

Studley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Council Chamber, Studley Village Hall on Tuesday 5th February 2008 at 7.30pm.

1. Chairman declared the meeting open

2. Present

Chairman P. Beaman, Vice Chair J. Bacon, E. Holder, W. McCarthy, Mrs M. Bell, J. Vale, C. Rickhards, Mrs H. Wersocki, Mrs M. Woodrow, M. Redman.
District Councillor M. Weddell.
4 members of the public.

3. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Mrs S. Redman.

4. Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare personal interests in any item on the agenda.

Members are reminded that the Code of Conduct which took effect from 8 March 2002 provides that they should declare the existence and nature of their personal interest at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is prejudicial they should withdraw from the room and not seek improperly to influence a decision about that matter.

None.

5. Public Forum

Cllr Rickhards: At a recent meeting of Studley in Bloom a number of issues were raised. Members of Committee have come to meeting for discussion.

- Co-op site has now been boarded up but the Tony Handyman site is very untidy. It is now an enforcement issue which often takes a long time.
- District Councillor Hazel Wright attended last Studley in Bloom meeting and explained funding. SIP applied for a Leader Bid, however found out today, unsuccessful, money has gone to North Warwickshire.
- Looking at signage on Barley Mow Island. Studley Improvement Group (SIP) are trying to regenerate the Island. It is very important. It has been confirmed that money held from the Co-op 106 agreement can be used for improvements outside the Co-op.
- Could have gateways to the Village. Probably cost £100,000 to £150,000.
- Could ask WCC to review the Island and reduce the signage.
- If Aldi planning application successful may have footway widening and improvements.
- Lampposts need painting. The lampposts on High Street/Station Road will be painted this year. Now that A435 has been handed over from Highways Clerk to ask WCC if lampposts can be painted.
- Bubblegum is on a number of pavements, on High Street, outside Tesco's and Martins. Is there a machine that can remove it? Clerk to check with environmental health.
- Cigarette ends outside restaurants and offices. Can letter be sent asking that premises provide bins. Councillor Beaman to check that letter has already been sent out by SDC.
- Grass cutting. SDC do 9 cuts a year. Map available showing areas. SWHA are responsible for their land.
- Tree in library area. Being dealt with by WCC. Clerk to check with County Councillor Helen McCarthy.
- Millennium Green Committee defunct. How to go forward? Clerk to arrange meeting with Christine Dyer to discuss. There is some money available. Green was criticised last year by judges that it is sad and tired and needs attention.

- A435 road surface is disgusting. Problems identified at SIP meeting today attended by WCC.

Thank you from the Chairman for input. Greatly appreciated.

County Council Report received from Cllr Mrs Helen McCarthy
Copy handed to all Councillors
Summary in next minutes.

6. Matters Arising (*for information only*)

None.

7. Items for Discussion

Min 341 WMRSS Phase 2 Revision Draft Submission

Favoured area is Birmingham Road area of Redditch which is good news for Studley. Has better road links and maybe a railway. A435 already full to capacity. Western area has not got a proper drainage system.

Most of the houses will be in the Bromsgrove area. Studley, Mappleborough Green and Astwood Bank need to retain their identity. Clerk to send letter. Need to lobby.

Min 350 Dog Fouling Bins

Request received from a number of residents for additional dog fouling bins. Four areas identified that will not impinge on residents' properties – High Street, The Green, Eldorado Close, New Park Garage.

Proposed Cllr Beaman to proceed with purchase and installation of dog fouling bins for the identified areas, seconded Cllr Holder. Voting unanimous.

Proposed Cllr Vale to purchase and install a further bin for Redditch Road footpath, seconded Cllr Holder. Voting unanimous.

Min 351 Tenders for grass cutting 2008/09 for consideration – deferred until next meeting.

8. Planning Applications for Consideration (Cllr Beaman refrained from Voting)

07/03600/FUL

Creative Video Productions Ltd., Priory Mill, Castle Road, Studley.

Retention of 3 CCTV poles.

**Objection for the following planning reasons:
Ancillary lighting, loss of amenity to residents together with loud speaker.**

08/00052/FUL

Mr and Mrs R James, 23 Wickham Road, Studley.
Ground floor extension to rear to enlarge kitchen and alterations to roof over existing dining room extension.

No representations.

9. Planning Decisions Received

- 07/02279/FUL Ms T Blick, 37 Littlewood Green, Studley.
Two storey extension and alterations.
Permission with conditions 22nd January 2008
- 07/02756/FUL Firoka (Studley Castle) Ltd., Studley Castle, Studley.
Demolition of existing Moline suite, and addition of new two storey conference wing to replace. Demolition of freestanding ancillary buildings, and provision of courtyard entrance/service access to new wing.
Permission with conditions 26th January 2008
- 07/02757/FUL Firoka (Studley Castle) Ltd., Studley Castle, Studley.
Demolition of existing Moline suite, proposed new two storey conference wing to replace. Demolition of adjacent freestanding ancillary buildings.
Permission with conditions 26th January 2008

