

**BETLEY, BALTERLEY & WRINEHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**7th August 2023**

**Commenced: 7.30 pm**

**Terminated: 8.30 pm**

**Present:** Councillor Bettley-Smith (Chair)  
Councillors Drakakis-Smith, Ecclestone, Hales, Owen, and Watkin  
  
Mrs M Clough - Clerk  
Also in attendance was 1 member of the public

**223/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bullock, Berrisford, Daly, Karling and Speed.

**224/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

All Members present declared personal interests in the subject matter Application No: 23/00591/FUL, as they were residents of the Parish and used the Village Shop.

**225/23 PLANNING MATTERS**

The Parish Council considered the following two Planning Applications which related to the Parish:-

- (i) Application No: 23/00137/FUL - Land Off Church Lane Betley Proposed Development: Siting of cabin to be used as agricultural workers dwelling for temporary period.  
<http://publicaccess.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/23/00137/FUL>

**RESOLVED:**

The Parish Council unanimously objects to this proposed development, as the proposed farming system does not amount to a financially viable agricultural enterprise. The proposal is not consistent with planning policy. There is no justification for a dwelling, even a temporary dwelling, or for a caravan or mobile home. The site was inspected on 7 August and there was no evidence of any agricultural or horticultural activity taking place, or having taken place, on the application site.

[In the professional opinion of one of the Parish Council members, who is a Chartered Surveyor, there is no prospect whatsoever of the proposed enterprise becoming financially viable. The labour required to service the enterprise is minimal and falls well short of a full time labour unit, which is the minimum criteria required to support such development.]

- (ii) Application No: 23/00591/FUL – Betley Post Office, Main Road, Betley: Retrospective application for a timber structure.  
<http://publicaccess.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/online-applications/>

**RESOLVED:**

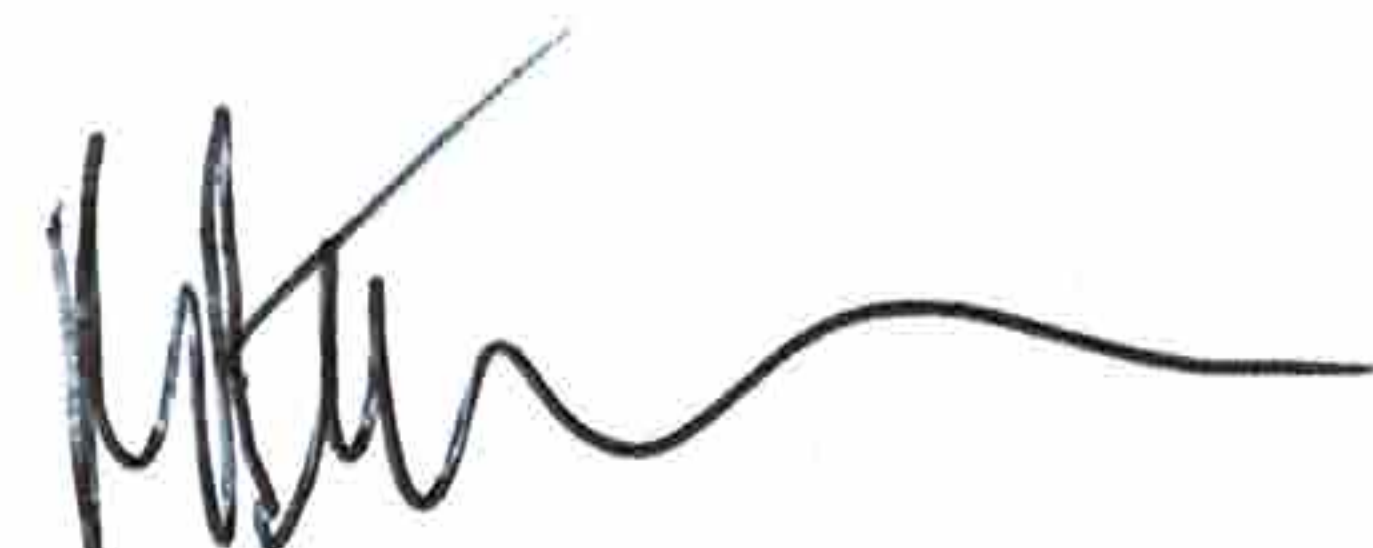
That the Parish Council supports this application and several Members added that the entire area was much improved and that the structure was a significant improvement on what was there previously.

**226/23 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

The Members discussed options for memorials to mark Remembrance Sunday.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That Councillor Owen be given delegated authority to purchase the following:-





- (a) A man and woman silhouette, with the inscription "Lest We Forget", in the sum of £350.00;
- (b) 20 poppies in the sum of £100.00.

(ii) That further consideration be given to this matter at the September meeting;

**227/23 VILLAGE HALL NOTICE BOARD**

Councillor Hales reported that Village Hall Notice Board was in a poor state of repair and a discussion ensued on its possible repair/replacement.

**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Hales be given delegated authority to purchase materials for a notice board for the bus shelter which takes 8 papers to a maximum of £100.

**228/23 URGENT ITEMS**

The Chair agreed that the following items of business required consideration as a matter of urgency to avoid delays in paying a supplier and contractor, and also to enable best value in purchasing an item.

The Clerk explained that the consideration of Urgent Items is covered within legislation, which explicitly stated that it was the Chair who had responsibility for making a decision as to whether a matter should be considered under this provision.

**229/23 INVOICE FOR PAYMENT – BETLEY VILLAGE HALL**

**RESOLVED**

That the payment of the invoice for the hire of Betley Village Hall for two hours on 7h August 2023 in the sum of £25 be approved.

**230/23 INVOICE FOR PAYMENT – L RIMMER**

**RESOLVED**


That the payment of the invoice for the maintenance carried out on the Memorial Garden in July 2023 in the sum of £180.00 to L Rimmer, be approved.

**231/23 LIGHTING**

Councillor Bettley-Smith reported that during the dismantling of the Coronation lighting festoon, several bulbs fell out along with their sockets. These were now considered to not meet health and safety standards.

**RESOLVED**

That Councillor Bettley-Smith be given delegated authority to purchase a replacement festoon which meets the required standards for such lighting, in the sum of £331.20.

  
28/9/23