

Studley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Council Chamber, Studley Village Hall on Tuesday 17th February 2009 at 7.30pm.

1. Chairman declared the meeting open

2. Present

Vice Chair Mrs S. Redman, J. Vale, E. Holder, P. Beaman, Mrs M. Woodrow, Mrs A. Wade, W. McCarthy, Mrs H. Wersocki, M. Redman, C. Rickhards.
District Councillor M. Weddell.
County Councillor Mrs H. McCarthy.

3. Apologies for Absence

Chairman Cllr J. Bacon
Cllr Mrs M. Bell – no reason given

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

Royal British Legion: letter received from Peter Smith informing of meeting to take place at Studley Sports & Social Club on Wednesday, 25th February 2009 at 8.30pm to see if there is enough interest to form a Studley Branch.

Cllr Mrs Wade – Studley Library: there are forms in the library for completion as part of the library review. However if the library is not open the survey will not be fair. Forms are not well displayed. Cllr Mrs McCarthy will check. We were assured by Warwickshire County Council that the consultation would be widely publicised.

Dave Martin, PCSO: Jason Brown has left to join West Midlands Police. Dave has been based in Alcester for 12 months, not sure how long will be in Studley but will try and be pro-active. Role driven by community. Incidents of criminal damage last weekend. Would like, with a member of the Parish Council, to get dialogue going with youngsters to see what they require. Need to get their trust.

Youths would like to see Youth Club open for more hours as well as a drop-in café.

New Youth Leader is starting to bring things into the Club. Anna is showing it is a two way process. Need to build up trust, youths don't want to be dictated to.

Suggestion to co-opt a representative from the Youth Club onto Parish Council to give their views or an associate member. Clerk will look into this. Item for discussion at next meeting. Thanks to Dave for attending the meeting.

6. To Pass the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes amended. Proposed Cllr Beaman that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the last meeting, seconded Cllr Holder. All Agreed. The minutes were

signed by the Vice Chair.

7. Matters Arising (for information only)

None.

8. Items for Discussion

Min 383 Thomas Guise Solicitors: lease between Studley Parish Council for Studley Tennis Club, Bowls Club and Studley Sports & Social Club. Notice received from SSSC that they have charged the property in favour of Coventry & Warwickshire Reinvestment Trust Ltd. They have a second charge over the property as the first charge is with Carlsberg UK Ltd.

The charge goes back some time. Electricity bill received for £17,000 due to problem with meter. Club in no position to pay which is the reason for the second charge. Electricity Company accepted minimum payment of £2000 per month. Through Credit Union got a loan but took a year to agree due to problem with the lease. In the meantime repayment to Electricity Company nearly completed but loan stands.

9. Planning Applications for Consideration

None.

10. Planning Decisions Received

None.

Cllr Beaman: At West Area Planning Committee meeting on 12th February 2009 Planning Application No.08/02716/FUL Construction of a Class A1 Food Retail Store and associated car parking was granted subject to S106 agreement. Money to be used for improvements to Barley Mow Island.

11. District and County Council Reports

No District Council Report available.

County Council Report given by Cllr Mrs McCarthy

- Increase in budget of 3.89% agreed.
- Vacancies at WCC not being filled except by relocation of a person or redistribution of work to deter redundancies.
- Corporate Parenting Group – Cllr Mrs McCarthy is a member of Steering Group for children in care who have been abused or neglected and who have specific needs and difficulties. These children do less well than their peers in education and later on in life. Trying to change this as not always recognised.
- Seminars being held throughout the year.
- All children need stability. Leave care at 18 to go to college or university but need somewhere to go back to so perhaps need extended care.
- Attended seminar, money now available to install railings outside Tesco Express against the kerb to prevent people parking there.

Cllr Mrs Wersocki: problem of buses parking on A448, Clerk to write to bus company and ask that buses park in rightful place.

12. Correspondence

SDC

Min 392 Notification received of appeal, planning application no.08/01425/FUL 60A Station Road. First floor extension over existing flat roof for bedroom - including new external open sided covered way to existing back door and internal WCs. Being dealt with by way of written representations.

RESOLVED: clerk to write in support of application.

Min 393 Planning application no.08/02716/FUL Construction of Class A1 Food Retail Store and associated car parking. To be considered at West Area Planning Committee. (See item 10)

WCC

None.

