

## **MERIDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25th April 2012 at Meriden Village Hall. The meeting commenced at 8.00pm.

### **Present:**

**Cllr Mrs R Weaver**

Chair

Cllr Mrs M Lee

Cllr P Lee

Cllr Mrs F Lynch-Smith

Members of the Public : 3

Ward Cllr David Bell

### **1. Apologies**

Cllr B Kipling, Cllr Mrs M Haque

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None Declared

3. The Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012 had been circulated.

**RESOLVED:** that the Minutes be approved subject to amendment to Minute 8.4 Olympic/Jubilee Celebrations that the sum of £750 was approved for expenditure.

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

### **5. Public Participation**

There were no matters raised.

### **7. HS2 – Balsall Common and Hampton In Arden Community Forum**

A copy of the Issues and Actions arising from the Community Forum had been circulated to members. Cllr Lee requested that a copy be put on the Parish Council's website so that members of the public are aware that the Parish Council had resolved unanimously to object to HS2.

### **8. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

#### **8.1 Meriden Sports Park – update**

8.1.1 Members noted that the grounds maintenance contract is for a two year period and seeding of the ground has been undertaken to improve drainage to the pitch. Meetings had been held between the Parish Council, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and DTZ. A verbal apology had been given by the Borough Council that the Parish Council were not made aware of the enormity of the comprehensive nature of the works.

#### **8.1.2 Annual maintenance contract with Mole catcher -**

The Chairman reported on the issues with the contract with the Borough Council and that the Parish Council had not been aware of the contractors responsibility to provide a service for catching moles. The Parish Council had subsequently entered into a contract with Pied Piper Pest Management for specialist work to be carried out at the ground which would hopefully alleviate the problems.

#### **8.2 Leys Lane – Public Inquiry**

The Chair reported that she had met with Borough Council Planning Staff and Mr Pearce, Avon Planning Services. Another meeting had been arranged in one month's time to consider which witnesses will be attending the Inquiry and to go through their evidence. A pre meeting had been

arranged for Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 7.00pm. The Chair advised that the Parish Council need to consider if it wants to approve Avon Planning Services to represent the Parish Council at the Public Inquiry and to be cross examined. Members noted that the Statement of Appeal had been submitted by Avon Planning Services on behalf of the Parish Council.

**RESOLVED:-** that this matter be referred to the May Parish Council Meeting for consideration of appointment of the existing services provided by the Avon Planning Services to be extended to include representation on behalf of the Parish Council at the forthcoming Public Inquiry and associated meetings and work required in connection therewith. .

### **8.3 Leys Lane – Update**

Members noted receipt of an email from Warwickshire County Council confirming that the contractor will begin work on site week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> April 2012, and the work is programmed to take 6-8 weeks

### **8.4 Locum Clerk**

**RESOLVED:-** that the Chair prepare a contract for appointment of the Locum Clerk.

### **8.5 Bank – To agree changing signatories**

**RESOLVED:-** that the Locum Clerk be authorised to make enquires and to take appropriate action with the Parish Council's Bank to ensure continuity of service.

### **8.6 Best Kept Village Competition – Review of work required to bus shelters**

**RESOLVED:-** that a letter be sent thanking the local resident who has kindly donated £50 for red, white and blue flowers to be planted in the planters on the Green as part of the jubilee celebrations, . The Locum Clerk to liaise with the Parish Council's contractor regarding work required to the bus shelters.

### **8.7 Meriden Library**

The Chair confirmed that a Senior Officer from the Borough Council would be present at the June Parish Council Meeting to give a presentation regarding Meriden Library.

### **8.8 Tree – Meriden Green**

Members noted the tree had been pruned.

### **8.9 Parish Newsletter**

Members noted that the latest edition of the Parish Newsletter had been delivered.

## **9. Queens Diamond Jubilee – celebrations**

Members considered purchase of a commemorative bench to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee to be located on the site of the former public toilets in Main Road, Meriden. Concern was expressed that the bins were not being emptied at this site and the grass had not been cut. The Locum Clerk confirmed that she had approached the Borough Council for consent to the proposed location, that the cost of the bench would be £399.99 plus a charge of £50 to include delivery and appropriate varnish which can be supplied by the company with the bench. Delivery would be approximately 6 weeks from receipt of order and the company will give the Parish Council 2 days notice prior to delivery of the bench.

**RESOLVED:-** that the Locum Clerk be authorised to place an order with Cyan for a commemorative bench at a cost of £399.99 plus £50 for delivery and varnish. The Locum Clerk to request the Borough Council maintain the site of the former public toilets.

## **10. Meriden Rovers - Request for Donation**

Members considered a request from the Sports Co-ordinator, Meriden Rovers for the Parish Council to pay league fees for Meriden Rovers for 2012/13 and associated costs.

