

Bickenhill Parish Council
Minutes of the Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 5th May 2010 at 7:45pm
Parish Hall Marston Green

Present

Councillors:

Mr Frank Bunce - Chairman
Mr Clive Hill – Vice Chair
Mrs Linda Poulson
Mrs Margret Wilden
Mr Jim Williams
Mr Phillip Wood
Mr Tom Hewlett
Mr David Rowe
Mrs Lucille Green
Mrs Velma Jones

Clerk: Carole Cox

Public: 8 members of the public

1037 THE PUBLIC

A query was raised if the Parish Council had received any further information about the Anita project. The Clerk confirmed that although further information had been promised as yet nothing had been received. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Alison Lush for an update.

The issue regarding repairs to potholes was raised and Cllr Bunce reminded the public of the hotline number. Cllr Williams advised that the potholes in St Leonards Close/Elmdon Road had been repaired.

Once again the issue of the Roofline vehicle parking on the grass verge in Elmdon Lane/Newlands Lane was raised. The resident stated it now has grass growing through the wheels. The Clerk advised that Kerrie Grandison, Solihull MBC had spoken with the company however we would raise the issue once again.

It was reported by a resident that a motorcyclist was using the right of way alongside the Airport by Digby Drive. It was agreed that the issue be raised with Sgt Dalton.

A resident asked if the Parish Council were planning on culling any of the trees in Millennium Wood and if the residents would be informed. Cllr Bunce advised that we were seeking expert advice to ascertain what work was required to make the wood successful over the coming years.

The issue of the car park on Elmdon Lane was once again raised and Cllr Bunce stated that he had been advised that work was due to commence in May with a completion date of the end of May.

A resident raised the issue that Solihull MBC were weed killing the grass on the embankment on Land Lane. Cllr Poulson advised that Sue Kentish, Solihull MBC had stated that a long term plan was required for the area.

1038 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Steve Mills.

1039 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Bunce regarding decision of Memorial Benches in the Willow Garden.

Cllr Jones regarding Bickenhill Churchyard.

1040 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on the 7th April 2010

Cllr Bunce asked members if they had read the minutes and if they could confirm that these were a true and accurate record.

It was Resolved that the minutes are a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr Wood

Seconded: Cllr Poulson

All in Favour

1041 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 7th April 2010

Minute No 888 Cricket Club Lease

Cllr Hill advised that a prepared draft document was in place and it was now just a matter of seeking legal advice in preparation of the final lease.

Action Item: Cllr's Bunce and Hill are to proceed with legal advice

Minute No 899 Sign at Recreation Ground

Work is still on-going.

Action Item: Carry Forward Cllr Bunce

Minute No 935 Bank Mandate - Bickenhill in Relief

The Clerk advised that it was now an urgent matter that she and Cllr Jones needed to visit the bank to formalise the arrangement.

Action Item: Carry Forward Cllr Jones

Minute No 979.4 Amenity Land Lease

The Clerk advised that we are awaiting the draft lease from Birmingham International Airport.

Action Item: Carry Forward

Minute No 984.3 Solihull MBC

The Clerk advised that Phillip Lloyd-Williams would now be attending the July Meeting, but that only two Councillors had offered any questions.

Cllr Bunce asked Councillors once again to consider what questions they wished to raise.

Action Item: Councillors to supply Clerk with a list of questions for Phillip Lloyd-Williams who has been invited to the July Meeting of the Parish Council

Minute No 1012 Planning Sub Committee Training

It was agreed that Cllr Poulson will proceed to arrange training sessions for the June, July, Sept and Oct meetings.

All in Favour

Action Item: Cllr Poulson to arrange

1042 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on 18th April 2010

Minute No 1042.1 Access Licence

The Recreation Committee discussed that an amendment to the Allotment Holder Tenancy Agreement was required in relation to 3.7 of the Access Licence.

3.7 Repair states " The Licensee must forthwith make good to the satisfaction of the Owner any damage to the Car Park caused by the Licensee, its employees, agents, Contractors, licensees or visitors"

The Committee were proposing that a letter be sent to all allotment holders advising them of the clause and advising therefore, if any damage were to be incurred and responsibility was proven then repairs costs would be incurred by the responsible party. The Committee were also proposing that the rules and regulations be amended to incorporate this point.

Proposed: Cllr Hill

Seconded: Cllr Williams

All in Favour

A resolution was therefore passed to send a letter and amend the tenancy agreement.

Minute No 1042.2 Willow Tree

Cllr Bunce advised that he had been approached by the Wragg and Holland families who have asked the Council to consider having two memorial benches in the Willow Garden, in memory of their sons. Cllr Bunce also advised that as one of the families were known to him he would not take part in any voting on proposals.

After much discussion a proposal of two memorial benches within the Willow Gardens was put to the vote.

For: 3

Against 6

A proposal for one bench (not a memorial bench) to be sited in the Willow Garden

For: 8

Against: 1

A proposal for two benches (not memorial benches) to be sited in the Willow Garden

For: 0

Against: 9

It was proposed that we offer to the families the option of placing a memorial bench at one of the sites already identified within the Bench Policy.

