

Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 16th May 2007 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present

Mr Jones (Retiring Chairman), Ms Weaver(Chair), Mr Goodsir, Mrs Goodsir, Mrs Hamilton, Mr Kipling, Mrs Lee, Mrs Markham, Mr Markham, District Councillor Bell and nine members of the public.

1. Apologies

No apologies received.

2. Election of Chairman

The retiring Chairman, Mr Jones, called for nominations for Chairman.

Name – Ms Weaver.

Proposed – Mr Kipling

Seconded

– Mrs Goodsir.

Name – Mr Markham.

Proposed – Mrs Markham

Seconded – Mrs Hamilton.

Election

Ms Weaver

For – 4

Mr Markham

For – 4

Casting vote given by Mr Jones as retiring Chairman

For – Ms Weaver.

Ms Weaver duly elected, signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the Chair.

3. Election of Vice-Chairman

The Chair called for nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Name – Mr Kipling.

Proposed – Mr Goodsir

Seconded

– Mrs Goodsir.

Name – Mrs Lee.

Proposed – Mrs Markham

Seconded – Mr Markham.

Election

Mr Kipling

For – 4

Mrs Lee

For – 4

Casting vote given by Ms Weaver as Chair

For – Mr Kipling.

Mr Kipling duly elected.

4. Election of Sub – Committees and Representatives.

Responsible Finance Officer

Mrs Edwards

(Clerk)

Internal Auditor

Mr

D Griffiths

Bank Mandate Signatures

Mrs Edwards, Ms

Weaver,

Mr Goodsir.

Committee Member for Meriden United Charities

Not requested (Mrs Copper,

Mr Hurton, Mrs Tuckey)

Committee Member for Village Hall Management Committee

Mr Grundy ()

Committee Member for School Governors

Mr Grundy

Committee Member for War Memorial

Mr Grundy

Sub – Committee
discussion.

All Councillors, monthly informal

Finance

All Councillors and Clerk

Village Matters including Pool

Mr Goodsir, Mr Kipling, Mrs Lee, Mr Markham.

Allotment Representative	Mr Goodsir, Mrs Goodsir.
Bus Shelters	Mr Goodsir, Mrs Goodsir, Mrs Hamilton.
Footpaths / Forum	Mr Jones.
Heritage and Tourism	Mr Jones, Mrs Lee, Mrs Markham, Mr Markham.
Public Conveniences	Mrs Goodsir, Mrs Hamilton, Ms Isham, Mr Markham.
Meriden Ward Forum	Mr Goodsir, Mr Kipling, Mrs Markham, Mr Markham.
Meriden Sands Working Group	Mr Jones, Mr Markham.
Conservation with Solihull MBC	Ms Weaver.
Local Strategic Partnership	Ms Weaver.
Police Rural Assembly	Mr Markham.
W&WMALC Representatives	Ms Weaver, Mr Kipling.
Solihull Area Committee	Ms Weaver, Mr Kipling.
Tree Wardens	Mr Jones, Mrs Hamilton.

The Chair asked that a letter is written to ex Councillors formally thanking them for the time and effort that they had given Meriden Parish.

5. Declaration of Interest

The Chair invited members to make declaration of personal and prejudicial interest in respect of items on the agenda of meeting.

Mrs Markham declared interest in P/A 2007/812 as friend of family.

No other declarations received.

6. Minutes of Last Meeting.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

7. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arising.

8. Correspondence / Communication

1) Public Conveniences.

Situation regarding redecoration, updating and the suggested date for re-opening.

An e-mail received from Sgt King says he and 5 other police over the last two years have regularly patrolled along Main Road and visited the toilets and no one has been found committing any illegal act. But, some men have been spoken regarding their presence in the toilets. The state of the toilets possibly encouraged anti social behaviour. Policing will continue to take place over the whole area and any incident reported at the toilets will be investigated and the appropriate action taken.

RESOLVED

That the toilets remain open. Any problems and the situation will be reviewed.

2) Solihull MBC

Approval has been given for Solihull in Bloom 2007 Match Funding Scheme. The project for this year involves cleaning, painting and improving the planted area around the Centre Cross. Clearing Cross of moss, replacing soil and summer planting to be started mid May by Mr Ball. The outer rail to be painted by Mr Hick after planting completed.

3) Warwickshire, Solihull, Birmingham Training Partnership.

Notification of Induction Course for new Clerks & Councillors at various locations, nearest at Castle Bromwich 20th October. Also briefing for Chairman, no dates and The Next Step – Making the most of your roles, parish and Town Councillors, again no dates. Recommend all Councillors attend a minimum of one course. £30 per delegate.

