MINUTES

of the Ordinary meeting held in Burton Green Village Hall, Red Lane on 20th March 2023.

Present: Parish Councillors: Councillors Grant (Chair), Marshall (Vice Chair), Deeley, Gibbs, Larsen, McColl,

Paine and Taylor. Cllr Hatton joined the meeting at item 5.2.

Clerk: Helen du Bois

County and District Cllrs: Cllr Illingworth (WDC), Cllr Hales (WDC). Cllr Cook (WCC) joined

the meeting at item 7.2. **Public Attendees:** Two.

No.	
1.	Apologies
	None.
2.	Declaration of Interests
	None.
3.	To approve the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 20th February 2023.
	The minutes were approved and signed without amendment.
4.	To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting not included on the agenda
	 Anglo Renewables have confirmed that they will attend the next Council meeting on 17th April to give a presentation on the BESS proposal for land off Hodgetts Lane and answer any questions. It was agreed that the meeting will start at 6:45pm. WDC have offered to provide ID badges for Councillors, this will be organised after the elections.
5.	Community reports
5.1	County Councillor – Lapworth and West Kenilworth: Cllr Cooke
	Cllr Cooke's report was circulated prior to the meeting, see Appendix A.
5.2	District Councillors – Kenilworth Abbey and Arden: Cllr Illingworth and Cllr Hales
	Cllr Illingworth commented that WDC are now in the pre-election period.
	Cllr Hales gave an update:
	WDC's budget for 2023/24 has been approved:
	 The WDC element of Council Tax for 2023/24 will remain frozen, any increase in expenditure in 2023/24 will be funded from WDC's reserves
	 Contributions of £1000 per week will be given to food banks in the District
	 Additional funds will be made available for the Rural Urban Capital Improvements Scheme for local non-profit community groups
	• There are two new Government schemes for alternative funding for energy bills, information about both schemes has been provided on the Parish Council's website.
	 The new Kenilworth School is scheduled to be handed over in June 2023 and will be ready for intake in September 2023. All Year 6 Burton Green Primary School pupils who applied to Kenilworth School have been allocated a place in Year 7 for September 2023.
	have been anocated a place in real 7 for september 2023.

5.3 Community Summary Reports:

Residents' Association:

- The Jubilee group have organised a day for residents to create 3 new community mosaics to commemorate the King's Coronation. The event will be held on Sunday 16th April between 11-4pm.
- HS2 are re-turfing the Jubilee verge during the 1st week of April, and the RA have obtained funds to purchase new planters and a bench for the verge
- Residents are attending a Zoom meeting next week with Sustrans to hear about a plan for a new geocache route which will run through Burton Green.

Warwick University: No update.

Village Hall Committee:

- the Committee are drawing up a snagging list for the new hall
- the landscaping is to be completed shortly

Burton Green Primary School: No update

Kenilworth Greenway: No update

6 Public participation

None.

7 Finance

7.1 To receive the Finance Report and approve the invoices for payment

The Clerk presented the latest Finance Report, see Appendix B. The Finance Report shows a general reserves balance of £23,657.67 on 14th March 2023 and an expected balance of £22,495.88 once all invoices have been paid.

It was **resolved** to pay the invoices below with immediate effect:

	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	STATUTORY PROVISION
1	Village Hall Committee	Room rental July 22 – Feb 23	£123.50	Local Government Act 1972, s112 (1)
2	Select Payroll Solutions	Payroll Feb 23	£12.94	Local Government Act 1972, s112 (2)
3	H DU BOIS	Salary Feb 23	£624.87	Local Government Act 1972, s112 (2)
4	HMRC	Income Tax & NIC Contributions Feb 23	£73.40	Local Government Act 1972, s112 (2)
5	WCC Pension Fund	Employer's contribution Feb 23	£155.92	Local Government Act 1972, s112 (2)
6	WCC Pension Fund	Employee's contribution Feb 23	£40.65	Local Government Act 1972, s112 (2)
7	H DU BOIS	Office costs/expenses Feb/Mar 23	£130.51	Local Government Act (Financial Provisions) 1963, s5
		Total	£1161.79	

ACTION: The Clerk to set up the payments for authorisation.

