

BURTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 21st March 2016, at Burton Green Village Hall Green Room, Hodgetts Lane, Burton Green.

PRESENT:- Cllr Archie Taylor (Chair)
Cllr Tracey Grant
Cllr John Vine
Cllr Ray Watkin
Cllr Andy Gibbs
Cllr Wendy Exton
Cllr Caryll Green

In attendance: Paul Knight - Clerk to Parish Council
Rowena Hill, WDC Cllr
John Whitehouse, WCC Cllr
George Illingworth, WDC Cllr
13 members of the public

Minute 33/16 Apologies: to receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.
RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Dipa Jethwa.

Minute 34/16 Declarations of Interest: None received

Minute 35/16 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting:

RESOLVED: Subject to the following two amendments the minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2016 were approved as a correct record.
- 20/16 the motion was proposed by the Chair and not Peter Stanworth
- the cheque (288) in 20.1/16 signed for "Made in Burton Green" was in response to a grant application to support the hosting of this event and was not related to the regional roadshow.

Minute 36/16 Community Reports: To receive reports, and agree any action, from:

36.1 County Councillor – Kenilworth Abbey: Cllr Whitehouse reported that County had set a 2% increase in the precept plus a further 2% allowed for funding adult services. It was reported that County will reach a final decision on whether to join a combined West Midlands Authority within the next six months. It was also reported that the planned switch of all schools from local authority control to academy status by 2020 has significant resource implications for County who will still need funding for ongoing educational work associated with special needs, allocations, etc.

36.2 District Councillor/s: Cllr George Illingworth reported that the Warwick DC were still talking about a joining a potential combined authority and continued to explore ways of working with other local authorities where it was advantageous to do so.

36.3 Burton Green C of E Primary School: Cllr Watkin reported on a dialogue with the headteacher regarding the implications of additional housing for the school. The potential increase in pupil numbers from the additional housing could lead to the school governors applying to the Local Authority to increase the school role to 140 which would require two additional classrooms, remodelling the school administration and staff room facilities, connecting to mains drainage and new playing field and changing facilities. Cllr Whitehouse noted that if there were fewer out of catchment pupils in the school, the school had sufficient capacity. However to ensure the continued viability of the school an increase in the pupil role would be the best way forward. Cllr Watkin also circulated details of the survey of all the pupils in the school carried out by the Year 6 pupils.

36.4 Burton Green Village Hall Committee: Deidre reported on a successful quiz night which had raised £600 for charity and informed those present that refreshments including cheese and wine would be on offer on 16th April as part of a preview to an art display which commenced on the 17th. Work continued in preparation for a forthcoming meeting with HS2.

36.5 Burton Green Residents Association: Rona called for much needed new recruits to join the Speedwatch team, interested residents should contact Pat. Rona reported that Peter Hallam from Highways was to visit the village to be shown issues which were of concern to villagers including poor road surfacing at the junction of Red Lane and Cromwell Lane. Plans were under consideration for an event to mark the Queen's birthday on 12th June.

36.6 Kenilworth Greenway Trust: it was reported that the management committee had met to discuss a management plan for financing improvements to the Greenway. It was also reported that County had regularised the means by which direct access from privately owned land onto the Greenway is constructed – this to be funded by the landowners.

36.7 Warwick University: Cllr Grant reported that poor cycling practice had been addressed by providing safety advice and promoting the use of lights. It was reported that a meeting was planned with two new police officers who will patrol crime hotspots on the campus and that Community Liaison at the University were keen to fund events marking the Queen's 90th birthday. Two big developments currently underway with relocation of the sports facilities from the Coventry to the Warwickshire side of the campus and in response to a lack of rented housing a new batch of student residences were planned. Cllr Grant stressed the importance of community involvement in the development of the sports facilities particularly as the Abbey Fields Leisure Centre in Kenilworth was not receiving similar levels of investment earmarked for the facilities in Leamington and Warwick.

Minute 37/16 Public Participation: the public were given the opportunity to raise questions and express views for consideration by the parish council. A discussion was held regarding housing and the implications of the Coventry Local Plan. Peter Stanworth put forward the motion that the Parish Council review the decision by the previous Parish Council to support Burrow Hill Nursery as the preferred site.

RESOLVED: In response to multiple accidents and concerns raised by residents regarding lack of gritting in Hobb Lane the Chair will pursue the provision and supply of a grit bin by Solihull MBC and/or Berkswell Parish. Cllr Whitehouse will also explore the possibility of signage on accident hotspots.

Minute 38/16 Red Lane Play Area: to discuss and agree matters relating to the ongoing adoption, maintenance and inspection of the Red Lane play area.

Cllr Watkin presented research on the use of the Red Lane play area which found that nearly 50% of Burton Green children had used the facility, that local families were regularly accessing the playground and that local parents when asked were keen to retain the facility. Cllrs discussed pros and cons of adopting the park or risk the district council decommissioning it and the implications for the playground with HS2.

RESOLVED: It was agreed that the Parish Council adopt the land on which the playground is situated and take full responsibility for all maintenance and health and safety matters associated with its use.

