

Studley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Council Chamber, Studley Village Hall on 16th October 2012 at 7:30 pm.

1. Chairman declared the meeting open.

2. Present

Chairman Cllr P Beaman, Vice Chairman Mrs S Redman, J King, A Smith, J Bacon, M Redman, E Holder, C Rickhards, Mrs M Woodrow, Mrs A Wade, J Ingram,

In attendance

Assistant Clerk, Mrs L Stanton, Cllr Mrs H Wright, Ms Mary Tandy, 3 members of the public

3. Apologies for Absence

Mrs L Gailey (Clerk) – annual leave

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 7 August 2012 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

- a) Mrs J Beard complained to the Parish Council about an error made by Parish Council administrative staff. The burial plot she had pre purchased has been erroneously reallocated for a burial. Mrs Beard also stated that the assistant clerk did not apologise for the error.
- b) Mrs J Summers informed the Parish Council that an incident occurred 12 months ago where the wrong grave had been dug for her late father. She had fortunately identified the mistake before the burial took place. She would like an assurance that such an incident would not happen again.

The Chairman responded that both matters would be investigated on the Clerks return from leave on 25 October 2012 and the parties involved would be invited for a meeting once the Investigation concludes.

The Chairman apologised unreservedly for the distress caused to both Mrs Beard and Mrs Summers.

- c) Cllr H Wright requested Studley Parish Council to write to Head of Environmental & Planning in SDC on the undeveloped land at Priory Square Studley to persuade Co-op to improve the site.

Min 142: Queen Elizabeth II Challenge- Cllr Beaman would like Studley Parish Council to reconsider the Queen Elizabeth II Challenge if there is any area that the Parish Council could be involved with. Cllr S Redman agreed to look again at this.

6. To pass the Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes were accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Rickhards seconded Cllr Bacon. Voting unanimous.

7. Matter Arising (for information only)

Min 84: Lease for additional land- amendment

The lease has not yet been signed, it is still in process of drafting. If term of lease is for 7 years+ there is requirement to register which will incur cost implication. Lease will be in Terms agreed for 6 years and 6 months to avoid further costs.

8. Item for Discussion

Min 144: Remembrance Parade- Reminder that parade will take place on 11 November 2012. Asst Clerk reported that a Road Closure Order has been submitted to SDC. Police will be unable to assist at road closure points this year and Marshalls to carry out this duty must be supplied by Royal British Legion together with any equipment required.

Resolved Chairman to write to Chief Constable of Warwickshire Police to clarify the information supplied from the Operation Planning Department and to invite a member of the police force to attend Parish Council meeting on the 6 November to brief Full Council on the matter

Min 155: Speeding Equipment for Station Road- Cllr Bacon

Cllr Bacon requested that Studley Parish Council consider hiring speed awareness signs for 6 months to be installed on Station Road. Assistant Clerk to find out the cost for 6 months hire.

Min 156: Trees at the Cloisters- request from resident to prune tree.

Resident from Augustine Avenue is concerned about the trees in the Cloisters at the rear of her property. She would like the Council to prune overhanging branches. Parish Clerk would like a Councillor to inspect the area. **Resolved Cllr Bacon to inspect the area.**

Min 157: Notice from Clements key- The accounts for 2011/2012 has concluded with no issues.

9. Planning Application For Consideration

12/02275/FUL Mr Andrew Walters, Wig House, Castle Farm, Studley.
Installation of 21 numbers roof mounted solar PV Panels on the south facing roof slope of an existing self-catering holiday accommodation

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12/02287/FUL Mrs Ysabel Jordan, 7 Church Street, Studley
Proposed Erection of a 2 storey side extension

12/02269/FUL Mr Rob Hooper, The Railway Inn, 64 Station Road, Studley
Removal of existing Polycarp roof to rear extension and replacement with new timber monopitch roof with felt finish.

