

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER, 2015,
7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ROOM.**

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

1. Apologies were accepted from Cllr P Tunkle.
2. Declarations of Interest – none.
3. Public Question Time –no public present.
4. The previously circulated draft minutes of the meeting held on 13th October were approved.

a) Matters Arising – The deferred Parish Directory has now been published and distributed. Cllr Eldridge commented that this publication had needed considerable work by the editors of the Link to update all the entries. Appreciation for all the hard work this entails will be expressed to Mrs Eldridge and Helen by the Clerk, and it was agreed that any future publications should be proof read and checked thoroughly by someone temporarily employed to carry this out.

Further discussions took place in reference to Cllr Moore's comments regarding the Trustees of the Recreation Ground, and it was resolved that, subject to the approval of the Trustees, a member from the Parish Council would be nominated a Trustee, to enable regular liaison on important issues. It was unanimously resolved that Cllr Coates would fulfil this post. Clerk will action.

Details of Trustees -

Chairman, Mr Peter Wartnaby, Secretary Mr Peter Robins. Other members: Mr Brian Jones, Mrs Mary Murdoch, Mr Jonathan Cox, Mr Roger Wiglesworth, Mr Nigel Stallard.

5. **PLANNING** – status report previously circulated. Cllr Smith reported that no action is needed re the wall in Hill Wootton, mentioned in the October minutes. W15/1660LB no objection returned.

Received: W15/1747, Oakbank, Hill Wootton Road, Wooden entrance gates, no objection, further information to be obtained regarding the oak tree before this decision can be returned.

W15/1581LB – Stone Edge, ground floor rear orangery extension. It was agreed to object to this proposal and Cllr Eldridge will prepare a response. (copy attached appendix i)

a) Neighbourhood Plan Progress report. The Chairman advised that Warwickshire Police Authority has now officially confirmed the intention to completely vacate Woodcote and sell the site for future development. In their response to the recent WDC call for additional

development sites, the advisors to the Police have put forward the original parcels of land – the Paddock, the old tennis courts and the land adjacent to East Lodge – plus the entire office and workshop complex surrounding the listed Woodcote manor house, as available for development. The implication of this is an increase in the numbers of new dwellings designated in the Local Plan, when it is resubmitted next year. Completion of this plan will closely follow the timetable for the Local Plan and in turn the Neighbourhood Plan. A Steering Group meeting will be held on 10/12, and all are welcome to attend.

b) The Warwickshire Golf Club –It appears that the plans for the hotel approved in 1998 are to go ahead. Cllr Coates has been liaising with the manager of the golf club and will provide further information when possible. He has also been consulting with residents in the outlying areas of the Parish canvassing their opinions on the Neighbourhood Plan and housing, and was pleased to report he received very good feedback, and that residents in the new boundary areas appreciate the Link being distributed. Further enquiries about Gaveston Cross met with resistance from the land owner.

The owner of the vacated village shop appears to be unable to let this as a retail concern.

6. FINANCE.

Status report previously circulated. Balance in No 1 account = £6998.44, no change to the No 2 account. Cheque No 1030 had to be cancelled and another issued due to an error. Clerk advised that if the playground renewal expenses for this year are disregarded, costs are generally in line with the budget. Clerk reminded Cllrs that budgets and precepts need to be prepared and discussed for the January meeting.

The Chairman reported that it might be possible to obtain a further grant for the Neighbourhood Plan beyond that received from Locality. Funding for the AECOM support is paid directly. Neighbourhood Plan budgets and account should also be reviewed.

a) Cheques were approved for Clerk's sundries £44.40, and the printing of the Directory **£156.08**

7. VACANCY – Cllr Coates reported that the Clerk's post has been advertised and some expressions of interest received, to date no actual applications. The closing date is 27/11.

8. PLAYGROUND/RECREATION GROUND/VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

General maintenance now ceased for the play area until March. Regular checks to be made by Cllrs and any problems reported. A new litter bin will be purchased for the spring.

Cllr Eassom reported that the Village Hall Committee had agreed to fund an engineer's report on the plans for the recreation ground car park when received, this will have to be discussed with the Trustees and he will report on progress in due course.

a) Other maintenance needing attention includes overgrown ivy at the Anchor corner, still not actioned, some areas near the school, and overhanging trees/foliage at the Warwickshire GC which Cllr Coates will action.

9. HIGHWAYS/TRANSPORT/LIGHTING

There is now a great deal of heavy traffic coming through Hill Wootton which appears to be damaging the kerbs of this narrow road. It was agreed that enquiries should be made about a weight restriction for the Blackdown Bridge, Cllr Compton will action, and Highways also contacted for their views on this problem.

The crossing lights in the village appear to need adjustment, the issue being that when there is traffic present, pedestrians have to wait an excessive time for the lights to change. Clerk will action with the relevant WCC department. Some instances of fly tipping to be reported. Grit bins need checking, and some may need replacing.

10. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

C/Cllr Mrs Compton reported as follows:

Offa house, Offchurch, is to be an emergency centre for refugees from Syria.

Rural West Forum is advertising free computers

WCC Minerals Plan now in circulation

WCC Flood management risks in circulation...

All 80 staff involved in safeguarding children now moved to the Saltisford building, Warwick.

Govt. Autumn statement likely to include more cuts

County Council "road shows" at retail sites in the County.

n.b These details can be also be obtained from the WCC website

D/Cllr Mrs Gallagher reported as follows:

Local Plan has been suspended until 2016, she commented that although more houses are needed it is unlikely to affect rural villages, but very advantageous that LWPC are able to offer an increase. Finding a traveller's site is crucial to the success of the Plan.

A committee is to consider investing a considerable amount on improving leisure centres.

D/Cllr Mr Whiting commented that the proposal to spend £12 million in order to improve leisure facilities would be considered by the Council as well as the possibility to outsource the future management of all facilities to a private contractor. The Chairman expressed some reservations that this approach does not always provide the most economic solution. There is also a proposal to sell Riverside House and build Council Offices on the site of Covent Garden car park. He confirmed that though finances will be under pressure District finances are sound.

a) Other correspondence, diary dates and email details circulated -

14/10 WALC Warwick Area meeting – Cllr Moore attended.

19/10 WDC Planning Forum attended by Cllr Coates.

3/11 WALC AGM – Cllr Moore attended and gave a short report.

Other items circulated by email –

Date of Half Marathon April 3

WCC's winter service details/WCC's Sandbags/Local Flood Risk management

WDC Recycling dates

WDC Draft design re "Garden Suburbs"

WDC Metal Recycling Scheme

WRW Forum funding details

Public Scrutiny meeting for Police/Crime Commissioner – 17/11

b) NALC Quality scheme briefly discussed.

11. There was no other business, the meeting closed at 9.40 pm

12. Date of next meeting – 12th January 2016.

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

Appendix (i)

Stone Edge, Warwick Road, Leek Wootton, Warwick, CV35 7QU - W/15/1581/LB

It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council objects to this proposed addition to the Listed Building of Stone Edge.

The house is a fine example of Arts & Crafts architecture with original small-pane casement windows set into stone mullions.

The plans presented give insufficient detail of the construction and no detail on the type of glazing proposed, save that the elevation drawing shows glazing panels totally out of keeping with the listed house.

The extension is proposed for the south elevation, which is the most prominent, high on the hillside overlooking the southern entry to the village.

Finally, as this property is Grade II Listed we would draw the attention of the Planning Department and of the Listed Building Officer to white uPVC windows and doors in the west elevation of the house, which are also totally out of keeping.

signed and dated 13th November 2015