



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st October 2019
Venue: Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park at 7.30 p.m.

Present:			
Cllr R Weaver RW	Chair	Cllr R Kipling RK	
Cllr J Barber JB	Vice Chair	Cllr M Woollard MW	
Cll J Hughes JH			
Mrs B Bland BB	Clerk		

1. Welcome & Apologies

Chair welcomed Guests, Members and public attendees. Apologies received from Cllr Lynch-Smith due to ill health and Members acknowledged Cllr Nunn’s continued extended leave and Cllr Allsopp.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members accepted apologies from Cllrs Lynch-Smith, Nunn and Allsopp.

2. Public Participation

Chair introduced Fiona Woolston LM contractor and Rachel Johnson HS2.

Fiona Woolston reported on HS2 timescales and update on funding; including Government review and guidance; there will be a New Year update. A slide presentation followed on A4A slide presentation followed on A446, A452 carriageway works and HS2 Station Preparation. A written update from the community engagement team will be available on the parish council website and also in the Meriden Mag winter edition.

Questions from Members requiring action:-

- Volumes of HGV traffic - numbers to be obtained and reported back;
- Quarry operators – will HS2 material be transported to Meriden Quarry for processing: 95% of material dug out will be recycled;
- HS2 and LM are working with Highways England and Birmingham Airport;
- All trees removed will be replaced and re-landscaping works undertaken;
- Next event update will be January 2020

3. Declarations of Interest

3a To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature.
None.

3b To declare any prejudicial interests in items on the agenda and their nature
None.

4. Minutes of Last Meeting – 16th September 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 2019 were agreed as an accurate.

Signed Chair **Dated**

Clerk: Barbara Bland
55 James Dawson Drive, Millisons Wood, Coventry, CV5 9QJ
T: 01676 522474 M: 07767 162423 E: barbarablandmpc@btconnect.com
www.meridenparishcouncil.org.uk

All matters arising are covered in the agenda.

IT WAS RESOLVED The minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 2019 were approved; proposed by Cllr Kipling and seconder by Cllr Barber.

5. Finance

5.1 September Payments

Parish Council September payments amounting to £5403.63 circulated for Members consideration and approval. RK asked what the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust payment was for? Chair replied that this was the Ecological Report commissioned as part of the Neighbourhood Development Plan and the cost is met by the Locality grant received to complete the NDP. RK acknowledged the explanation.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members considered payments and approved £5403.63 for October. Proposed by Cllr Woollard and seconded by Cllr Hughes.

Sports Park October payments amounting to £4422.89 circulated for Members consideration and approval. Chair reported the block paving around the drain in the car park had collapsed and a series of camera surveys and investigation showed no collapsed pipework, but the silt had washed away causing the blocks to sink. BB is in dialogue with insurers to conclude claim.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members considered payments and approved £4429.89. Proposed by Cllr Barber and seconded by Cllr Weaver.

5.2 Finance Committee Recommendation

RW advised that finance committee had met on 14th October 2019, minutes circulated to Members with the following recommendations:-

- Annual Governance Statement 2018-19

To approve external auditor report and certificate for 2018-19.

- Parish Action Plan

To approve Parish Action Plan for 2019-20.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members approved finance committee recommendations; proposed Cllr Weaver and seconded Cllr Barber.

6. Progress Reports

6.1 Village Hall Management Committee

Nothing to report.

6.2 War Memorials

6.2(i) Chair reported that two pre submission applications for Cyclists Memorial and War Memorial received by Monuments Trust for assessment including photographic evidence. There is a reserve in the budget for addressing immediate tidy up and cutting back trees as directed by SMBC Tree Officer Specification. Soft brush cleaning will also be undertaken of stone plinth and steps prior to Remembrance Sunday (10th

Signed Chair **Dated**

November). The draft Deed of Transfer has been received from Solicitors and agreed and it is anticipated this matter will be concluded by year end. The legal costs including environmental and land surveys currently stands at £1454.05. Meanwhile the parish council has taken on the responsibility and financial cost of tidying up the Memorial Site and this is scheduled for 7th November 2019 at a cost of £500.

