

**Bickenhill Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on**  
**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 at 7:30pm**  
**Parish Hall Marston Green**

**Present**

**Councillors:**

Mr Frank Bunce - Chairman  
Mr Clive Hill  
Mr Tom Hewlett  
Mrs Velma Jones  
Mrs Linda Poulson  
Mrs Margret Wilden  
Mrs Donna Williams  
Mr Jim Williams  
Mr Phillip Wood

**Clerk:** Carole Cox

**Public:** 5 members

**1127 THE PUBLIC**

Mr Prust asked if the Parish Council were aware that the remains of a moat had been discovered at Moat House Farm. Cllr Poulson advised that she had been made aware of the fact and that investigations were being made through MGOOD regarding if a geophysical study could be carried out on the area.

A resident asked how long the work on Bickenhill Road was going to take and Cllr Bunce advised that the Parish Council has been told that the road would be closed for five weeks.

**1128 APOLOGIES**

No Apologies had been received by the Clerk from Cllr Mills or Cllr Green.

**1129 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No interests declared.

**1130 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 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 J Williams***

***Seconded: Cllr Hill***

***All in Favour***

**1131 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 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 1105 Centro**

The Clerk advised that she had sent an e-mail to Rob Bird on the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2010 to which she had not received a reply. She had chased this on the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2010

and still had not received a reply. The Clerk had written to Birmingham International Airport to ask if they were aware of the situation and had any information. Cllr Hewlett stated that he had spoken with Rob Bird who had confirmed that as yet no dates had been given regarding the delivery of the kissing gate or replacement sign. Rob Bird was also under the impression that the help point was now working. Cllr Hewlett had informed him that this is not the case.

**Minute No 1113.2 Millennium Wood – Agreement re Legal Designation**

To be discussed later on the agenda.

**Minute No 1113.3 Remembrance Day**

To be discussed later on the agenda.

**Minute No 1118 Donation Request from M G Playgroup**

The Clerk advised that she had written to the Playgroup requesting more information regarding the donation and as yet had not had a reply.

**Minute No 1119 Millennium Wood – Local Nature Reserve Sign**

The Clerk advised that the sign was now in-situ.

**Minute No 1123.3 Letter to David Rowe**

The Clerk advised that a thank you letter had been sent to David Rowe.

**Minute No 1125 HS2**

The Clerk advised that she had circulated the information by e-mail.

**1132 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2010**

Cllr Bunce advised that there were no issues for discussion unless anyone had any questions from the minutes.

**1133 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSE MEETING**

**Held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2010**

**Minute No 1133.1 Contract re Parish Council's Pick Up**

The proposal is to extend the lease for a further twelve months.

**Proposed: Cllr J Williams**

**Seconded: Cllr Hewlett**

**All in Favour**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to extend the lease, the Clerk to arrange with Arval.

**Minute No 1133.2 Service Contract re Gas Boilers**

The proposal is to arrange for a service contract on the Boiler in the Pavilion and the Groundsman's House.

**Proposed: Cllr Wilden**

**Seconded: Cllr Poulson**

**All in Favour**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to arrange the service contracts

**Minute No 1133.3 Winter Bedding Plants**

Retrospective approval was being sought for the purchase of winter bedding.

**Proposed: Cllr J Williams**

**Seconded: Cllr Poulson**

**All in Favour**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to approve the retrospective expenditure

**Minute No 1133.4 Fire Alarm System and Fire Risk Assessment**

The proposal is to arrange a service contract in line with BS5389 and for arrangements of a Fire Risk Assessment to be carried out on the Pavilion.

**Proposed: Cllr Poulson**

**Seconded: Cllr Jones**

**All in Favour**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to arrange the contact and assessment

**Minute NO 1133.5 Recreation Ground - Hedge Cutting**

The proposal is to accept the quote to cut the hedges at the Recreation Ground.

**Proposed: Cllr Wilden**  
**All in Favour**

**Seconded: Cllr Poulson**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to raise the order

**1134 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING SUB COMMITTEE**

**Held on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 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 Wilden**

**Seconded: Cllr Hill**

**All in Favour**

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

**1135 COMMUNITY SURVEY: EMERGING CORE STRATEGY**

Cllr Bunce said that the Community Survey should be delivered to residents this week. It was important for residents to complete them and return to the Parish Council so that a response to Solihull MBC could be collated.

Cllr Bunce advised that copies of the returned survey will be sent to Solihull MBC as part of the response.

Cllr Bunce also advised that the printing and delivery costs had fallen within the budget agreed at a total cost of £597.00.

**1136 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE UPDATE**

Cllr Wilden explained that all was in place although there was a shortage of people to man the barriers, so if anyone knew anyone who would be prepared to assist that would be helpful.

Cllr Wilden and Cllr Hill will be walking the route and checking against the Risk Assessment.

The Clerk advised that there had been some responses from the local groups about the laying of wreaths and she would e-mail the names etc so that they could be included in the Order of Service.

Cllr Wilden proposed that the donation made to the Poppy Appeal should be the same as last year, total of £100.00.

