

# BETLEY, BALTERLEY & WRINEHILL PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on 26th March 2015

73/15 PRESENT:

Cllrs Robert Bettley-Smith, Steven Ball (from min.80), Karen Burton, Seb Daly, Dave Hales, Richard Head, Frank Speed and Jo Thomas.

74/15 IN ATTENDANCE:

Gwyn Griffiths (Clerk).

75/15 Apologies for absence was received from Cllrs Berrisford (work) and Watkin (work). An apology for absence had been received from Borough Cllr Becket. An apology for likely late arrival had been received from Cllr Ball.

76/15 Members considered the declaration of interests in agenda items.

No interests were declared at this point.

77/15 **RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 26th February 2015 be approved as a true record and be signed by the Chairman.**

78/15 There were no members of the public present to engage in public participation. and the meeting was then closed to permit participation.

79/15 The Chairman advised that a meeting of the Event Planning Group for the 2015 Betley Court concert was scheduled for 31st March.

[Cllr Ball joined the meeting at this point]

80/15 The Clerk advised members that the Notice of Election for the Parish Council had been posted.

81/15 No communication had been received from the County Councillor.

82/15 Borough Cllr Becket had advised the Clerk of recent developments at Doddlespool, which would be considered at the appropriate point in the meeting.

83/15 Members reported on outside bodies.

Locality Action Partnership. Cllr Thomas reported that a skateboarding/ BMX facility was to be provided in Madeley. A site had been offered and £80,000 in funding had been secured. The Police Surgery would now be held at the Reading Room at varying times. Children's activities at the Madeley Centre were to be withdrawn from 27th March as a result of a withdrawal by Staffordshire County Council, with only three weeks notice. Alternative facilities for clinics and activities were available at Knutton, but would require two bus rides from Betley. The LAP had written to the County Council expressing concern at the withdrawal of the facility, particularly as rent was still being paid for accommodation.

**RESOLVED that the Parish Council writes to Staffordshire County Council noting the closure of the facilities at Madeley and that the lack of a direct bus route to Knutton would mean that it may not be available to those who need it.**

84/15 The Clerk advised members that, since the last meeting, there had been no urgent business requiring action.

85/15 There were no planning applications.

86/15 The Clerk advised that application 15/00068/FUL for conversion of workshop building to holiday let accommodation at Betley Court Farm, Betley had been APPROVED.

87/15 Members considered further activities which had taken place in the Doddlespool area outside the relevant planning consent.

**RESOLVED that the concern of the Parish Council be conveyed to the Highways Authority that the impact of the works were such as to create a hazard on the highway.**

88/15 Members considered the follow-up on the investigatory work carried out at Laudy Croft by Wardell Armstrong. A response had been received from the Borough Council suggesting that progress was likely.

**RESOLVED that a site meeting be arranged with representatives of the Borough Council as appropriate.**

89/15 Area issues raised by members were considered. There were no matters requiring decision, but the County Council would be advised of the defective streetlighting on Den Lane..

90/15 Members considered highways issues.

91/15 The Clerk tabled correspondence received since the last meeting. There were no matters requiring decision.

92/15 Members considered an application for financial support from the Friends of Staffordshire & Stoke Archives to digitise the Tithe Map records for the parish as part of a pan-Staffordshire initiative.

**RESOLVED that the project be supported in principle, at a cost of c.£80, subject to assurances being given regarding public access.**

93/15 The Clerk submitted to members a list of invoices to hand and payments due, and the Financial and Bank Statements to date.

94/15 **RESOLVED a) that the Council authorises payment of the following:**

|                             |                        |                 |             |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <b>TW Heler &amp; Son</b>   | <b>Highways works</b>  | <b>£ 840.00</b> | <b>1175</b> |
| <b>G Griffiths</b>          | <b>Salary/expenses</b> | <b>£ 579.27</b> | <b>1176</b> |
| <b>Staffordshire Parish</b> |                        |                 |             |
| <b>Councils Association</b> | <b>Membership</b>      | <b>£ 332.00</b> | <b>1177</b> |

**b) that the Financial Statement be received;  
c) that the Bank Statements be noted, and the reconciliation verified  
and be signed by the Chairman.**

95/15 Members considered any necessary works related to the Memorial Garden. No works were currently required; Cllr Daly indicated that he had deferred the planned meeting to discuss a general refurbishment and enhancement pending the visit of the new contractor.

Members indicated general satisfaction with the quality of work carried out by the new contractor at his first visit.

96/15 Members considered Council communication, and matters to be included in the next issue of the Parish Magazine.

97/15 Date of next meeting: Thursday 23rd April 2015.