

Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23rd March 2009 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present

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

1. Apologies

District Cllr David Bell

Absent

Mrs Markham

Mr Kipling

Gillian MacGee, Community Safety Manager at SMBC and PC Howard Johns attended to advise the Parish Council on making an application for an alcohol free zone.

2. Declaration of Interest

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

None declared.

3. Minutes

3.1 RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting on 23rd February 2009, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

3.2 RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last Parish Council sub-committee meeting dated 11th March 2009, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

5. Public Participation

5.1 A request that the signs for the public conveniences are taken down. Mr Kipling will be doing this.

6. Correspondence and Communication

6.1 Solihull MBC Neighbourhood Management Team – Draft Action Plan

Circulated to councillors. No comments at the meeting. Comments to be sent to Clerk.

6.2 Monitoring Officer Parish Liaison Meetings

Invitation from SMBC's new Monitoring Officer Philip Lloyd-Williams for all parish and town clerks to attend a meeting. There are two possible sessions. Julie is attending the Civic Suite on Monday 20th April at 6pm.

6.3 SMBC Assessing Affordable Housing Needs in Solihull's Villages

A copy of the questionnaire which will be sent to each household is on circulation. Ms Weaver has been in contact with Rachel Betts at SMBC and advised that the issues have already been addressed through our village appraisal and copies of the Appraisal Report have been sent to her.

6.4 SMBC Training – Planning, development control and related areas – 20th April 6pm, Civic Suite

An invitation has been received from David Wigfield, Enforcement and Conservation Manager at Solihull MBC to all Councillors and Clerk to attend the above training session. Training will cover matters relating to planning policy, legislation, procedure and practice. It will also look at the changes to the permitted development rules which took place in October 2008. Julie cannot attend as she is already attending the Monitoring Officer Training. Ms Weaver and Mrs Lee would like to attend.

6.5 Warwickshire Rural Community Council – Best Village Competition 2009.

AGREED

Mrs Goodsir to look into making an application.

- 6.6 **Warwickshire County Council – Minerals Core Strategy, Revised Spatial Options February 2009.**
The above document was received together with a questionnaire to be returned to WCC by 3rd April.
AGREED
Mrs Lee to make a response. Clerk to ask Mr Kipling if he would like to respond.
- 7. Receive Reports**
- 7.1 **Committee Member for Village Hall Management Committee** – AGM Friday 27th March. Funding has been received for new windows.
- 7.2 **School Governors for Parish Council** – Mrs Goodsir attended school today to look at year 1 toy museum.
- 7.3 **Committee Member for War Memorial** – no report.
- 7.4 **Pool** – no report.
- 7.5 **Allotment Representative** – tenancy renewal letters will be sent out this week.
- 7.6 **Footpaths/Forum** – no report.
- 7.7 **Meriden Sands Working Group** – no report.
- 7.8 **Conservation Committee** – Ms Weaver has sent her apologies for the next meeting on Tuesday. There is nothing relating to Meriden on the agenda.
- 7.9 **Local Strategic Partnership** – no report.
- 7.10 **Police Rural Assembly** – 12th March 2009. There was an update on Speedwatch. Minutes will be put on circulation once received.
- 7.11 **Solihull Area Committee** – 19th March 2009. Chief Executive of Sustain attended and spoke about the role of parish and town councils in the Solihull Partnership. A speaker dropped out at the last minute who was going to discuss the requirement of councillors having CRB checks. Next meeting 2nd July 2009 7.30pm Meriden Village Hall at which the new monitoring officer, Philip Lloyd-Williams is attending.
- 7.12 **Tree Wardens** – no report.
- 7.13 **Village Appraisal** – see 8.2 on the agenda.
- 7.14 **Police Priority Setting Meeting** – 26th February 2009. Mr Kipling and Clerk attended. Inspector Sarling was not able to attend. Discussions were around antisocial behaviour and police reiterated the need for residents to report any incidents.
- 8. Village Matters**
- 8.1 **Development**
No report.
- 8.2 **Village Appraisal**
Minutes from the February 9th meeting are on circulation. Next meeting is Thursday 30th April 2009 at the Heart of England Social Club.
- The Annual Parish Meeting on 15th April 2009 will be preceded by an open meeting where Iain Roxburgh will provide an update on the present position with regard to the Appraisal.
- The steering group plan to produce a 5th newsletter advertising the meeting on 15th April. This will cost approximately £90 as per the previous newsletters. The cost of the newsletter will be covered by the second Awards for All application which Ms Weaver has recently completed.
- RESOLVED**
That the Parish Council will pay for the printing of the newsletter. The cost to be reimbursed by the second Awards for All grant if the application is successful.
- 8.3 **Community Speed Watch**
Two training sessions have been arranged for Wednesday 29th April at 10am and Thursday 30th April at 6pm. Both sessions will be held at The Bear, Cromwell Room, Spencers Lane, Berkswell. The sessions will take approx two hours – one hour on conflict resolution and one hour on operating the speed device with a road side demonstration. This information will be included in the Appraisal newsletter.
- 8.4 **Alcohol Free Zone**
RESOLVED
That an application is pursued. Mr Goodsir and Mr Markham to collate further information in order for further discussions to take place.

