

## Studley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Council Chamber, Studley Village Hall on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at 7.30pm.

### 1. Chairman declared the meeting open

### 2. Present

Chairman C. Rickhards, Vice Chair J. Vale, W. McCarthy, P. Beaman, E. Holder, J. Bacon, M. Redman, Mrs H. Wersocki, Mrs M. Woodrow.

### 3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and noted from:

Cllr Mrs A Wade – work commitment, Cllr Mrs S Redman – work commitment.

### 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.*

Cllr J. Vale: Item 8 Planning application – Personal interest.

Item 7 Min 3 – Prejudicial interest.

Item 11 Accounts – Prejudicial interest.

### 5. Public Forum

Cllr E. Holder – No problems with the bulky waste collection on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

### 6. Matters Arising (*for information only*)

None.

### 7. Items for Discussion

Min 376: Studley Library – Facing the Challenge

Reply received from Cllr Farnell, Leader of WCC. Our concerns will be fed into the consultation process. Clarified points:

- a) Studley did not have a reduction in hours but a reconfiguration.
  - b) Proposed closure not based on cost but no longer sustainable in current form based on number of visits and loans per hour.
  - c) Will be exploring alternative viable ways of providing library services.
- Cllr Rickhards needs help with the petition. Should be made available

on election day. Cllr Rickhards has written to the Portfolio Holder concerning costs of closure and volunteer running of the library.

- Public meeting to be held in the village hall on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011.
- At recent Community Forum meeting it was decided a working party should be set up. Cllrs Eric Holder & Bill McCarthy to attend.
- Tone of letter from Cllr Farnell stated not costs but number of visits and loans. Figures show that Studley is comparable to other libraries regarding visits and loans per hour. Everyone who visits does not always take out books but uses computers.
- At present in the middle of Youth Centre consultation, as part of their business plan suggestion that if centre kept open may be able to use part of the centre. Opportunity to share service provision in Studley.
- Decision to be made in July.
- Sub Group met but there seemed to be an impasse and members had different aims.
- After what happened with the Fire Service closure need to look at alternatives, perhaps there would be willing volunteers to run the library.
- Clerk to reply to Cllr Farnell enclosing figures comparing usage of the library.
- Petition to be in Village Hall on election day and information sent to the newspapers.

Min 1: Cllr McCarthy: Bollards, Toms Town Lane

Approached by a resident who regularly cuts the grass and cars are now parking on the grass verge making visibility on to the Alcester Road difficult. Clerk to ask WCC if they could put in bollards to deter parking. If not, perhaps boulders could be an idea. This is a problem in many areas of the village. **Voting – all in favour.**

Min 2: Clerk: Participatory Budgeting Principles:

P.B. enables communities to identify their needs and participate in the local decision making process of their Parish Council to deliver local services. Has been well received in Herefordshire following a pilot scheme. There is no magic pot of money for the programme but seeks to unlock local coffers to assist in delivering what the parishioners identify as their priorities. Clerk to invite Lynda Wilcox to parish council meeting and include in the Parish newsletter later in the year.

Min 3: Fence bordering the land by 2 Node Hill Close:

Resident concerned that the fence on right hand side of the development land has partially collapsed allowing access to the land which contains an old swimming pool that has water in it and could be a danger to children. Area has been checked by J. Vale and the fencing could be repaired. Unable to contact the owner but Cllr Beaman is aware of person who is responsible for the upkeep of the area and he will contact them to arrange

repairs as a matter of urgency.

Min 4: Cllr McCarthy: Skatepark and Youth Shelter:

Youth are prepared to get some money together for floodlights on the skate park and repainting. Volunteers to organise a collection to get things done.

Clerk already investigating repainting but having difficulty finding the right paint.

Would also like a Youth Shelter, need to look at costs and placing.

Seems to be a lack of understanding about how the Community works.

Don't understand there is still a loan outstanding on the park and there will be a great deal of opposition from residents concerning the lights. No justification for lights on the park, dawn to dusk is adequate. There has been some intimidation of youngsters on the skate park may need some supervised sessions to deter this intimidation.

Min 5: Cllr Redman: SSSC estimate for work on bungalow:

Quotes received for work on the bungalow and one for replacement fencing. No rent is paid to the club for the bungalow. Is in a poor state of repair. Parish Council needs to make sure that the club and bungalow are maintained. The responsibility for the upkeep of the buildings is the responsibility of the club as part of the terms of lease.

Clerk to speak to the auditor concerning giving a grant to the club. We have a moral duty to help. Require further quotes for work from people not associated with the club. Could offer an annual maintenance grant in next year's budget. Also need to emphasise you don't have to be a member to use the club as this is not very clear. Cllr Redman to report back to the club.

Min 6: Cllr Rickhards: Studley Place Based Project – Youth Programme

A very good idea for joining the programme. Parish Council could initiate the programme and a sub committee organised. Baptist church already has a programme in place. Church groups have visited the Youth Centre but there has been some resistance to this by the youth. Option exists for an early intervention as Studley is being considered as a 'Centre of Excellence'. If we could push start the Youth Programme would all be to the good. There has been a problem of youths gathering at the rear of 'the cage' and causing problems. Police need to be informed. Money is also available in the school clusters that can be spent on police officers visiting schools. Suggested by WCC 8 dedicated officers are available to visit schools.

