

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 23rd July 2007 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present

Ms Weaver (Chair), Mr Goodsir(8.30), Mrs Goodsir, Mrs Hamilton, Mrs Lee, Mrs Markham, Mr Markham, and 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies

Mr Goodsir (sickness), Mr Kipling (holiday).

Apologies accepted.

District Councillor Bell.

2. Declaration of Interest

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

No declarations made.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

No matters arising.

5. Correspondence / Communication

01) Mike Swallow, Strategic Investment & Property Resources, Solihull MBC and John Shaw of Donaldsons attended Sub-Committee meeting 11th July to discuss new Playing Field, showing latest detailed proposals. It was also reported that another outline application for housing on Maxstoke Lane is likely to be submitted in September.

Councillors asked for plans to be on show again in the Library and on Solihull website for residents to make comment and they also questioned the small area allocated for play equipment, limited sport provision and pavilion materials. An estimate has been made of £1.4million cost for tender process. Response expected.

1) New Code of Conduct

The Standards Committee recommends that the Town and Parish Councils should adopt the code in the mandatory form and also consider inclusion of paragraph 12(2) which is optional.

Copy to each Councillor.

RESOLVED

That this Council adopt the Code of Conduct in the mandatory form as set out in the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 with the addition of paragraph 12(2) of the Model Code and becoming operative with immediate effect.

2) Standing Orders

The new Code of Conduct has an impact on Standing Orders and requires an insertion allowing for the meeting to be closed and adjourned for three minutes to take advice from the floor.

Copy of modified Standing Orders for each Councillor.

RESOLVED

For the Standing Orders to be modified, adopted and becoming operative with immediate effect.

3) Toilets

Following malicious fire damage in the toilets and temporary closure, Mr Dean has been requested to quote to repair damage and a verbal quote of £600 has been received.

Demolition cost would be in the region of £16,000 - £20,000. (Figures from Solihull MBC and outside contractor.)

An option appraisal on finance only looked at 5 options. Figures are obviously rough estimates and for finance year 2007/2008 including work already done since 1st April 2007.

1) To do minimum, maintaining – open with no extra costs - £6784.

2) Repair damage, maintaining - £7384.

3) Close and leave - £3760.

4) Close and demolish - £18760.

5) Close, demolish, replace with new - £68760.

NB. There is always the possibility that if the toilets are left closed that the Parish Council will be required to demolish them.

AGREED

To discount option 5 and seek views of residents of the other 4 in the next 'Mag'.

As AMS must be unsure of the future of the agreement to open/close and maintain toilets one month paid notice is given and ask that should the Parish Council wish to open them again would AMS be keen to take on the contract again until 31st March 2008.

4) Clerk Resignation.

The Clerk has submitted resignation to the Chair with effect from 30th September with advertisement for vacancy.

AGREED

Advertisement for vacancy approved.

5) Letter from resident.

Copy for each Councillor regarding complaints about Millison's Wood. Have contacted Councillor Bell and met Neighbourhood Manager. Response that the work has been programmed to start 20th July, not done as weather unsuitable.

AGREED

To keep chasing.

6) Solihull MBC

The Council has begun reviewing polling districts and polling stations in the Borough of Solihull. Views are invited from interested parties, in particular accessibility for disability groups. Copy of Meriden Parish information for each Councillor.

AGREED

No comments on use of Village Hall for Meriden Parish.

6. Receive Reports.

No reports.

7. Village Matters.

1) Meriden 'Mag'

Deadline is 6th August and reports and meeting dates will be sent.

AGREED

Topics 'Fly posting', parking on grass verges, Public Conveniences consultation, Playing Field feedback from meeting. Ms Weaver to submit article on Village Appraisal to 'Mag'.

2) Future Sub-Committee meetings and dates for meetings next year.

Discussions for future sub-committee meetings and the form they should take.

Occasional response on Planning Applications, cheques and items with limited response date. These can be ratified at next Parish Council meeting.

Local issues for discussion, open meetings / surgeries, village appraisal, c.p.d., invitation to speakers.

Topics to include highways, tree surgery, District Councillors, planning and neighbourhood watch.

RESOLVED

To obtain more information with a view of proceeding with Village Appraisal.

3) .Pool.update

The Pool was originally purchased by Meriden RDC in 1960 with the Parish Council taking over the future management and maintenance of the Pool and surrounds under Section 16 of the Open Spaces Act, 1906 in 1961. Agreements were in place by 1984 with Mr Brown and Mr Dawson (earlier Directors of Technical Services, Solihull MBC) that they would be responsible for the upkeep of this area and The Pool area is now registered as Public Open Space with Solihull MBC.

Because of the specialist refurbishment (puddle clay waterproof lining, ecological considerations etc) expert advice is required and would not be less than £10,000. Solihull presently looking to project report, funding and grants.

4) Police.

Mr Markham reported that the police are awaiting training with 'Speed Gun' prior to looking at speeding traffic on Main

Road.

5) Meetings for 2008

Dates need to be approved for bookings of Village Hall for 2008.

RESOLVED

Dates approved for booking of Village Hall for 2008.

8. Planning Matters

1) P/A 2007/1324 - 10 Daytona Drive, Millison's Wood.

Ground floor extension to form dining room and extended lounge, with first floor extension over to form two new bedrooms.

RESOLVED

Leave to Neighbour Notification but question percentage increase.

2) P/A 2007/1089 Decision - 2 Thebes Close, Millison's Wood.

Full plans approval for first floor bedroom and en-suite extension.

3) P/A 2007/1096 Decision - Highbury House, Berkswell Road.

Full plans approval for first floor bedroom over the existing indoor swimming pool.

4) P/A 2007/1496 - Meriden C of E School, Fillongley Road.

Single storey extension to form nursery classroom to front of existing primary school.

RESOLVED

No observations.

5) P/A 2007/858 - Meriden Garage, Birmingham Road.

Amended plans have been submitted to Solihull MBC for three storey apartment block containing 8 no. 2 bedroom apartments and 6 no. 1 bedroom apartments. This means the apartment is moved 0.4 metres to the east easing the apartment block away from the Green Belt.

RESOLVED

Object: Outline permission for 9 only given after 10 recommended to be refused; Over intensive; Incongruous feature; Adjacent to Listed Building; Intrudes onto Green Belt and dedicated footpath; Parking concerns and increased traffic movements.

6) P/A 2007/839 Decision – The Old Vicarage, Church Lane.

Full plans approval to add pitched roofs to existing flat roof dormers.

7) P/A 2007/841 Decision – The Old Vicarage, Church Lane.

Listed building approval to add pitched roofs to existing flat roof dormers.

8) P/A 2007/1151 Decision - 59 Strawberry Fields.

Full plans approval for ground floor rear extension to form a conservatory.

9) P/A 2007/1251 Decision - Land adjacent to 21 Grace Road, Millison's Wood.

TPO approval to fell two birch trees and reduce height of eight birch trees from 3 – 7.5 metres.

9. Accounts

Accounts approved.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Sub-Committee Meeting is Wednesday 8th August and Parish Council Meeting is Monday 20th August both starting at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Chair RW

Date 20.08.07