



Meriden Parish Council

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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and Parish Council Meeting held on 19 May 2014 at The Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Cllr M Lee	Chair Retiring
Cllr R Weaver	
Cllr P Lee	
Cllr F Lynch-Smith	
Cllr M Haque	
Cllr M Nunn	
Cllr J Barber	
Mrs B Bland	Clerk

In attendance: Councillor D Bell

There were no members of the public present and therefore no public participation.

1. Welcome & Apologies

Cllr M Lee opened Meriden Parish Council's Annual General Meeting.
No apologies received.

2. Election of Chair

No Member nominations had been received. Cllr R Weaver, on behalf of Meriden Parish Council, gave thanks to Cllr M Lee for her dedication, commitment and diligence. Cllr Lee stated her willingness to continue as Chair if there was no other interest. Cllr Weaver proposed Cllr Lee as Chair, and this was seconded by Cllr M Haque and unanimously agreed.

IT WAS RESOLVED Cllr M Lee is elected as Chair for period ending with Annual General Meeting of Meriden Parish Council May 2015.

3. Election of Vice-Chair

A Member nomination had been received for Cllr Weaver. Cllr R Kipling was not present and he had not advised his willingness to continue as Vice Chair. Cllr P Lee proposed Cllr Weaver seconded by Cllr Haque and unanimously agreed.

IT WAS RESOLVED Cllr Weaver is elected as Vice Chair for period ending with Annual General Meeting of Meriden Parish Council May 2015.

4. Election of Sub Committees and Representatives

Cllr P Lee proposed the sub-committee representatives remain as they currently are; Members unanimously agreed. Cllr Haque stated she was unable to commit due to work however when she is available she would like to be included in all projects and provide assistance wherever there is a need. Cllr Weaver seconded the proposal.



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

A	Village Hall Management Committee	Cllr F Lynch-Smith
B	School Governors for Parish Council	Cllr R Weaver
C	Committee Member War Memorial & Cyclists Memorial	Cllr P Lee
D	Meriden Pool	All Councillors Clerk
E	Allotment Representative	Cllr M Lee Clerk
F	Solihull MBC Footpaths Forum and Representative	Cllr F Lynch-Smith
G	Quarry Liaison Group Representatives	Cllr R Weaver Clerk
H	Solihull MBC Conservation Committee	Cllr R Weaver
I	Solihull MBC Local Strategic Partnership	All Members Clerk Representative to be appointed as and when meetings arise
J	Association of Parish and Town Councils Solihull Area Committee	Cllr M Lee Cllr R Weaver
K	Solihull MBC Tree Wardens	Cllr P Lee Cllr F Lynch-Smith Cllr M Haque
L	Neighbourhood Plan	All Members Clerk
M	Community Surgeries	Clerk Neighbourhood Co-ordinator
N	Community Speed Watch	Cllr R Weaver Cllr J Barber
O	HS2	Cllr R Weaver
P	Airspace Change Consultation & Birmingham Airport Extension	Cllr R Weaver Cllr J Barber Clerk
Q	Meriden Sports Limited	Cllr R Weaver – Director/Chair Cllr P Lee – Director/Vice Chair Cllr J Barber - Director Cllr M Lee – (Parish Council Representative) Mrs B Bland – Company Secretary
R	Finance Committee	Cllr M Lee - Chair Cllr R Weaver – Vice Chair Clerk
S	Personnel Committee	Cllr M Lee – Chair Cllr R Weaver – Vice Chair Cllr M Haque Cllr F Lynch-Smith
T	Clerk's Supervising Officer	Cllr R Weaver

IT WAS RESOLVED Members approved sub-committee representation as detailed above.



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

4.1 To approve Internal Auditor

The Clerk stated that the Internal Auditor was no longer available and she was looking for an alternative. Cllr Lynch-Smith suggested using a local person who was Treasurer for local committee. The Clerk will contact WALC for local recommendations.

