

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

Present

Melanie Lee, Rosie Weaver, Paul Lee, Bob Kipling, Graham Goodsir and three members of the public

1. Apologies

Shirley Goodsir and Marilyn Hamilton

Absent Will Markham

2. Declaration of Interest

BK declared an interest in item 8.7 of the agenda and RW declared an interest in item 8.2 of the agenda

3. Minutes

3.1 RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting on 28th February 2011, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

It was confirmed that the matter of the steel gates being erected by Tarmac is being dealt with by enforcement as planning permission had not been applied for. PL also advised that he has details of three lorries passing through the village and will pass on the registration numbers to the Clerk.

5. Public Participation

A member of the public raised that no agendas were available and this was causing difficulty following the meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk would provide extra copies of the agenda at future meetings. Resident raised issue over the parking and lack of action. Resident was informed that the visual design statement was specifically looking at this issue and it was vital that residents complete the consultation document being sent out in the post by the Parish Plan Action Group. Resident representing the Village Hall Management Committee expressed gratitude for the service provided by the Councillors and the donation received from the Parish Council. Resident wished to know if the donation had been agreed in the precept for the following year.

Clerk advised that the donation could not be made automatically. It would have to be applied for annually and consideration would be given at the time of application. This was due to the monies being public monies and the Parish Council needing to show accountability and following its policy to consider every application for donation individually and annually.

Every donation must be justified as these are public funds. We have identified in the precept that we may be requested for donations and the Village Hall's request has been considered in setting that precept but we cannot give a guarantee that the donation will be made.

Resident also wished to discuss item 8.3.2 on the agenda which was brought forward. Resident felt that the Archery club was adequately represented in Meriden and suggested alternative names.

Resident was also a longstanding member of the tennis club and wished to know if a trust was to be set up to run the new facility.

An update was provided regarding the playing fields and setting up of the management company to run the playing fields.

Resident 3 advised that UK coal signs are up in Back Lane and it seems that dore mill will be taking coal starting in a year's time.

6. Correspondence and Communication

6.1 Letter from National Lottery confirming that Conditional Funding for Millisons Wood Nature Trail

6.2 Letter from SMBC – Requesting invitation to attend meeting to discuss reducing waste

6.3 E-mail from resident advising of strong feeling against HS2 and requesting clarification of Allotments

6.4 E-mail from Brian Shaw at Tarmac thanking Parish Council for invitation to present at the last meeting and requesting date

6.5 E-mail from resident expressing concerns over dog fouling in the Playing Fields

6.6 Letter from Meriden Village Hall Management Committee expressing thanks for donation

7. Receive Reports

7.1 Committee Member for Village Hall Management Committee - rep not present

7.2 School Governors for Parish Council – rep not present

7.3 Committee Member for War Memorial – rep not present

7.4 Pool – Clerk confirmed that she is still waiting to hear from SMBC for quote of works.

7.5 Allotment Representative – Received e-mail from two tenants, one will not be renewing and another would like to reduce to a half allotment. Clerk has also

received an enquiry from a resident this week who has expressed an interest and after viewing the Plot has agreed to take on Plot 16. We still have 1 full plot and 1 half plot that are available and will be advertised.

- 7.6 Footpaths/Forum – representative not present
- 7.7 Meriden Sands Working Group - Following the presentation given by Tarmac at the last Parish meeting, we have been invited by Tarmac to visit the quarry. A date for July is to be arranged. Parish Council have also been invited to attend and look at the footpath issue and ways to resolve this for the benefit of the Parish.
- 7.8 Conservation Committee – As agreed only to be attended if there are items on the agenda relating to Meriden- nothing relating to Meriden
- 7.9 Local Strategic Partnership – no report
- 7.10 Police Rural Assembly –rep not present
- 7.11 Solihull Area Committee – next meeting in June
- 7.12 Tree Wardens – rep not present
- 7.13 Parish Plan – Spring newsletter sent out and residents views requested. Next Parish Plan Action group meeting is on 14th April
- 7.14 Community Surgery – We had a very busy surgery this week. No police present but neighbourhood co-ordinator attended. Residents have raised issue concerning the non delivery of free papers. Clerk has followed this up and looked at the possibility of leaving papers at the library for residents to collect. See reply from library. In Millisons Wood, Clerk is also looking at the possibility of using the telephone box that has been adopted to be used as a storage space for the free papers to be left and collected. It is understood that they cannot get people to deliver in Meriden. Also, Chris Dean advises that papers are regularly dumped in the bus shelters and he clears them away. Other issues raised were the bus service and when this would be reverting back. An inquiry has been made with Centro and you will have seen the reply. Residents also raised issues with anti social behaviour at the Croft affecting the residents that back on to the footpath. Bruce is looking into this with the police.
- 7.15 Joint Councillor Surgery - no attendance
- 7.16 Community Speed Watch – no volunteers
- 7.17 Fusion Football Sessions – Wednesday evenings & Paul Jayes Football Academy – Still going well. Meriden Rovers – Saturday Mornings – Also going well match played and kit now obtained.

8. Village Matters

- 8.1 **Eaves Green Lane** – Public Inquiry 22nd March 2011. Attended by Chair and a brief update was provided. Last day is tomorrow and then the Inquiry will resume on 11th July 2011.

