

Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 28th February 2011 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.
Present

Melanie Lee, Rosie Weaver, Paul Lee, Bob Kipling, Marilyn Hamilton, two representatives of Tarmac and six members of the public

1. Apologies

Graham Goodsir and Shirley Goodsir

Absent Will Markham

2. Declaration of Interest

3. Minutes

3.1 RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting on 24th January 2011, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Clerk contacted Bruce, Brant, the neighbourhood co-ordinator regarding the pot holes on Meriden Hill. Bruce advised that monthly inspections of the High Street and Meriden Hill take place. Where dangerous pot holes are identified, appropriate action is taken

5. Presentation by Tarmac & Public Participation Open

Brian Shaw and Peter Perryman of Tarmac provided a presentation to create a Local Liaison Committee. This would allow Tarmac a means of discussing their plans and obtain comments of the community. They propose setting up a Committee or to be invited to Parish Council meetings every six months. Current areas of excavation were discussed and an invitation was extended to the Parish Councillors to attend the quarry to see how it works.

RW detailed the plans set out in the Emerging Core Strategy document issued by SMBC. Two areas were identified as the next planned areas for extraction. Tarmac would like to work with SMBC and Parish Council to deal with any issues. Tarmac are also responsible for filling these areas

Concern was raised regarding vehicles travelling through the Village. Some of these vehicles are travelling at high speeds. Tarmac do not want lorries coming through the Village and would be interested to receive details of Registration numbers.

Issue was raised regarding the erection of the new steel gates. Hedges have been taken out to install these gates. Tarmac confirmed that planning permission had not been sought. Tarmac confirmed that hedging would be re-instated. Tarmac were

advised of a particular vehicle exiting from these gates and causing a danger to a resident driving along.

Brian Shaw and Peter Perryman left

6. Public Participation

Public participation continued. Resident advised that they were not happy with the sign outside the new playing fields advertising DWH. Advised that this was part of the agreement. RW who had excused herself to thank Tarmac for their attendance returned and added that she had raised objections to the size and location of the hoarding

Iain Roxburgh of Parish Plan Action Group advised that the Village Design Statement was ready to be sent out for consultation but funds are required to produce consultation leaflet.

Resident required details of HS2 line. An update was provided regarding the Exhibition held at the Village Hall. Resident was concerned about MP's stance.

A resident informed that litter along the Main Road was increasing usually after litter collection days. The high winds are causing litter left outside to be blown away. Clerk to notify neighbourhood co-ordinator.

Resident advised of concern over the speed of vehicles travelling along Meriden Hill. Parish Council sympathised and understood frustration but due to lack of volunteers with Speedwatch programme the Parish Council cannot run speedwatch dates.

7. Correspondence and Communication

7.1 Letter from Big Lottery Fund advising that the application for funding for the nature trail at Millisons Wood was unsuccessful. . However, the application has been forwarded to the main application section to be considered by them

7.2 Letter from Wright Hassall – confirming appointment to advise on warranties and enclosing client care letter

7.3 Letter from Severn Trent Water – Amended Water services Bill –

7.4 Letter from Severn Trent – VAT credits

7.5 Letter from Barclays confirming Mandate change – signatories have now been changed

8. Receive Reports

8.1 Committee Member for Village Hall Management Committee - no representative

8.2 School Governors for Parish Council - no representative

- 8.3 Committee Member for War Memorial - no representative
- 8.4 Pool – item on agenda
- 8.5 Allotment Representative – no report
- 8.6 Footpaths/Forum – no report
- 8.7 Meriden Sands Working Group – to meet with Tarmac
- 8.8 Conservation Committee – nothing to report for Meriden
- 8.9 Local Strategic Partnership – no report
- 8.10 Police Rural Assembly – repeat of items previously on agenda
- 8.11 Solihull Area Committee – no report
- 8.12 Tree Wardens – no report
- 8.13 Parish Plan – Visual Design Statement to be sent out for consultation. Next meeting 14th April 2011
- 8.14 Community Surgery – 3 people, Margaret Argyle chasing from previous week and issues regarding parking on Fillongley Road.
- 8.15 Joint Councillor Surgery – next surgery 16th March 2011
- 8.16 Community Speed Watch – none held due to lack of volunteers
- 8.17 Fusion Football Sessions – Wednesday evenings – progressing well
- 8.18 Paul Jayes Football Academy – Meriden Rovers – Saturday Mornings – progressing well

9. Village Matters

- 9.1 **Precept** –Clerk confirmed that this had been submitted to SMBC
- 9.2 **Pool** – Clerk is awaiting to hear from neighbourhood co-ordinator with quotes for improvement works
- 9.3 **Playing Fields – Maxstoke Lane** – Clerk provided details of work undertaken to deal with flooding that occurred due to extreme weather – emergency repairs were instructed to stop a leak caused by burst pipes. Further burst pipes were replaced. Additionally electrical testing has been carried out as agreed – to approve invoices for payment

RESOLVED

That the invoices for the electrical testing and emergency repairs are approved for payment

Maxstoke Lane/Hampton Lane development – Update

- 9.4.1 Client care letter to be signed agreeing terms and conditions for the review of collateral warranties.