IT WAS RESOLVED The Clerk to source Internal Auditor and advise Members for an in principle approval via email.

4.2 To approve bank signatories, currently Clerk, Cllr M Lee, Cllr R Kipling, Cllr R Weaver.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members agreed that the current cheque signatories above should remain unchanged.

5. Democratic Half-Hour/Public Question Time/Invited Guest Speakers: From 7.30 pm residents are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chair, before the start of the Parish Council meeting. Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself.

(i) Cllr Bell reported that he was chasing up S106 regarding Taylor Wimpey with Mike Swallow.

(ii) Cllr Bell reported SMBCs response to Hs2 petition. Berkswell PC and agent are finalising their response and so far 400 petitions had been received by w/e 16th May 2014.

IT WAS RESOLVED Cllr Bell will pursue S106 Taylor Wimpey funding with Mike Swallow.

6. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

7. Minutes of 28th April 2014

The Clerk circulated to Members by email minutes of the meeting held on 28th April 2014.

Cllr M Lee requested the removal of quotation costs from item 7.3.

Cllr P Lee requested corrections be made to item 10.2 as follows:-

- Remove Fun Day and replace with Family Picnic in the Park;
- Remove Re-enactment Group and replace with Living History Group;
- Remove Memorial Film Night and replace with Commemorative Film Night.



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

Cllr Lynch-Smith requested the removal of vociferous in paragraphs 11.4 and 12.2 and Members agreed it should be replaced with reiterated.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members accepted the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th April 2014 subject to amendments above.

Matters arising:

Cllr M Lee requested clarification of item 11 closing paragraph referring to a Sports Park summary report for future inclusion rather than agenda items. Cllr Lynch-Smith advised that Sports Park Directors are responsible for the management and operation therefore a summary update is needed rather than formal agenda items for discussion. Cllr Weaver stated the Parish Council are accountable for the Sports Park and therefore a formal update is necessary but agreed a quarterly summary report only would be included for future meetings. This item will be placed under standing items to received quarterly updates.

IT WAS RESOLVED Cllr Weaver will provide a quarterly summary report only for future meetings.

8. Standing Order Review

This item is deferred to next meeting.

9. Finance

May Payments

Members received May payments for approval. The Clerk advised payment for Robinsons Memorial for the cleaning of the Cyclists Memorial for £1934 was additional and not included in budget. It was agreed for the Clerk to approach Conservators to request financial support for re-gilding works. Cllr Lee requested holding payment to Robinsons as there was additional works to be carried out and the job had not been signed off.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members unanimously approved payments list.

Moving forward Members recommended cleaning every 2/3 years and this be included in future budgets. Cllr Lynch-Smith suggested contacting Friends of War Memorials and the War Memorial Trust to secure future funding. Cllr Weaver advised the Parish Council cannot absorb any costs without income and further stated SMBC's recommendation from Trust exemption to pay no more than 10% of precept for such works. Donations had been received from SMBC and Cheltenham Wheelers. The Clerk was instructed to set up a meeting with the Conservators.

9.1 To consider Library request for donation for the Summer Reading Challenge. Members considered the request but asked for further clarification as follows:-

1. How are non Parished Libraries funding the Reading Challenge?



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

2. How are Central Libraries funding the Reading Challenge?
3. How much is the Reading Challenge costing and how much are you requesting as a donation?
4. Is the Reading Challenge a national event and if so, what funding is being drawn down from Central Library to enable Community Libraries to participate?

IT WAS RESOLVED The Clerk was requested to email Library Manager for further clarification and report at next meeting.

10. Progress Reports

10.1 Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Lynch-Smith reported that refreshments had been provided by WI for Cyclists with a full hall. The Committee awaits final signature on land and the Church have withdrawn their opposition. The film night (War Horse) is booked for 7th June and tickets are on sale with seating for 60 on a first come first served basis. The Committee wish to provide some summer activities supporting Arts and Drama; with suggestion for a Mime Dance Group.