All in Favour

A resolution was therefore passed for the Recreation Committee to investigate purchase of a bench for the Willow Garden and Cllr Bunce will speak to the families regarding the proposal.

Minute No 1042.3 Letter from Resident re Burial Ground

Cllr Bunce asked the Clerk to read the letter from a resident concerning her husband's grave. Cllr Bunce advised of the Recreation Committee comments and asked the Clerk to read the draft response.

The Parish Council discussed the issue and the drafted letter of response was approved. It was therefore proposed that the Clerk be instructed to formalise the letter to be sent to the resident.

Proposed: Cllr Williams

Seconded: Cllr Hill

All in Favour

A resolution was therefore passed for the Clerk to send the letter as agreed to the resident.

Minute No 1042.4 Bickenhill Churchyard

Cllr Bunce advised that the Recreation Committee had received a letter from Cllr Jones requesting that we reinstate the Groundsmen cutting the grass within the churchyard at Bickenhill.

The Groundsmen had assessed the work required on the site. The Clerk and Cllr Bunce had also visited the site. Cllr Bunce had taken some photographs and it was agreed that some areas of the churchyard were in a poor state and a more comprehensive program of works was required. However, it was also agreed that just to keep the grass cut would take the two groundsmen 1.5 to 2 days and this would impact the amount of time available to attend to the areas for which we have direct responsibility.

Cllr Jones gave the council some background information regarding the church and its history and explained what work the church was actually requesting.

Cllr Hill raised the issue of liability insurance and the fact that Parish Council employees would not be covered to work in this area.

The Recreation Committee were recommending that the request be denied.

Cllr Bunce also stated that the Clerk had suggested at the Recreation Committee Meeting that the Council could consider a donation to the Church to assist with resolving the problem, Cllr Bunce advised that the Recreation Committee had decided against this option

After much discussion it was agreed that a vote be taken on the two recommendations. The first proposal is that, the request for the Groundsmen to carry out the grass cutting at the church is denied.

For: 8

Against: 0

The second proposal of the Recreation Committee is that a donation be denied.

For: 2

Against: 6

A resolution was passed that a donation should be considered.

Cllr Jones would ask the PCC to write to the Parish Council requesting a donation and the Recreation Committee would discuss an acceptable amount.

Minute No 1042.5 Millennium Wood Press Article

Cllr Poulson advised that an article had appeared in the Solihull News covering the Marston Green Junior School children planting the wildflowers in Millennium Wood.

**1043 MATTERS RISING FROM THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSE MEETING
Held on the 26th April 2010**

Minute No 1043.1 Quote for Tree Stump

The proposal of the Recreation Committee is to accept the quote of £60 to remove a tree stump at the Recreation Ground.

Proposed: Cllr Williams

Secoded: Cllr Rowe

All in Favour

A resolution was therefore passed for the Clerk to raise the order

Minute No 1043.2 Gas Boiler & Landlords Certificate

As this is a legal requirement an emergency quote were being sourced.

Proposed: Cllr Green

Secoded: Cllr Williams

All in Favour

A resolution was therefore passed for the Clerk to raise the order

Minute No 1043.3 Retrospective Approval Emergency Work

Retrospective approval was being requested for the additional work on the paths in the Burial Ground.

Proposed: Cllr Rowe

Secoded: Cllr Wood

All in Favour

A resolution was therefore passed for the work

**1044 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING SUB COMMITTEE
Held on the 30th April 2010**

Cllr Bunce asked if there were any comments regarding the proposals put forward by the Planning Sub Committee regarding the planning applications received.

The proposal is to accept the recommendations of the Planning Sub Committee.

Proposed: Cllr Hill

Secoded: Cllr Wood

All in Favour

A resolution was therefore passed to accept the recommendations of the Planning Committee

1045 Parish Hall Request

Cllr Wilden was requesting that the Groundsmen spray the weeds in the car park as this type of work was only to be carried out under licence. The matter was discussed and as the Parish Council are Custodian Trustees of the Parish Hall it was agreed that the work should be carried out.

Proposed: Cllr Rowe

Secoded: Cllr Poulson

All in Favour

A resolution was therefore passed for the work to be carried out

1046 CCLA Bickenhill in Relief – Money Laundering Mandate

The Clerk advised that the mandate is to be signed by the charity trustees and was duly completed.

1047 Birmingham City Council – Access Licence to Amenity Land

The Clerk advised that the Licence had now been received from BCC duly signed and was to be formally signed by the Parish Council.

1048 AIRPORT MATTERS

Cllr Williams advised that he had attended a meeting of the PSST. Cllr Wood advised that there was a meeting of the Environment Monitoring Working Group on 28th April. Birmingham Airport distributed copies of the annual environment monitoring report, which has been produced on DVD instead of paper format for the first time. There is a small booklet accompanying the DVD, which contains the key points of the report. Following a request made to the Environment Team at Birmingham

