

Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 24th October 2011 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present Rosie Weaver, Melanie Lee, Paul Lee, Frances Lynch-Smith, Mandy Haque, District Cllr David Bell, Sergeant Hanlon, Jason Ward (SMBC) and 5 members of the public

1. Apologies

Bob Kipling

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

3. Minutes

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 26th September 2011, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Chair confirmed that Parish Council sent Tarmac a letter of thanks. An e-mail has been sent to the neighbourhood co-ordinator and police to advise of speeding in Meriden and asking for a speed watch session near the school.

Clerk advised neighbourhood co-ordinator regarding issue of lack of dropped kerb on Filongley Road. Highways have sent a response to resident confirming that they are dealing with the issue. Clerk has requested a meeting with SMBC to discuss the matter further.

5. Public participation

Questions regarding public display that was held between 7pm and 7.30pm regarding development at Leys Lane by Parish Plan Action Group.

5A Presentation – Sgt Hanlon – Update of Local Policing

Sgt Hanlon informed that he is seeking to attend as many Parish Council meetings to provide policing updates. Sgt Hanlon provided a brief background of the staff and area. Sgt Hanlon confirmed that there was a big drive to engage with the community. There has been success with arrests relating to burglaries carried out in the area.

Sgt Hanlon provided details of an ASB order. Sgt Hanlon advised that he was carrying out a review of the effectiveness of the community surgery and he was considering the possibility of having a surgery at the pavilion on a Saturday morning/afternoon. This is not confirmed but is a possibility to allow more residents to have access to the surgery.

Sgt Hanlon also provided details of the Street Watch Scheme and this encourages local members to patrol areas and report on issues. Sgt Hanlon will provide an article for the Meriden Mag detailing this scheme.

The public were invited to ask questions.

A resident raised issues over the traffic and speed of vehicles. Sgt Hanlon acknowledged that this was an issue in Meriden.

Questions were raised as to control of dog fouling in Meriden. Sgt Hanlon felt that dog groups may be able to help patrol on behalf of SMBC.

5B Presentation by Action Against Poverty

Jason Ward of SMBC gave a presentation dealing with Action Against Poverty and the action taken by SMBC since the last presentation. This presentation provided an update following last year's presentation.

A background to SMBC's commitment and role was given. Details of the steps undertaken by SMBC to deal with poverty were provided. These included amongst other things, outreach events held to enable residents in north of borough to receive advice from a number of agencies, undertaking a lot of work with Age Concern, helping to advise on loan sharks operating in the area and the rights of individuals.

Jason Ward will provide a brief article for Meriden Mag dealing with the Winter Warmth campaign and vitamin schemes in the borough including e-mail and telephone number for people to make contact with SMBC.

The public were invited to ask questions

6. Correspondence and Communication

- 6.1 Letter from SMBC inviting members to attend a round table discussion regarding Local Development Framework
- 6.2 Update on the consultation for Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations
- 6.3 Guide to taking part in the Queens Diamond Jubilee Beacons
- 6.4 E-mail from SMBC regarding training relating to Freedom of Information and Data Protection
- 6.5 E-mail request from West Midlands Pension Fund for a meeting
- 6.6 E-mail sent by Taylor Wimpey on 27/09/11 advising that intrusive works will be undertaken at Leys Lane the next day.
- 6.7 E-mails sent by SMBC regarding dog bins.
- 6.8 Various e-mails sent by residents and allotment holders concerning Tenancy.
- 6.9 E-mail from SMBC requesting that all members complete Register of Interests

Councillors to confirm that this has been done.

