HIGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL

An ordinary meeting of Highley Parish Council was held on Tuesday 6th June 2023 at 7.00pm at the Severn Centre, Highley.

**Present**: Chair T. Quinn, Councillors; T. Pinches, J. Law, C. Stanley, A. Rodgers, E. Moore, E. Aspin, J. Griffin

Clerk: H. Bowkett

Parishioners: Jane Homer, Mandy Homer, Lily Homer, Louise Hodnett, Hazel Amos

1. **Parishioners Time**

Louise Hodnett expressed the value and need of the outdoor swimming pool with ideal opening hours 11-6. She expressed that she feels the village has a history of fund raising and extensive volunteering and she feels this would be a viable option to ensuring the pool is open for longer periods of time than the current timetable allows. She explained the frustration of the advance booking system and how this cannot be maximised well for residents. She also questioned why a splash and toddler pool has never been created when it was in the original planning and was agreed to be developed. Louise reminded all present that the swimming pool was historically funded and built for by Highley Mining Residents.

Jane Homer explained she is also extremely frustrated with the lack of opening hours and restrictions on adult and child swimming passes. Some of these Jane explained has now been rectified since Saturday when her initial complaint was made. Jane explained she understands there has been limitations such as staffing and funding etc. Jane explained she has been investigating halo’s funding for lifeguards and courses and how there has been a lack of marketing to help advertise this and recruit. She feels there has been a lack of forward planning and it has appeared disorganised. Mandy Homer explained that the pool is still being heated and therefore despite being closed it is still costing money to run. It was mentioned that the children need this facility and opportunity, and it is for three months of the year and this small window should be maximised.

**01.Apologies and reasons for Absence**

Cllr J Marshall was approved for an absence period of six months due to personal reasons until 6th December 2023. It was **RESOLVED TO ACCEPT** this absence.

Cllr P. Vinall and Cllr. D. Thakrar due to personal commitments it was **RESOLVED TO ACCEPT** these apologies.

Cllr J. Felix absent without apologies.

**02.To confirm the minutes of the meetings dated Tuesday 2nd May 2023**

It was **RESOLVED TO ACCEPT** the minutes dated Tuesday 2nd May 2023.

**03.Resignation of Councillor M. Moore**

The recent resignation of Councillor M. Moore was noted. Gratitude and thanks were expressed to Mike Moore for all his service provided which has been extremely valuable.

**04. Clerks Update**

This month has once again been subject to lots of financial work, with the internal audit taking place at the end of this week.

There has been updates and meetings regarding the Highley Medical Practice which Chair Quinn has attended. Unfortunately, there has been a technical delay in sharing the approved plans going forward which means I am unable to share this at this meeting. All information will be circulated once approval has been given for this to take place.

The joint litter pick in conjunction with Highley Primary School will be taking place on Tuesday 20th June between 10am and 12pm. Please can councillors confirm if they will be able to attend this.

The hanging baskets are currently being filled and should be returned shortly. The contracted landscaper will be beginning work this week within the village on all the planters.

**05.Correspondence- Including emails circulated to councillors and anything received after publication of the agenda**

SALC Bulletin- It was noted that SALC provided information on empowering young people event course taking place on October 25th. Clerk to recirculate this event and ask if any councillors would like to be booked on to attend this course.

Road Closure Grasmere Drive on 1st June 2023

Parishioner Complaint- Re state of alleyway from Yew Tree Grove to B4555

Parishioner Complaint- Re rubbish being dumped in alleyways behind Orchard Street and Barke Street

SALC- Shropshire Youth Foundation

**06.Standing Orders- to be postponed until the next Full Council Meeting**

Once completed this will be circulated to all councillors in advance of the meeting.

**07. Restructure of Working Groups/Committees**

It was **RESOLVED TO ACCEPT** the new structure and membership of the agreed committees and working party groups with statement of references for each group/committee. The working groups and committees discussed are the only Highley Parish Council Committees.

**08. To Approve Strimming quote for Alleyways**

It was **RESOLVED TO ACCEPT** the quote from RJM Contracts on the basis that is clarified there is no fixed number of call outs, and this contractor has been chosen due to their specialist role and experience.

**09. Request For Comment from Highley Parish Council on nomination of The Bache Arms, Highley as an Asset Of Community Value**

It was **RESOLVED TO ACCEPT** the following comment be put forward in response-

The Bache Arms is the only pub in the centre of Highley, it is used by a variety of people from the community both for socialising and to hold meetings and events. The pub has been used by the community for as long as it has been around (originally as The New Inn). The pub has a long-standing history as it has been opened since 1839.

The Bache Arms is used by local residents to play dominos (including tournaments with other local clubs in the areas), the Cricket club hold their meetings and events at The Bache, the Bowls club hold their meets and events at The Bache, multiple charity events have been organised by or held at The Bache including raising money for local residents who have fallen on hard times.

The Bache Arms is right at the heart of Highley and for some residents is the only opportunity they have to socialise and to meet new people, it has a huge value to the community and it should be protected going forwards.

**10. AGAR Form- to be deferred until the Next Full Council Meeting due to timings**

**11. Reports (if available) to be circulated**

1. **Shropshire Councillors Report-** given to councillors. It was noted that there were not many quantitative comments and that it was questioned that it may be beneficial for Shropshire Councillor M. Williams to liaise with Highley Parish Council regarding discussing any issues around mentioned in his report, particularly regarding recent raised swimming pool issues.
2. **Policing Report- none received.** However, it was noted that Chair T. Quinn has discussed this with Sergeant Kate Oen and a new local policing officer and moving forward this should be received.

**12. Planning applications received**

**Applications:**

PLANNING REFERENCE: 23/02086/FUL

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED: Erection of 1No. two-bedroom open market dwelling

LOCATION: Proposed Residential Dwelling Adj., 11 Rhea Hall Estate, Highley, Bridgnorth, Shropshire. OS REFERENCE: 374245 –

283546 APPLICANT: Mr R Turner

It was RESOLVED to SUPPORT this application with no objections.

PLANNING REFERENCE: 23/01594/FUL

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED: Conversion of integral garage and replacement of garage door with window and associated works

LOCATION: 9 Staley Grove, Highley, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6FB. OS REFERENCE: 373539 - 284144 APPLICANT: Mr Robert Scott

It was RESOLVED to SUPPORT this application with no objections.

Reference:  23/02101/FUL  (validated: 31/05/2023)  
Address:  Whitehouse Farm Barn , Netherton Lane, Highley, Shropshire, WV16 6NJ  
Proposal:  Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of a dwelling with all associated works (re-submission)  
Applicant: Mr Sid Davies

It was RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that this planning application does not fall foul of the previous refusal conditions.

**12.Finance:**

It was RESOLVED TO ACCEPT the following payments-

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| EE Limited | Mobile Phone | 38.44 |
| H. Cordey | Salary | 1057.09 |
| HMRC | Tax and NI | 46.04 |
| SALC | Membership Fees | 1498.48 |
| PKF Littlejohn | External Audit Fee | 480.00 |
| RJM Contracts | Strimming | 450.00 |
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