension Fund.
It was resolved unanimous in favour that the policy be adopted for the next three years, in line with legislation.

322. Traffic Management Working Party meeting. Coven and Brewood to hold separate meetings to agree the priorities for the forthcoming year. Clerk to establish the availability of County Cllr M. Sutton and M. Keeling. Brewood traffic management meeting was scheduled for Mon 30 March at 9.15am. Coven traffic management working party would convene after Easter.
Matter of report.

323. Parish Cllr M. Sambrook would not be able to attend South Staffordshire Council Civic Dinner on Fri 24th April but would send a donation.
Matter of report.

324. Letter received from the treasurer of St Paul's 1st Scout Group requesting permission to host its summer show at Coven playing field and use the end of the football pitch to house a large inflatable. The scout group had adequate insurance and would carry out its own risk assessment.
It was resolved unanimous in favour that permission be given for the Scouts to use Coven playing field.

325. **CORRESPONDENCE CIRCULATED:**

Notice that there will be no Bishopswood Bugle for the present time.
 Minutes of Brewood Civic Society meeting held 17th February
 SPCA Bulletin 5th March

326. **DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCIL'S REPORT:**

There were no reports received from the District or County Councils.

327. **CHAIRMAN'S AND OTHER COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (courses/workshops/seminars attended):**

Parish Cllr M. Sambrook was unable to attend the Fly the Flag ceremony having broken her wrist.

Parish Cllr P. Knight CBE reported that there was an upcoming boundary review which would commence in April and end in November. Any changes would be implemented at the next election.

Parish Cllr M. Alden-Court reported that the public meeting regarding the certificate of lawfulness at land at Lawn Lane had gone extremely well.

Parish Cllr R. Taylor reported that he had attended the Standards Committee meeting. Members were advised to regularly review their disclosable pecuniary and other interests (using the new form) and keep it updated. The Chairman of South Staffordshire Council planning committee had offered to visit the Parish Council to give a presentation on dos and don'ts when commenting as a consultee. Clerk to establish his availability with a view to him attending prior to a full Parish Council meeting.

328. **FINANCE REPORT:**

The Parish Council received the Finance Report from Parish Cllr M. Sambrook:

- 1 The income and expenditure list as at 12th March 2020. Expenditure £78.12 Income £102.00, **be approved.**

It was noted that the electricity bill for Coven changing rooms was high. It was recommended that alternatives to storage heaters in the changing rooms be put on the agenda for next meeting.

Parish Cllrs D.M. Holmes and R. Taylor were nominated to approve the online banking.

329. **PLANNING REPORT:**

The Parish Council received the Planning Report from Parish Cllr R. Taylor and considered the planning applications received.

19/00897/LUE Land at Lawn Lane, Coven. Parish Cllr W. Sutton had previously reported that the date for submissions has been extended to 12th March. The reason for the delay in the Parish Council being notified of the application was that initially insufficient information was submitted, full details were not received until 12th February, when the application was validated. Further representations had been received.

It was resolved unanimous in favour that the Parish Council submit additional comments, see planning schedule below.

330. **CLERK'S REPORT:**

The Parish Council received the written report of the Clerk and noted its content.

331. **PLAYING FIELD REPORTS:**

The Parish Council received the Playing Fields Reports, Clerk's Report referred:

- Bishop's Wood playing field, Parish Cllr M. Sambrook reported molehills on the field.
- Brewood playing field and skateboard park, Parish Cllr J. Jeffries would submit a written report at a later date.
- Coven playing field and skateboard park, Parish Cllr G. Sibley that the bark needed raking and gaps in the joints on some pieces of equipment, some waterlogging and movement on the Whirly Bird roundabout.
- The Bront, Parish Cllr G. Sibley reported some trees had fallen along the pathways, the water level was quite high but there was no danger of flooding.

ANY OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT:

Proposal to adopt a Parish Council Seal for sealing of official documents.

