

Studley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Council Chamber, Studley Village Hall on Tuesday, 19th October 2010 at 7.30pm.

1. Chairman declared the meeting open

Welcome to Mick Potter, Warwickshire County Council.

2. Present

Chairman C. Rickhards, Vice Chair J. Vale, E. Holder, D. Somner, Mrs A. Wade, Mrs H. Wersocki, W. McCarthy, Mrs S. Redman, M. Redman, J. Bacon, Mrs M. Woodrow, P. Beaman.
District Councillor M. Weddell.
M. Potter, Emergency Planning Officer, WCC.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and noted from:
District Councillor Mrs H. Wright.

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 Somner Planning Application No.10/01971/FUL – Personal Interest

5. Exercise Watermark: Presentation by Mick Potter, Emergency Planning

Officer: following flooding in 2007, report recommended exercise at local community level. To take place 4th – 11th March 2011. Being organised through Parish Councils. Linked with national exercise and media campaign to publicise what is happening. Can validate our Emergency Plan and call the Committee together just to see how we think we can respond and look at things we can do. Number of ways the exercise can be run. Thirty councils are participating some are doing a flood fair or a rest centre. There are options available. Would like a firm commitment in the near future of what the Parish Council would like to do. Would work initially with two Parish Councillors and the Clerk. As part of the Exercise Warwick University have some funding for students to come and record what actually happens. National Body can then understand the impact. Will be a hot debrief immediately after the event and a cold debrief four weeks later and can bring along points for discussion.

Proposed Cllr M. Redman would like the Parish Council to make a firm commitment, seconded Cllr Holder. Voting Unanimous. Would like to do

call-out exercise leading to rest centre. A 'no notice' exercise could take place. Meeting to be arranged with Mick Potter, the Clerk, Cllrs Somner, M. Redman, P. Beaman and E. Holder.

6. Public Forum

Cllr McCarthy: thank you to the Parish Council team for attending the quiz night. Despite poor attendance £130.00 was raised.

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*)

None.

9. Items for Discussion

Min 238 Cllr Rickhards: Community Speedwatch Partnerships

Suggested at Community Forum meeting by Jenny Murray, Stratford Area Team, WCC that there could be a sharing use of the speed laser gun. Suggested that 4 or 5 Parish Councils could purchase a gun and pass it around each Council as there is only one available in Stratford District.

- Several Villages have carried out speed watches and they have proved popular. Drivers have slowed down.
- Police cannot be everywhere. Given training to volunteers.
- A case for 'joining in' on roads where there is excessive speed.
- Maybe a little dangerous for volunteers.
- Majority of speeding is carried out by locals. Speed guns do work. Used in Sambourne and Coughton. If serious could approach other Parish Councils.
- Cameras still not working on A448. Perhaps these should be put right first.
- Should look at alternatives instead of speed gun, maybe flashing signs.
- Would work by using volunteers with a rota system.
- Needs to be looked at long term. Volunteers may get fed up.

Item for discussion at next meeting.

Min 239 Cllr Rickhards: Youth Club Lighting

Raised at Community Forum Meeting. Lights in Basketball Court are out of commission. Were turned off following a horrendous electricity bill. Steve Smith, WCC is looking into how lights can be activated. Youngsters themselves had made the lights dangerous. Two lights are now situated in school premises so will have to get permission to access school. Already being done by WCC.

Police are against lights as encourages youngsters to congregate in the

area.

Perhaps need to have a discussion on how best to use the whole area. Should encourage availability of activities that we have. With thought and consideration could be better used. If fencing were removed could be more accessible.

RESOLVED Clerk to write to Steve Smith to ascertain current position concerning the lighting.

Meeting to be arranged with Rob McCluskey, Cllrs Rickhards, Holder, Mrs S Redman, D. Somner for general discussion and to look at the area.

- Min 240 Skatepark resurfacing: should be painted twice a year. Clerk having difficulty finding a company to do the job or to purchase the paint. Cllr Holder has a contact and will forward details to the Clerk.
- Min 241 Nominations for Community Shields. Councillors asked to bring nominations slips to the next meeting.
- Min 242 Precept Meeting arranged for 2nd November 2010 at 6.45pm to discuss requirements.
- Min 97 Bulky Waste Collection: Cllr Holder volunteered to monitor the next collection on Saturday, 6th November 2010.
- Min 222 Willow Tree on The Green opposite the Railway Inn. Tree to be pollarded and will then be maintained by Jon Vale. Clerk to contact tree surgeon.
- Min 243 Stratford on Avon Tree Warden Scheme update and newsletter. Trees are available for planting on parish council and public land. Clerk to contact SDC for some oaks and silver birch for Crooks Lane Recreation Ground. Cllr Vale, as Tree Warden, attended a meeting where Felix Dennis was the speaker. Clerk to arrange for meeting with Felix Dennis to ascertain his tree planting proposals.

