

Studley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Council Chamber, Studley Village Hall on 17th June 2014 at 7:30 pm.

1. Chairman declared the meeting open.

Present

Chairman J Ingram, Vice- Chairman Cllr Mrs M Rickhards, Cllr M Redman, Cllr Mrs S Redman, Cllr Mrs S Crofts, Cllr M Roskell, Cllr P Beaman, Cllr E Holder & Cllr J Bacon.

In attendance

Parish Clerk, Mrs L Gailey , Assistant Clerk Mrs L Stanton, Cllr Caborn, Assistant Chief Fire Officer , Jim Onions, County Councillor C Rickhards, District Councillor Mrs H Wright & 2 member of public.

2. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr T O'Hanlon, Cllr A Smith & Cllr Mrs M Woodrow

3. 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.

There were none

4. Public Forum

There were none

5. Briefing from Cllr Caborn & Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Jim Onions regarding the proposed reduction in night cover for the Alcester Fire Station.

The following proposal was discussed;

- Need to achieve a £2.3 million saving over a period of 4 years.
- Reduction from 230 whole time fire fighters in Warwickshire to 200 within 2 years
- 114 retained fire fighters
- 10 am to 10 pm assessed as peak period with twice as many calls.
- Ambition to put more whole time fire fighters between 10am – 10 pm
- Reliance on more retained fire fighters between 10pm – 10am
- Appliances spread geographically.
- Introduce unit blanket 10 minute response across the board for the first appliance - second appliance response time of 15 minutes.

Proposed Cllr P Beaman, seconded Cllr E Holder voting unanimous that a letter be sent setting out the Parish Council's concerns and asking them to reconsider the removal of night time cover at Alcester Fire Station.

6. To Pass minutes of the last meeting

- 20th May 2014

Proposed Cllr P Beaman, seconded Cllr E Holder, voting for 7, 2 abstentions that the minutes to be signed by Chairman as true record of the meeting as published.

- 3rd June 2014

Proposed Cllr P Beaman, seconded Cllr E Holder, voting for 8, 1 abstentions that the minutes to be signed by Chairman as true record of the meeting as published.

7. Matters Arising (for information only)

Clerk read out response letter from Yvette Widdowfield- CCTV Service Manager regarding the hostile treatment by some of the members at the CCTV meeting towards Cllr Mrs M Rickhards.

8. Items for Discussion

Min: 45 Review categories for Village Awards & judging for allotments and garden

Proposed Cllr P Beaman, seconded Cllr Mrs M Rickhards, voting unanimous for the Award for 'Elderly Garden' to be changed to 'runners up'.

Cllr Roskell & Bacon have agreed to assist with the judging for allotments and gardens.

Min: 46 Grass cutting in Studley- Cllr M Roskell

Cllr M Roskell will do further investigation into the grass cutting in the village.

Min: 47 Litter picking in Pool Road, Car Park

To review contract for litter pick in future finance committee meeting.

Min: 48 Annual Audit Report

Proposed Cllr J Ingram, seconded Cllr Mrs S Redman, voting unanimous to discuss recommendation in future Finance Committee Meeting.

9. Planning Applications for consideration

14/00943/FUL: Mr Graham, Tom and Ike Gilbert, 11 Alcester Road, Studley, B80 7AN

Proposed erection of 6 flats and widening of the access on land to the rear of No. s 11 to 15 Alcester Road.

Proposed Cllr P Beaman, seconded Cllr Mrs S Crofts, voting for 8 and 1 abstention to Object planning application based on the following reasons;

- Unimaginative, size of building and density.
- Question of road ownership as detailed on map.

14/01345/FUL: Mr Robert Drinkwater, 2 St Martin's Avenue, Studley, B80 7JJ

Proposed single storey extension.

Proposed Cllr J Bacon, seconded Cllr Mrs S Redman, voting unanimous

No Representation and to make the following comment - ensure that the fence remains low so as to not obstruct visibility at the junction.

10. Planning Decisions Received

There were none

11. Notification of Planning Appeals & Planning Committee Meeting

There were none

12. District, County Council & Delegate Reports.

A combined report from District Councillors Mrs H Wright & P Beaman.

- **Studley HGV Scenario Analysis**
- In the proposed Core Strategy, to meet the needs of Redditch, two sites have been allocated by the Conservatives for employment - Gorcott Hill and Winyates Green.

- Cllrs Mrs H Wright and P Beaman will argue that this will result in an increase of Heavy Goods vehicles through Studley and impact on the air quality in the centre of Studley. It is also an implication for other villages.
- The study was commissioned by SDC.
- The purposes of the report is to assess the likely changes in average journey, average journey speed and average queue lengths as a result of all vehicle movements generated by the proposed development and HGVs specifically. We believe the report is incomplete and will be arguing the case to this effect.