Cllr P Lee advised the BBC website showed a play with a free script that could be adapted with name changes as a WW1 commemorative performance. Cllr M Lee stated that SMBC have a Creative Development Team to engage with local communities. Cllr Lee suggested this being part of a 5 year project to be underwritten by the Parish Council. The next meeting will be end of June for update and feedback to Members.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members will receive update at next meeting.

10.2 Community Governor for Meriden C of E School

Cllr Weaver reported the on-going review continues with a Safeguarding Assessment undertaken today. Two further training sessions are organised and there is a full Governors meeting on Wednesday evening.

IT WAS RESOLVED Cllr Weaver will provide meeting updates at next meeting.

10.3 War Memorials

Please refer to item 9 above.

Cllr P Lee stated as this is Centenary year what can we do to protect the poppy wreaths and suggested some form of tracking device or personalisation?

Cllrs Lynch-Smith and Haque suggested the removal of the wreaths and take them to Church.

IT WAS RESOLVED The Clerk to investigate personalisation or tracking device.



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

10.4 Pool Tidy

The Clerk sent photographs to David Tipping and Bruce Brant regarding the current level of maintenance. A site meeting is arranged for 10th June.

IT WAS RESOLVED The Clerk will report back a next meeting.

10.5 Allotment Representative

The Clerk reported there remains one vacant plot.

10.6 Footpaths/Forum

Cllr Lynch-Smith continues walking the footpaths.

10.7 Quarries Liaison Group

Members discussed the current fire that remains burning and discussed the health and safety of residents and awareness of operators/fire service actions. The Clerk reported that the General Manager of A & A Recycling called Saturday morning to provide an update of situation and to thank the residents of Meriden for their support during this difficult time. Members asked for a letter to be written to SMBC and HSE clarifying situation. Cllr Weaver stated the forthcoming Quarry Liaison Group meeting in June will provide answers and suggested questions be emailed to the Clerk to be included in the meeting. Cllr Haque to email the Clerk.

IT WAS RESOLVED The Clerk to organise letters and receive emails.

10.8 Solihull Area Committee

Nothing to report.

10.9 (i) Tree Warden

Nothing to report.

10.9(ii) TPO List

Cllr Lynch-Smith advised that she had emailed Lawrence Osborne for a TPO list without any response. Cllr Lynch-Smith reported that the Arboriculturist recommended to undertake the photographic recording work will cost £120 per day. (It should be noted that a formal proposal for this work has not been received detailing number of days and potential final cost).

IT WAS RESOLVED Cllr Lynch-Smith report back at next meeting. Cllr Bell will follow up with SMBC to receive TPO identification list.

10.10 Community Surgeries

The Clerk reported Community surgery held on 12/05/14. Residents recorded the following concerns:-

- Finding Digby Place – it is missed as signage needs improving.



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

- Leys Lane – new footpath and dropped curbs put in, however this has attracted parking and footpath obstruction. Removal of hedges and trees for new site line and boundary has had the effect of speeding up traffic as width of road improved! Calming measures requested. Any new signage has 3 month lead time from Highways placing order.
- Meriden Gate and balancing pond. No fence, no signs, dangerous to any child. Design cannot be seen facing it and if a child runs without realising there is a 8-10' drop – they are over the edge!

IT WAS RESOLVED Bruce Brant, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator will process all above issues with the relevant SMBC officers and report back. The Clerk will email Mike Swallow and David Waterson regarding the on-going David Wilson Homes difficulties with Meriden Gate and defects liability period.

10.11 Community Speed Watch

Nothing to report but Members are keen to get speed watch up and running again. Training is required and Cllr Weaver will follow up. Cllr Lynch-Smith reported a number of drivers reversing out of the service road onto Fillongley Road.

10.12 Hs2

Cllr Weaver referred to Cllr Bell's earlier comments covered in item 5.

