

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9TH JUNE 2015, 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ROOM.

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

There is still one vacancy.

1. Apologies were accepted from D/Cllr Mr P. Whiting.
2. No changes to Interests.
3. No public present.
4. The previously circulated minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting were signed.
 - a) Matters Arising – Election expense forms were duly completed and returned to WDC.
 - b) The previously circulated minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting were signed and will be published on the website. No other matters to discuss relating to this meeting.

5. PLANNING – no new applications for consideration.

There were no objections to changes to telecom masts in the area, received from Vodafone/Telefonica, for 4G base stations at Leek Wootton and Wedgnock. (Nos 112616 and 113638).

It was agreed to contact the Planning Department to enquire why the Parish Council are not informed regarding any proposed tree work in the conservation area.

Clerk will liaise with Cllr Tunkle regarding the final Emergency Plan details.

a) The Neighbourhood Plan Community meeting on 23/6 was discussed. This led to further discussion on the recent news that WDC's Local Plan has been refused by the Planning Inspector due to insufficient housing allocation. This may cause many problems to the whole area, and in particular the Parish's Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed our Plan should be finalised as soon as possible and The Chairman will endeavour to prepare all the necessary information for the meeting. As this date clashes with the annual school v sports club cricket match, it was agreed to publish more information leaflets in order to encourage residents to attend this community meeting, and distribute them at the Church Fete on 13th June.

6. FINANCE – status report previously circulated. Balance in a/c = £15874.43 which includes the vat refund/claim re the playground. The final invoice has now to be paid – so technically the balance after all the cheques have been signed, will amount to £6128.10. The £626 transfer from playground funds will be allocated towards the playground opening ceremony on 27/6.

The Audit return has been completed and returned to the auditors.

Cheques were approved for –

Clerk's sundries £16.45

Fairways June maintenance. £278.10

Printing £31.94

Final playground invoice £8519.84

Annual Grant Sports Club £300

Annual Grant PCC £600

Clerk advised that the cost of posting copies of the Link to outlying areas is approx. £160 a year.

7. PLAYGROUND.

a) Cllr Coates outlined the plans for the opening ceremony on the 27th which will commence at 2pm with tea and cakes in the Sports Club for invited guests, followed at 2.30pm by the ribbon cutting ceremony by Cllr Mrs Compton. Refreshments will be served to the children in the playground – weather permitting and an entertainer booked. New signs have been ordered and some old signs will be removed. Fairways will be asked to carry out maintenance just before the event. The Sports Club BBQ follows on at approx. 4pm. Details of the event will be made available to the local press in the hope of obtaining some publicity.

b) General maintenance in the area is satisfactory at the moment.

Cllr Eassom outlined some of the suggestions for the village hall car park improvements as discussed at the meeting with Trustee representatives Peter Wartnaby and Roger Wigglesworth, who are totally supportive of this project but unable to help fund it. Advice will be sought from Highways and other professional engineers and once these are completed, agreement will be needed on how to source finances for the scheme.

8. HIGHWAYS/VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

A few uneven footpaths have been resurfaced, but there are other uneven areas which will be reported to Highways for attention. Parking on the corner of the Hamlet is being monitored by local PCSOs.

The usual areas in the village are in need of maintenance – the tink a tank, area by the bus shelter/bus stop, plus overhanging foliage in Warwick Road, causing obstruction and visibility problems. The Jackson bench needs tidying, and overhanging ivy at the Anchor needs pruning. Clerk to action.

9. C/Cllr Mrs Compton reported that there had been a serious accident near the Saxon Mill. It was felt that visibility along the A426 is a problem particularly when motorists are leaving the Saxon Mill and action needs to be taken to ensure the safety of motorists. It was suggested that a request should be made for overhanging foliage in this area to be cut back.

WCC - Cllr Compton reported on recent discussions which have taken place regarding a Combined Unitary Authority which would include Solihull, Coventry and Birmingham areas and advised that WCC are opposed to this proposal and would prefer liaising with Shire Counties to the south and east.

C/Cllr Compton also commented on the display in church of the newly refurbished bells congratulating all on this achievement. The Local History Group's booklet on this subject was also commended.

WDC - D/Cllr Mrs Gallagher confirmed the disappointment felt at WDC at the Planning Inspector's refusal of the Local Plan.

New District Councillors are receiving training after the recent elections, and D/Cllr Whiting has accepted the Finance Portfolio.

a) **Miscellaneous items** previously circulated included -

Correspondence from the Pensions Regulator. Clerk to action.

E-mail about planning training 27th June, Town Hall. No one available.

Meeting dates sent to Chairman of WDC's secretary re a visit to LWPC.

Details of small grants scheme received from WRW.

Cllr Knott will endeavour to obtain details of funding available that could help the installation of broadband technology in the Village Hall.

b) **Neighbourhood Watch**, nothing further. Latest newsletter in circulation.

10. **Any other business** - The Bulletin and Directory will be prepared for publication.

Cllr Moore requested that the Leigh Educational Foundation provide details about grant funding and their accounts. Cllr Coates will action.

11. **Date of next meeting 14th July 2015**. The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

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