IT WAS RESOLVED: Members agreed legal and maintenance costs; proposed Cllr Weaver and seconded Cllr Kipling.

6.2(ii) The lamppost poppies have been ordered and received from Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal; these will be mounted onto lampposts on 24th October, to coincide with the launch of the RBL Poppy Appeal. The cost has been met by the parish council.

Action: Cllr J Barber, Mr Lee and Mrs Bland.

6.2(iii) Remembrance Sunday

Mr P Lee is co-ordinating road closures with SMBC Highways and volunteers for steward duties on the day.

Action: Mr Lee.

6.3 Meriden Pool

Resident concerns received regarding pool levels, overflowing litter bins, debris after cleaning of trash screen left in a pile on bank and maintenance. All issues to be reported to SMBC and Friends Group.

Action: BB to raise concerns with SMBC and discuss at next Friends Group meeting.

6.3(i) Friends Group

The next meeting of the Group is scheduled for 12th November. Clerk received email from Ben Wood, Assistant Ecologist SMBC and also lead for Arden Tree Scheme. After inspecting the newly planted hedging and trees he raised his concerns regarding maintenance and weeds impacting on the growth of the hedge. A further email received confirmed he attended site (as a volunteer) and removed the weed and nettle from hedge line. Acknowledgement of thanks sent.

Action: Clerk and Friends Group.

6.3(ii) Management & Funding

Nothing to report.

6.4 Allotments

Clerk reported full occupation with 2 tenants outstanding on rents. Reminder letters to be sent.

Action: Clerk to send out reminders and undertake winter inspection.

Signed Chair **Dated**

Clerk: Barbara Bland

55 James Dawson Drive, Millisons Wood, Coventry, CV5 9QJ

T: 01676 522474 M: 07767 162423 E: barbarablandmpc@btconnect.com

www.meridenparishcouncil.org.uk



6.5 Footpaths/Forum

Clerk reported recent meeting with Stephen Hawley, Footpaths Officer, was positive. Footpaths from Fillongley Road to Old Road (behind Queens) to be inspected and maintenance undertaken due to reports of overgrowth; also Berkswell Road footpath to Church Lane to be inspected and cut back where necessary. The footpath to rear of quarry and STWA treatment plant to be reported to landowners Packington Estate and Harworth Estate for maintenance.

Action: BB to report footpaths to landowners above.

6.6 Quarries Liaison Group

Chair advised the next meeting is 2nd December 2019.

6.7 Solihull Area Committee

Chair reported the next meeting is 23rd October 2019.

6.8 Tree Warden & TPO List

Nothing to report.

6.8 Community Surgeries

There were no resident attendees at August surgery and September surgery was cancelled due to annual leave, however the following update is given on resident complaints/comments received outside of surgeries:-

Community Surgery 7th October 2019 – Hosted by clerk and Bruce Brant at the Pavilion. There was 1 resident attendee. In the presence of Liz Hopkins, Community Engagement Officer, Sgt Hayley Thompson and PCSO Alana Hanley.

- **Catch up regarding previous actions:-**
- Residents concerns regarding Maxstoke Lane activities.
Action: Raised at Locality; regular patrols but no activity. Remains on watch.
- Resident concerns regarding Winspear.
Action: Bromford Housing & Sgt Thompson met with residents 29/7. No other feedback from Bromford to date. Resident Agreement to be drafted.
- Letitia update.
Action: Home visits undertaken and all quiet.
- Resident concerns regarding Fairfield Rise, Alspath Road T-junction and parked cars obstructing sight lines and pavement obstruction.
Action: Patrols to monitor inconsiderate parking. BB to speak to Highways officers regarding regulation orders for yellow lines.
- Speed Watch to be reinstated.
Action PCSO Hanley to email shift dates to BB/JB to confirm volunteer availability and set up speed watch dates for next 6 months.