8.2 Removal of Build out area at end of Parking Bay – SMBC have advised that the decision to remove the build out was taken for road safety reasons and to remove the potential risk that a motorist could drive into the build out when there are no cars in the parking bay. The Clerk raised the matter of failure to provide notice of these works and a written apology has been given by SMBC.

8.3 Maxstoke Lane/Hampton Lane development – Update

8.3.1 Advisory Group meeting held on 1st March 2011 and meeting with SMBC on 17th March 2011. Parish Council to discuss and agree limitations of use of the new playing fields.

Discussion took place as to whether dogs should be allowed in the new playing fields. The concern of residents was noted as expressed to the Clerk by e-mail and Councillors.

RESOLVED

Proposed by BK and seconded by PL that dogs are banned from the new playing fields.

8.3.2 Naming of Roads – Parish Council to agree/object to names suggested by developer – current names supplied are all to do with Archery in recognition of the local club.

We have also received three further names again still on the theme of archery. The Clerk advised SMBC that we were looking at names relevant to the history of people that have lived in Meriden.

It was agreed that the names proposed were not suitable and it was appropriate to have names commemorating historical links to Meriden.

RESOLVED

Object to the road names suggested by Developer. The historical link with Archery is already recognised in the Parish. It is important to recognise people who have been a part of the Parish in keeping with current names in the Parish. Clerk to provide alternative names to SMBC.

8.4 SMBC – Area 3 Newsletter – Requesting information of priorities and project ideas for 2011/2012

RESOLVED

Areas of priority and project ideas are parking, pond and enforcement

8.5 Press Liaison Policy – Guidelines from WALC – to be agreed that these are adopted by the Parish Council

RESOLVED

BK proposed and RW seconded that the guidelines are adopted

8.6 Meriden Heath Painting – Clerk confirmed that the painting has been moved to the Heart of England Social Club. The insurer has confirmed that the painting remains insured. To agree payment of invoice for the removal and relocation of the painting

RESOLVED

Agreed payment of removal costs

8.7 **Public Conveniences** – Clerk has provided details of the quotes received from the contractors and checked with NALC regarding procedures. Quotes were considered.

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council proceeds with contractor 1 on the understanding that he will go to a depth of 300mm. Contractor 1 is the cheapest.

8.8 **Pool** – Clerk provided update of the reasons for felling of Ash Tree by SMBC located at the Pond. Considered request by Environmental Dimension Partnership to survey pool for newts

RESOLVED

That permission is granted to carry out the survey

8.9 **Clerk** – Confirmation of Appointment - Clerk has now completed six months.

RESOLVED

That Clerk's appointment is confirmed

8.10 **Bus shelter – Leys Lane** – This bus shelter has been subject to vandalism as notified in e-mail. Clerk instructed AMS Services to undertake emergency clean up works due to the nature of the graffiti. To agree payment of cleaning costs

RESOLVED

Agreed that the cleaning costs are paid

8.11 **HS2 – Consultation documents received from SMBC –**

We have received the Consultation documents that will be circulated. It was agreed that the Parish Council will respond as well as Councillors responding individually.

8.12 **Centro – Meeting 28th February 2011**

A meeting was held by Centro but unfortunately this was arranged on the same date as the last Parish Council meeting. No issues relating to Meriden were addressed. We have asked Centro's rep to attend a Meriden Parish Council meeting as the bus issues remain live and evident from the recent community surgery. It was agreed that the Centro rep is invited to the next Parish Council meeting.

8.13 **Elections** – Clerk handed out nomination papers and advised that these are to be returned to SMBC not the Clerk.

8.14 **Consultations** - Fairer Contribution policy and Charges for Social Care Services. RW is waiting to receive comments to respond to these consultations.

8.15 **WALC membership** – To agree membership for 2011/2012 and payment of annual subscription

RESOLVED

Agreed to pay membership fee

9. Planning Matters

9.1 2011/243 - Berryfields Farm, Berkswell Road, Meriden CV7 7LB - Lean-to extension to livestock building

Comments: No objection

9.2 2011/286 - Hillwood Cottage, Kinwalsey Lane, Meriden, CV7 7HT - Change of use from studio to granny annexe and two storey extension to existing cottage

Comments: Leave to Conservation Committee

9.3 2011/58 - Eaves Green Lane Meriden CV7 7JL - Retention of temporary change of use from builders yard to a mixed use as builders yard and temporary shelter for local action group including siting of caravan and awning

Comments: Object based on Greenbelt as identified by SMBC in the report prepared for the original Planning application 2010/1502. We support Solihull's report in relation to hedges trees and wildlife

9.4 2011/318 - Harvest Hill Cottage, Harvest Hill Lane, Allesley, CV5 9DE - Certificate of lawful development for the existing use of stationing of a mobile home for residential purposes and associated operational development on land

Comments: Object on the basis of development in the Greenbelt. It is not clear what is meant by associated operational development. We question the witness statement as it is a personal statement on police headed paper dated January 2010

10. Accounts & Governance

RESOLVED

That the accounts are approved for payment.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting is on Wednesday 27th April 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 9.35pm.

Chair: _____

Date: _____