

Studley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Council Chamber, Studley Village Hall on Tuesday, 17th August 2010 at 7.30pm.

1. Chairman declared the meeting open

2. Present

Chair C. Rickhards, Vice Chair J. Vale, P. Beaman, Mrs H. Wersocki, E. Holder, W. McCarthy, Mrs M. Woodrow, D. Somner.
District Councillor M. Weddell.
15 members of the public.

3. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs A. Wade – Family Commitment
Cllr J. Bacon – Holiday
Cllr Mrs S. Redman – Illness
Cllr M. Redman – Holiday
District Cllr Mrs H. Wright - Holiday

Welcome to everyone from the Chairman. This is a special evening and thank you to all those attending to collect Awards.

Notice from the Chairman of the closure of Priory Square between Birmingham Road and Redditch Road to repair a leaking sewer from Saturday, 21st August 2010 for five days. Diversion will be in place.

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 13 Min 178 Studley Village Hall Notice of Proposed Rent Increase – Personal Interest.
Item 16 Accounts - Personal Interest

5. Presentation of the Annual Village Awards 2010

Thank you from the Chairman for attending. It is a pleasure to give out the Awards.

Clerk: It was very hard to judge this year as there are some lovely gardens and the allotments just go from strength to strength.

Following the presentation the Chairman thanked everyone again for making

the Village a better place to live.

Apologies from the Chairman for his recent absence from meetings due to a theatrical engagement and thank you to Cllr Vale who was an excellent able substitution.

6. Public Forum

Cllr McCarthy: attended the funeral of Hugh Mason. He was Chairman of Studley Cricket Club. In 1936 he rowed for Cambridge University in the boat race and also rowed in the 1936 Olympics. He retired to North Wales where he was an avid gardener and appeared on Gardener's World. He then moved to Broadway and became the greens man of the golf course. He finally moved to Bishampton where he died at the age of 95. He was a well respected gentleman.

7. To Pass the Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes were received, approved and signed by the Chairman.

8. Matters Arising (*for information only*)

- Min 151 Director of Public Health's Annual Report on Older People Consultation Events – confirmation of dates:
Wednesday, 22nd September 2010 – Horticultural Research Institute, Wellesbourne from 7.00pm
Tuesday, 19th October 2010 – Shipston High School from 7.00pm
- Min 152 Jenny Murray, Stratford Localities & Communities Manager to attend Parish Council meeting on 21st September 2010 to discuss the Total Place project.

9. Items for Discussion

- Min 97 Bulky Waste Collection – Volunteer required for 4th September 2010
Cllr Vale volunteered for last collection and arrived at 8.30am. Verdant arrived at 9.00am. It was quiet and the system worked well.
Cllr Holder will attend on 4th September 2010.
- Min 139 Fire Station Closure - To be discussed at WCC's Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
Cllr Mrs Wright is arranging a meeting with the Chief Fire Officer from Hereford & Worcester and the Clerk.
First plan was for 7 closures and Hereford & Worcester were objecting quite strongly, but when confronted with 4 closures were not worried about any aspect. All bordering Counties were invited at all stages to comment. Oxfordshire had grave concerns about areas in the south of the County but when Fenny Compton and Kenilworth remained open were quite happy with the decision.
- Min 170 Cllr Beaman: Funding Opportunities for Events
The District Council has funding available for events and festivals in the District. Limitations as money not available for school and village fetes

and carnivals. £2000 per event available. Thought it a good idea to put in an application for SSSC to make the fun day an annual event. Information to be passed to Cllrs Mrs S Redman & M Redman.
Min 71 Reminder of Exercise Watermark meeting 8th September 2010. Cllrs Beaman, Holder and Redman to attend.

10. Planning Applications for Consideration (Cllr Beaman refrained from voting)

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|--------------|--|
| 10/01482/FUL | Ms J Desmond, 55 St Judes Avenue, Studley.
Proposed single storey rear/side extension.
No representation. |
| 10/01078/FUL | Mr C Strain, 21B Alcester Road, Studley.
Change of use from health & fitness centre to A1 and A3 mixed use indoor retail market.
Support for the following planning reasons: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In line with Studley's Parish Plan which supports economic activity.2. Any new business and services should be supported in the Village.3. This development will add social and economic value to the community.4. In line with Policy COM3 concerning the provision of new shops and services which meet the needs of the local community should be encouraged. |

11. Planning Decisions Received

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 10/01015/OUT | Mr M Allen, Land at, Studley Road, Studley.
Outline application for the erection of a two storey dwelling with a detached single storey garage including the formation of a new access from highway.
Planning permission refused 6th August 2010 |
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12. District and County Council Reports

District Council Report given by Cllr Weddell

Working group is looking at shared services between the two areas.
Supporting TPO (Tree Preservation Order) on group of trees at Needle Industry.
Area is for industrial development and not housing.