Other

Min 394 Cheque for £30 received from Studley Daytime WI to cover cost of table at Christmas Celebration plus a donation towards the Christmas lights. Clerk to write letter of thanks.

Min 395 Letter received from Mr Wall concerning allotments. Thanks for being able to keep his plot and will be doing more to cultivate it this year. Concerned that too much responsibility has been designated to the Allotment Association. Although recognises that the AA does a good job would like assurance that the Parish Council will have the last say in any dispute.

Min 396 Letter received from Adrian Smith concerning a number of questions that have arisen about the Allotments. Chairman attended a meeting of the Allotment Association and explained the process of the precept and its approval.

Clerk to clarify with Anne Rolfe that if they want work done on the Allotments before April they will have to use their own money and the Parish Council will reimburse them in the next financial year.

Need to investigate possibility of asbestos on site. Clerk to contact Environmental Health.

Min 397 Comments required by Redditch Borough Council on the Preferred Draft Core Strategy before 8th May 2009. There are suggested implications for green belt land around Bordesley, Winyates Green and possible land returning to the green belt at Brockhill, Webheath and the A435 corridor.

Winyates Triangle has been put forward for industrial use and Bordesley for housing. Need to make sure traffic strategy dealt with as Studley cannot cope with any more traffic. Also number of houses could impact on River Arrow and cause flooding. Documents can be viewed at: www.redditch.whub.org.uk Clerk to write with comments.

Min 398 The Rural Services Network is a non profit Membership Organisation established to both argue the case on behalf of rural services and the financial provision to them. Free membership as our principal Council, Stratford District Council, is a member of the SPARSE Rural Local

Authority arm of the Network. A weekly digest 'Rural Focus' will be sent to Parish Councils.

- Min 399 SLCC advised that the next Branch meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd April 2009 at the Crawford Memorial Hall, Bidford on Avon at 1300 hours.
- Min 400 Letter received from Derek Smith concerned about the application for a liquor licence for the hours 5.30 -22.20 hours for the former Dillon's shop. Licence has been refused.
- Min 401 NALC Legal Briefing: The Parish Councils (Power to promote well-being) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2008. Order details the conditions a parish council must satisfy if it wishes to qualify as an 'eligible parish council' to exercise the power of well-being which came into force on 31st December 2008. Copy handed to all Councillors.

Correspondence for Circulation

- Min 402 Charitymatters newsletter
- Min 403 WCC Newsflash on funding schemes
- Min 404 Council for Voluntary Service and Volunteer Bureaux Stratford on Avon District Newsletter – Retail Gurus

13. Committee Reports

None.

14. Delegates Reports

Youth Club update given by Cllr Holder

Dave McDonald is leaving to join Fire Service. Hoping to come back to help. Refurbishment taking place, main hall to be done at Easter then hoping for more funding later in the year. Fire System to be installed.

Report of Allotment Association meeting held on 29th January 2009 given by Cllr McCarthy. Meeting also attended by Cllr Bacon.

Copy handed to all Councillors

Summary:

- Most concern centred around the rise in the plot rents for next year. Cllr Bacon explained how the system worked and that anyone could come to the Parish Council and express a view on any matter on the agenda before a meeting. Many plot holders felt they should have been consulted. Cllr Bacon said that perhaps they might be informed of the date of the precept meeting which would allow them to state their view on any potential rises. Explained that the Parish Council has to strike a balance between big cost increases such as lighting electricity and maintenance of the columns and the fact that they are a small group of residents getting subsidised by the rest of the community.
- The Association has obtained £600 from SDC for their computer software, the Christmas Fair raised £177 and the seed catalogues £39 leaving the Association with a balance of £6000.
- The Dunstall site had seen some break-ins. Discussions ensued about the type of fencing along the boundary with Eldorado Close. The type to be decided after discussion with residents.

- A plot holder from Kent has still been allowed to hold a plot but he has never cultivated it and only gathered apples from the trees on it.
- A resident has again thrown tree cuttings over onto the allotment and should receive a letter asking that he remove them.

15. Approve Accounts for Payment

Proposed Cllr McCarthy that the schedule of cheques for payment be approved, seconded Cllr Holder. All agreed.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 3rd March 2009

Meeting Closed 8.45pm