7.2 To review and approve the LGPS Employer Discretions Policy

The Clerk explained that the draft policy was based on WCC's LGPS Employer Pensions Discretions dated 1.4.2022. The document was approved and signed without amendment.

It was noted that previous employees of the Council may have been registered with the LGPS scheme, the Clerk has made enquiries with the Warwickshire Pension Fund

ACTION: The Clerk to send a copy of the policy to the Warwickshire Pension Fund.

7.3	To consider providing a Chairman's Allowance
	It was resolved to ring fence £200 for a Chairman's Allowance in the budget, in accordance with Local
	Government Act 1972 s15(5). This will remain within the Council's general reserves and be allocated
	when agreed.
	ACTION: The Clerk to ring-fence the allowance in the budget.
8.	The King's Coronation
8.1	To consider supporting a grant application to WDC's King's Coronation Fund on behalf of the Burton
0.1	Green Jubilee Group
	The Jubilee Group had provided details of the planned event including costs of £405.28. It was resolved
	that the Council would submit the application to WDC on behalf of the Jubilee Group.
	ACTION: The Clerk to submit the application to WDC.
8.2	To consider offering grants to village groups organising public events for the Coronation
	It was agreed to promote the Council's S137 funds for any groups considering organising public events
	to celebrate the King's Coronation in Burton Green.
	ACTION: The Clerk to post on the website, Cllr Deeley to promote the funds on the village social media.
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9.	To consider commissioning a local artist to create a logo for the Council to use on correspondence
	and the Council's website.
	It was resolved to purchase a logo for the Parish Council at a maximum cost of £100. Feedback was
	given on an initial logo suggested by a local artist.
	ACTION: The Clerk to liaise with the artist.
10.	To review and approve the following policies:
	Co-option Policy
	Publication Scheme
	Asset Register
	These were approved and signed without amendment.
	ACTIONS:
	The Clerk to publish the policies to the website.
	The Clerk to confirm ownership of the bus shelter.
	The Clerk to investigate if the Council is required to appoint a Data Officer.
11.	Planning: to consider the following planning applications
11.1	<u>W/23/0241</u>
	Meadowside, Red Lane, Burton Green, Kenilworth, CV8 1PB
	Re-submission of previously approved planning application (ref: W/05/1139) to provide first floor rear
	extension, along with replacement of flat roof with pitched roof over converted garage.
	It was agreed to submit a NEUTRAL response to this application.
	ACTION: The Clerk to submit the comments.
11.2	<u>W/23/0195</u>
	Land at Gibbet Hill Road and Westwood Heath Road, Coventry.
	Outline application (with all matters reserved) for the creation of University of Warwick Social Sciences
	Quarter (Use Class F.1(a)) through the provision of up to 32,000 sq.m. of floor space together with all
	associated works and infrastructure.

It was agreed to submit a **NEUTRAL** response to this application with the following comments:

- 1. The greenfield site currently acts as a natural green break between the University buildings and Westwood Heath. The Council are keen to see that at least some of this natural landscaping is preserved as a visible differential between University and its surroundings.
- 2. It should be a condition that the existing established hedgerow be retained: not only will this help to preserve existing wildlife pathways, but it will help to screen the site.
- 3. It is known locally that this site becomes water-logged at times of increased rainfall.

ACTION: The Clerk to submit the comments.

Cllr McColl informed that Council that he had contacted the Enforcement Officer regarding the enforcement investigation on land adjacent to the Water Tower, Hob Lane but that there was no further update.

ACTION: Cllr McColl to contact the Enforcement Officer for an update before the next meeting.

Cllr Deeley gave an update on land adjacent to Broadwell Woods on Red Lane, where several trees had been felled as part of the landowner's 10 year management program for the land.