Minute 39/16 Bus Shelter: to discuss and agree arrangements for cleaning the bus shelter

RESOLVED: It was agreed that Cllr Gibbs would arrange for the bus shelter to be cleaned in time for the Queen's 90th birthday.

Minute 40/16 Broadswell Park: to discuss and agree matters relating to the Broadswell Park site. Nothing to report – the Chair expressed thanks to Broadswell Park for recent contribution to a community ceremony.

Minute 41/16 Annual Parish Meeting: to discuss and agree matters relating to the forthcoming annual parish meeting which will be held on 29th April 2016. A discussion was held regarding the format for the meeting.

RESOLVED: it was agreed that the Chair should decide the format for the meeting, including the agenda and timing of reports, and the provision of refreshments for those attending the meeting.

Minute 42/16 HS2: to discuss and agree any matters relating to HS2.

There was a discussion on the latest developments on HS2 and the need to petition the House of Lords on various matters.

RESOLVED: it was agreed that Cllr Gibbs be the Roll B Agent acting on behalf of the Parish Council to lead on the petitioning process to the House of Lords and with authority to sign various related forms.

Minute 43/16 Housing: to discuss and consider matters relating to the parish council's approach to housing:

43.1 Coventry Local Plan: there was further discussion regarding the implications for the parish of housebuilding associated with Coventry City Council's Local Plan and concerns were expressed about related traffic issues and the prospect of development right up to the border with Burton Green. It was reported that Berkswell PC are introducing a Neighbourhood Plan in order to influence the location and extent of housing development.

RESOLVED: The Chair requested that the response to the Local Plans be placed on the website.

43.2 Warwick District Plan: Cllr Illingworth stressed the importance of Warwick District Council completing the Local Plan in order to be in a position to defend against speculative housing development. He reported that the Council had recently lost two appeals against unwanted housing developments because of the lack of a Local Plan. He reported on the need to find an additional 5000 houses to cover overspill from Coventry and suggested that comments on forthcoming proposals for housing development be made to the Inspectorate directly in addition to the Council. There was a discussion regarding the implications for Burton Green regarding possible increases in the density of housing on the nursery site and the housing associated with proposals for the Westwood Heath Road site. Cllr Illingworth advised that the deadline for comments is the 22nd April 2016. There was a discussion on how best to object to the proposal for 420 houses on the Westwood Heath Road site. Possible focus on historic site implications and the need to focus on density and traffic implications were voiced.

43.3 Neighbourhood Plan: nothing to report

43.4 Review the decision by the previous Parish Council to support Burrow Hill Nursery as the preferred site. A discussion was had on the decision of the previous Council to support the development of the Burrow Hill site for housing development. Concerns were expressed regarding any potential increase in the density of housing planned for this site and the consequent reduction in facilities such as parking and the provision of a village space or green that formed part of the original proposals. It was noted that Kenilworth Town Council were also creating a parish plan in order to best influence local housing development.

Minute 44/16 Notice Board: to discuss and agree matters relating to the notice board.
Nothing to report

Minute 45/16 Gritting: to discuss and agree matters relating to gritting across the parish

RESOLVED: See previous resolution under 37/16.

Minute 46/16 Finance**46.1: To consider and approve accounts for payment.**

RESOLVED: Cheques to be signed and approval provided for the following payments. It was agreed that the Sarginsons cheque would be held until the itemised bill from Counsel was received.

Cheque	Creditor	Purpose	Amount
295	Sarginsons Law LLP	To cover cost of representation by Solicitor and Counsel at HS2 hearings	£4226.00
296	Warwickshire Training Partnership	Training on end of year financial procedures attended by Paul Knight and Cllr Jephwa	£30.00
297	Paul Knight	The Clerk's March salary	£250.54
298	Paul Knight	Office costs, expenses and mileage costs	£213.12
Tel banking	HMRC	February payment	62.60

46.2 To consider which insurance quote to approve.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to accept the quote of £327.59 from Aon for 2016/17 – this being the cheaper of the two quotes obtained.

46.3 To approve back dating pension payments and pay the contributions (employee and employer over in lump sum, and to discuss and agree how the employee (Clerk) pays back the employer contributions to the parish council

RESOLVED: It was agreed to cover this item in confidential session.

Minute 47/16 Communications: to receive and discuss communications received (and comment/action if appropriate)

Communications received circulated to Cllrs and dealt with as necessary under other agenda items.

Minute 48/16 Councillor's reports and items for future Agenda:

Nothing to report

Minute 49/16 Training: to discuss and agree training matters:

Nothing to report.

Minute 50/16 Planning: to discuss and agree any responses to planning matters

50.1 W/16/0108: Erection of first floor extension at 37 Red Lane

RESOLVED: No objection

50.2 W/16/0411: Erection of single storey rear extension at 26 Red Lane

RESOLVED: No objection

50.3 W/16/0437: Erection of single storey extension including veranda, plus changes to chimney and windows at the Peeping Tom Inn, 216 Cromwell Lane

RESOLVED: No objection

Minute 51/16 Confidential Matters: To consider exclusion of the public and press under the Local Government Act.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to discuss issues raised by the clerk concerning pension matters in confidential session with members of the public and press excluded

Minute 52/16 Date of Next Meeting: 18th April 2016, 7.30pm at Burton Green Village Hall.