**RESOLVED**:- that the Parish Council make a donation to Meriden Rovers of £191 to cover the cost of league fees, club registration fee and club insurance.

**11. Telephone box – quotation for boxes to be painted**

**RESOLVED**:- that the Locum Clerk establish whether the existing grounds maintenance contract includes painting of the telephone box.

**12. Heart of England Way – Membership Renewal**

**RESOLVED**:- that the annual membership to Heart of England Way be renewed at an annual subscription of £7.

**13. Notice of Audit of Parish Council's Accounts 2011/2012**

Members noted that the nationally appointed Auditors, Clement Keys have now issued Notice of Audit. The statutory procedure for advertisement and public inspection will need to be undertaken and the accounts will be presented for approval to members at the next meeting. If these are not available for the next meeting, an additional meeting may need to be called.

**14. WALC General Power of Competence introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and Guidance Note on insurance for organising events**

A copy of a Briefing from WALC and guidance on organising events had been circulated to members.

**15. VCS Conference – Solihull Sustain**

Members noted the invitation to attend the Solihull VCS Conference, details of which could be found at <http://solihull-sustain.org.uk/2012/04/vcs-annual-conference>.

**16. EON – Application for VAT at reduced rate**

**RESOLVED**:- that Members approve the Chair signing the application for VAT at a reduced rate with EON..

**17. Planning Matters**

Planning application 2012/307 446 Meriden Sports Pavilion, Main Road, Meriden  
new storage facility for external sports equipment storage - plans available on line at <http://www.solihull.gov.uk/planning/dc/viewAppDetail.asp?Y=2012&R=446>

Members viewed the application for a storage facility to be built, designed to blend in specifically and to match existing brick in pavilion. Members considered the new facility to be provided would be a big improvement to the existing structure.

Planning application 2012/391 – 115 Fillongley Road, Meriden – two storey side and single storey rear extension (resubmission of previous application 2011/1770) - plans available on line at <http://www.solihull.gov.uk/planning/dc/viewAppDetail.asp?Y=2012&R=391>

**RESOLVED**:- that the Parish Council's previous comments are submitted.

Planning application 2012/279 – Manor Hotel Meriden Ltd 127 Main Road, Meriden - plans available on line at <http://www.solihull.gov.uk/planning/dc/viewAppDetail.asp?Y=2012&R=391>

**RESOLVED**:- Members viewed the application on line, but resolved not to comment as full details of the application could not be accessed.

**18. Warwickshire County Council – Warwickshire Waste Core Strategy – Publication Consultation (Regulation 27)**

**RESOLVED:-** that Cllr Kipling be delegated to prepare a response on the Waste Core Strategy for the Parish Council to submit.

## 19. Finance

### 1) Income

Precept - The Chair confirmed that payment of the Precept had been received and banked.

### 2) Accounts for Payment – Parish Council

Heart of England Way Association Membership renewal	£7.00
SLCC Advertisement for Clerk	£90.00
I Richards Collection of parish council records and transporting to archive	£95.00
I Richards Collection of parish council records to pavilion	£45.00
I Richards maintenance work at Allotments (excavation/repair of leaking pipe)	£245.00
Ian Geddes – update of website Jan-March 2012	£24.75
Avon Planning Services Appeal re Leys Lane Allotments	£705.00
I Richards – Library Noticeboards Provision and erection of two noticeboards	£870.00
3) Accounts for Payment – Pavilion	
I Richards – Spare Tap Control for Pavilion £35.00 To be queried	
I Richards – disabling of public tap at Pavilion on 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2012	£25.00
Meriden Rovers Football Club Request for donation to meet league fees/registration fee/ insurance	£191.00
Running Imp International Sports Limited	£263.94
EON - Payment by Direct Debit – for approval only)	£245.00
direct debit – television licence – playing fields for approval only	£24.25
direct debit to Orange for Wireless – M.Lee	£18.00
BT Online Bill	£112.80

B D Ball £225.00  
Grounds maintenance - The Green/Pavilion

Paul Jayes £1012.50  
Soccer Coach

Cllr P Lee proposed purchase of approximately 120 metres of bunting for the Pavilion. He stated the cost is approximately £3.99 for 10 metres.

**RESOLVED**:- that the above payments be approved, together with purchase of bunting for the Pavilion.

## **20. Date of Next Meeting**

The next Meeting is the statutory Annual Meeting of the Parish Council which will take place on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2012 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

A report was given on the last Meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee. Members noted it was proposed to have the v shaped piece of land outside the Village Hall transferred to the Management Committee to be held in perpetuity.

A member of the public queried why the public could not use the toilet facilities inside the Pavilion. The Chair confirmed the Pavilion was not a public building and the toilets were not public toilets, but for the use of hall hirers.

The Chair closed the meeting to go into private session.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.45 pm.

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

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