IT WAS RESOLVED Cllr Weaver will continue to monitor and report back to Members.

11. Clerk's Report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting

The Clerk circulated by email to Members her actions since last meeting. There were no questions and the Chair expressed Members thanks and acknowledged content.

The Clerk referred Members to item 13 of Clerks Actions and presented the proposal she had received today from Michael Wellock to undertake the Neighbourhood Plan. The proposal is for Kirkwells to undertake this work at a cost of £7,800 with free support to prepare bid for Locality for Neighbourhood Planning Grant Funding to recover cost.

IT WAS RESOLVED Cllr Weaver proposed we accept the Clerk's recommendation and Members unanimously approved. The Clerk will advise Kirkwells of decision and set up meeting.

Cllr Weaver stated that she had received an email regarding Secretary of State turning down planning application appeal due to a Neighbourhood Plan being in place and supporting Parish Council. **The Clerk was requested to circulate email to Members.**



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

12. District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Bell advised:-

(i) In SMBC's Local Development Plan an allocation for new housing sites comprising 1100 and 1400 houses has been partly won by inspectors. It is possible that Meriden may be affected as part of the Blythe Ward as there is a triangle of land by the proposed Hs2 station the other side of Stonebridge.

(ii) Berkswell PC have appointed a QC at a cost of 25K to take forward the Hs2 petitioning case

(iii) There is a sum of money in the Meriden Mine fund (Anti Mine Charity) and Members are requested to consider giving this fund to HAG to cover all areas of mitigation petitioning.

IT WAS RESOLVED Cllr Weaver proposed Members approve the transfer of funds from Meriden Mine Fund to HAG and this was unanimously agreed.

13. Meriden Village Matters

13.1 Library Update

Cllr M Lee advised 6 week meetings had been agreed and a meeting with Libraries is arranged for 3rd June at 16.15 at SMBC offices. Cllr Weaver requested a change of venue. Cllr Bell will advise Libraries that the meeting venue be rescheduled for The Pavilion. Cllr M Lee advised action points had been taken from the Clerk's notes due to absence of Chair.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members will be updated at next Council meeting.

13.2 Historic Panels

Nothing to report.

13.3 Village Commemoration WW1

Cllr Lee reported that the Cyclists Memorial Service was a success with an article on BBC website advising 600 people attended. Cllr Haque had videoed and would format to a DVD to put on Parish Council website and to use as promotional feedback on television in Pavilion for events.

7th June is next event – War Horse at £5/ticket.

22nd June Megaride with Doreen Agutter giving a talk. Alan Lole donated village stocks and village draw with all proceeds to ABF Charity.

Cllrs M Lee and Weaver are working on Heritage Lottery Fund bid closing deadline of 2nd June.



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

Cllr Lynch-Smith advised the cost of a coach will be £550-£650 to include parking, Museum and Household Cavalry.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members unanimously acknowledged and supported the working group.

13.4 Solihull in Bloom

The Clerk advised application submitted. Sponsorship received from local shop keepers, businesses and contractors. Monday 2nd June will see the planting of Coronation Island and Memorial Approach. The Clerk is working with Dovetail to organise a small dedication service including Meriden school children to come and assist with planting. The Mayor, Councillors and sponsors will be invited to attend.

Cllr Haque asked about litter picking and suggested contacting Gerry Russell to include the Scouts in the Bloom preparations.

IT WAS RESOLVED The Clerk to arrange and advise Members.

13.5 Meriden Gate

The Clerk advised that she was waiting for updates from Mike Swallow, David Waterson, David Wilson Homes, Danny Gouveia and Dick Woodward regarding the completion of site, highways, landscaping, and overage.

13.6 Taylor Wimpey & Associated Works

Cllr Bell will follow up S106.

13.7 Highways

Nothing to report but all outstanding issues will be included in meeting with Ashley Prior on 16th June.