- 6.10 Letter from SMBC enclosing completed copy of Licence for New Playing Fields
The Licence is now in place. We have received invoice from Wright Hassall for advice concerning Licence. SMBC will pay these costs.
- 6.11 Television Licence for New Playing Fields
- 6.12 Invitation from SMBC to attend Remembrance Sunday Service – 13 November 2011

7. Receive Reports

- 7.1 Committee Member for Village Hall Management Committee - FLS appointed as Committee member. Clerk to contact Alan Copper
- 7.2 School Governors for Parish Council – no meeting
- 7.3 Committee Member for War Memorial – update provided
- 7.4 Pool – no update
- 7.5 Allotment Representative – dealt with in agenda
- 7.6 Footpaths/Forum – no report
- 7.7 Mining Group– no report
- 7.8 Conservation Committee – still waiting to hear outcome of review
- 7.9 Local Strategic Partnership – no report
- 7.10 Police Rural Assembly – update provided by Sgt Hanlon. Unlikely to continue. FLS to become representative for Parish Council should representation be required at Solihull Forum
- 7.11 Solihull Area Committee - 5th November workshop at Heart of England Social Club. Topics covered will be double taxation and precepts
- 7.12 Tree Wardens – no report
- 7.13 Parish Plan – no report
- 7.14 Community Surgery - revising efficiency
- 7.15 Joint Councillor Surgery - to be discontinued due to lack of public interest
- 7.16 Community Speed Watch – no volunteers
- 7.17 Football Sessions – Meriden Rovers – Saturday Mornings – progressing very well.

8. Village Matters

- 8.1 **Pool** – Clerk advised that there was nothing to report at this stage

8.2 **Maxstoke Lane/Hampton Lane development –**

8.2.1 An update of the new playing fields provided by Chair

8.2.2 Parish Council considered the appointment of Mole catcher and payment of invoice

RESOLVED

The appointment is approved and invoice is approved for payment

8.2.3 Clerk advised that due to workload, she has not been able to proceed further with obtaining a byelaw to ban dogs

8.2.4 Considered the purchase of various signs for the playing fields

RESOLVED

Purchase of the signs is approved

8.2.5 Considered the revenue stream for the new playing fields and the charging policy

RESOLVED

The Charging policy is approved

8.2.6 Chair advised that the proposed directors of the new management company for the playing fields are Paul Jayes and Chair. We are waiting for a CV from a possible third director but the CV has not been received and therefore it was agreed that this item is carried forward to the next meeting.

8.3 **Councillor Surgeries –** The efficiency of the Councillor Surgeries was considered. At the last two surgeries there had been no attendance. The Parish is having to pay for the hire of the Village Hall. Therefore it was agreed that the Councillor Surgeries are no longer held.

RESOLVED

The Councillor Surgeries are no longer held

8.4 **Training – Data Protection and Freedom of Information –** An update of SMBC e-mail regarding training was provided. It was agreed that we should check with Monitoring Officer if this is a service SMBC should be providing already.

8.5 **Leys Lane**

8.5.1 Considered recent communication and report from consultant;

8.5.2 To approve course of action taken and correspondence;

8.5.3 Consider and approve future course of action

Chair thanked Cllr Frances Lynch- Smith for sending information at short notice to enable Statement of Objection to be completed.

RESOLVED

All action taken to date is approved.

The Statement of Objection of Neil Pearce is approved subject to a further additional paragraph read out by Chair relating to Education.

Agreed that the Statement of Objection is sent in response to the Planning application

8.6 **Queens Diamond Jubilee** – To consider plans for celebrations. Agreed that this matter is placed on the agenda at the next meeting

8.7 **Mining Issues** – Update following e-mail received from Councillor David Bell. Cllr David Bell advised that he has received an e-mail from Daw Mill informing that the plans for mining over the next twelve months is away from the village of Meriden. Currently there are no definite plans for Meriden. Agreed that we should try to arrange a meeting with Dore Mill in January 2012

8.8 **Eaves Green Lane** – Update of Public Inquiry. No decision made.

8.9 **Allotments** – Clerk provided an update of Notices sent to all Allotment holders. The position regarding tenancy agreements was provided. The allotment holders want assurance that they can stay at the allotment until 29th September 2012. Clerk is to check position regarding the tenancy as currently this ends on 31st March 2012.

RESOLVED

Tenants can occupy the allotments until 29th September 2012.