12. To consider submitting a response to the South Warwickshire Economic Strategy consultation

It was agreed to delegate responsibility to Cllr Marshall to submit comments to this consultation on the Council's behalf.

ACTION: Cllr Marshall to submit comments to the consultation.

13. 2023 Local Elections: to consider Ward allocations for Councillor nominations

Councillors were provided with blank nomination forms. The process for standing as a Candidate in the Local Election was discussed and Ward allocations were agreed. It was noted that the deadline for candidates to submit nomination papers to WDC was 4pm on 4th April 2023.

14. Burrow Hill Field and Car Park: to discuss matters relating to the land transfer

Cala Homes has confirmed that contractors will be visiting Burrow Hill on Tuesday 28th March to make repairs to the drain at the entrance to the car park.

The land transfer remains on hold as Cala Homes are still waiting to receive the RCX form from the Housing Association.

Cllr Deeley mentioned that two trees had been planted by WDC's Green Space Development Officer at the car park: a holly tree was planted in a gap in the existing hedge and a silver birch was planted near the pedestrian entrance off Hob Lane. These were planted as part of a WDC initiative to replace 3 trees that had been mistakenly cut down in Burton Green last year.

15. CIL/S106: to discuss matters relating to CIL and S106 funds

Cllr Paine explained that the Council had received an update from Alison Kennedy (Principal Transport Planner, WCC Highways) where it was confirmed that there may be scope for improvements to the existing Greenway between Burton Green and Kenilworth using the W/17/2086 Cala Homes S106 funding. Ms Kennedy is also planning to commission feasibility design work on a multi-user path between Westwood Park and the Greenway using the W/17/2057 Crest Nicolson S106 funding.

There is an outstanding query raised by Cllr Paine whether some S106 funds can be used to improve the experience/safety of pedestrians and cyclists travelling along Red Lane.

Cllr Paine has requested that the Parish Council be kept updated and consulted on future plans for the above projects.

16.	HS2: to discuss matters relating to the HS2 works in the Parish
10.	The Clerk has shared a response from SBC Planning and Building Control regarding the Council's complaint about HS2's extended core working hours.
	It was agreed to send a reply to SBC and to raise a complaint with HS2 (cc WDC). If there is no satisfactory response from HS2 then the Council will make a complaint to the HS2 Independent Construction Commissioner.
	ACTION: The Clerk to reply to SBC and submit a complaint to HS2.
17.	Road Transport matters: to discuss matters relating to traffic within the Parish
	Cllr McColl stated that the Burton Green Community Speed Watch data shows that during a 2-hour session an average of 500 vehicles travelled through Burton Green and approximately 10% of those were found to be travelling above the speed limit. It was agreed to include this topic to the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting in June.
	It was noted that a traffic counter had been installed on Cromwell Lane near the post box. ACTION: The Clerk to ask WCC Highways why this has been installed.
18.	Housing and Development: to discuss and consider matters relating to the following
18.1	 Land to the south of Westwood Heath Road Cllr Paine gave an update: It seems likely that the Reserved Matters application will be considered by the WDC Planning Committee in April 2023. There is an area of land to the east of Cromwell Lane that is to be set aside by Crest Nicolson as biodiversity land. There is concern from residents about the initial tree planting plans for this land – the biodiversity requirements for this area are due to be reconsidered once the Reserved Matters application has been approved at which point the Council should be consulted on the plan details. An area within Westwood Park has been set aside for approx. 8 allotment plots. Crest Nicholson has enquired whether the Parish Council or the Westwood Heath Allotment Association would like to manage the plots. It was agreed that Cllr Deeley would raise this with the Westwood Heath Allotment Association committee. ACTION: Cllr Deeley to discuss management of the Westwood Park plots with the Allotment Association.
18.2	Land to the west of Cromwell Lane It is not known if development work has started at this location or not. Cllr Marshall raised concerns about the capacity of the exiting utilities infrastructure in Burton Green to cope with the scale of additional development due in the Parish, following a series of power and water cuts experienced by residents in recent few weeks. It was agreed that the Council would write to National Grid and Severn Trent Water about the recent problems. ACTION: Cllr Marshall to provide the Clerk with a draft letter.
10.2	
18.3	The Kings Hill development No update.
18.4	Warwick University's Eco Park No update.

