

## **Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

### **Present**

Ms Weaver (Chair), Mr Goodsir, Mrs Goodsir, Mrs Hamilton, Mr Kipling, Mrs Lee, and 2 members of the public.

### **1. Apologies**

None.

### **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.

### **3. Minutes**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2008, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the last sub committee meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2008m, 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 Fir trees along Fillongley Road need cutting back.
- 5.2 Maxstoke Lane, more tarmac put in the hole. Need update on this. Ms Weaver to follow it up with the Chief Executive of Solihull MBC.
- 5.3 Car speeding around the village, concern over links with drugs. To be reported to the police.
- 5.4 Bonfire night – Clerk to contact police to request extra policing over this period.

### **6. Correspondence and Communication**

#### **6.1 West Midlands Police – Rural Assembly**

Minutes of the meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008 are on circulation. The next meeting is on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008 at 7.30pm in the Civic Suite, Council House.

#### **AGREED**

Mr and Mrs Goodsir to attend if Mr Markham is unable to.

#### **6.2 Warwickshire, Solihull and Coventry Local Access Forum**

Meeting at Meriden Village Hall on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 7pm. This is an open meeting to the public.

#### **AGREED**

Mrs Hamilton to attend.

#### **6.3 Communities and Local Government – Consultation on the Making and Enforcement of Byelaws**

The Local Government White Paper, “Strong and Prosperous Communities” published in October 2006 announced that the Secretary of State’s role in confirming byelaws will end. The paper also confirmed the view that enforcement of byelaws should be by fixed penalty notices.

- Consultation document circulated with agenda. Please read through and let the Clerk have your responses to the consultation questions in Annex A as soon as possible.
- Comments to be submitted by 20<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **AGREED**

Answers to questions in Annex A are yes.

#### **6.4 Warwickshire Association of Local Councils**

- Briefing event for all chairmen and aspiring chairmen (information circulated with Agenda)  
10am-1pm on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2008  
Village Hall, South Parade, Harbury, CV33 9HZ  
£25 per delegate
- Changes to the Town and Country Planning System (information circulated with Agenda)  
2pm-5pm Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2008  
Dunchurch Village Hall, New Rugby  
£25 per delegate

No volunteers.

#### **6.5 SolihullMBC – Solihull in Bloom and Britain in Bloom results.**

Letter received thanking Meriden for its support in the Britain in Bloom competition this year.

- Regional Heart of England in Bloom competition – Gold in the City Category for high standards of horticulture, maintenance and community involvement.
- National Britain in Bloom competition – silver gilt award and city category overall winner.

#### **6.6 Solihull NHS – Proposed NHS Constitution**

Consultation document delivered to councillors who were asked to respond direct. Response was required by 17<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **6.7 Solihull MBC – Remembrance Service 9<sup>th</sup> Nov 10.40am at the War Memorial, Solihull**

Mr Goodsir will attend.

#### **RESOLVED**

That another wreath is purchased from the British Legion in the sum of £16.50 but is deducted from the donation given annually.

#### **6.8 Warwickshire County Council – Minerals Local Development Framework – Summary Statement and Request for Potential Strategies.**

Warwickshire County Council is producing a development framework for identifying sites for allocation for mineral working.

#### **AGREED**

No response as we are not in Warwickshire.

#### **6.9 Solihull MBC – General Correspondence**

a) **Walk to School Week** - a letter has gone out to all primary schools participating in walk to school events this month. There are 42 primaries participating out of 67. A copy goes home to parents in each child's book bag, along with other supporting walk to school materials. This supports any actions around school parking problems within our action plans.

b) **Spot on campaign** – Every primary school in the borough is taking part. A letter will go home to parents of every primary school child and each child will receive a green reflective spot for their school bag to help them stay visible.

**6.10 Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners Study** – commissioned by the Government to inform them about ways of distributing higher housing numbers within the range recommended by the Government National Housing and Planning Advice Unit (NHPAU). The 11 page Executive Summary together with a brief summary by Peter Langley of CPRE West Midlands was circulated with the agenda. For comments by 6<sup>th</sup> December.

#### **AGREED**

Councillors to submit comments to the Clerk prior to the Parish Council meeting in November in order that a response can be agreed.

#### **6.11 Solihull MBC – Playbuilder Project**

SMBC has been awarded £1.1 million by the Department of Children, Schools and Families to invest in childrens play over the next 3 years. Clerk has requested further information.

