

Bickenhill Parish Council
Minutes of the Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 3rd September 2008
At 7:30pm in the Parish Hall Marston Green

Present

Councillors	Mr F Bunce	Chairman
	Mrs M Wilden	Vice Chairman
	Mrs V Jones	
	Mr J Williams	
	Mrs L Poulson	
	Mr M Kay	
	Mr T Hewlett	
	Mr S Mills	
	Mrs C Dowell	
Clerk	Carole Picken	
Public	5 members	

615 BICKENHILL PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE – Presentation from Paul Quirk

Cllr Bunce asked if anyone had viewed the Website following on from the circulation of an e-mail from Cllr Poulson, and if there were any comments. Paul outlined that there is still some work to do but hopefully the website could go live in the next couple of weeks.

Cllr Bunce passed on his thanks to Paul for a job well done.

616 THE PUBLIC

Mr Laight again raised the issue of the roads outside nos. 40/42 Holly Lane there is an area of road which has been repaired and is now in need of further repair in fact the tarmac is breaking up by Holly Drive and Moseley Drive

Also the drain outside no. 42 Holly Lane is blocked and needs attention and outside the Picnic Basket it regularly floods and the drain does not take away the water.

The Clerk advised that she had raised the issue with Kerrie Grandison following the July meeting, but would once again contact Solihull MBC

Action Item: Clerk to speak to Solihull MBC

Cllr Bob Sleigh gave a quick update regarding the policing in Marston Green; he advised that he had met with Inspector Nigel Sarling about a month ago to discuss the problems in the village. Cllr Sleigh also advised that two licensed premises had been given fixed penalty notices and that the Police had made an arrest in The Tavern following a search using Police Dogs.

There are still problems with youths coming in from other areas and it had taken the Police over four hours to respond to a recent call. Cllr Sleigh advised people to ring through and report any issues to the Police so that they are logged.

Cllr Sleigh also outlined that part of the problem is that we are policed from Balsall Common and not Chelmsley Wood and response times are poor, there are major Personnel changes within the Police team and we wait to see what impact this has. Cllr Bunce thanked Cllr Sleigh for the update.

Mr Stevens wished to congratulate the Council on the overall appearance of the Burial Ground. He would however like to draw attention to the Council on a couple of issues within Millennium Wood, the plaque on the stone is loose, and the framework to the sign needs some preservation treatment. Mr Stevens also asked if the Council's long term development of the area is still in place and what is the progress with tree management.

Cllr Bunce advised that the Council had not given the attention to the area over the last twelve months as perhaps they would have liked, but it was their intention to build into the budget and the overall workload a plan to improve and maintain

the area continuing the initial good work that Mr Stevens was so actively involved with.

Mr Stevens also raised the issue of nettles on the pathways.

617 APOLOGIES

Cllr Lucille Green

618 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Poulson and Cllr Wilden in relation to Marston Green Over Development Group

619 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on the 2nd July 2008

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

Proposed: Cllr Wilden

Seconded: Cllr Williams

All in Favour

620 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 2nd July 2008

621 Minute No 588 Holly Lane

Covered above

622 Minute No 593 Conservation Committee

Carry Forward: the action item to appoint a member to this committee

Action Item: Carry forward

623 Minute No 594 The Pleck

Carry forward: Cllr Williams has now received a quote which will be taken to Recreation Committee

Action Item: Cllr Williams to take quote to Recreation Committee Meeting

624 Minute No 595 Cricket Club Lease

Cllr Bunce had spoken with the Cricket Club and advised that any fees in connection with the lease will be the responsibility of MGCC. Lease to be developed

Action Item: Carry Forward

625 Minute No 597 Re-cycling

To be discussed as part of the Recreation minutes

626 Minute No 598 Sign at Recreation Ground

Cllr Bunce had spoken with a contact and was awaiting information regarding companies who could quote. This is to be included into next year's budget.

Action Item: Carry Forward Cllr Bunce to action

627 Minute No 599 Roads & Right of Way Issues

Cllr Wilden stated that she would speak to Paul Tovey about,

a. Bollards on the Grass Verge in the Village

b. Parking on the pavement at the junction of Elmdon Rd and Station Rd.

Cllr Williams asked if Cllr Wilden would also include the bollards that have been pulled down outside the Doctors Surgery in Chelmsley Lane.

Action Item: Cllr Wilden

Cllr Bunce advised that we had placed an order for a trial bin with Bickenhill Parish Council in gold lettering it was a 90 litre bin which could be bolted in place. It was agreed that the trial bin be placed in the Garden Of Memory and if this met our needs then a program of replacement could be implemented over the next few years.

