



# Meriden Parish Council

*the centre of england*

## **CLERK'S REPORT October & November**

*(prepared by Barbara Bland, Clerk, for PC meeting 21-11-16)*

Many of the Clerk's actions are reflected in the agenda content but briefly:-

- Hosted Community Surgeries with Bruce Brant on 10<sup>th</sup> October and 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016.
- Website meeting with Real Point and Cllrs Weaver and Barber.
- Communication SLCC VAT Advisor ongoing Sports Park VAT liability issue to be resolved.
- Communication and meetings with Wright Hassall and Cllr Weaver regarding Grant Thornton Report.
- Communication and meetings with Andrew Kinsey, Cllrs Weaver and Kipling regarding Grant Thornton Report.
- Communication and meetings with Chris Edge (Edge Finance), Mike Spencer (internal auditor) and Cllr Weaver regarding financial report from Grant Thornton.
- Drafting letters to Grant Thornton regarding financial adjustments and governance arrangements, and liaison with all parties above.
- Meeting with Meriden Sport & Recreation Trustees regarding Governance arrangements.
- Facilitated public meetings for Transport for West Midlands 4<sup>th</sup> October and 8<sup>th</sup> November.
- Drafted and sent letter of challenge to Transport for West Midlands regarding removal of taxi bus and replacement 89 service on grounds of disability discrimination.
- Communication with Equalities Commission to log disability discrimination and take advice for letter content in line with DDA 1995, Equalities Act 2010 and Public Sector Quality Duty.
- Attended: SLCC National Conference with 1:1 meetings booked with Society Advisors:-
  - Crispin Taylor – Financial Advisor
  - Steve Parkinson – VAT Advisor
  - Nick Hancox – Hancox Solicitors
  - Debbie Ashton – Legal Advisor
- Attended Precept & Budget Training (CPD Points)
- Attended Planning Training (CPD Points)
- Attended meeting with Cllrs Bell, Allsopp, Diccico, Weaver, Lynch-Smith and Walter Bailey regarding HS2L proposal for relocation of Bickenhill HWRC.
- Attended MSP Director's meeting.

**Clerk:** Barbara Bland

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**Community Surgery hosted by Clerk and Bruce Brant, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Cllr Weaver was also in attendance.**

No residents attended.

**Community Surgery hosted by Clerk and Bruce Brant, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Cllr Weaver was also in attendance. This surgery should have been a joint Beat/Community surgery but there was no police presence.**

- Call from Library asking why police had not arrived as a resident was waiting. Resident invited to speak with Bruce Brant but decided to contact the police direct via Balsall Common base.
- Water leakage remains problematic to highway users running down Showell Lane and onto Birmingham Road carriageway. Cannot be sure water is not run off from jet washers from corner property. Bruce Brant to check out.
- Another complaint of wood dust when wind blowing from south west. Residents walk regularly along Quarry footpaths and observe operations; new tree screening being planted but there is an increase in crashing/grinding of machinery and bleeping of plant, carried on the wind.

**It should be noted that Mr Green, A & A Recycling, is meeting residents of Morrison Park Homes, Meriden Hall, on 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 11.00am on site.**

- Concerns raised by the family of occupiers of Keepers Cottage, Cornets End Lane, due to commencement of works for new Beechwood Plant.

A general catch of actions and outstanding items from previous surgeries included:-

- Enforcement letters to various properties for tree maintenance.
- Walsh Lane – review of rural restriction notice.
- SMBC Drainage colleagues to be contacted regarding replacement of plate due to dropping Pool levels.
- MPC to liaise with Meriden Watch for the purpose of getting road closure notices put on twitter/facebook i.e. Hampton Lane.
- Removal of taxi bus, replacement 89 service and 900 renumbering (TfWM).
- Update on Local Plan review and call for sites.
- Update on Pool and Red Kite Consultant.
- Review of Berkswell Road restrictions and what can be done regarding Artic use via Meriden.
- Review of car parking.
- Update on planning issues and enforcement.
- Nice Drives are working in Meriden & Trading Standards say be vigilant.

SMBC to implement an ACTION LOG. All issues pertaining to fly tipping, highways, lighting, litter, bins to be called into SMBC 0121 704 6000/8000 by residents so calls may be logged which will enable SMBC to monitor services and contractors.

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