18.5	Solihull Local Plan Examination
	No update.
17.6	A46 Link Road
	No update.
19.	Communications
	The Council had received the following communications since the last meeting:
	WALC weekly roundups
20.	Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:
	Cllr Grant informed the Council that after 16 years as a member of the Parish Council, she was resigning
	as a Councillor. She thanked Councillors and the Clerk for their support over the years.
	Cllr Marshall was unanimously supported in giving thanks to Cllr Grant for all her efforts for the Council
	and the Parish over the years, both as a Councillor and as Chairman.
21.	Date of next meeting
	The next meeting will be on Monday 17 th April 2023, 6:45pm at Burton Green Village Hall, Red Lane.
22.	Close
	The meeting closed at 9:25pm.

Signed:		Date:
Cllr Grant. Chairman		

APPENDIX A

REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Warwickshire County Council: CLLR COOKE

Record number of Warwickshire children offered one of their top three secondary school choices

March 1st is National Offer Day, when Year 6 children and up and down the country learn which secondary school they will attend for the 2023/2024 academic year.

This year, there were 6,720 Warwickshire children who applied for a secondary place by the application deadline of 31 October, a fall of 0.75% compared to the previous year. Of those, 80.3% have been offered a place at their first-choice school. A further 14.1% have been offered a place at another of their school choices, meaning a total of 94.4% have been offered a place at one of their top three preferred schools.

Almost all parents and carers now apply for their secondary school place online. They will receive an email, or can check their online parent portal, on Wednesday 1 March to get details of their school offer and instructions on what to do next. Letters to the remaining applicants have been posted.

To help families to make their school applications, Warwickshire County Council have produced a series of animated videos full of advice and guidance and have held online webinars where parents and carers can ask questions of the admissions team. All of these are available to watch on the Warwickshire County Council YouTube channel. The deadline for Warwickshire parents to respond to their secondary school offer is 15 March. More information on how to do this is on the Warwickshire County Council website at: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions

National funding gives supported internships in Warwickshire a boost!

Young people in Warwickshire with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) will benefit from a life changing supported internships programme, thanks to a grant of £105,000 from the National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi).

The grant, which will be distributed over a three-year period is designed to support more young people with additional needs to have greater choice and control over opportunities that prepare them for adult life and enable them to gain long-term meaningful employment. Currently, only 4.8% of people nationally with special educational needs and disabilities gain permanent paid employment in the UK, compared to 80% of their peers.

Supported internships help young people aged 16-24 with an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) to achieve paid employment. The programme gives young people the skills they need for work by learning in the workplace. Supported internships are unpaid, and last for at least six months. Where possible, young people move into paid employment at the end of the programme. As well as time at the employer, young people complete a personalised study programme. The study programme includes the chance to study for relevant qualifications. Find more information on supported internships in Warwickshire click here.

Kids need clean air! Drivers asked to switch off their engines when parked, waiting or stationary

This campaign aims to educate drivers of the benefits of switching off their vehicle engines when stationary, with a particular focus on engine idling outside schools during drop-off and pick-ups.

It is important for engines to be switched off when waiting or stationary. Engines left running - Idling - increase the amount of exhaust fumes in the air, with these fumes containing harmful gases which pollute the environment, contribute towards climate change, and are linked to health conditions such as respiratory illnesses and lung and heart disease. Idling often occurs outside schools at drop off and pick up times, which means children are exposed to increased air pollution.

Major funding scheme nears £3m in small business investment and has proved an emphatic success

A funding scheme created to boost the local economy by helping SMEs with access-to-finance has now invested nearly £3million in small businesses.

The <u>Duplex Investment Fund</u>, introduced in 2019, is a combined grant and loan initiative jointly managed by Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP), the <u>Coventry & Warwickshire Reinvestment Trust</u> (CWRT), Warwickshire County Council, Coventry City Council and the <u>Midlands Engine</u>.