General discussion included:-

Signed Chair Dated

- Liz Hopkins provided an update to her work in Balsall Common with community networking events “talking-places to go-things to do” to reduce social isolation. Also to assist with set up and sustainability of groups (funding applications); providing an example of Harper Fields residents being mini bused to Meriden School weekly.
- Liz Hopkins to arrange two drop in events in November for local community to pop in and find out what is going on in their area promoting community groups active in Meriden. The drop-ins will be hosted at the Pavilion.
Action: Liz Hopkins
- Sgt Thompson interested in setting up Street Watch and linking to volunteers in Millison’s Wood who are actively patrolling fields and woodland.
Action: Sgt Thompson to promote.
- Sgt Thompson emphasised the need for reporting incidents on police website or calling 101 so these may be logged to help with prioritisation of resources to tackle anti-social behaviours and other crime/county line related activities. Evidence such as car registrations/model/make and photographs to be given/sent.
Action: Police Team
- Liz Hopkins and Sgt Thompson spoke about youth councils and hosting a youth café; there has been some success in Balsall and this model to be introduced to Meriden. A “Make your Mark” initiative has been developed and through young people’s voices the top two to tackle is “protecting our environment” and “knife crime”. These stats will feed into a wider Borough database to inform priorities of Solihull MBC and Police Teams.
Action: Liz Hopkins
- A link to the “More” page on SMBC’s website to be put into the Meriden Magazine December edition.
Action: Clerk and Bruce Brant.
- The advertising boards for the “pink shopping event” to be raised with highways, enforcement/permits and trading standards officers for removal. Damage to grass verges and village green reported.
Action: Bruce Brant

6.10 Community Speed Watch

Cllr Barber advised good news that Speed Watch to be implemented immediately; awaiting dates from PCSO Alana Hanley for next 2 weeks; guns are working and Meriden volunteers await dates.

Action: Cllr Barber to liaise with PCSO Hanley and volunteers.

6.11 HS2

As presentation from LM/HS2 community engagement team.

6.12 Meriden Sports Park

Nothing to report.

Signed **Chair** **Dated**

6.13 Meriden Sport & Recreation Trust
Chair advised joint meeting of Directors and Trustees scheduled for 11th November.

7. Clerk's Report

All included in meeting content with no questions from councillors.

7.1 Operation London Bridge
Work in progress.

8. District and Ward Councillor Reports

Nothing to report.

9. Correspondence & Communication

As circulated to Members.

10. Meriden Village Matters

10.1 Library Update

Chair reported awaiting update from September meeting.

Action: BB to chase Kate Bunting, Library Services for update.

10.2 VE75

Chair advised preparations have commenced for a combined VE75/Picnic in the Park event on Friday 8th May 2019. Representatives from Community Groups will be contacted to make up an Event Committee. The previous Event Organiser has been contacted to take the lead in partnership with the parish council. The budget will be increased. An application to be made to the Meriden Sport & Recreation Trust for financial assistance of this community event.

10.2(i) WW1 Poppy Memorial Site
Nothing to report.

10.3 Meriden Gate
Nothing to report.

10.4 Taylor Wimpey (Transfer of Allotments/freehold land)
Nothing to report.

10.5 Highways

RW advised meeting with Paul Tovey which proved positive with the following actions from Highways:-

Phase 1

Signed Chair **Dated**

- 37 tickets issued for parking at the Green; 1 penalty notice on Fillongley Road and 1 penalty notice on Birmingham Road. Of all tickets issued the parish council receives £25 per ticket paid.
- Request to amend hours enforcement officer is in Meriden to co-incide with peak parking i.e. 8 – 10am and 4 – 6pm.
- Chicanes to be made permanent on Fillongley Road.

