

# Studley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Council Chamber, Studley Village Hall on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2007 at 7.30pm.

One minute's silence was held in respect for the Firefighters who have recently died.

## 1. Chairman declared the meeting open

## 2. Present

Chairman P. Beaman, Vice Chair J. Bacon, E. Holder, Mrs M. Bell, Mrs M. Woodrow, Mrs H. Wersocki, W. McCarthy, G. Noke, Mrs S.Redman, District Councillor M. Weddell. County Councillor Mrs H. McCarthy.

## 3. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs J. Vale, M. Redman, C. Rickhards.

## 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

Everyone is aware of the incident at Atherstone, Clerk to send letter of condolence to the Mayor of Alcester and to the Fire Station.

**Mr R Edwin:** Unable to attend meeting but has spoken to Cllr Beaman and sent letter to each Councillor of concerns regarding the vandalism and destruction that has taken place at Studley Castle. Photographs of some of the damage were passed around the meeting.

- Has urged owners to protect the outbuildings but only gets promises and no action and 'do not care' attitude by the management.
- Unprotected buildings are an accident waiting to happen, could be a major fire.
- There are gas tanks and a large amount of combustible material that could be set alight.
- Mr Edwin's property is a few hundred metres from these buildings and the buildings also run along side the Arden Way which is used by many walkers.
- Many ramblers have dogs which may suffer cuts from the large amount of glass spread over the area.

Buildings are regularly being vandalised and some may be worth preserving. Cllr Beaman to take up with SDC. Clerk to acknowledge Mr Edwin's letter and to write to the owners of the Castle asking them to tidy up the area and clear away the gas canisters which are dangerous.

## 6. Matters Arising (for information only)

Min 208 Cllr Mrs McCarthy: Capital Funding for Transport 2008/09

Re request to upgrade lighting on Redditch Road, advised by Mike Cunningham, WCC that if they upgrade at this location, WCC would have to adopt the street lighting and would then be responsible for future maintenance. This would leave a pocket of WCC owned

columns within Studley. It would be more appropriate to use funding for replacing/upgrading.

## 7. Items for Discussion

Min 220 Cllr Mrs McCarthy: Fire Service Petition

Suggestion to cut the number of Retained Fire Fighters and to put a full time Station at Alcester. Retained Fire Fighters are trained to the same level as Fire Officers, are much cheaper, and do a good job. Studley Fire Fighters have always stayed 'on run'. Argument is that it is difficult to get a Retained Team in other areas but not so in Studley.

Letter to be handed out to every resident asking them to write to Cllr Richard Hobbs at Shire hall in support of retaining the Fire Fighters and also to be asked to sign petition which will be presented to WCC. Petition will also be placed in Village Hall, Library and Doctor's Surgery. Clerk to contact Advertiser/Standard.

Appeal has been launched for donations towards fund for families of Firefighters who have recently died.

**Proposed Cllr Beaman that Studley Parish Council donate £500.00 towards the fund, seconded Cllr W. McCarthy. Voting unanimous.**

Min 203 Cllr Beaman: Forward Plan - copy already handed to Councillors  
Forward Plan accepted by the Parish Council with no comments.  
Forward Plan meeting to be held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007 at 6.30pm followed by a Budget meeting.

Min 132 Skatepark Issues: Two telephone calls received from GBH Engineering regarding final payment. Issues need to be sorted out with quality of ramps and repairs need to be carried out before money is sent. Awaiting someone to come out for inspection. One panel is definitely noisier. Signs also to be installed. Cheque to be withheld until all obligations met.

No further complaints received by Parish Council or Police.

Item to remain on agenda.

Min 224 Clean Neighbourhood & Environment Act 2005: copy already handed to Councillors

Concerns of cost problems. Could be expensive, need more information about cost of staff, enforcement, records etc. Not something the Parish Council could do on their own but could consider if joint initiative with other Parish Councils. The PCSO's could be put in difficult position if given more powers. Do not think that Studley would wish to take on, for larger Parish Councils and Towns.

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

07/02757/LBC                      Firoka (Studley Castle) Ltd., Studley Castle.  
Demolition of existing Moline suite, proposed  
new two storey conference wing to replace.  
Demolition of adjacent freestanding ancillary  
buildings.

07/02756/FUL                      Firoka (Studley Castle) Ltd., Studley Castle.  
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.

Two plans considered together:

**Objection for the following planning reasons:  
Poor design and not in keeping with existing buildings.**

07/02963/FUL

Mr & Mrs S Gregory, 2 Holt Road, Studley.  
Erection of two storey extension and single storey rear extension with new entrance canopy.

**No representations.**

## **9. Planning Decisions Received**

07/02418/FUL

Mr C Tsolakides, 26 and 28 High Street, Studley.  
Conversion of existing retail unit at 28 High Street to restaurant in association with the existing use of 26 High Street including alteration to existing shop front.

**Permission with conditions 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2007**

07/02183/FUL

Anthony C Lever, St Marys Parish Church, Castle Road.  
Replace and relocate, one oil storage tank, remove and replace external stairway cover to cellar.