County Council Report given by Cllr Rickhards

Copy handed to all Councillors

- On 20th July 2010 the Council voted to close Studley Fire Station together with Warwick and Brinklow.
 - An amendment to oppose all closures was lost with some abstentions and the substantive motion was carried with a majority of 12 again with abstentions.
 - Spoke in favour of the amendment and voted against motion B which closed Studley. The run down of the station might take until 2013 while Alcester is strengthened.
 - Grim picture emerging on finance:
35 to 40% cut in local government finance over the next 4 years
Pay freeze for 2 years
Savings in Warwickshire of £55 to £86m depending on the size of council tax increases
Some services to go in their entirety
Efficiencies alone will not suffice
Council tax will be a much bigger proportion of income – probably 44% in Warwickshire.
 - Still to come – October spending review.
 - Consultation is beginning on the planned closure of some or all of the residential care homes (eg Four Acres) over a 5 year period.
 - Concerned that the extra care housing units to be built and any private sector replacements will not be able to cope with the demands for critical and respite cases.
 - Care charges are to rise by several hundred per cent over the next year in 2 stages. For example day care charges are rising from £5.55 to £25.00 per day.
- It is untenable for the County to run care homes.

Cllr Rickhards visited Four Acres to get an impression of what is being done there.

Some homes will be sold to the private sector.

Proposal to acquire 20 sites in the County for extra care housing. Concerns that certain categories (not sure how they will be catered for) dementia and respite will be on the increase due to demographic changes. Trying to glean more facts.

Justification is saving money due to pressures on Local Government.

Reduction of up to 40% in funding making a huge difference.

Consultation programme taking in all categories.

13. Correspondence

SDC

- Min 171 Creation of a new visitor website www.discover-stratford.com aimed at encouraging visitors to the area. It will be live by end of September 2010. Image of the Parish required that will be used beside Parish listing. Clerk to submit image of Studley.

WCC

- Min 172 Invitation for 2 representatives from the Parish Council to an 'At Home' Drinks Reception at Shire Hall on Saturday, 25th September 2010 6.30pm – 8.30pm. Cllr Rickhards & consort to attend.
- Min 173 'Save Warwickshire a Tonne' campaign. Following success of 'Switch it Off' campaign this new campaign aims to raise awareness of how simple measures within the home, garden, business, school and travel can save both carbon and cash. It focuses on energy efficiency by composting and growing your own food with a view for Warwickshire residents, schools and businesses to save a tonne of CO2 over a year. Information to be included in next newsletter.
Street lights could be more energy efficient. Village Hall will be looking to reduce gas consumption. Will be asking Parish Council to assist with funding. Orbit Housing is also looking to save energy.
- Min 174 2010/2011 Winter Service Review. WCC are currently carrying out a review of winter service provision and would like views of the Parish Council on their service and suggestions on what would be an appropriate service. 1,125 miles of road receives salting on primary gritted routes. Due to budget restrictions unable to increase existing resource without reducing primary routes to compensate for any additions. Priority given to roads carrying highest volume of traffic. Salt stocks have significantly increased to improve ability to grit primary routes at existing levels and meet the likelihood of a severe winter. Grit bins provided by the Parish council are replenished by WCC. Public encouraged to use these bins. Questionnaire to be completed by the end of August. Views from Parish Councillors to be sent to the Clerk
- Min 175 Total Place Workshop (now Place Based Budgeting) to be held in Studley Village Hall on Monday, 13th September 2010 10.00am – 2.00pm. To be run by Chris Marsh. Date noted by Councillors. Apologies from Cllr Rickhards & Mrs Wersocki, unable to attend. Decision made to cancel visit of Jenny Murray (Min 152) as Workshop will be held before her proposed visit.

Other

- Min 176 WCC Locality Review – Recommendations and Conclusions. Report forwarded to all Councillors for their comments. Required by 30th September 2010 especially for pages 16 – 19. To be discussed at Parish Council meeting on 21st September 2010.