Phase 2

- Mobile/Static speed camera and/or patrols outside Meriden School.
- Closure of Leys Lane at mid-way Mons Avenue; will need public consultation.
- New gateway signage entering Meriden from Fillongley Road.
- Reduce speed limit to 30mph to other side of Fillongley Bridge.
- Yellow lines to corner junction of Fairfield Road/Alspath Road.
- Yellow lines to junction of Leys Lane/Fillongley Road.
- Parking on Fillongley Road grass verges to be reviewed.
- Parking for Kittermaster Road residents to be reviewed.

Proposed mapping shared with Members for their consideration and comments.

All phase 2 proposals subject to public consultation.

Action: Paul Tovey, Highways and Parish Council.

10.6 Land Registry & Ownership

Nothing to report.

10.7 Mobile Mast Update

With consultation of 5G networks, this standing item to be removed.

10.8 Local Council Award Scheme

Chair advised work continues on completing this application.

Action: Clerk.

10.8(i) Website

A meeting to be arranged with Real Point to go through new changes/legislation for public access.

Action: Cllr Barber and clerk to arrange meeting.

10.9 Meriden Public & Community Transport

Chair reported no issues and public feedback is 'all good'.

10.10 Arden Tree Scheme

This standing item to be removed as reported under Meriden Pool.

11. Planning Matters

11.1 Neighbourhood Planning Update

Signed Chair **Dated**

Clerk: Barbara Bland

55 James Dawson Drive, Millisons Wood, Coventry, CV5 9QJ

T: 01676 522474 M: 07767 162423 E: barbarablandmpc@btconnect.com

www.meridenparishcouncil.org.uk

Chair advised recent Regulation 14 consultation and public drop in was reasonably supported with some useful comments received. Regulation 14 finishes end of next week and Mrs Lee, Chair of NDP working group will send all comments to SMBC to deal with. The next meeting of the NDP group is scheduled for 6th November 2019 with planning consultant.

Action: Mrs Lee and Cllr Weaver.

11.1(i) Locality Funding Bid
Nothing to report.

11.2 Neighbourhood Community/Ward Action Plan
Nothing to report.

11.2(i) Highways Evidence
Nothing to report.

11.3 Solihull Local Plan Review
Nothing to report.

11.4 Planning Application Status Updates

Fordson Farm Harvest Hill Lane Meriden Solihull CV5 9DE	PL/2019/02064/PPFL Secure agricultural store and farm office	Needs Planning Committee comment
Fordson Farm Harvest Hill Lane Meriden Solihull CV5 9DE	PL/2019/02063/PPFL Erect livestock building	Needs Planning Committee Comment
Fordson Farm Harvest Hill Lane Meriden Solihull CV5 9DE	PL/2019/02062/PPFL Relocation and erection of agricultural storage building	Needs Planning Committee Comment
33 Alspath Road Meriden Solihull CV7 7LU	PL/2019/02568/MINFHO Two storey front, side and rear extension.	Needs Planning Committee Comment
The Woodlands Lodge Green Lane Meriden Solihull CV7 7JG	PL/2019/02631/PPFL Change of use and siting of 12 No. holiday lodge caravans for tourist accommodation associated infrastructure, maintenance shed, office and shop/cafe.	Needs Planning Committee Comment

Signed Chair Dated



Action: Cllr Hughes to arrange planning committee meeting; also to speak to Ellie Dukes regarding CIL (community infrastructure levy) and review all planning applications approved post 7th July 2016 with Clerk.

12. Parish Council Development Day

Deferred to next meeting.

13. Annual Parish Assembly

Deferred to next meeting.

15. Councillor's reports and items for future agenda

Nothing to report.

16. Date of Next Meeting

The next **Parish Council meeting** will be held on Monday 25th November 2019 at 7.30 pm Venue: The Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park.

Chair thanked Councillors and Members of the public for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 21.25 hours.

Signed Chair Dated