

Studley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Council Chamber, Studley Village Hall on Tuesday, 10th May 2011 at 8.00pm.

1. Chairman declared the meeting open

2. Present

Cllr P. Beaman, Vice Chair Mrs S. Redman, E. Holder, J. Bacon, N. Green, C. Rickhards, Mrs M. Woodrow, Mrs. S. Redman,

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and noted from:

Cllr M. 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 Beaman – Item 7 Min 47 – personal interest

5. Public Forum

None.

6. Matters Arising (*for information only*)

None.

7. Items for Discussion

Min 47 Cllr Beaman: following on from the work recommended by WCC for reducing energy consumption by changing to part night photocells and and switching off some lights, savings can be made.

If the Council decided to replace all photocells with the midnight switch off versions at the same time as replacing a column or lantern, or if this was done as an extra when a photo cell failed, the potential cost over the next five to ten years would be approximately £13,500.00 based on current costs.

Assuming an average off time of 24.00 to 5.00 for a 70 watt lantern this would save 350 watts per night. Based on a unit charge of 13 pence per kilowatt hours it would be possible to save 4.5 pence per night, £16.45 per year showing a repayment of approximately 3 years.

Energy savings based on an average five hours off time per night would be 5 hours x 0.07kw x 365 nights x 299 lamps = 38,197kwh, a significant reduction in energy consumption.

- Would the Parish Council like to change as lights are repaired or not?
- Quite a few Parish Councils are changing over and the Police are in favour as it does deter youths from hanging about.
- The main roads would remain switched on as they are the responsibility of WCC.
- The switch off will be 12 midnight until 5.30am.
- The life of a photocell is 15 – 20 years. If one fails it will be replaced as part of the contract.
- There will probably be about 10 upgrades or replacements a year.
- We have to be seen to be improving the carbon footprint.
- Some areas such as footpaths and alleyways will need the lights on all night. Also need to look at positioning of lights where there are elderly residents. Need to consider all vulnerable areas.

Proposed Cllr Mrs Redman to change to part night photocells when a lantern is upgraded or replaced, but for lanterns to be looked at on an individual basis regarding their position, seconded Cllr Holder. Voting unanimous.

Item to go in next newsletter.

Min 48 Studley in Bloom have been given some trees which have been planted along the fence in the Burial Ground. Thanks to Studley in Bloom.

Min 49 Long Service Presentation for Cllr McCarthy:

Cllr McCarthy has recently stood down from the Parish Council and it was suggested that his hard work and commitment to Studley should be recognised.

Proposed Cllr Bacon that a presentation be made to Cllr McCarthy, seconded Cllr Mrs Wade. Voting unanimous.

Clerk to make arrangements. Letters of thanks to be sent to all three Councillors who have recently stood down and also to District Councillor Mike Weddell.

Min 50 Request for Grant – Studley Youth Theatre:

Presentation recently given by Jennifer Rigby outlining how the theatre group works and requesting a grant of £500.00 to buy technical equipment (portable lighting) to look professional and to take performances out to other venues and to reach out to the community.

- Agree the grant with the proviso that it goes to a body that will retain ownership such as the Parish Council. Needs to be a properly constituted organisation to make sure the equipment does not disappear if the group folded.

- In principle support but need more information and a guarantee that if the group ceased the equipment would become the property of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED Clerk to get more information and to be discussed further at next meeting.

Min 51 Parish Council Insurance:

Two quotes received:

AON Local Council Policy through Allianz Insurance PLC

£7363.72 per annum

Came & Company through Aviva

£4675.00 which can be reduced to £4441.25 if entering into a 3 year binding agreement. If the Parish Council wish to move their insurance renewal to a more convenient date Aviva will, in exchange for a 3 year LTA, provide 16 months cover for the price of 12. Therefore the renewal date in future dates will be 1st October. The Parish Council will also benefit from a 12% discount over the 3 year period if the renewal date is changed. The premium for this option is £4675.00p.a.

Proposed Cllr Bacon to accept the 3 year LTA quote at £4675.00pa from Came & Company, seconded Cllr Holder. Voting unanimous.

Min 376 Studley Library: Library Consultation – Business Case Available
£100,000 capital funding is a one-off grant to help communities get projects off the ground. It works out to £6250 for each of the sixteen libraries identified as no longer viable in their present form. Communities wanting to run their own library service can bid for funding by registering at:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/facingthechallenge

Copy of letter received by Cllr Rickhards from WCC concerning land in Studley currently occupied by Studley Library and giving details of costs involved if the library were to close, circulated to all Councillors.

- On assumption that library may close 'expression of interest' has been handed in to Shire Hall and Cllr Rickhards is in consultation with the High School to see if the library can be housed there.
- Other option is for the library to take over the old Connexion Room in the Youth Club.
- Cllr Rickhards has made several appeals for volunteers and already has 15 and a treasurer and has held an informal meeting with those interested.
- WCC is prepared to help. £6,500 available for Studley for set-up costs, will have existing stock and use rotating system to renew stock. Volunteers will be trained.