#### **AGREED**

Mrs Hamilton, Mr Goodsir and Clerk to pursue a project to submit a grant application for play facilities in Millisons Wood.

#### **Receive Reports**

- **Committee Member for Village Hall Management Committee** - Mrs Goodsir  
White lines voted against, planning consent for posts with lights.
- **School Governors for Parish Council** – Mrs Goodsir  
Full Governors meeting next week. At sub committee a discussion took place as to a curriculum change, plans for an additional classroom to be built and for an old room to become a library. Parish Council will assist with applications for grants for new equipment for the new room.
- **Committee Member for War Memorial** - Mr Markham  
No report.
- **Pool** - Mr Goodsir, Ms Weaver, Mrs Hall.  
On the agenda.
- **Allotment Representative** - Mrs Hall, Mr Goodsir.  
On the agenda.
- **Footpaths / Forum** - Mrs Hamilton  
Gate not fixed at Church Lane. Clerk to raise with footpath ranger.
- **Meriden Sands Working Group** - Mr Kipling, Mr Markham  
Bob setting up a meeting with Peter Lea.
- **Conservation Committee** - Ms Weaver.  
The only item on the agenda at the last meeting was regarding the red phoneboxes in the village. All boxes in Meriden will become listed.
- **Local Strategic Partnership** - Ms Weaver, Mrs Hall  
No report.
- **Police Rural Assembly** - Mr Markham.  
No report.
- **Solihull Area Committee** - Ms Weaver, Mr Kipling  
On agenda.
- **Tree Wardens** - Mrs Markham  
No report.
- **Village Appraisal** - Mrs Lee, Ms Weaver, Mrs Goodsir.  
On agenda.
- **Police Priority Setting Meeting** - Mrs Markham, Mrs Hall.  
No report.
- **Meeting with Neighbourhood Manager and representative from Street Care Department at Solihull MBC – Rosie Weaver and Julie Hall**  
Useful meeting, went through all current issues. Obtained cleansing frequencies which were read out.
- **Community Surgery – Mrs Weaver, Mrs Hall**  
Sue East has been reappointed as Neighbourhood Co-ordinator.  
The neighbourhood co-ordinator's highway inspections have doubled and therefore she is not going to be able to attend all of the surgeries in future.  
Sue is working through the long list of issues which was passed to Kath Hemmings at her meeting with Mrs Hall and Mrs Weaver.

#### **8. Village Matters**

##### **8.1 Village Appraisal Update**

Open Meeting was held on 15<sup>th</sup> October.

Theme groups to hand their data to Iain Roxburgh by 7<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

## **8.2 Maxstoke Lane Development**

Draft Heads of Terms received from SMBC and circulated to all Councillors.

In order that a formal view could be obtained, the Heads of Terms were sent to the Parish Councillor's solicitor. Their response has been received today and will be circulated to all councillors.

## **8.3 Heart of England Football Alliance**

The Clerk and Ms Weaver are trying to obtain funding to train one of the football team who is keen to keep the football academy going.

## **8.4 Pond**

Funding has been approved by Solihull MBC for the cost of the initial investigative works. BWB Consulting are preparing a specification of the required works for the initial investigation to four contractors for tender.

## **8.5 Solihull MBC – Application for a modification order to add a public footpath Birmingham Road to Maxstoke Lane, Meriden**

Clerk and Ms Weaver have received further evidence reports. If any further reports are received please forward them onto the Clerk.

## **8.6 Allotments**

### **Keeping of Chickens**

Section 12 of the Allotments act 1950 allows for the keeping of chickens (not cockerels) and rabbits. Taylor Woodrow have confirmed that they have no objection to the keeping of Chickens on the Allotments on Leys Lane.

### **RESOLVED**

That the tenancy agreement is amended with a new clause stating “not to keep any animals or livestock (including bees) of any kind upon the Allotment except to the extent permitted by Section 12 of the Allotments Act 1950”.

## **8.7 Tenders**

Advertise in December copy of Meriden “Mag” inviting Tenders for Contracts for year 2009/2010.

### **RESOLVED**

In contract 1 to add the removal of glass from the tennis courts when requested and to litter pick under the fir trees on Fillongley Road when requested. In contract 3 to add to wash/sanitise when requested. To delete contract 6.