Warwickshire County Council's input to the scheme saw it recently pass the £2m loans milestone. A total of £2,094,670 loan monies has been disbursed to 29 businesses by WCC which has also allocated £829,627 in grant monies.

The knock on effect of this investment by the council has been considerable with £805,901 investment from the private sector attracted. Employment has also been created and protected - in total, 167 new jobs are forecast, 61 have been created and 149 safeguarded with three apprentices to be taken on.

Rogue Trader Sentenced to Five Years' Imprisonment

The prosecution was brought by Warwickshire County Council's Trading Standards Service following an investigation.

At Warwick Crown Court on Friday 11th March 2022, Mr Darren Mitchell (aged 47 and of no fixed abode) was found guilty of four offences contrary to the Fraud Act 2006 and one offence contrary to the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002.

Darren Mitchell traded as Stately Paving Ltd offered driveway block paving, building and landscaping work. He first door knocked the elderly resident's bungalow in July 2014 and agreed to block pave his driveway and remove an old greenhouse. He returned to the property again and again together with others unknown, pressurising the resident in to paying for more work including fencing, repairs to windows, building a brick shed and laying new turf.

Some of this work was never done or wasn't needed and the pensioner was charged grossly excessive amounts. A Trading Standards expert witness estimated that the true value of the work carried out by Mr Mitchell and his workmen was less than £20,000, with remedial works being required costing approximately £3,835. The victim had been charged £120,000. Over time the resident was systematically defrauded of over £100,000.

£2 bus fare cap to be extended in Warwickshire

Warwickshire County Council has welcomed news, released by the government, that bus fares will continue to be capped at £2 for a further 3 months, making it cheaper for residents to travel by bus.

The scheme means that bus passengers in Warwickshire will only pay a maximum of £2 for a single bus journey, regardless of the distance travelled. The Government has committed £75million of further investment to extend the scheme, previously running until the end of

March, to continue until 30 June 2023. A further £80million has been confirmed to protect vital bus services people rely on for work, education, medical appointments and shopping. In Warwickshire, the following operators are signed up to the scheme: Stagecoach, Arriva, National Express Coventry, National Express West Midlands, Pulhams, A&M Group - Flexibus (Service 9 only) and IndieGo PLUS Demand Responsive Transport (DRT).

Over 29 tonnes of carbon saved by cyclists in Warwickshire over the last six months!

Last year, Warwickshire County Council joined the Love to Ride family of partner organisations, giving residents, businesses and community groups access to the best rewards and resources that encourage cycling for travel, not just leisure.

Following a very successful Cycle September campaign, use of the app from individuals, businesses and communities across Warwickshire has continued to increase, resulting in:

- 639 riders in Warwickshire
- 39 Workplaces
- 42,943 trips made by bike, of which 40% were for a specific purpose like shopping, commuting to work or errands, rather than for exercise reasons
- 578,958 miles ridden by bike.

There is also extra help available for anyone thinking about getting back on their bike, including popular Dr Bike Sessions which are taking place across Warwickshire over the Spring and where residents can bring their bikes along to have them adjusted and security tagged and the Cycle Buddies scheme, where new cyclists are offered support from more experienced ones. To start your cycling adventure today, visit: https://www.lovetoride.net/warwickshire

Support helps Ukrainians to work in Warwickshire

Warwickshire Skills Hub offers those from Ukraine now settling here the warmest of welcomes and, through the Warwickshire Ukrainian Employability Programme, access to opportunities to build a career and livelihood in the county.

The objective of the scheme is to provide direct access to jobs that local employers have shaped, in conjunction with the Skills Hub's Fair Chance Employment Programme. This has proven to be an effective way to build inclusive jobs locally and boost engagement between Ukrainian jobseekers and employers who are tackling significant skills shortages.

Over 100 Ukrainian refugees have signed up for the programme. Over 50 of these have now built their CVs and are working with the team to search and apply for jobs with many of these having improved English skills from ESOL lessons.