- Downside of using the High School is that there will need to be some sort of partition to separate the corridor from the rest of the school, advantage is the facilities already available and it will be open 50 weeks of the year.
- The Youth Club are also putting in a bid. The 'Silver Surfers' will be able to use the computers and the toddlers group will carry on.
- Youngsters who haven't got jobs are willing to help. Thinking along the lines of a community café. Toilet facilities and disabled access also available.
- Plenty of opportunities available, maybe Parish Council could offer some money.
- Query that initial costs will be met, but would Parish Council be responsible for funding in the future wherever the library is?
- If it is in the Youth Club, who will fund it?
- Need to come to some agreement as we need to have one bid.
- One reservation is that some elderly residents will be unwilling to go to the High School. There could be an issue with CRB checks. If the Youth Club is only funded for two years this may be an issue.
- Village Hall is also willing to provide accommodation.
- Lots of economic reasons to use the school but they are not in competition, just want the best for the Village.
- Need to explore every option for best way forward.
- The books are our books. Would we get some council tax back as we will be funding other libraries and paying twice?
- Query what will happen to the library building, we need to know before it gets boarded up?
- Questions can be asked at consultation meeting on Thursday, 19th May 2011.

8. Planning Applications for Consideration (Cllrs Beaman & Holder refrained from voting)

11/00613/FUL	Mrs J Murch, 12 Lansdowne Road, Studley. Proposed two storey side extension. Demolish existing detached garage and replace with hardstanding. No representation.
11/00842/FUL	Mr D P Sargeant, 13 Teal Road, Studley. Proposed conservatory to the rear. No representation.

11/00740/FUL

Mr Andrew Clarke, Steel Pie Café, Unit 2,
Marble Alley, Studley.

Conversion of existing retail and commercial
premises including external alterations to create
9 new dwellings.

Support for the following planning reasons:

- 1. Improvements to the streetscene.**
- 2. In accordance with Studley Parish Plan.**
- 3. General principles of development but with the proviso that adequate parking is provided for the residents and the users of the Co-op store. There could be a parking issue as parking is at present limited to two hours.**

Cllr Beaman has been contacted by the Planning Officer concerned with Planning Application No.11/00367/FUL. Following discussion it was decided not to proceed with the objection to this planning application.

9. Planning Decisions Received

None.

10. Correspondence

SDC

Min 52 Future provision of public conveniences within Stratford-on-Avon District Council. Deferred until the next meeting.

Min 53 Invitation to a training session on Planning Enforcement Tuesday, 14th June 2011 2.00pm – 4.00pm and details of an update of Planning Enforcement following recent training sessions. SDC has received legal advice that notification to Parish Councils on all new enforcement cases would breach the Data Protection Act. Situation is difference for Ward Members as they have a regulatory enforcement role under the Town and Country Planning Act. An electronic copy of the Enforcement Enforcement Register is now available on the Council's website. Cllrs Bacon and Mrs Woodrow to attend training session. Cllr Mrs Redman to attend a future session.

Min 54 Letter received from Lech Kocon, Enforcement Officer that an initial investigation will take place to establish whether or not there has been a breach of planning control in respect of land off, Redditch Road, Studley. Complaint received that agricultural land was being cleared and concerns locally that land could be occupied by travellers.

Min 55 In response to feedback from Councillors and residents SDC proposing to send extra notices for display of planning applications. Will continue to send out neighbour notification letters to properties in the vicinity of an

application site as well as placing a notice on the boundary of application sites. Small measure introduced to help ensure those who need to know about a development gets to know.

Min 56 Notification of BACS payment of £65,510.00 April 2011 precept.

WCC

Min 57 Request for advisory disabled parking space for 51 Redditch Road, Studley. Noted.

Other

Min 58 Reminder of British Legion Quiz Night at SSSC on Friday, 20th May 2011. All welcome.

Min 59 WALC: Consultation on Future of Local Public Audit after demise of the Audit Commission. Direct response by 30th June 2011 to:
fola@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Min 60 NALC: Legal Topic Note Equality Act 2010 received.

Min 61 Invitation to all Parish Councillors from VASA Voluntary Action for lunch at Great Alne Village Hall on Wednesday, 18th May 2011 12.30pm – 1.45pm. No one available to attend.

Min 61 NALC Legal Briefing: Future Standards of Conduct of Members of Local Authorities in England. Copy circulated to all Councillors.

Correspondence for Circulation

Min 62 Minutes of Henley & Studley Community Forum Working Group meeting 21st April 2011

Min 63 Prime Minister re-issues Street Parties Guidance

Min 64 WALC: Change of postal address

11. Approve Accounts for Payment

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

796 – J Vale £1377.27. 797 – P A Janes £320.00.

798 – I Geddes £22.11. 799 – G Gardner £67.50.

800 – M Millinchip £120.00. 801 – Redditch Skip Hire £183.60.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 24th May 2011

Meeting closed 9.35pm

Signed: Chairman