## **8. Planning Applications for Consideration (Cllr Beaman refrained from voting)**

- 11/00221/EXT Mr M Vale, The Old Granary, Castle Road, Studley.  
Extension of time to previously approved application  
(ref 07/02775/FUL) replacement dwelling and conversion  
of stables to 4 office work units (B1), associated garaging  
and parking.  
**No representations.**

## **9. Planning Decisions Received**

None.

## **10. Correspondence**

### **SDC**

- Min 7: Planning application 10/02496/FUL, Eight Acre Field, Bromsgrove Road.  
Response from SDC concerning our disappointment with the process  
that led to the application being determined. Only objections by the  
Parish Council and Ward Members from the Parish in which the site is  
located will trigger a committee referral. Concerns by adjoining Parish  
Councils and ward members are given consideration but would not  
trigger a committee referral. Copy of delegated report available. Clerk  
can request copies from M.P's website for any application in adjoining  
parishes that may have impact on Studley as at present not notified.
- Min 8: SDC currently carries our grass cutting maintenance for WCC owned  
highway verges in speed restricted areas. Following reduction in funding  
the budget for 2011/2012 has to be reviewed. WCC has made the  
decision to fund 5 cuts (reduced from 6) to meet highway safety  
obligations. SDC has determined they can no longer supplement the  
maintenance due to costs. Studley will only receive 5 cuts in next year  
for highway safety only. Can arrange additional cuts by contacting Veolia  
direct. Current contract in place until 2013. SDC will then be reviewing  
services. SDC cannot transfer responsibility to Parishes but Clerk to  
check if WCC will be able to do so. Article to be included in next  
newsletter.
- Min 9: The Grieg Centre, Alcester – The Trustees have asked SDC if they are  
prepared to lift the restrictive covenant on part of the site and SDC are  
seeking the views of the Parish Council. Parish Council are against the  
lifting of the restriction. The Grieg Centre is a Community facility and  
should remain as such. Clerk to notify SDC.
- Min 10: Annual Business Rates Bill, SDC no longer accepting payments by  
cheque. Can apply for an Allpay card which can be paid at the Post  
Office. Clerk to set up Direct Debit for future payments.
- Min 11: [www.discover-stratford.com](http://www.discover-stratford.com). Promotes areas and unique selling points  
as a tourist destination. Studley already promoted on the site.

- Min 12: Core strategy workshop 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011. Comment form and full agenda pack can be downloaded for all Councillors. Disappointment that area west of Birmingham Road has been included for housing. Should be withdrawn. Areas suggested for housing has been ignored. Clerk to contact Rob Weeks. Seems strategy has been developer led rather than the community.
- Min 13: Report from Senior Citizens Action Netwrk (SCAN) in Stratford District. Six older people's forums currently operating across the district. Report produced to explore wide range of activity in which the chairs of these Forums are engaged. Comments welcomed.

### **WCC**

- Min 14: Warwickshire Waste Core Strategy: Emerging Spatial Options Consultation. Can be viewed at:  
[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/wastecorestrategy](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/wastecorestrategy). Consultation runs from 21<sup>st</sup> March 2011 – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2011. Cllr McCarthy to look and make comments.
- Min 15: Changes to SpeedAware. Flyer and code of practice for new scheme received.

### **Other**

- Min 16: Worcestershire County Council Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document. Comments can be made online at  
[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs). Consultation period from 22nd March 2011 until 4<sup>th</sup> May 2011.
- Min 17: Thank you cards from Debbie Price and Jane Runacres for Award and Presentation evening.
- Min 18: NALC: Notification that there will be no pay offer for the second successive year.
- Min 19: NALC: Financial update - Accounts and Audit Regulations effective from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.
- Min 20: Invitation from South Warwickshire Credit Union to AGM. Sent to the Parish Council in error.
- Min 21: Resignation received from Danny Somner. Clerk to write a letter of appreciation for his time on the Parish Council.

### **Correspondence for Circulation**

- Min 22: WALC Newsletter
- Min 23: Warwickshire Police: SDC Briefing Feb 2011.
- Min 24: Macmillan News
- Min 25: ICT Workshops at SDC
- Min 26: SLCC Summer Symposium 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July 2011.
- Min 27: SDC Parish and Partners Briefing Newsletter.

**11. Approve Accounts for Payment**

Cllr Vale left the room during this item.

**Proposed Cllr W. McCarthy that the schedule of cheques for payment be approved, seconded Cllr E. Holder . Voting unanimous.**

780 – G. Gardner £67.50. 781- I. Geddes £57.92.

782 - Johnsons Coaches £225.00. 783 – I.Beaman £120. 00.

784 – P.A. Janes £320.00. 785 - M. Millinchip £100.00.

786 – J. Vale £546.59.

**The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April  
2011**

**Meeting closed 9.30pm**

*Signed: Chairman .....*

*Signed: Chairman .....*