Ukrainian Working in Warwickshire Programme employment sessions have been running at Warwickshire Community Skills Hubs in Rugby, Atherstone and Leamington. Please go to https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ukraine-2/information-ukrainians/6

Green Shoots Community Climate Change Fund Wildflower corridor in Warwick Hospital

The £22,980 in funding will allow the South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation Trust to create a wildflower corridor at the rear of Warwick Hospital. The new corridor will be accessible to staff, patients and visitors. This area will be the first wildflower habitat at the hospital, providing much-needed urban greenspace and increasing biodiversity at the site.

The benefits of the wildflower meadow to the hospital, its patients and the wider community

include:
Increased plant diversity will, in turn, attract insects and other invertebrates (including butterflies, bees, spiders and millipedes), and birds.

- Flowering species of wildflowers will add a changing palate of colour to the urban environment of the hospital throughout the seasons.
- Increased carbon and harmful particulate capture in an area of the town of Warwick that is heavily developed, with limited access to green spaces

APPENDIX B

This report was presented to the Council on 20th March 2023.

Balance of Unity Trust Current Account T1 as of 14/3/23: £23,657.67
Balance of Unity Trust Current Account T1 account after all payments: £22,495.88

Other accounts:

Unity Trust Instant Access Account EARMARKED £34,548.94
Lloyds Treasurers Account GENERAL RESERVES £55.70
Lloyds Business Bank Instant Account CIL £101,764.32

Invoices to be approved on 20/3/23:

	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	STATUTORY PROVISION
1	Village Hall Committee	Room rental July 22 – Feb 23	£123.50	Local Government Act 1972, s112 (1)
2	Select Payroll Solutions	Payroll Feb 23	£12.94	Local Government Act 1972, s112 (2)
3	H DU BOIS	Salary Feb 23	£624.87	Local Government Act 1972, s112 (2)
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		Total	£1161.79	

2022/23 Expenditure vs Budget

	2022-23	
	Budget	To date
£ PAYMENTS		
Advertising	£0.00	£0.00
Audit expenses	£420.00	£130.00
Banking charge	£72.00	£54.00
Capital (equipment purchase)	£0.00	£458.32
Clerk - office allow and internet	£372.00	£372.00
Clerk tax deductions to HMRC	£1,152.00	£916.33
Clerks salary	£6,804.00	£7,227.74
Office costs	£147.32	£331.70
Payroll costs	£110.00	£121.56
Pension costs (employer & employee)	£1,980.00	£2,283.51
Postage/Telephone	£30.00	£0.00
Election fees	£0.00	£0.00
Grants (s137)	£3,800.00	£3,620.00
Grounds Maintenance	£3,000.00	£1,050.00
Hire of rooms for meetings	£280.00	£329.00
HS2	£0.00	£0.00
Insurance	£430.00	£308.37
Legal/professional fees	£0.00	£0.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£0.00	£108.66
Publications	£115.00	£136.99
Red Lane play area inspection/repairs	£1,500.00	£70.00
Speed Reduction Measures	£0.00	£1,081.00
Subscriptions	£694.90	£609.50
Training	£200.00	£152.44
Travel expenses (Clerk)	£150.00	£146.97
Travel expenses (Cllrs)	£0.00	£0.00
Unforeseen exp/misc.	£200.00	£43.80
VAT	£1,000.00	£711.60
Website	£200.00	£71.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£22,657.22	£20,334.49
CIL spending	£0.00	£13,250.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE including CIL	£22,657.22	£33,584.49
£ RECEIPTS		
Bank interest	£5.00	£241.17
Precept	£19,350.00	£19,350.00
VAT refund	£650.00	£767.90
Community Infrastructure Levy	£0.00	£7,500.00
Grants	£0.00	£0.00
CALA transfer	£10,000.00	£0.00
Miscellaneous	£0.00	£0.00
TOTAL INCOME	£30,000.00	£27,859.07