

**SMITH'S WOOD PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2023 AT 4.30 PM.**

Those present

Chairman: Cllr A Duffen.

Councillors: Cllr S Bray, Cllr M Caddick, Cllr D Cornock, Cllr G Craig, Cllr H Hendry, Cllr Mrs J Lloyd, Cllr K S Paul, Cllr Ms D Ramsey.

Officer: Mrs K Woods.

1. Co-Option of Councillor.

It was **RESOLVED:** That Mrs Wendy Bray be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

2. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Miss S Nasreisfahany.

3. Minutes of the Previous Full Council Meeting.

It was **RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 27th November 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

4. Matters Arising.

a.) Minute number 6.a.) Public Participation.

Members were informed that copies of the planning applications had been forwarded to the member of the public, but there appeared to be no mention of the roads being returned to cul de sac status after the regeneration had been completed.

4. Public Participation.

There were no members of the public present.

5. Borough Councillor Report.

a.) Members were presented with a report from Cllr Jean Hamilton. The report is as follows:

Brief outline of my activity in Smith's Wood.

Collector Road has been closed - apparently a rare occurrence. Everyone is asking the same question - what's at the root of the problem. Will be interesting to hear what Highways have to say on this. Very interesting to see round the new school and meet staff and some of the pupils. It's got lots of room inside to grow the number of pupils which given the demand it will do. At lease the old Bosworth School campus has been kept for educational purposes as Cllr Craig and myself insisted many years ago it should be. Lots of face to face discussion going on between residents, Woodlands Campus senior management, SMBC staff, the neighbourhood police, civil enforcement and Cllr(s) about how to deal with student littering. Good suggestions being made including a very innovative idea (from a new young SMBC employee) called litter lottery which the college are going to help pay to trial. Fingers crossed this helps. It's been taken up by other local authorities with success. A third meeting has been arranged for February at the college to keep up the momentum. If anyone from the PC wishes to attend, please contact me for details. Everyone would be pleased to welcome a Parish Council rep.

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Work will be beginning very soon on Elmwood Place on redesigning it as the new Community Family Hub. Hope to have more precise details next month. Auckland Hall and The Cars Area Together have been very busy organising extra activities in the run up to Christmas. Too much going on to list here. They would welcome a representative from the SWPC to the partnership board meeting. There has just been one and the next will be at 3pm Auckland Hall on 2nd Thursday of February. Favourable comments have been received about tree planting in Buckingham Road and comments made about how nice it looks. One resident however is angry because he wants traffic calming measures rather than trees. Highways Traffic assessment is listed for Buckingham Road. Not the first one, I'm sure. Also an assessment of the need for a real pedestrian crossing on Burton's Way. Best site would be where a crossing wouldn't necessitate reduced parking capacity. I personally wouldn't approve losing parking spaces. Looked at this on site with Paul Tovey...watch this space. A resident of Wheatfield Close attended your last meeting and raised the question of Wheatfield Close becoming a cul de sac again and he has since reported you might have more useful information around decisions made and why at the time the regen was being planned. I'd be more than pleased to work with the Parish Council to consider the whole thing. I'll leave it there for this month. I wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas and I hope 2024 is a better year for **all** the people of Smith's Wood, Solihull, the West Midlands, this country and around the world. An enormous hope - I know. So, I'll personally continue to concentrate on Smith's Wood. Jean.

6. Correspondence.

- a.) Jessica Nash (Solihull MBC) - Re: Council Tax Base - 2024/25.
It was **RESOLVED:** That this item be received and noted.
- b.) Tom Slater (Solihull MBC) - Re: Measles in Solihull.
It was **RESOLVED:** That this item be placed on the Parish Council noticeboard.
- c.) Solihull MBC - Re: Planting Our Future - National Tree Week newsletter.
It was **RESOLVED:** That this item be received and noted.
- d.) Solihull MBC - Re: Leader's Message.
It was **RESOLVED:** That this item be received and noted.
- e.) Solihull MBC - Re: C.A.V.A. Solihull Bulletin.
It was **RESOLVED:** That this item be received and noted.
- f.) Solihull MBC - Re: Kingshurst Village Centre Regeneration.
It was **RESOLVED:** That this item be received and noted.
- g.) Solihull MBC - Re: Later Life Planning December 2023.
It was **RESOLVED:** That this item be received and noted.
- h.) Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee - Re: Draft Minutes and Date of Next Meeting.
It was **RESOLVED:** That this item be received and noted.

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- i.) Solihull MBC - Re: Stay Connected: Latest News 12 December; Air Quality strategy consultation launched; Latest News 13 December, 15 December.
It was **RESOLVED:** That these items be received and noted.

- j.) West Midlands Police - Re: Neighbourhood Alerts: Burglary increase in Kingshurst, Castle Bromwich and Smith's Wood; 12 Days of Crime Prevention - Burglary, Robbery and Theft from Person; 24 hr update; 12 Days of Crime Prevention - Vehicle Theft, Advice for Small Businesses, Staying Merry and Safe, Packing to Go Home?, Ask for Angela.
It was **RESOLVED:** That these items be received and noted.

7. Planning Applications.

There were no planning applications received.

8. Minutes of the Community Gym Committee.

It was **RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Community Gym Committee meeting held on Monday 4th December 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

9. Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

It was **RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 11th December 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

10. Reports from Outside Bodies.

There were no reports submitted.

11. Members Requests at the Chairman's Discretion.

a.) Member of Parliament.

Cllr Caddick asked if the name of the new Member of Parliament for Smith's Wood be posted on the Parish Council's Facebook page.

12. Dates of the Next Meeting

It was **RESOLVED:** That the dates for the next meeting is as follows:

Community Gym Committee Meeting: Monday 8th January 2024 at 4.30pm.

Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting: Monday 15th January 2024 at 4.30pm.

Full Council Meeting: Monday 29th January 2024 at 4.30pm.

Meetings will take place in the hall at the Parish Council's facilities while Elmwood Place is being remodelled.

13. Exclusion of Public and Press.

It was **RESOLVED:** That in accordance with Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the following Agenda item: Private Section of Minutes.

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