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

10/01948/EXT

Related Application Reference 05/01682/FUL
Mr P J Bubb, 47-51 High Street, Studley.
Application for extension of time to previously approved application ref:05/01682/FUL for alterations to 51 High Street, construction of 4 no. two-bed town houses and improvements to vehicular access.

Objection for the following planning reasons:

- 1. Area has become an eyesore after demolition of part of the existing building which is detrimental to the street scene.**
- 2. Has caused blight to properties and businesses on the High Street as no attempt has been made**

in the last five years to improve or develop the site. It has become an area for litter and dumping of rubbish therefore attracting vermin which is totally unacceptable.

10/01971/FUL

Mr Lee Clarke, 77 St Judes Avenue, Studley.
Proposed two storey side extension and proposed porch and garage extension.
No representation.

11. Planning Decisions Received

10/01687/FUL

Mrs F Kilburn, 49 Bromsgrove Road, Studley.
Erection of two metre high timber fence (retrospective)
Planning permission refused 4th October 2010

10/01430/ADV

Studley Point, Birmingham Road, Studley.
Proposed lettering on gable end.
Consent granted with conditions 1st October 2010

12. District and County Council Reports

District Council Report given by Cllr Weddell

Attended Cabinet Meeting on 4th October 2010 and Council Meeting on 18th October 2010. May go for all out elections one day. Structure of Senior Management to be discussed at meeting on Monday, 25th October 2010. No merger to take place between Stratford District and Warwick District Councils but may merge some departments.

Cllr Beaman: feels that Community Forum meetings are being hijacked by Officers instead of dealing with local issues. Has spoken to Stephen Thirwell who will look into it.

County Council Report given by Cllr Rickhards

- There will be a press statement from Alan Farnell, Leader of the Council on the Spending Review Report concerning WCC.
- On 2nd November 2010 there will be a Leader's statement and section 188 letters to be sent to unions.
- 5th November 2010 access to 'You Choose' on implications of cuts.
- Care Homes – Cabinet have now come up with 4 options:
 1. Closing all homes.
 2. Selling as a going concern.
 3. Formation of a joint venture.
 4. Combine with extra care units.
- Still 20 sites for care housing schemes to be established by 2014 to include specific schemes for those with dementia.
- Fire Service – went to Leamington Spa to Fire Service HQ to meet administrative staff. Questioning the cost of cross border payments.

Under Freedom of Information Act will be given figures but in negotiations with West Midlands at prices for a 'call out'. Will report back.

- Figures for Staffordshire show increase in Stations and retained officers.
- Cllr M. Redman: ask to see figures for number of incidents where Studley respond outside the area.
- Libraries: query into progress. Awaiting implications of Spending Review.

13. Correspondence

SDC

Min 244 SDC to ask residents – 'your money you decide'. Undertaking face to face interviews with residents on how they think the Council should spend its money. On line survey also commissioned so that a greater number of residents can take part. Can be found on:

www.sharesim.arachsys.com/login/stratfordbudget.jsp

250 face to face interviews proposed during October. Councillors themselves will be able to complete the survey themselves in session before full Council on 18th October 2010.

Min 245 Invitation to 'Systems Thinking' review of the planning application process relating especially to Planning Enforcement. Two workshops for Thursday, 4th November 2010 6.00pm – 8.00pm at Elizabeth House and Tuesday, 23rd November 2010 6.00 – 8.00pm at Studley Village Hall. Six Councillors to attend.

WCC

Min 246 Census taking place 27th March 2010. Looking to achieve a high response so that local figures are accurate. Would like help in promoting the importance of the census. Job opportunities available for people interested in helping with the census. More information on: www.2011census.gov.uk Area Manager is Karen Boyland.

Other

Min 247 Quotes received for repair of bus shelter, Alcester Road:
Sheltergard - £896.00 + VAT to include 24 months warranty
P A Janes - £180.00

Proposed Cllr Holder to accept the quote from P A Janes, seconded Cllr Beaman. Voting unanimous.

Min 248 WALC: Briefing Event for All Chairmen and Aspiring Chairmen and any interested Councillor on Saturday, 20th November 2010 at the Village Hall, Bourton on Dunsmore, Rugby 10.00am – 1.00pm
Councillors to notify the Clerk if interested in attending.