10. Correspondence

SDC

- Min 352 Confirmation that no request for election received for vacancy in the Office of Parish Councillor. Therefore can co-opt. Two nominations received Anne Wade and Tony Gennoe. Both contribute towards making the Village a better place.
All agreed that Anne Wade be co-opted onto the Parish Council.
- Min 353 Protecting residents from flooding. Following floods last year and this Year District Council is drawing together information on factors behind floods in order to prepare plans to help reduce future flooding. Will look at providing equipment to Town/Parish Councils if this will help. Clerk to write and ask that another look be taken at the drainage problem on St Chads.
- Min 354 Changes to rating of empty properties with effect from 1st April 2008 in order to provide a strong incentive to bring empty property back into use.
- Min 355 New refuse and recycling arrangements. To keep Parish Councils abreast of the changes, a meeting, to which all are invited, will be held later in the year in each of the following towns Alcester, Shipston, Stratford-upon-Avon. An opportunity to ask questions, voice concerns and pick up information. Confirmation of dates, times and venues will be emailed later in the year.

WCC

- Min 356 Implementation of part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 with effect from 31st March 2008. New regulations and statutory guidance from Secretary of State for Transport set out the framework for these changes. Decriminalised Parking Enforcement will become Civil Parking Enforcement. Changes do not alter any on-street parking places, and no signs or lines are affected. Copy of Order available to be viewed at various offices included Stratford District Council, Elizabeth House.
- Min 357 Copy of updated Speed Limit Review proposals for Stratford Area received. Includes A435 which is now detrunked and has become WCC responsibility.

Other

- Min 358 WRCC Firm Foundations – Making it Happen. An event for all Village Halls and Church Halls to provide for their communities in a landscape of declining central funding and rising cost. Saturday, 8th March 2008 Acton Trussell Community Centre 2.00 – 7.00pm or Saturday, 15th March 2008 Arden Hall, Castle Bromwich 10.00am – 3.00pm. Pass to Village Hall Management Committee.
- Min 359 Letter received from Tony Gennoe (SIP). Would like his comments to be made at this meeting. The 'Pink Wall' referred to at the Parish Council meeting on 4th December 2007 has also been raised at a number of SIP meetings. Apart from suggestion that the wall may be unsafe, surprised to see that no mention was made of the eyesore that the wall has become. It is a retaining wall and while it cannot be removed it can be refaced in a variety of ways. SIP would like to know when planning permission was given to the Co-op site that a 'facer' be attached to the front of the wall to match the brick of the development and that this be a condition of the permission. Was this actioned? This was not actioned and there is no condition in place. Concerns of smoking litter. SIP do not want to see appearance of streets ruined by the encroachment of cigarette butts onto the footway outside the pubs. Letters have already been sent to all pubs and restaurants that the clearance of smoking litter from outside their frontages is their responsibility and failure to clear it would attract financial penalties. SIP would like to know if the requisite condition has been included in the Act, if SDC have power to issue fines and how many times the penalty has been invoked? Clerk to contact SDC.
- Min 360 Consultation on Orders and Regulations relating to the conduct of local authority members in England. Seeking views on detailed arrangements for putting into effect the orders and regulations to provide a revised more locally based ethical regime for the conduct of local councillors in England. Comments required by 15th February 2008. Cllr Beaman to read and report back.
- Min 361 WALC one day briefing seminar 'Working for Communities' Saturday, 8th March 2008 at Mytton School. Cllrs Holder, Bacon, Beaman and the Clerk to attend.
- Min 362 Select Business Services – Tender for Grass Cutting. Have decided that their equipment is not capable of making this a viable contract. Still prepared to carry out maintenance work for Parish Council.
- Min 363 Warwickshire Lieutenancy Office Award Nominations. Encouraging recommendations for National Honours for individuals and The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. Next round of nominations will Open on 2nd June 2008. Passed to Cllr Beaman.
- Min 364 Matthew Taylor Independent Review on Rural Economy and Affordable Housing. Call for Evidence. Submissions required by 7th March 2008. Passed to Cllr McCarthy.
- Min 365 Parking issues outside Tesco Express, Alcester Road. Update from Police who are monitoring the situation. Clerk to write to SDC, disappointed to see that Traffic Warden ignored cars illegally parked on double yellow lines.
- Min 366 Notification of appointment of external auditor. Clement Keys appointed for 5 year period from 2007/08 accounts.

Correspondence for Circulation

Min 367 Stratford on Avon Area Committee Agenda and Minutes
Min 368 Charity Matters
Min 369 'What Price West Midlands Green Belts?'
Min 370 WALC Newsletter and enclosures
Min 371 Speaking Out
Min 372 'What's Happening in the Bancroft Gardens?'
Min 373 Mappleborough Green Parish Council Detrunking of A435
Min 374 WALC Increase in Housing Building Numbers in West Midlands

11. Approve Accounts for Payment

Proposed Cllr Beaman that the schedule of cheques for payment be approved, seconded Cllr Holder. Voting unanimous.

**The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 19th February 2008
Meeting Closed 9.05pm**