Also course on production of Village Newsletters on 30th June which the two editors of 'Mag' would like to attend at £10 per person.

RESOLVED

Approve £20 for editors to attend training.

4) Solihull NHS

A Quality of Life Strategy for Older People 2006 – 2013 parts one and two are to be circulated and if anyone feels they are interested in becoming part of the implementation group please let Clerk know.

AGREED

To indicate that one person will be interested to become involved.

5) Letter from resident and wife.

Open letter to newly elected parish councillors to start dialogue on various topics such as village environment, amenities, communication and sustainability. Copy for each Councillor.

RESOLVED

To invite them to next sub-committee meeting for an initial informal discussion.

6) Meriden Cricket Club

Following the response from Parish Council regarding use of the playing fields for cricket for the next two/three seasons and financial assistance, the cricket club are now looking for a smaller amount to purchase a roll up an artificial pitch. Total cost approximately £2500 instead of £6000.

RESOLVED

To pay half (£1250) for artificial pitch for Cricket Club.

9. Receive Reports.

Councillor referred to site visit with resident looking at problems in Millison's Wood area.

10. Village Matters.

1) Notice boards and benches.

Agreement was made for a contract to maintain and treat benches (20) and notice boards (5).

RESOLVED

For work to commence as soon as convenient for Mr Hick.

2) Use of The Green.

Following reading information about Licensing of The Green for entertainments and communications with Solihull MBC it is recommended that interested parties apply to the Parish Council for permission to use The Green. A form has been drafted: activities must be stated, name of organiser, date and time of event. Solihull MBC and Police will be consulted for any observations. The organiser must have public liability insurance and their acceptance of responsibility for health and safety on site.

AGREED

Form approved and for copies to be put into Library.

3) Application to use The Green

Kevin Hunt of The Centre and as part of the Meriden Festival has applied to use The Green on 9th June for stalls, Outreach bus and young farmers. Leaflet produced also mentions live music but this appears to be background music as in previous years.

Solihull MBC and police have been asked for observations. Fine, just as long as there is no obstruction to the footway and carriageway and police will try to have someone visit event.

RESOLVED

To approve on condition that Kevin Hunt accepts responsibility for health and safety issues, public liability insurance and there is no obstruction to the footway and carriageway.

11. Planning Matters

1) P/A 2007/812 - Brooklyn, Main Road.

New balustrades to side of existing main entrance steps.

RESOLVED

Leave to Conservation Architect.

2) P/A 2007/363 Decision - 23 Strawberry Fields.

Full plans approval for two storey side extension to provide extended kitchen area, sitting area and a utility room with master bedroom over.

3) P/A 2007/899 – Meriden Fields Recreation Ground adjacent to 1 Hampton Lane.

Fell 1 No. oak tree and pollard 1 No. oak tree to 6-7 metres leaving secondary growth.

RESOLVED

Object: TPO should safeguard trees from felling or unnecessary work.

4) P/A 2007/962 - 7 Glovers Close.

Construct bedrooms at first floor level extension of garage and internal alterations.

RESOLVED

Leave to neighbour notification.

5) P/A 2007/1002 - Old School House car park 200 Main Road.

Crown reduction by 1 metre off height and 2 metres off the lateral spread, 10% crown thinning and crown lifting to 4 metres in height on oak tree protected by T.P.O.

RESOLVED

Question degree of work.

(Request site visit with Tree Officer).

6) P/A 2007/563 Decision - 9 Thebes Close, Millison's Wood.

Full plans approval for proposed front and rear first floor extension.

7) P/A 2007/639 Decision - Meriden Hall, Main Road.

Tree Preservation Order approval to remove deadwood and crown reduction by 10% on oak tree.

8) P/A2007/990 - 17 Glovers Close.

Removal of dead wood and a 15% crown reduction.

RESOLVED

Object: Loss of significant tree.

(Request site visit with Tree Officer).

9) P/A 2007/646 Withdrawn - Swallowfield, Hampton Lane.

Construction of new building to provide 18 no. new guest bedrooms.

10) P/A 2007/491 Decision- 27 Fillongley Road.

Full plans approval for single storey side extension to form a bedroom and a shower room.

12. Accounts

Accounts approved.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Sub-Committee Meeting is Wednesday 13th June and Parish Council Meeting is Monday 25th June both starting at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Chair RW

Date 25.06.07