10. Planning Decisions received – None

11. District and County Council Report

Cllr Rickhards reported the following;

- Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service has given reassurance that the old Lion Apparel Equipment will not be going to landfill. Hundreds of helmets, gloves, tunics, leggings, boots and hood had been collected by an agency of the MOD in July this year. This will be sold to third parties for the purchase of new equipment by Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service. The MOD were unable to collect the Breathing Apparatus available but the apparatus is being offered for the use of charities both in UK and abroad who can make use of it.
- Cllr Rickhards has recently added a request for yellow lines to be placed in Crendon Close in the turning circle as part of the possible projects to be considered in the Transport seminar in January.
- Cllr Rickhards has been involved in groups deliberating on the role of the County in relation to Academies, the provision of post 16 transport and the complications of the government's attempts to reform School Funding. On the latter Cllr Rickhards has been particularly concerned to defend the level of SEN provision which in counties like Warwickshire seem to be underfunded. Detailed explanation of all the problems concerning school funding is available for any Councillors so request.
- The members' grants applications close on October 26th 2012, Cllr Rickhards has so far supported bids from 3 sources with a likely 4th to follow. Cllr Rickhards will be attending the Children & Adult Services Conference from 23rd to 26th October 2012 further bids must be handed by Monday 22nd October 2012.

Cllr Mrs H Wright reported the following:

- **Core Draft Strategy-** The target date for the completion of the Core Strategy has been extended and no date has been set for completion. In the absence of a Core Strategy there is a 'presumption in favour of sustainable development'. This makes it much more difficult to reject unwanted planning applications for new housing estates. Studley will become more vulnerable to large scale development. The continual delay in developing a Core Strategy has resulted in cost to Stratford District Council so far in exceeding half a million pounds. It also means that Neighbourhood Plans are likely to be affected, as they cannot be adopted until the districts Core Strategy is in place. The Parish Plan that Studley is now revising can be adopted by the District Council and will become a material consideration.
- **Council Tax Discounts and Exemptions-** Stratford District Council has now agreed to remove the discount on second homes. Reduce the exemption period from Council tax on homes which are empty and substantially unfurnished from 6 months to 3 months. Increase the Council tax liability on homes which have been empty for 2 or more years.
- **Council Tax Benefits-** The Council Tax Support scheme is to replace Council Tax Benefits. The annual cost to Stratford District Council £7.5 million, therefore the Government is expecting a saving £750,000 from the replacement Council Tax Support Scheme. This is to be done by reducing the level of support which is available to "non vulnerable", who are people that are not pensionable age. Currently the Council is

- developing a scheme and will meet the cost for Council Tax period 2012/13. A permanent scheme will be in place by 2012/14 and under these arrangement individuals receiving support will not receive benefit but will get a discount. The change will have a significant impact upon the tax base and therefore has implication for all precepting authorities including Warwickshire County Council, and Warwickshire Police Authority. The Town and Parish Councils are protected by legislation.
- **Landscape sensitivity study-** The Stratford District Council published the Landscape sensitivity study in July 2011. The main aim of the study is to examine the degree to which the landscape within and on the edge of the main settlements of Stratford District Council is sensitive to change. It will provide and input into the assessment of development proposals for the Core Strategy. This report is a technical document but has the ability to influence the edge of Studley and change the character. It discusses the visual relationship between housing development, commercial development and the landscape. It identifies 15 areas of landscape on the edge of Studley for discussion. The document can be found on Stratford District Council website.

12. Correspondence SDC, WCC.

None

Other Correspondance

Min 158: Western Power Distribution- Invitation to Stakeholder workshop with luncheon.

Min 159: Reminder to all that the training event for The New National Policy Planning Framework will be taking place on the 10 November 2012.

Min 160: Email from Patrick & Barbara Campbell complimenting the new format for Studley Voice.

For Circulation

Min161: National Rail- The Proposal Network rail (Redditch Branch Enhancement) order Notice of Acceptance.

13. Committee Reports

None

14. Delegates Report

Min 162: Cllr Beaman thank everyone that came to support the Studley Firefighters on the 8th October 2012.

Min 163: Cllr Bacon informed the Council that the CCTV control room in Stratford is now fully staffed which enables better monitoring of CCTV cameras in Studley. Cllr Bacon has requested for monthly report to be send to Studley Parish Council office.

Min 123: The Parish Plan will be collected from the printers on Friday 19 October. Cllr Bacon requested help to collate the Parish Plan.

15. Approved Accounts for Payment

Proposed: Cllr M Redman that the cheques the schedule of cheques for payment be approved, seconded Cllr MrsS Redman. Voting 9 in favour and 1 abstention.

Payments sheet 16 October 2012 Meeting.

16.10.12	GS Adams	113	£1770.18
16.10.12	DR Lee Trading	114	98.00
16.10.12	Lyreco Ltd	115	131.59
16.10.12	Salary	116	1159.90
16.10.12	Salary	117	734.76
16.10.12	HMRC	118	629.78

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 6th November 2012.

Meeting Closed 8:55pm