- **Social Inclusion Statement**

- The focus of the statement is determined by 5 simple priorities.
- Education, employment and training work in 2 areas
- Income and debt work in 2 areas
- Social isolation work within SDC
- Monitoring, impact measurement and creating greater understanding
- Boosting the alternatives to high cost credit through encouraging a credit union to work in the District.
- It should be noted that Youth work is not specifically identified as a target and that young people will be helped by trying to alleviate the impact of poverty.
- In view of this intention to close the Community Centre, Studley Parish Councillors may want to question this more closely as it is moving away from informed decision making on behalf of young people.

- **SDC Proposed Core Strategy**

- Before the final submission there has to be 6 weeks consultation period to ensure that proper procedures have been followed.
- Parish Councils have been informed.

- **Planning Service**

- A mixture of temporary and permanent staff is currently supporting the Planning Department which can make the department fragile.
- In order to reduce this fragility it has agreed to increase the permanent staff by 3. The department however will still be reliant on some temporary staff.
The particular challenges are:
- The high volume of major applications.
- The increase in the number of Planning and Enforcement appeals.
- A need to support the economic recovery for the District through the planning process
- Ill health.

- **Unitary Local Government for Warwickshire**

- This concept has been proposed by the Warwickshire County Council.
- This was debated at Cabinet on Monday 16th June 2014. It was agreed it could deliver financial and organisational benefits with other partners, specifically Cherwell and South Northamptonshire Councils, along with discussions with Warwickshire County Council.

County Councillor C Rickhards reported the following;

- **Redditch Plan No :4 at Redditch Town Hall**

- Only considering 'duty to co-operate' at this point of the deliberation.
- Cllr Rickhards questioned Redditch for the lack of communication between the affected Parish Councils since they are the first port of call in the planning process in counties.

- Cllr Rickhards pointed out to publicise the Redditch Plan No 4 was not to consult and quoted some policies on Community Involvement supported by RBC that they were not applying to the parishes concerned.
- The Inspector fairly pointed out that Redditch had no legal obligation under the Act of 2004 which introduced the above 'duty' to co-operate with Parish Councils. He advised Councillor Rickhards to raise these and other points later in the year when questions relating to the 'soundness' of the plan would be on the agenda.
- **Studley Centre**
- The Priority Families team are not interested in using the Centre as an Administration Base.
- Churches Together are still interested; Cllr Rickhards will be arranging a meeting with Steve Smith of Property Services to estimate the cost to keep the Centre open with voluntary bodies managing the Centre.
- Cllr E Holder has asked Cllr Rickhards about the refinancing of other centres. The question will be asked at the next full County Council meeting.
- CHESS at Camp Hill - Nuneaton have been refinanced. Their income is 80k and expenditure 98k and has a supporting budget of 20k.
- HATTERS have very similar figures and has the Health Store for the whole County based in HATTERS.
- Cllr E Holder had asked why Studley did not have such facilities and the answer seems to be evidence of a higher need for services such as contraception advice.
- Cllr Rickhards has also obtained figures from Atherstone & Lillington.
- Cllr Richards has argued that it is wrong for SDC to lose its last remaining Youth Centre when Cllr Rickhards successfully argued for the retention of the Centre 3 years ago and the argument was not based on the retention of Youth Centre but as an Early Intervention Centre
- **Safe Crossing on High Street, Studley**
- There is a petition for the improvement of safety for the journey to school from the North side of Studley. Cllr Rickhards urged all Councillors to support the petition.
- **Car Park for Coughton School**
- There is a possibility of a car park for Coughton School as many of the pupils comes from Studley

13. Committee Reports.

- 3rd June 2014 & 9th June 2014

Proposed Cllr P Beaman, seconded Cllr J Bacon, voting unanimous that meeting notes of Committee meetings to be signed by Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

14. Correspondence

Min: 49 SDC- Proposed submissions Core Strategy

Other Correspondence

Min 50: WALC- Liaison Meeting for those Parishes in the SDC area. - 26th June 2014, 5:30pm
Cllr P Beaman will attend on behalf of Studley Parish Council

For Circulation

Min: 51 WALC- Newsletter and bespoke Guidance for members Council ADH/111/1/2014

15. Approved Accounts for payment.

17 th June 2014				
	Cheque Cancelled	Cheque cancelled	489	Cancelled
	John Truslove	Valuation fee	490	£330.00
	Biffa Municipal	Bulky waste	491	£933.60
	G Gardner	Pest control cemetery	492	£67.50
	LITE	Christmas Lights	493	£2928.00
	Excel	Telecom	494	£98.69
	Lyreco	Stationery	495	£266.47
	Redditch Skip	Skip hire	496	£188.40
	HMRC	HMRC	497	£715.32
	Salaries	Salaries	498/9	£2207.93
	Oakley Computer	Training for Sage 50	500	£416.00
	Clarity	Photocopying	DD	£175.99

Proposed Cllr J Ingram, seconded Cllr P Beaman, voting unanimous that schedule of cheques be approved and signed.

16) Date of the next Parish Council Meeting 1st July 2014

Meeting closed 9:15 pm