To include “invitation to tender” for 5 contracts in the next Meriden Mag.

## **8.8 Remembrance Service**

Chains provided by the Clerk. Padlocks purchased by the Clerk.

## **8.9 Meriden Mag**

Deadline is 4<sup>th</sup> November. No ideas for topics to be included.

## **8.10 Solihull Area Committee**

The committee was unable to appoint a new minutes secretary due to the lack of volunteers. A suggestion was for the host parish's clerk to take the minutes at that particular meeting. The Parish Council are required to agree to the use of their clerks in this respect.

### **RESOLVED**

That Meriden Parish Council agree to their Clerk to take the minutes at any Solihull Area Committee Meetings which they may host. This is subject to the Chair having formal discussion with the Clerk as this is additional to the Clerk's job description.

## **9. Planning Matters**

9.1 P/A2008/1769 – Former television booster station Showell Lane, Meriden – change of use from a redundant television booster station to a 1 bedroom domestic dwelling.

### **RATIFIED**

Object – concerns that further applications will be made and that it would become a much larger development over time.

9.2 P/A2008/1602 – 15 Bonneville Close, Millisons Wood – First floor side extension and rear conservatory.

### **RATIFIED**

Over intensification

9.3 P/A2008/22 – Birmingham International Airport

### **RESOLVED**

- There will be an environmental impact on the village along with atmospheric pollution and an increase in road traffic.
- Poor infrastructure of highways and transport to support the expansion.
- Not convinced of improvements or need for the expansion especially due to the changes in the economic climate.
- Noise levels, detrimental impact on quality of life. Noise from aircraft spoils enjoyment of home, garden and local amenities.
- Flight paths over build up areas – the noise is terrible.
- Erosion of green belt
- Loss of farmland and biodiversity which can't be replaced.
- Around the airport, M42, NEC and A45 can be gridlocked now. When there is an increase in activity at the airport, more cars, employee at airport, increase in passenger numbers – road infrastructure will mean more gridlocks for local people who either live near airport or have to pass it to get to Coventry/Birmingham and surrounding villages.
- There will be more pressure on local housing.

9.4 P/A2008/1704 – 135 Fillongley Road, Meriden – single storey side day room extension and a single storey front porch extension.

### **RESOLVED**

Neighbour notification.

9.5 P/A2008/1858 – 129 Fillongley Road, Meriden – Retention of front wall and security gate.

### **RESOLVED**

Neighbour notification.

## **10. Accounts**

### **a) Clerks Salary Increment to salary scale 20.**

In accordance with clause 6.2 of the Clerks Contract of Employment the first salary increment was due on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008 (thereafter on 1<sup>st</sup> April each year until the maximum of the scale is reached).

### **b) Invoice from ESOS in relation to the supply of on-line Meriden Parish Appraisal & Collation of results.**

This invoice is covered by the grant monies from Awards for All.

### **c) Meriden Village Hall Management Committee – Invoice no 329**

The invoice includes three hours hall hire on 10<sup>th</sup> July for Solihull Area Committee. Meriden Parish Council is a member of Solihull Area Committee who do not have any funds. It is usual practice for the host Parish Council to fund the hall hire costs.

### **RESOLVED**

That the cost of hiring the village hall for the SAC meeting is paid by the Parish Council.

**RESOLVED**

That the accounts are approved for payment.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next Sub-Committee Meeting is 12th November, an open meeting and the next Parish Council Meeting is on 24<sup>th</sup> November 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 9.21pm

**Chair :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date :** \_\_\_\_\_

**DOCUMENTS FOR CIRCULATION.**

- a) West Midlands Police – Minutes of Rural Assembly 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008.
- b) Solihull MBC – Overview & Scrutiny Newsletter – September 2008.
- c) Solihull MBC – Conservation Committee Notes 7<sup>th</sup> October 2008
- d) Heart of England Way Association – Footnote Autumn 2008
- e) Solihull MBC – Guidance approved by the Standards Committee in relation to the planning application for the proposed runway extension at Birmingham International Airport.
- f) CPRE – Warwickshire Outlook Autumn 2008.
- g) Solihull MBC September Newsletter from Neighbourhood Management Area 3 and West Midlands Police East Neighbourhood Team.
- h) Solihull MBC – Accounts Statement 2007/2008 (circulated by email due to size of document).