BLITHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting dated 2 September 2021

Present: Mr P Atkins (Chairman), Mr S Hulme (Vice Chairman), Mr A Vernon, Mrs P Massey, Mr K Massey, Mrs D Clarke (Clerk) and from the Parish Mr P Riley, Mr D Brown, Mr J Wood, Mr S Reeves, Mr & Mrs G Smith, Mrs T Spasic, Mrs G Hampson, Mr P Jones

Minutes: Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting dated 1 July 2021 were agreed and signed

Matters Arising

Better Blithfield Broadband – Mr J Wood, a parishioner who had kindly agreed to help with this project, gave a brief resumé of how the Open Reach Grant Scheme worked He explained that 67 properties would be in phase 1 and 67 in phase 2. The phase 1 properties would have a final delivery date of January 2022 and phase 2 at a later date.

House in Newton – After another period of consultation the Parish Council had made further objections to this application but as yet no further information from ESBC has been forthcoming. Parish Lengthsman – The Chairman advised that the post had now be filled with the agreement of the Parish Councillors.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Weekend from Thursday 2 June 2022 through to Sunday 5 June 2022 – Discussion took place regarding the lighting of a beacon locally and it was agreed that the purchase of a gas lantern would be more environment-friendly, but would depend on the cost. It was suggested that a hog roast could be available at Admaston Village Hall on the same day and perhaps a parish picnic on one of the other days.

Logs/boulders, etc., Bordering Entrance to Driveways – The Chairman advised that parishioners should consult their insurance company to get legal advice on this matter.

Planning Applications

P/2021/00561 Reserved Matters application relating to P/2019/01052for the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling including details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, Manor Farm Newton Lane, Newton -- ESBC grants permission 1 July 2021

P/2021/000860 Reduce overhanging branches back to boundary line whilst maintaining suitable growth of 1 Sycamore tree and 1 Beech tree (TPO60), Bagot Lodge, Blithfield Hall Drive, Admaston – ESBC Grants Consent 12 August 2021

P/2021/01042 Crown reduction of Silver Birch tree by 30%, Bishton House, The Old Rectory, Blithfield Church Road, Admaston – no objection from Blithfield Parish council P/2021/01111 Crown lifting by 2.5m and crown reduction of 5m and thinning of an oak tree and two cherry trees, Paris Flat, The Old Rectory, Blithfield Church Road, Admaston – no objection from Blithfield Parish Council.

In relation to P/2021/01042 and P/2021/01111 above, it was agreed that Blithfield Parish Council request ESBC to establish more details in the future when tree applications are made, before submitting to us. There were no height or spread details given, or photographs suitably marked up, to give any indication of the relevant size of the works being carried out.

P/2021/01047 Subdivision of existing residential dwelling to form additional dwelling including formation of new access, The Hunting Box, Steenwood Lane, Admaston – no objection from Blithfield Parish Council.

Financial	£
Current Account	6,927.49
Deposit Account	2,214.48
Village Hall Account	284.68

Payments Due

Mrs D Clarke – Half year salary to 30 September 2021 897.00
Mrs D Clarke – Expenses to be claimed after 30 September 2021 128.77

Any Other Business

Police Report dated 02.09.2021 (sent via email)

The Chairman reported that he had invited Michael Fabricant MP to attend this meeting but was unable to do so as he was not in the area on the day. The Chairman advised that he would contact him again at a later date.

Anti-social behaviour within the Parish – In addition to the speeding and noise concerns in Admaston, further concern was expressed regarding speeding cars and motor bikes using the narrow bending lanes on their way to and from meetings at the local pub. In the first instance it was decided that it might be helpful to contact the licensee.

Upgrade to Electrics in Admaston – On behalf of a parishioner a report was read out to the meeting stating that the present transformer needed upgrading and it was hoped that Blithfield Parish Council would at least support the principle of an upgrade in discussions with Western Power and, if needed, contribute to the cost of installation. It was agreed to discuss this issue at the next meeting.

Public Questions

Mobile Phone Supply – A question was raised as to when this supply would be upgraded, the reply being that after the broadband had been upgraded.

Potholes – Concern was again made regarding the time it seemed to take between reporting them and being repaired. It was thought that if near neighbours also reported the problem the potholes might be more quickly attended to.

Next Meeting

The next Ordinary General Meeting of Blithfield Parish Council is scheduled to take place on Thursday 4 November 2021

With there being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

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