

**MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of BOBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL held on
Wednesday 19 May 2021 at 7:30pm at Bobbington Village Hall.**

PRESENT: Councillor: Mrs. L Jones (Chairman)
District and County Councillor: Mrs. V Wilson
Councillors: A Burton, S Hadgett, Mrs. I Rees, M Slater, M Snelson and Cllr. Mrs. J Stanton
Victoria Morris – Clerk to the Council

1864 Apologies

There were no apologies for non-attendance.

1865 Election of Chairman and Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Councillor Mrs. Jones was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Stanton and seconded by Cllr. Hadgett. There being no further nominations, Councillor Mrs. Jones was elected.

1866 Election of Vice -Chairman and Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr. M Snelson was proposed by Cllr. Mrs Jones and seconded by Cllrs. Mrs Stanton and Burton.

1867 To receive Declarations of interest and dispensation requests in accordance with the local Government Act 2000

There were no declarations of interest.

1868 Minutes:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting of Bobbington Parish Council held on 15 May 2019, a copy having previously been circulated to each member of the Council, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

1869 Election of members to outside bodies / committees / working groups

- **Cheque Signatories**
Proposed these remain as Cllr. Mrs. Jones, Cllr. Mrs Stanton and Cllr M Snelson.
- **Wolverhampton Halfpenny Green Airport Consultative Committee**
Cllr. Mrs. Rees was proposed by Cllr Mrs. Stanton and seconded by Cllr. Hadgett.
- **Village Hall Committee**
Cllr. Mrs Rees proposed Cllr. Mrs Stanton, this was seconded by Cllr. Burton.
- **Corbett School**
Cllr. Hadgett proposed Cllr. Burton this was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. J Stanton.
- **Trustee of the Enville Charity**
Cllr. Mrs Rees proposed Cllr. Snelson, this was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Stanton
- **Responsible Financial Officer**
Clerk agreed to continue
- **Internal Auditor**
Mr Alan Dudley has agreed to be the internal auditor for 2020-21. 2021-2022 to be considered in due course.
- **Tree Warden**
Cllr. Snelson proposed Cllr. Slater, this was seconded by Cllr. Hadgett.

- **Police Authority Representative**
Cllr. S Hadgett was proposed by Cllr. Burton and seconded by Cllr. Snelson.
- **Community Speed Watch Representative**
Cllr Burton was proposed by Cllr M Snelson and seconded by Cllr Hadgett.
- **Facebook administration**
The Clerk agreed to continue. Cllr. M Snelson agreed to support – in particular with monitoring comments made by the public.

1870 WAAG update

Chairman – David Giddings.

Village contacts – Roger and Barbara Williams

1871 Any other Business

There was no other business.

1872 Date of next Annual General Meeting arranged for 18 May 2022.

Meeting closed.

Chairman's Report May 2021

Due to the Covid pandemic and lockdown measures, the parish council was unable to hold an annual parish council meeting or AGM in 2020, this report therefore covers 2020 and 2021. The parish council continues to be very active, and despite meeting less frequently than pre-March 2020, there continues to be strong interest and activity in matters relating to the parish of Bobbington.

The replacement tree in Brantley Crescent was planted by Councillors Snelson and Slater in line with the planning condition. However we were advised that as the tree is outside of the curtilage of the property where the original tree was removed, the replacement tree needs to be repositioned. Weather conditions and lockdown have so far prevented this from being done.

We continue to push forward the affordable housing scheme and due to the age of the previous housing needs survey (2013), another survey was undertaken in March 2020. There were 54 respondents and the housing need increased from the previous survey to 8 properties (6 rented and 2 shared ownership). Unfortunately the new owner of site 6 (the preferred site) no longer wishes to sell a parcel of land to site the affordable housing scheme. The councillors and Housing Plus are frustrated by this latest development and discussion took place to consider whether the scheme should be abandoned. We have agreed to revisit the appraisal of potential sites dated 2014, to consider whether other sites might offer potential.

We have been working with Staffordshire County Council on the development of a new website which should go live soon. I would like to record my thanks to Councillor Burton for his coordination of this activity.

The long awaited planning application from the airfield was submitted in late 2020. The parish council discussed the application in January 2021 and held a further public meeting before submitting our objections to the application. We continue to await the outcome.

Following a trial by EE to boost the mobile signal in the village, a mast was installed at the Red Lion pub which has strengthened the signal for those network users. Thanks go to Councillor Stanton who persevered in working with EE to get the mast in place.

Highway matters and flooding continue to be an ongoing item of discussion, particularly in relation to the condition of Six Ashes Road. Some works have been undertaken by Staffordshire Highways however we are continuing to experience problems. We are grateful for the support from Councillor Wilson in securing responses from the Highways team.

We have discussed a range of issues in relation to unkempt properties and gardens within the village. We have raised these matters with South Staffordshire Housing Association and with the Environmental Health team.

The Covid 19 pandemic has meant that the parish council has met remotely since May 2020 and it has been good to welcome members of the public to those meetings too. We took part in the community assistance initiative and were very grateful to the 26 volunteers who stepped forward to take part in this activity. A small number of parishioners used this service and I would like to thank Councillor Burton for coordinating this activity which has continued for 12 months.

I would like to record the council's appreciation of William Snelson, MBE who served on the parish council for many years and who sadly passed away in November 2019.

Finally I would like to thank all of the councillors who serve the parish in what has been a particularly difficult year. Not being able to meet face to face has in no way diminished the energy and

enthusiasm shown by every member of the council, in fulfilling their role to the parish. And of course our collective thanks go to our Clerk, Victoria Morris who despite her own family and work pressures has continued to serve us well.

Bobbington Parish Council AGM 2021

Airport Consultative Committee Report.

Meetings. All scheduled meetings during the last year were conducted via Zoom and attendance was good, although there was a noticeable absence of representation from the owners, MCR Properties.

Airport Activity and Complaints. As a result of the pandemic all Airport activity was reduced, as were complaints .

The Airport cafe has been refurbished and is now open and under new management. During the closed period a mobile unit was based at the entrance to the Airport for a takeaway service.

The Airport is now fully open.

Planning Application. The main focus for the past year has been the long anticipated Airport Planning Application. This was submitted to the Council which initiated a Consultative period. The deadline date for comments was 14 April 2021, however due to the complexity and length of the application this was extended to a future, as yet, unknown date. Therefore the outcome is still awaited.

The Parish Council submitted a comprehensive and in depth response to the proposals and many Residents also contributed. In addition, Airport users, mainly Pilots also submitted a response.

The next Airport AGM is in June 2021.

Isobel Rees