Min 249 WALC: Stratford West Area Parish and Town Councils Liaison meeting Monday, 25th October 2010 6.30pm at Elizabeth House. Clerk and Cllr Mrs Wade to attend.

- Min 250 WALC: Update on important issues concerning Parish and Town Councils. Copy to all Councillors.
- Min 251 BT infinity Broadband Update. Rolling out superfast optic broadband within the next five years. Race to infinity gives the opportunity to fast track your area. Five areas with the largest % of votes by 31st December 2010 will win the chance to bring the superfast broadband to to their area. BT will also donate £5.000.00 of computer equipment to a local community project. Go to www.racetoinfinity.bt.com to register. Clerk to register Studley Parish Council.
- Min 252 Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) invitation to AGM on Friday, 29th October 2010 at 11.00am to the Town Hall, Sheep Street. Cllr Mrs S Redman is already attending and Cllr M. Redman will represent the Parish Council.

Correspondence for Circulation

- Min 253 WALC Newsletter
- Min 254 Local Biodiversity Action Plan Update
- Min 255 SLCC Minutes of the meeting Thursday 15th April 2010
- Min 256 SLCC Branch Newsletter
- Min 257 Society of Local Council Clerks
- Min 258 LBAP Comments required on Defra Discussion Paper
- Min 259 WALC: Role of the County Committee
- Min 260 Parish Matters Newsletter
- Min 261 WRCC Country Matters
- Min 262 Warwickshire Police Stratford District Councillors Briefing September 2010
- Min 263 Warwickshire Police Alcester North SNT Community Newsletter September 2010
- Min 264 VASA Voluntary Action Parish Plans & Rural Outreach Newsletter

14. Committee Reports

Report concerning proposed rent increase circulated to all Councillors.

15. Delegates Reports

Youth Club Report given by Cllr Holder

Copy of half term activities handed to all Councillors

Youth Club is going very well with new young people attending. Youth Team working hard to retain them. Programme of events until 16th December 2010. Nurse attending to give educational talks on health issues. Ground rules are being set out. Will be printed and displayed. Looking for funding for two part time leaders for junior youth club. Inspection to take place on 9th December 2010, hopefully will go well. Saturday, 6th November 2010 is Open Day from 12noon until 3.00pm. AGM will be 17th January 2011.

Allotment Association Meeting 30th September 2010 Report given by Cllr McCarthy.

Copy to all Councillors.

Following points raised re the Parish Council:

Summary:

1. The grass needed cutting near the Dunstall allotment entrance. The Association understood the Parish Council would do it. Is this so?
2. Hedge cutting at Station Road. The contractor had cut the hedge but cuttings were left on the path. Is it in the contract to collect and remove them?
3. Query if allotment member who cuts the Dunstall hedge on the north side can be reimbursed?
4. Letter received from one allotment holder re the best kept allotment but most members were not unhappy with the judging.
5. A member has received a letter re an unkempt and unworked plot. Members are unhappy that he is doing the least possible. Suggested that the National Association might have a standard letter to send in such cases with very firm wording, dates etc.
6. Leek moth infestations were reported. If anyone has such, the leeks should be burnt as soon as possible.
7. Spraying rules were discussed, but the Association would leave it to members good judgement.
8. The Association will be attending the Christmas Fayre.

In response the Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council will be cutting the grass near to the Dunstall allotment entrance. The Contractor has been told to remove the cuttings at Station Road and the member can submit a tender for the hedge cutting work when they are next due.

Concerning members not tending their plots on Station Road, there is already a system in place which works very well on the Dunstall allotments where two warning letters are sent out by the Secretary. If there is no response a final termination letter is then out by the Clerk.

Cllr Bacon: The Memo of Understanding with two amendments will be looked at by the Association and they will report back at a future meeting.

Cllr Bacon attended forum event to discuss open space, sport and recreation provision in Stratford on Avon District. District Council employed ARUP Consultants to look at facilities. Will report back. Clerk completed questionnaire for Studley Parish Council.

16. Approve Accounts for Payment

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

690 – Mrs D E Mitchell £1384.87. 691- £603.42.

692 – Inland Revenue £731.85. 693 – LITE £235.00.

694 – Verdant £417.13. 695 – Johnsons Coaches £180.00.

696 – n power £4173.07.

Stratford District Council Direct Debit £125.00.

**The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 2nd
November 2010**

Meeting closed 9.32pm

Signed: Chairman