

## **Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2009 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

### **Present**

Rosie Weaver, Bob Kipling Shirley Goodsir, Graeme Goodsir, Marilyn Hamilton, and one member of the public.

**Prior to the meeting Mr Alan Brown from the Recycling Services Department of Solihull MBC attended to introduce the changes to the recycling services.**

### **1. Apologies**

Melanie Lee

### **Absent**

Will Markham

Sarah Markham

*NB – no agendas were received by any councillors prior to this meeting. Rather than being hand delivered as usual they had been put in the post 1<sup>st</sup> class on 19<sup>th</sup> July. The Clerk would make enquiries with the post office as to why they had not been delivered.*

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

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

None made.

### **3. Minutes**

#### **3.1 Deferred to next meeting.**

That the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

#### **3.2 Deferred to next meeting.**

That the minutes of the last Parish Council Sub – Committee Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

### **4. Matters arising from the minutes**

**4.1** Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July with SMBC (Neighbourhood Coordinator, Street Care Officer, Tree Officer, resident and clerk) about the over grown trees on Meriden Hill.

**4.2** SMBC Proposed Highway Improvement Works – comments not in support of the proposals, agreed at Sub Committee have been forwarded to SMBC for consideration.

### **5. Public Participation**

No comments.

### **6. Correspondence and Communication**

#### **6.1 Draft Gambling Policy Consultation being undertaken by Solihull MBC.**

Email thanking the parish council for their comments on the above with the following response.

Comment : A percentage of the profits should benefit the community.

Answer : Your comments are noted.

Comment : What protection/support systems will be funded for gamblers with an addiction.

Answer : All Casino Operators are voluntarily required to fund a financial reserve that is used to carry out research and support, for gamblers with addiction. The Government has stated that if the voluntary agreement fails to secure the sustainability of this research and support, it may well introduce legislation to ensure the continuance of the project.

Comment : There are 2 stages to the application, but if only one tender is put through they don't go to Stage 2 - and that's the bit where they have to demonstrate their benefit to the local community. Surely Stage 2 should be mandatory whether one or more have applied.

Answer : Stage 2 and the requirement to participate at that level, is set out in statute and cannot be altered through local policy.

**6.2 Meriden Library – temporary closure for repairs.**

September time. Further information to follow.

**6.3 1<sup>st</sup> Meriden Scout Group**

Letter from the Group Scout Leader and Group Treasurer thanking the Parish Council for the £400 towards the flag raising duties and donation towards the upkeep of the Scout Hut which was greatly appreciated by all members of the group. The letter enclosed accounts for the financial year 2008/2009 and also the Group Scout Leaders Report. The letter and enclosures are on circulation.

**6.4 Wicksteed – Annual Safety Inspection.**

Report circulated to all councillors with agenda but not received. For information, no immediate action is necessary.

**6.5 North Warwickshire Borough Council – Issues and Options for the Core Strategy/Strategic Land Availability Assessment Consultation.** Consultation period expires 6<sup>th</sup> August and is being looked at by Mel.

**6.6 Solihull MBC – Local Authorities (Members’ Allowances) Regulations 2003- Parish Basic Allowance.**

SMBC has increased its scheme of allowances for 2009/2010 and a new schedule of the updated recommended maximum parish allowances has been sent to the Clerk.

**6.7 Birmingham International Airport – Draft Airport Noise Action Plan.**

Letter from BIA enclosing its draft plan. A 5 year strategy to manage the noise impacts arising from aircraft operations at Birmingham International Airport. Deadline 12<sup>th</sup> October 2009 - Graeme and Shirley to complete Section 12.

**6.8 West Midlands Police – PCSO for Meriden**

Email from Inspector Nigel Sarling confirming that the new PCSO will commence his training on 27<sup>th</sup> July which lasts 10 weeks. With this in mind, he will be starting on about 5<sup>th</sup> October.

**6.9 Sustain – Third Sector Services Directory**

Letter enclosing a copy of the “Third Sector Services Directory 2009-2010”. If anybody would like to see it contact the Clerk.

**6.10 Coventry City Council – Core Strategy Development Plan Document.**

Letter enclosing CD containing a suite of Core Strategy documents submitted by the Council to the Secretary of State - Rosie to submit comments.

**6.11 SMBC - Proposed New Street Lighting**

The Places Directorate at SMBC has secured funding to replace a section of street lighting in the following areas:

- Main Road from the Green, down to Leys Lane
- Main Road/Hampton Lane Island
- Birmingham Road from the Island down to the “Laurels”
- The service road along side the Green in front of the shops.

The lighting will be in keeping with the conservation area. Purpose is to improve the safety for pedestrians and drivers travelling through the area and will compliment the night time activities such as the hot food takeaways and children attending after school activities and clubs.

They will be writing to residents, local shops, local businesses, school etc.

**AGREED**

The following comments to be made: What is the radius of light. Brightness and are they low energy.

## **7. Receive Reports**

- 7.1 **Committee Member for Village Hall Management Committee** – no report.
- 7.2 **School Governors for Parish Council** – no report.
- 7.3 **Committee Member for War Memorial** – no report.
- 7.4 **Pool** – Bob Kipling has emailed the neighbourhood co-ordinator to thank her for arranging for the pool to be filled up. Rosie Weaver has written to the neighbourhood manager requesting a letter which sets out the formal agreement between the Parish Council and SMBC as to what has been agreed around the project.
- 7.5 **Allotment Representative** – Graeme Goodsir reported that at the last allotment association meeting, it was felt that plot 1 should be re let and not used as a car park. It was agreed that the plot should be kept as a car park due to the limited amount of parking on the road and so as to not block the adjacent properties private drive.
- 7.6 **Footpaths/Forum** – a bin has been dumped on the footpath between 176 and 174 Main Road blocking the path up over Barbers field.
- 7.7 **Meriden Sands Working Group** – no report.
- 7.8 **Conservation Committee** – next meeting is tomorrow.
- 7.9 **Local Strategic Partnership** – no report.
- 7.10 **Police Rural Assembly** – no report.
- 7.11 **Solihull Area Committee** – Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Sarah Barnes, Neighbourhoods Project Manager SMBC and Philip Lloyd Williams, Monitoring Officer SMBC attended. Minutes to be circulated once available.
- 7.12 **Tree Wardens** – no report.
- 7.13 **Village Appraisal** – no report.
- 7.14 **Community Surgery** – nothing to report.