RESOLVED

That the client care letter is signed

- 9.4.2 Finishes for Pavillion – these were selected and were available to view
9.4.3 Display board – to agree that a display board is produced to go up at the library showing the new playing fields

RESOLVED

That a display board is produced for the library

- 9.4.4 Naming of playing fields – RW had a meeting with Mrs Winkler of Meriden School. She will collect the suggested names for the competition. Suggestions by children not attending the school may be sent to the Clerk.
9.4.5 Signage above Hoarding – Boards have been displayed by the Developer advertising the new homes.

- 9.5 **Road Hump and new zebra crossing in Meriden** – Clerk is waiting for dates from Bruce Brant for meeting with Conservation Officer. Bob Kipling advised that he would like to be present. Also the parking area opposite The Green had a kerb at the end. This has been taken out by SMBC without notification to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED

Parish Council to make a formal complaint to SMBC as to why the work was undertaken without prior notification.

- 9.6 **Eaves Green Lane** – Update – Advised that the Injunction had been extended to incorporate the agricultural yard. Inquiry begins on 22nd March. To be agreed that we can take on further paid work from our planning consultant Neil Pearce to work with Chair in preparing the final verbal statement at the Inquiry and for expenses of Chair/Councillor attending the Inquiry to be paid for any loss of earnings.

RESOLVED

It is agreed that Neil Pearce is instructed to prepare the statement. Clerk to investigate position regarding loss of earnings by Chair for attendance at Inquiry.

- 9.7 **Public Conveniences** – Clerk to check with WALC regarding procedures for selection of contractor.

9.8 **Laptop** –An engineer has inspected the laptop and carried out work to improve performance – Clerk had to pay for engineer at the time of the work being carried out. To agree reimbursement of monies paid by Clerk. Also to agree that the laptop is passed on to the Chair and for a monthly subscription for internet to be paid.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk is reimbursed. That the laptop is passed to Chair and monthly internet subscription is paid by the Parish Council.

9.9 **HS2** – To consider request by RW to prepare feature for Meriden Mag

RESOLVED

That RW may prepare a feature for Meriden Mag.

9.10 **Meriden Heath Painting – Update** –We are looking to move the painting this week. The Painting will continue to be insured by the Parish Council.

9.11 **Consultations** – Fairer Contribution policy and Charges for Social Care Services. Proposals for making the system fairer for how we work out who pays what for their social care

Response to be submitted to SMBC by 29th March 2011.

RESOLVED

That comments are submitted to RW who will provide a response on behalf of Parish Council

9.12 **Elections** – To consider whether we need to have a meet the councillor session to allow public to be aware of the role of a councillor. Also, confirmation that election applications must be sent to SMBC not the Clerk. It was agreed that the Councillor surgery on 16th March may be utilised to meet interested candidates.

9.13 **Meeting dates** – May meeting also falls on Bank Holiday – suggested alternative date is Wednesday 25th May 2011

RESOLVED

The meeting date is changed to Wednesday 25th May 2011

9.14 **Parking on The Green** – Draft letter to be agreed

RESOLVED

Agreed to place this action on hold at present

9.15 **Chris Fryer – Service to the Community** – Service to the Community by Chris Fryer was acknowledged

9.16 **Financial Report** – This was provided by the Clerk and bank reconciliation produced.

9.17 **Showell Lane Bridge** – This is an update following a telephone conversation with Darren Lowe of SMBC. It is hoped that works will be completed by 31st March 2011. This is all dependent on various factors, the weather being one and we shall be kept up to date.

9. Planning Matters

9.1 **Premises Licence Variation – Meriden Lateshop, 2 The Green, Meriden CV7 7LN** – To vary the sale of alcohol, for consumption off the premises, for Monday – Sunday 6am – 11pm

Comments - The Parish Council objects to this application on the following grounds:-

- Increased noise and traffic
- Parking is an issue and longer opening hours will add to the problem
- There will be increased deliveries causing nuisance to residents nearby
- Increased vulnerability as the premises have been subject to burglaries when open frequently and this would create a risk to public and lead to an increase in crime
- There are already two other shops in Meriden selling alcohol

9.2 **2011/121 Land at Maxstoke Lane, Meriden** – 5 additional dwellings (plots 83-87), substitution of house types on plots 10,11 & 45 and relocation of foul water pumping station

Comments - Object on the grounds that this would be an inappropriate development of the Green Belt. It is understood that there is a red line boundary around the site which is the boundary of the site. The Parish Council objects to any development outside the boundary line. An additional five dwellings will exacerbate the traffic issues which have not been fully addressed

9.3 **2011/250 Land at Becks lane, Meriden** – Extend time limit on approved planning application 2008/261 (redevelopment of scrapyard to provide 4No. dwellings and alterations to existing access)

Comments- Object to extension. Inappropriate development of Green Belt. Over intensification, Traffic increase concerns. This will exacerbate the traffic issues which have not been fully addressed.

10. Accounts & Governance

RESOLVED

That the accounts are approved for payment.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is Monday 28th March 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Chair: _____

Date: _____