8.10 **Pension** – To approve Statutory Notice

RESOLVED

The draft Notice is approved

8.11 **Maxstoke Lane** – The Clerk provided an update of the various complaints regarding the new development received from residents of Maxstoke Lane. A meeting took place on 24th October in the afternoon. The Parish Council have agreed to contact SMBC to arrange a further meeting with SMBC.

8.12 **Notice Board** – To consider and approve repair of the notice board following vandalism

RESOLVED

The repair is approved in the sum of £90.00

8.13 **Clerks Hours** – To consider and approve a temporary increase in the Clerks hours to meet commitments.

RESOLVED

The Clerks hours be increased for a period of six months from 20 hours per week to 25 hours per week

8.14 **Parish Council Meetings 2012 –May dates – (a)** previous notice mistakenly stated Wednesday 12th May, which is in fact a Friday. This should be Wednesday 9th May. **(b)** Village hall is not available for Monday 21st May. We have been offered Wednesday 23rd May. To consider and agree change to May dates.

RESOLVED

The parish council meetings in May be held on Wednesday 9th May 2012 and Wednesday 23rd May 2012

8.15 **Tenders** – To consider and agree tenders to be advertised in the Meriden Mag. Clerk to circulate details of current contracts and Councillors to provide details of services to be included in contract for new playing fields

8.16 **Local Development Framework** – The Clerk provided details of the round table discussion – Affordable Housing – Feedback conference for LDF in November and update of Gypsy policy.

Attendance at the round table discussion will be by Clerk and Chair. The Gypsy policy update is for information and a response is not required.

8.17 **Memorial** – To consider and approve purchase of wreath - Royal British Legion. Cllr Frances Lynch-Smith to attend on behalf of Parish Council

RESOLVED

The purchase is approved

8.18 **Donation – Meriden Scouts** – To consider and approve payment for flag raising duties and donation

RESOLVED

The donation of £400.00 is approved

9. Planning Matters

9.1 2011/1500 - Land off Leys Lane, Meriden - Outline planning application for the erection of up to 45 No. dwellings (class C3), public open space including woodland/amenity area and improvements to existing allotments, balancing pond and associated earthworks to facilitate surface water drainage, landscaping, car parking, and other ancillary works with means of site access from Leys Lane to be determined (internal access, layout, scale, appearance and landscaping reserved for subsequent approval)

Comments: Statement of objection to be sent

9.2 2011/1474 - Tarmac Construction Limited, Cornets End Lane, Meriden CV7 7LG - Variation of Condition No.7 of planning application 87/2730 to enable the infilling of material

Comment: No comment

9.3 2011/1490 - Sports Pavilion, Hampton Lane, Meriden CV7 7LN - Erect a sports equipment storage containment facility and 3 No. Adult exercise equipment

Comment: No objection

9.4 2011/1564 - Co-op Foodstore, 2 The Green, Meriden CV7 7LN - Erect 2 No. window graphics and 1 No. illuminated fascia sign

Comment: Object. Illuminated sign and there is concern as to when the sign will be turned off. Also, size and sign must comply with signage regulations for conservation areas

9.5 2011/1584 - Fentham Church Lane, Meriden, CV7 7HX - Two storey rear extension to form breakfast area, with new master bedroom over, two storey front extension to form porch with new bedroom over, demolition of existing garage and outbuildings

Comment: Object. Concern that the percentage increase is more than 40% of the original footprint. Building is in conservation area and there is concern as to whether plans meet conservation regulations

9.6 2011/1590 - 105 Main Road, Meriden, CV7 7NL - Ground floor side extension to existing lounge/kitchen area with 1 No. existing bedroom extended over

Comment: neighbour notification

9.7 2011/1620 - Ivy House Farm, Harvest Hill Lane, Meriden, CV7 7HW - Extend time limit on approved planning application 2011/1620, (removal of existing steel portal buildings and conversion of traditional brick buildings into a two bedroom and a three bedroom residential dwelling)

Comment: Object due to loss of buildings and extra traffic

10. Accounts & Governance

RESOLVED

That the accounts are approved for payment.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday 28th November 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 9.28pm.

Chair: _____

Date: _____