- 628 Minute No 604 Application – Councillor**
Agenda item to be discussed later in the meeting
- 629 Minute No 605.1 Dog show held on the 28th June 2008**
The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent stating the concerns of the Council, no response had been received.
- 630 Minute No 606.3 The Pavilion – Electricity Supply**
Cllr Wilden raised the issue of the supply to the Groundsman’s house and the separate meter.
Action Item: Clerk to speak to Contractors
- 631 MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE Held on the 21st July 2008**
- Minute No 631.1 New Bin**
Cllr Williams advised that he had spoken with the Groundsman and produced a plan for installation. To be discussed at the Recreation Committee
- Minute No 631.2 PA Coomber System**
It was agreed that now that we had the storage space, the equipment should be returned to the Parish Council.
Actions Item: Cllr Wilden will arrange
- Minute No 631.3 Groundsman House – Replacement Porch**
To be discussed at the next Recreation Committee
- Minute No 631.4 Grants**
Cllr Williams had spoken with the Airport regarding a grant and they had confirmed that they do not grant money to Parish Councils and they would not support a grant to restore the War Memorial
- Minute No 631.5 Allotment Holder Prizes**
Cllr Jones is proposing that two prizes, one for Elmdon Lane and one for the Amenity Land allotments at £20 per prize
Proposed: Cllr Jones **Seconded: Cllr Williams**
All in Favour - with one abstention – Cllr Wilden
- 632 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSE MEETING Held on the 28th July 2008**
- Minute No 632.1 Approval Of Quote for Burial Ground – Rabbits**
Proposal to accept the quote
Proposed: Cllr Hewlett **Seconded: Cllr Williams**
All in Favour
- Minute No 632.2 Approval of Quote for Burial Ground – Rabbit Fencing**
Revised quote for a depth of 12 inches to be discussed at Recreation Meeting
- Minute No 632.4 Final Quotes for the Pavilion Refurbishment**
The proposal is to accept the final quotes to complete the refurbishment
Proposed: Cllr Williams **Seconded: Cllr Dowell**
- Minute No 632.5 Chairman’s Allowance**
The proposal for a payment to Cllr Wilden for the Chairmanship 2007/08
Proposed: Cllr Williams **Seconded: Cllr Dowell**
- Minute No 632.6 National Savings**
The proposal is to cash in the National Savings Certificates and allocate funds as recorded in the minutes.
Proposed: Cllr Wilden **Seconded: Cllr Williams**

**633 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUB PLANNING COMMITTEE
Held on the 25th July 2008 and 22nd August 2008**

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 Jones **Seconded: Cllr Poulson**

634 MILLENIUM WOOD – WILDFLOWER MEADOW

Cllr Wilden stated that it had been the intention of the Council to plant a Wildflower Meadow in Millennium Wood. Unfortunately due to bad planning we had missed the opportunity last year and if we are not going to have the same misfortune plans need to be made now.

Cllr Wilden went on to explain that she had someone who had agreed to plough the area but it needs to happen quite quickly, and then the Grounds men would have the job of raking the area to prepare for sowing of the seeds.

Cllr Bunce explained that a plan had been discussed and the Groundsman was to have delivered a report/plan to the Recreation Committee in July, unfortunately the deadline had been missed, but if he could ask Cllr Wilden to discuss the plan with Cllr Hewlett to move this issue forward.

Action Item: Cllr Wilden and Cllr Hewlett to discuss

635 OPEN DAY - 4th Sept 2008

Cllr Bunce advised that all the planning had now been completed and tomorrow was the big occasion. He would appreciate if anyone was available at 9:00 am in the morning as some help would be needed for the final touches.

Caroline Spelman was arriving at 16:00 hours to meet with Cllr Frank Bunce who would do a meet and greet and members from the Cricket Club and Mini Soccer teams would be in attendance. He was hoping that members of the Council would also be there.

Cllr Bunce explained that he had arranged for a plaque to mark the occasion and was looking for approval for the costs of £75.00. He apologised that this had been previously overlooked and hoped that it caused no major issues.

Proposal to accept the cost of £75.00.

Proposed: Cllr Wilden **Seconded: Cllr Williams**

636 INTERVIEW PANEL & DATE FOR CO-OPTION INTERVIEWS

After some discussion it was agreed that the Interview Panel would be Cllr Mills, Cllr Hewlett and Cllr Dowell.