Withdrawal of i54 bus with effect from 19 March 2020.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting ended at 8.58pm

..... Chairman

**REPORT OF THE CLERK FOR THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD 12th MARCH 2020**

POLICE REPORT

No report expected for the meeting. However, PSCO Gaz Lloyd reported verbally that PCSO Adrian Price was absent from work with a foot injury. Parish Cllr M. Alden-Court has advised that she will be writing to the deputy chief inspector regarding poor service received when contacting the Police using the 101 number.

MATTERS ARISING:

305. **Keep Britain Tidy Campaign.** At the previous meeting Members agreed to seek further information from the website in order to decide whether or not to register with the organisation to get information on how to take part in the campaign which starts on 20th March.

MATTERS ONGOING

291** **Safer Roads Funding.** The posts for the SIDs are being installed this week. The device will now be ordered.

300. **Drainage Systems at BPSA.** Minutes of the meeting of the working party held on 10 March tabled for information, together with a graph of recent rainfall.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

322. **Traffic Management.** Email received from resident of School Road, Brewood, who spoke during public participation on 13th February, outlining the problems being experienced in School Road, copies tabled for information.

PLANNING:

219. **19/00897/LUE Land at Lawn Lane, Coven.** Some members felt that the Parish Council's comments forwarded to the planning authority were not strong enough and so it has been requested that additional comments be made; the deadline for submission is 12th March. Parish Cllr M. Alden-Court has also submitted information to planning about the site.

PLAYING FIELD REPORTS:

Following recent events which have led to new members becoming responsible for playing field inspections, completed forms have not always been received, meaning there are no written records of inspections having taken place, even though regular inspections have been carried out. It is a health and safety requirement that the Parish Council keeps written records of regular inspections. There are inspection forms available from the Clerk which should be completed and submitted at the first meeting of every month. These inspections are in addition to the annual inspections which are carried out by an independent provider and are compliant with British Safety Standards.

OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT:

The following message was received from a member of the public this week concerning Martin Smith the Parish Council's handyman/gardener:

12th March 2020

'Can I pass on a well done and thanks to Martin who was tidying the footpath between the Rainbow and the church in Coven today. Weather not great but he was doing a splendid job and in good spirits with a smile and hello to everyone who passed. We are always too happy to moan but it is important to praise as well. I think there is an upcoming parish meeting to be held in Brewood so if this could be mentioned. If meeting was to be held elsewhere such as Coven or Coven Heath I may have popped in to raise this myself but sadly this never happens.'

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2020

Application No	Proposal	Comment
19/00897/LUE	The existing use at the site includes the storage of materials and goods, also the parking of transport and wagons. Vehicles include (but not limited to) a range and scale of commercial vehicles. Wagons include (but not limited to) a range of box trailers, curtain side trailers and flatbed trailers. These uses relate to the site as a whole as they utilise the vehicular access from Lawn Lane, the extensive hard standings located throughout the site and also the adjacent land within the curtilage of the site at former Munitions Depot, Lawn Lane, Coven.	Following parishioners' representations made to the Parish Council regarding this LUE, the Parish Council wishes to comment that the granting of a certificate for any sort of commercial development would be detrimental to our parishioners and to the Parish as a whole. Local knowledge supplied to us clearly refutes the claim that the land in question has been used for anything other than agricultural purposes prior to 2019. There is the loss of a public right of way. The Parish Council has not been presented with any evidence of lawful use as claimed.
20/00092/FUL	Re-siting of proposed garage outbuilding previously approved in application 19/00688/LUP at Sunnyside, Kiddemore Green Road, Brewood.	Over-development of plot, particularly as it is a separate building.
20/00064/FUL	Erection of stable block/tack room at Glenside, Dark Lane, Cross Green, Wolverhampton.	No objections.
20/00105/FUL	Proposed side and rear extension to bungalow at 44 Engleton Lane, Brewood.	No objections.
20/00162/FUL	Proposed rear lean-to/greenhouse/conservatory at 9 Willow Close, Coven.	No objections.