- Min 177 Redditch & South Warwickshire Combination League concerning the closure of changing facility and effect on Duck Pond Football Club as they may have to resign from the league and result in a financial penalty. Cllr Beaman has spoken to Sibcas to see if facility could be refurbished cheaper and will pursue. No choice on closure at present time. Cllrs sorry to hear of difficulties.
- Min 178 Studley Village Hall notice received of proposed increase in rent of 5% for next year. Office rents have not gone up in Redditch for 15 years. Need to discuss further and invite delegation from Village Hall Management Committee to next meeting.
- Min 179 NALC: Briefings on Ordnance Survey Open Data to make it freely available to the public and Government Proposals to phase out the default retirement age of 65. Copies to all Councillors.
- Min 180 Legal Briefing to cap billing authorities Council Tax and Parish Councils' precept levels. Copy to all Councillors.
- Min 181 Thank you letter from Studley in Bloom to the Parish Council for all the help and support prior to judging day on 23rd July. Results will be known on 16th September 2010.
- Min 182 Communities and Local Government Consultation on Local Referendums to veto excessive council tax increases. Ministers have announced a short consultation on the capping of local parish council precepts as part of wider freeze on council tax. This is a matter of serious concern. NALC continuing dialogue with CLC and County Association. Member Councils should respond and make representations to local MPs. Copy to all Councillors for discussion at next Parish Council meeting. Consultation ends 10th September 2010.
- Min 183 Studley Baptist Church 'Hope for an Addicted Society' 9th October 2010. Invitation to join the Church on that day. No one available to attend.
- Min 184 Information being collected to feed forthcoming Fire Futures Review of Fire & Rescue Services. NALC would be interested in finding out Parish Council's involvement and engagement with the Fire & Rescue Service. Clerk has already responded.

Correspondence for Circulation

- Min 185 Parish Plans & Rural Outreach Newsletter
- Min 186 Charity Commission News
- Min 187 Minutes of the WCC Cabinet Committee
- Min 188 Warwickshire Climate Change Newsletter
- Min 189 Warwickshire Police Authority Stratford District – Councillors Briefing

14. Committee Reports

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 20th July 2010 at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber, Studley Village Hall
Copy to All Councillors.

- Changing Room Facility – Brickyard Lane. Copy of quotes received passed to all Councillors together with details of all the necessary work required to bring the changing rooms up to standard.
- Rooms in very poor condition. 'No Smoking' signs are not on doors.
- Nowhere to store equipment other than the referee's changing room.
- A lot of work to bring the rooms up to a reasonable standard.
- Two quotes received: Electrical work - £3614.00 plus VAT
General work - £3080.00 VAT not required
- Income is only £300.00. Concern of spending this amount of money when the pitch is not used by local teams.
- Would rather see the money spent at SSSC.
- In present condition should be closed and electricity disconnected.
- There is an ongoing maintenance cost each year, but only produces a loss.
- Ground is often unplayable in the winter.
- Clerk to ask the team what it would mean to them if the area was closed for safety reasons and to check the minimum standard required by the Football League.
- Cost involved in closing the facilities and making the area safe.
- Maybe could be gutted and used for changing only.
- Could look for grants perhaps through the Playing Fields Association (PFA) but with only one team playing may not be viable.

Proposed Cllr Beaman:

- at present needs closing as a health hazard;**
- notify the team to see if they still want to use the pitch;**
- Clerk to check the minimum facilities required to enable teams to play;**
- can then make an informed decision.**

Seconded Cllr McCarthy. All in favour.

15. Delegates Reports

Youth Club Report given by Cllr Holder

- Youth Club has been refurbished at the front.
- Has been given grant to carry on with summer activities such as football, trip to Drayton Manor, go carting, Kingsbury Water Park.
- Club going from strength to strength and numbers increasing.
- Fantastic leadership from Rob McCluskey and Tracey.
- One night a week some youths attending kick boxing and self defence classes.
- Old Connexions Room being changed to girls' room.
- Cllr Rickhards invited to attend any committee meeting.

16. Approve Accounts for Payment

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

653 – Johnsons Coaches £225.00 (3rd August 2010)

Direct Debit 14th August 2010 SDC Office Rates £125.00.

654 – Mrs D E Mitchell £1384.87. 655 - Mrs S Perks £472.79.

656 – Inland Revenue £738.10. 657 – J W Barrett £528.75.

658 – Verdant £417.13. 659 – Redditch Skip Hire £179.78.

660 – G S Adams £1487.94. 661 – Johnsons Coaches £195.00.

662 – P A Janes £1460.00.

**The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 7th
September 2010**

Meeting closed 9.02pm

Signed: Chairman