The date was arranged for the 8th September 2008 at 19:00 & 19:30 Interviews would take place in the Mary Wilson Room

637 AIRPORT MATTERS

Cllr Williams advised that he had attended an ACC meeting today, and been advised that there is to be a new construction of a multi storey car park at the NEC International Train Station. Cllr Williams asked if we have received planning for this.

20:30

MEETING CLOSED TO ALLOW MR STEVENS A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Mr Stevens advised if he could interject as he too attends the ACC meeting representing the Residents Association. He wished to advise the Council that the construction of a multi storey car park had been allowed under the permitted developments rights and therefore no planning application had been required.

20:35 MEETING RE-CONVENED

The Council discussed the issue that we had not been notified by Solihull MBC regarding this matter and that we should learn of this through the ACC meeting was not acceptable.

Action Item: Clerk to write to Solihull MBC Planning Dept to express our concerns.

638 INTERNAL & EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cllr Wilden informed that the Parish Hall had recently had all chairs and carpets cleaned.

The planning Application for 45 Station Rd, Change of Use was being heard tonight.

639 FINANCE – PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION

See attached sheets detailing the payments for authorisation

Retrospective Approval for July Payments as discussed at the Finance & General Purpose Meeting on the 28th July 2008

Proposed: Cllr Dowell **Seconded: Cllr Poulson**

Approval for August payments

Proposed: Cllr Williams **Seconded: Cllr Dowell**

The Clerk was also looking for approval for the payment of the BT bill to be made by Direct Debit

Proposed: Cllr Poulson **Seconded: Cllr Hewlett**

640 CORRESPONDENCE

640.1 WALC

AGM -28th Oct 2008 –no takers

Empowerment White Paper

The Power of Promotion of Economic Social or Environmental Well Being

Corporate Manslaughter & Corporate Homicide Act 2007

WALC Annual Report

640.2 Letter from Marston Green Residents Association

Letter of thanks for donation

640.3 Solihull MBC

Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report

640.4 Heartbeat Magazine

640.5 Environmental Agency Focus Report

640.6 NHS Care Trust Newsletter

640.7 NALC Policy & Parliamentary Briefing

The balance of Power: Central & Local Government

640.8 WALC - Indemnity for Councillors

640.9 WALC - Election Costs

Action Item: Clerk to respond to WALC

640.10 WALC – Adopt a Red Telephone Box

The Parish Council can adopt a telephone box within the Parish and one has been identified in St Peters Lane, Bickenhill.

It was agreed that Cllr Steve Mills would seek a view of the residents and inform the Clerk in preparation for the Recreation Committee Meeting on the 16th August 2008 so that the Committee could investigate the adoption.

Action Item: Cllr Mills

640.11 Letter from Clement Keys

The Clerk advised that everyone had received a copy of the letter from Clement Keys with the Agenda for today meeting.

Clement Keys had requested that as part of the final sign off that the points raised by themselves should be brought to the attention of the Parish Council, therefore a copy of the letter requesting clarification of certain points and a copy of the response from the Clerk had been included for information and comment
Cllr Bunce asked if everyone had read this and if there were any questions.
Cllr Wilden asked that a copy of the list of Assets be made available to Finance & General Purpose

Action Item: Clerk to arrange

640.12 Letter from Birmingham City Council

The Clerk advised the Council that as part of the development of the Centro Planning Application for car parking on Elmdon Lane, Birmingham City Council had requested a copy of the lease that we hold with Birmingham International Airport for the Amenity Land.

The Clerk had sought approval from the Airport before providing this information, and had since sent off a copy.

Birmingham City Council have responded to say that the information had been passed to their Solicitors however, it was envisaged that further discussions may be required.

641 ROADS & RIGHT OF WAY

Cllr Dowell reported that the footbridge was a disgrace, apart from the Graffiti it smelt foul.

Action Item: Cllr Dowell to raise the issue with Solihull MBC Kerrie Grandison

642 BUS & TRAIN SERVICE

Cllr Williams advised that there had been a disrupted train service over the last few weeks, operating a Saturday service, which is due to finish. There is also a new timetable in operation

The issue of the buses double parking had also been noted and the fact that buses were using the facilities outside the paper shop to park. Cllr Williams will be keeping an eye on the situation and report back to the Council.

643 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 1st October 2008 at the Parish Hall, Marston Green

Cllr Hewlett and Cllr Williams offered their apologies for the next meeting; Cllr Williams will also not be available for the Nov meeting.

Meeting closed at 21.10