## **8. Village Matters**

### **8.1 Development**

- a) Feedback from meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> July with DWH, SMBC, DTZ – notes read out. Rosie Weaver is to approach John Pitcher of SMBC Housing as there is apparently no policy which prioritises the allocation of affordable housing to local needs.
- b) Option Appraisal – discussion took place around the need to employ an independent person with the relevant expertise to carry out an option appraisal to assist the Parish Council in making an informed decision around whether they have full responsibility for the new playing fields. The options are:
- SMBC to manage (need to clarify whether this would reduce/eliminate the endowment sum being received by the parish council.)
  - Parish Council to manage
  - to form a trust with other parish assets
  - to link with the Balsall Common Trust
  - to link with the school.

Advice given to Rosie Weaver is that this would usually cost in the region of £750 per day. However, Rosie knows of somebody with the relevant experience to carry out the work for the reduced sum of £500 per day.

**AGREED IN PRINCIPAL – TO BE RESOLVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.**

### **8.2 Parish Plan**

The Seminar held at the Council House on 9<sup>th</sup> July at which many partners attended and were pinned down as to what they could do to help with the many actions raised in plan. The Parish Plan has now been drafted including these actions and Rosie will email this to all councillors and will liaise with shop keepers.

### **8.3 Community Speed Watch**

There has been a delay with the police carrying out the risk assessments. As soon as they are complete we can arrange the first session.

### **8.4 Alcohol Free Zone**

No comments.

- 8.5 **Allotments**  
See 7.5 above.
- 8.6 **Remembrance Day Service – one off donation for 2009/2010 for the purchase of equipment.**
- 8.7 **Youth Club, Update**
- 8.8 **New play equipment at Maxstoke Lane playing fields.**  
Installation is now complete and the damaged safety surfacing has now been repaired.  
**AGREED IN PRINCIPAL TO BE RESOLVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.**  
That the Clerk can sign the Certificate of Satisfaction to confirm that the installation services have been carried out at the site have been completed.
- 8.9 **Pond**  
No update.
- 8.10 **Design Competition – Changing Rooms.**  
Leave to next meeting.
- 8.11 **Dome Hawk Camera**  
To ask residents in the next Meriden Mag (deadline 3<sup>rd</sup> August) what they feel about it.
- 8.12 **Quality Parish Status**  
To defer to the next meeting when we will look at how we can hold joint surgeries with the Ward Councillors including frequency and protocols. Rosie and Clerk to present information at the next meeting.
- 9 Planning Matters**
- 9.1 **2009/63 – Pertemps Group Limited, Meriden Hall** – Construction of a Building to accommodate a communication and response centre (resub of 2008.689). SMBC refused planning application 2009/63 and the applicant has appealed to the Planning Inspectorate against that decision. The comments made by the Parish Council previously will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and will be taken into account when making a decision. Should the parish council wish to withdraw, modify or add to those comments the deadline is 7<sup>th</sup> August 2009 - Clerk to send original comments in again.
- 9.2 **2009/976 – 68 Fillongley Road, Meriden** – Two storey side and rear extension front porch and permeable paved driveway.  
**AGREED**  
Object – terracing effect, neighbour notification.
- 9.3 **2009/1078 – Penny Farthing Cottage, Lodge Green Lane, Meriden** – Orangery at rear of property.  
**AGREED**  
Neighbour notification.
- 9.4 **2009/907 – Little Meadow, Harvest Hill Lane, Meriden** – stable block, tack room and hard standing area.  
**RATIFIED**  
No observations.
- 9.5 **2009/982 – Lloyds Pharmacy, The Green, Meriden** – 1x illuminated fascia sign and 1x internally illuminated box sign.  
**RATIFIED**  
Leave to Conservation Committee. Sign should only be illuminated during opening hours.
- 9.6 **2009/1023 – Diddington Hall, Diddington Lane, Meriden** - change of use to non residential institution (D1) to include disabled access and toilet block.  
**AGREED**

No observations.

- 9.7 2009/1130 – Annbrooke House, Showell Lane, Meriden** – erection of a detached garage and vehicular access.

**AGREED**

Object to the new entrance onto Showell Lane. Property already has garage blocks. Neighbour notification.

**10. Accounts**

- a) Cheque for £252 requested at the Sub Committee Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July has been sent to Zurich Insurance in respect of additional insurance of new play equipment Maxstoke Lane.

**RESOLVED**

That the accounts are approved for payment.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is the Parish Council meeting on August 24<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. NB the sub committee meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> August is cancelled.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

**Chair :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date :** \_\_\_\_\_

**DOCUMENTS FOR CIRCULATION**

- a) 1<sup>st</sup> Meriden Scout Group – letter and enclosures dated 27/6/09
- b) SMBC – Conservation Advisory Committee – meeting notes 7/7/09
- c) WALC – Newsletter ADH/83 June 2009
- d) Neighbourhood Management Newsletter June 09