

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2014, 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ROOM**

Present: Cllrs Smith (Chairman), Coates, Eassom, Ellwood, Knott, Moore, Tunkle, C/Cllr Mrs Compton and the Clerk.

1. **Apologies** were accepted from Cllr Eldridge, and D/Cllr Mrs Gallagher.
2. **No public present.**
3. **The minutes of the meeting held on the 9th September were approved.**

a) Matters Arising – The 2014 edition of the Bulletin was circulated with the September publication of the Link.

4. **Planning** – status report previously circulated. Re No W14/1352 no objection returned. Nothing further to report.

Meadow Cottage Appeal - The Chairman outlined the result of the hearing regarding the recent Appeal to the Planning Inspector. Full details available on the planning website.

a) LOCAL PLAN/BOUNDARY CHANGES. The Chairman reported on recent discussions with Warwick District Council regarding the future boundaries of the Parish. This is part of a wider realignment of boundaries across the District in order to remove certain anomalies and to try to make all Local Government boundaries coterminous. The process has been complicated by a separate process to realign the Warwickshire County Council Divisions, determined by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE). Subject to final ratification by the LGBCE, the northern boundary of the Parish with Kenilworth will be shifted to follow a line south of Wootton Grange and the line of the field boundary to the south of the cricket club. This is a considerable improvement over the original proposal to bring the Kenilworth boundary down to Cattle Brook. To the south of the Parish it is proposed to include all of the agricultural land west of the A46 down as far as the Birmingham Road, running westwards from Stanks roundabout to the boundary with Hatton as an addition to Leek Wootton and Guy's Cliffe.

Neighbourhood Plan The proposed boundary changes have held up official designation of the Neighbourhood Plan, because of the need to accurately define the area covered by such a plan. However background work has continued and the Steering Group has begun to assemble the necessary information to support the Plan. We are currently in discussion with the WDC Planning Department to reduce the defined area slightly, which will allow the designation process to be separated from the above Boundaries Commission dialogue. Official designation will then enable the Parish Council to seek additional grant aid in order to support the process.

b) The Chairman and Vice Chairman met with representatives of Warwickshire Police Estates Department in an effort to obtain more information regarding the progress of the sale of Woodcote and were advised by the Warwickshire Police that it is their intention to retain the Communications

facility at Woodcote as a long-term, back-up to a proposed new joint services centre to be constructed at Hindlip Hall near Worcester. Final details of this plan are in preparation but it is expected that the Communications Block and associated parking will be separated off from the rest of the Woodcote Estate. All police activities other than communications will then move elsewhere. The balance of the land and buildings will then be sold off as a single entity for development. We will continue with the dialogue with the Police as they develop their plans, which are expected to be completed by Spring 2015.

5. Finance – status reports previously circulated.

Balance in bank = £ 6445.88. Budgets will be tight this year, and is essential we have £3000 in the account at the end of the financial year as 2015 will be an election year. In view of current commitments and, due to unavoidable expenses earlier in the year, we anticipate having considerably less in the account by the year end.

Arrangements are being made to close the PWLB loan account. Cllr Eassom and the Clerk are to obtain the final figures shortly, with the closing settlement completed before the month end. It was noted that the bank will charge £30 for a CHAPS transfer. Note - £25 has been transferred from the No1 account to the No 2 account in order to keep this account open when the PWLB account is closed. This separate account will be useful as and when we are able to obtain grant aid for other purposes, such as the Neighbourhood Plan.

a) Payments were approved for:

Printing of the Bulletin £35, Repairs to playground £26.21, ROSPA inspection £81.60, and Clerk's October sundries £24.72.

b) After discussion, it was agreed, due to the necessary financial restraints, to defer any payments to village groups until the precept/budget for 2015 has been discussed and finalised.

6. Playground/Memorial Ground

The ROSPA annual inspection report circulated recently, highlighted some necessary repairs and other small items needing attention. Specific action will be taken to remedy these. WREN application papers now submitted, response expected in November.

a) Safety/Maintenance. In line with the inspection report, Cllr Coates has completed many of the repairs needed. Cllr Coates was thanked for his work.

b) General Village Maintenance. There are some areas needing attention. Village entry signs are becoming obscured by foliage, clerk to action.

The Chairman informed that tink a tank maintenance has been promised by HQ Property Services.

7. Highways/Transport

The latest edition of Transport and Highways Update was circulated, and has been published on the website for the general public to view. The speed/weight restrictions which still appear to be ignored by some heavy vehicles are to be monitored by the Community Police as discussed at the WRW Community Forum. (item 8)

No response received, except a cursory acknowledgement, about the pot holes on the A46 reported to the Highways Agency some time ago by the Clerk. Further action needed.

8. Meetings/correspondence

WALC Warwick AGM 17th September was attended by Cllr Moore who gave a short report. (Minutes have now been circulated).

WRW Community Forum meeting 29th September, Cllr Eassom gave a short report. Details are also available via their website. WDC emergency out of hours numbers now supplied, it was suggested these should also be included in Link, the Directory and on the website

The WALC AGM 4th November, will be attended by Cllrs Eassom and Moore, clerk will advise. (for info. only Ms Alison Hodge WALC County Secretary will be retiring shortly).

Response needed to WDC regarding some changes to the Codes of Conduct, Chairman to action.

Neighbourhood Watch - nothing further report. It is hoped that the new coordinator will be successful as this was one of the priorities in the Parish Plan.

a) C/Cllr Mrs Compton displayed a map of the proposed changes to the new, proposed County Council Divisional Boundaries explaining that these had to be made to accommodate 8000 voters in each area. Further information is available on the WCC website. Apparently the number of County Councillors is to be reduced from 62 – 57.

b) Changes to standing orders will be actioned as NALC guidelines.

9. Any Other Business – discussion only - A suggestion received from a resident that the Council logo might be redesigned will be discussed further.

The burglar alarm at the school has been causing a problem to neighbours.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

10. Date of next meeting 11th November 2014.

Signed.....Date.....