13.8 Land Registry & Ownership

The Clerk advised her work with land registry to map title numbers continues. A request has been made to Land Registry regarding available land in Meriden and she has been requested to speak to SMBC planners regarding providing a scanned OS map that may be electronically traced for Land Registry to transfer data onto. Cllr Bell stated his interest in this project and requested he attend further meetings with planning officers.

IT WAS RESOLVED The Clerk will arrange a meeting with planning officers and notify Councillor Bell.

14. **Meriden Sports Park Director's Update**

Cllr Weaver reported:-

(i) that numbers were up for recent Sports Camps;



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

- (ii) the setting of bank account is in process and cannot conclude Charity Commission application without bank account number;
- (iii) Cllr Barber has worked hard to provide a good set of Policies;
- (iv) Cllr Haque had updated CCTV policy;
- (v) more signage is required around Sports Park for No Dogs, First Aid and CCTV.

IT WAS RESOLVED Members acknowledged Director's update.

15. Parish Council Newsletter Editorial Committee
Nothing to report.

16. Planning Matters

2014/738 New	17 Birmingham Road	Two storey side extension, ground floor rear extension and boundary.
2014/590 Waiting	News Express The Green Meriden	Installation of shop fronts to replace existing and to provide disabled level access.
2014/649 Waiting	Berryfields Farm, Berkswell	Erection of one primary/permanent agricultural workers dwelling with a detached double garage.
2014/578 Waiting	High Ash Farm, Lodge Green Lane	Erect a livestock building.
2014/574 Waiting	High Ash Farm, Lodge Green Lane	Erect an agricultural workers dwelling house.
2014/476 Waiting	Meriden Quarry Area G Birmingham Road Meriden	Vary condition No 7 of review of mineral permission ref. 97/535 to allow infilling of quarry void with inert materials (construction and demolition waste) rather than colliery spoil.
2014/474 Waiting	Meriden Quarry Area G Birmingham Road Meriden	Change of use of part of the Area G quarry landfill site to a recycling centre/facility for the storage, crushing, screening and re-use of selected construction and demolition waste materials.



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

2014/473 APPROVAL REQUIRED	PN AGRI NOT	Hollyberry End, Meriden	Prior Notification for a steel portal framed building to replace existing.
2014/431	Waiting	Fordson Farm Harvest Hill	Erect agricultural storage barn with associated access and driveway, new gates and flanking fencing (refused last year but smaller scale application).
2014/364 Approval MPC Arboriculturist's report sent to Martin Saunders	Full Independent	TPO Old School House, 200 Main Road, Meriden	Remove roots causing hazard to pedestrians on one horse chestnut tree
2013/994 Refused but gone to Secretary of State Appeal – deadline for comments 8 April - WAITING		Pertemps Group Limited, Meriden Hall	New office building with basement parking on site of existing car park.
2014/10 Waiting Please note email circulated 24/2 from Mr Marshall.		The Grange, Main Road	UPVC Doors Grade II bldg

IT WAS RESOLVED The Clerk will continue notifying Members of Parish Notifications for and recording comments on planning portal.

16.2 Jephson Housing

The Clerk advised no reply had been received from Jephson regarding solicitors outcome regarding footpath and right of way or for potential use of old caravan storage and garage site.

IT WAS RESOLVED The Clerk and Cllr Weaver will continue to monitor.

17. Councillor's reports and items for future agenda

Nothing to report.

18. Correspondence and Communication

Cllr M Lee advised a resident had posted a message on website regarding Fillongley Road dangers, speeding and accidents waiting happen when residents are trying to pull out of drives. Cllr Lee replied and instructed Clerk to include in actions with Highways officers.

IT WAS RESOLVED The Clerk will process with Highways officers and report back.



Meriden Parish Council

the centre of england

19. Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 23rd June 2014 at 19.30 hours. Venue: Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park.

The meeting closed at 21.10

SignedCllr M Lee – Chair

Dated