- 8.5 **Allotments**
The clerk has obtained confirmation from Taylor Wimpey that within the next 12 month period to March 2010, Taylor Wimpey do not anticipate any development activity in respect of the above site. The site is currently being promoted by Taylor Wimpey through the Solihull LDF process for future residential development.
- RESOLVED**
That the rent for the year 1st April 2009 to 1st April 2010 be increased to £20.00 for one full allotment and £15 for half allotment.
- 8.6 **Remembrance Day Service – one off donation for 2009/2010 for the purchase of equipment.**
Paul Lee to provide quotes for equipment required.
- 8.7 **Youth Club**
A youth club, set up by Kevin Hunt with the assistance of Tracy Bryan, Youth Services Officer is now up and running. They have received a £3,000 grant from the Youth Opportunity Fund.
- 8.8 **August Sub-Committee Meeting**
Due to the bank holiday at the end of August, the Parish Council meeting has been brought forward to 24th August. This has resulted in there only being 11 days between the August sub committee meeting on 12th August and the Parish Council meeting on 24th August. Last year we did not have a sub-committee meeting in August because of this reason.
- AGREED**
That the sub-committee meeting on 12th August be cancelled.
- 8.9 **New play equipment at Maxstoke Lane playing fields.**
Chair and Clerk attended a meeting at Meriden School with 12 children ranging from yr2 – yr6. Including the head boy and girl. After discussion 10 out of the 12 children voted for one piece of equipment. The matrix. The quotation has now been received from Wicksteed Leisure in the sum of £12,000. SMBC have suggested a budget up to £10,000. In the budget for 2009/2010, £2,000 was assigned to playing field improvements.
- RESOLVED**
That the additional £2,000 be paid by the parish council from the budget for 2009/2010 playing field improvements.
- 9. Planning Matters**
- 9.1 **2009/212 – Deepdene, Back Lane, Meriden – Conservatory to the front elevation.**
RATIFIED
Leave to neighbour notification.
- 9.2 **2009/240 – 22 Glovers Close, Meriden – Single storey rear conservatory extension.**
RATIFIED
Leave to neighbour notification.
- 9.3 **2009/255 – 9 Grace Road, Millisons Wood – Two storey side and ground floor rear extensions.**
RATIFIED
Concerns over percentage increase. Leave to neighbour notification.
- 9.4 **2009/289 – Brailes Farm, Fillongley Road, Meriden – Portal Frame Agricultural Building.**
RATIFIED
Leave to neighbour notification.
- 9.5 **2009/353 – 37 Strawberry Fields, Meriden – Two storey side extension (resubmission of 2008/2200).**
Application 2008/2200 had full plans approval. The Parish Council’s comments on the previous application were “Leave to neighbour notification”.
- RESOLVED**
Leave to neighbour notification.

- 9.6 **2009/276 – Meriden CofE School** – single storey extension to create new class room and resource room.
RESOLVED
 No comment.
- 9.7 **2009/312 – 15 Bonneville Close, Millison’s Wood** – first floor side extension and a single storey rear conservatory extension (resubmission of 2008/1802). Application 2009/312 had full plans refusal. The Parish Council’s comments on the previous application were “over intensification”.
RESOLVED
 Over intensification.
- 10. Accounts**
- a) **Cheque number 939** - £70 for WALC Training destroyed as not used. Accounts have been adjusted accordingly.
- b) **Risk Assessment – annual review.**
 Amended to include testing of electrical equipment when considered necessary.
- c) **Standing Order, Code of Conduct, Financial Regulations – Annual Review.**
 No amendments required.
- d) **Clerks mileage / home working allowance claim for period 1st April 208 to 31st March 2009.**
 Signed by cheque signatories and clerk.
- e) **West Midlands Pension Fund – Return completed for 2008/2009.**

Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED

That the accounts are approved for payment.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting starting at 7.30pm followed by a sub committee meeting on Wednesday 15th April 2009. The date of the next Parish Council meeting is Monday 27th April 2009 at 7.30pm. Both meetings are in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.08 pm.

Chair : _____

Date : _____

DOCUMENTS FOR CIRCULATION

- a) CPRE – Fieldwork, March 2009 issue.
- b) Meriden Parish Plan Steering Group – minutes of meeting on Monday 2nd February.
- c) Neighbourhood Management Area 3 (SMBC) and West Midlands Police East Neighbourhood Team – Newsletter February 09.
- d) Solihull Area Committee – minutes of 25th November 2008 meeting.
- e) CPRE – Housing Campaign Report.
- f) SUSTAIN – Solihull’s 3rd Sector Network Event. Notes from workshop sessions.
- g) NALC Local Council Review – March 2009