**Permission with conditions 12<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

07/01669/FUL

Diocesan Schools Commission, St Marys RC and Infant School, Pool Road, Studley.  
Extensions to form cloakrooms and toilets, extend administration area and infill courtyard.

**Permission with conditions 15<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

07/02140/FUL

Dunlop Construction, 94 Alcester Road, Studley.  
Retention of 2 no A1 retail units with conversion above to B1 use for 2 no units with erection of 2 no additional B1 use units to rear.

**Permission with conditions 11<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

07/02302/TPO

Mr Tickle, 15 Riverside, Studley.  
T1 – Oak – 1.5m Reduction of limb adjacent to property. Removal of epicormic growth.

**Permission with conditions 12<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

07/02143/FUL

Mr and Mrs T Hemming, 192 Alcester Road, Studley.  
Side two storey extension.

**Permission with conditions 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007**

07/02323/FUL

Ms D Summers, 30 Augustine Avenue, Studley.

Two storey domestic side extension.

**Permission with conditions 4<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

07/02153/FUL Enterprise Inns PLC, The Swan Inn, 24 High Street.  
Installation of new timber decked external drinking area  
with removable umbrellas.

**Permission with conditions 8<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

## **10. Correspondence**

### **SDC**

- Min 241 Confirmation of acceptance of new computer equipment for Parish Council office. Computers now installed and working.
- Min 242 The HBA (Habitat Biodiversity Audit) was set up to collect and keep up to date ecological data to be used by its funding partners. SDC is such a partner but has starved the project of funds which has prevented the HBA updating vital information from the Stratford District. SDC Chief Planning Officer has announced there is a strong possibility that the Housing Moratorium will be lifted within Stratford District to meet new government house building targets. It is therefore very important for essential ecological information be up to date. Phil Clayton has written to Cllr Topham to increase funding substantially to continue vital work before Housing Moratorium is lift.  
Noted but no action to be taken.

### **WCC**

- Min 243 C39/01 Sernal Bridge Replacement. Thanks received for Parish Council's comments to initial proposals. Received universal backing in principle with widespread support for an environmental weight limit to be pursued upon completion of bridge to which WCC have no objection. Actively considering other points raised and will keep community advised.
- Min 244 Street Lighting Maintenance 2008/09. Steep rise from this year's rate of £13.50 per lighting point to £19.27 plus £5.00 per lamp for CDO or CDM lamps. Increase due to Health and Safety legislation that street lighting operations have to be carried out by two man teams. Charges since 2004 were based on one man working. Extra charges to be checked and added to precept 2008/09.

### **Other**

- Min 245 Details of Remembrance Service & Parade 11<sup>th</sup> November 2007. Parade to assemble at Pool Road car park at 9.30am.
- Min 246 John Maples had a meeting with John Deegan WCC and Paul Lankester SDC to discuss the impact of the recent flooding. Emerged that there is a lack of clear responsibility and accountability amongst major agencies which need to be brought together. WCC who are responsible for highway drainage will also be reviewing their maintenance programme.
- Min 247 Mrs Young, Head Teacher, Studley High School thanks for the opportunity to explain proposed developments for the school at the Parish Council meeting. Noted vocal opposition to addition sports provision. Also request for school to receive copy of Parish Council newsletter. Noted.  
At recent SCWIG meeting discussed key thing is link between

the school and other organisations, very important.

- Min 248 Letter received from A & K Insulation Ltd re Skatepark. In dispute with GBH Engineering Ltd., who owe them £25,000 for 'sound deadening'. Willing to return to our site with necessary equipment to reapply internally any areas that are causing problems. Decided not to get involved with dispute. GBH have now agreed to come back and inspect skatepark.
- Min 249 West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy. Invitation to Phase Three Revision Draft Project Plan Launch Event on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2007 9.30am – 1.00pm at the Burlington hotel, Birmingham. Further information of RSS Revision Process can be found on website [www.wmra.gov.uk/page](http://www.wmra.gov.uk/page)
- Min 250 E mail received from Robert Shaw. At recent PACT meeting suggestion made to improve or increase warning signs and flashing speed registers on Birmingham Road from Studley to Dog Island. Request that this be done. To be discussed further at next meeting.
- Min 251 NALC: copy attached of Chairman's speech to WALC's AGM on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2007 on Local Government Bill and on 'Clustering and the Power of Well Being'.

#### **Correspondence for Circulation**

- Min 252 SDC Parking Enforcement figures for Studley
- Min 253 WCC Blue Tongue & Foot & Mouth update
- Min 254 Warwickshire Rural Housing Association - Annual Report
- Min 255 Winter Maintenance in Warwickshire 2007/08

#### **11. Approve Accounts for Payment**

**Proposed Cllr Mrs Bell that the schedule of cheques for payment be approved, seconded Cllr Mrs Woodrow. Voting unanimous.**

**The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007**

**Meeting Closed 9.14pm**