**Proposed: Cllr Hewlett**

**Seconded: Cllr Jones**

**All in Favour**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to make a donation of £100.00 to the Poppy Appeal

**1137 REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

The Clerk issued a copy of the letter to all Councillors from Mrs Counsell. She was requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to the maintenance of graves in the Burial Ground.

Cllr Bunce advised that both Cllr Hill and the Clerk had spent some three hours and the Clerk had spent at least another five hours trying to obtain relevant information from previous years minutes, in order to resolve some of the issues for Mrs Counsell. Following this investigation the Clerk had drafted a reply and issued a copy to all Councillors for comment by the Parish Council. After some discussion the proposal is that the draft letter is acceptable and should be sent as a formal reply.

**Proposed: Cllr J Williams**

**Seconded: Cllr Poulson**

**All in Favour**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to send the letter as drafted by the Clerk

**1138 SOLIHULL MBC - MILLENNIUM WOOD AGREEMENT**

Cllr Hill explained that the Council had previously discussed the draft agreement sent by SMBC, to which we had requested some amendments. He advised that these amendments had now been agreed and formulated into a full agreement document which included a Management Plan.

Cllr Hill was therefore proposing that authority be given to the Clerk "The Proper Officer" of the Parish Council to sign the agreement on behalf of Bickenhill Parish Council.

**Proposed: Cllr Hill**

**Seconded: Cllr Jones**

**FOR: 8**

**ABSTAIN: 1**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to authorise the Clerk to sign the agreement and return to SMBC

#### **1139 AIRPORT MATTERS**

Cllr Jim Williams had attended the PSST Meeting which was held on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2010. There was very little to report other than that the airport would be dropping the word International, to become Birmingham Airport.

Cllr Wood had attended the EMWG on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2010 he reported that there had been only one noise violation during the period June to September, which had been caused by air traffic control losing contact with a ground vehicle operating near the runway, resulting in an approaching aircraft executing a go-around. The airline had not been charged for the violation, as it was due to safety reasons. The airport outlined plans to re-introduce approaches to runway 15 from the south, using the airspace to the east of the airfield (at present all such approaches fly to the west of the airfield). This will only affect approximately 15% of arrivals and will have no discernible effect on the residential areas surrounding the airport. These approaches were routinely conducted up to a few years ago, when they were stopped following requests from some airlines. They are being brought back as they can reduce the flying distance of an aircraft by a few miles, leading to a reduction in fuel consumption and carbon dioxide emissions.

#### **1140 INTERNAL & EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Cllr Poulson had attended the Conservation Advisory Committee where the Barn Conversion at Yew Tree Farm, Bickenhill had been discussed. Cllr Poulson had raised the issue of access to the site however, the Committee stated that SMBC, Highways would identify any issues with the application.

Cllr Bunce asked Cllr Wilden as chair of the trustees if it would be appropriate for Cllr Donna Williams to now join her on the Parish Hall Trustees, following the resignation of David Rowe and Cllr Wilden stated that this would not be a problem.

#### **1141 FINANCE – PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION**

The proposal is to authorise payment of the detailed expenditure for August and September.

**Proposed: Cllr Poulson**

**Seconded: Cllr Hill**

**All in Favour**

**A Resolution** was passed to accept the expenditure

#### **1142 CORRESPONDENCE**

##### **Minute No 1142.1 WALC Newsletter**

##### **Minute No 1142.2 WALC Course – Conflict Resolution Workshop – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

The Clerk and Cllr Wilden to attend

##### **Minute No 1142.3 NALC Local Government Pay 2011/2012**

Copy issued to all Councillors

##### **Minute No 1142.4 West Midlands Pension Fund**

The Clerk circulated to all Councillors the latest letter received from WMPF. Cllr Hill updated the Parish Council of the background work already carried out. It was agreed that the Parish Council should now employ the services of a Pensions Lawyer and that delegated authority be given to Cllr Hill to represent the Parish Council in this matter along with a budget of up to £5k

**Proposed: Cllr Wilden**

**Seconded: Cllr Poulson**

**All in Favour**

**A Resolution** was passed to give delegated powers to Cllr Hill with an accepted budget of up to the £5k

##### **Minute No 1142.5 Centro – North Solihull Bus Network Review**

The Clerk advised that she had sent this document via e-mail to all with e-mail accounts. It was agreed that no response is to be submitted from the Parish Council.

**Minute No 1142.6 Solihull MBC – New responsibilities covering Flood Risk Management**

**Minute No 1142.7 Solihull MBC Airport Working Group**

The Clerk read the letter from the group and issued a copy to Cllr Wood. The group had considered our request but their view is that the membership should not be extended at this time.

**Minute No 1142.8 Solihull MBC – Canterbury Drive**

The Parish Council had been notified by SMBC of some works required in Canterbury Drive. As the site had been an in-fill area with unknown materials some 40 years ago, SMBC under the Environmental Protection Act have a duty to inspect land to ensure it is not contaminated, even though there had been no complaints or concerns expressed about the land.

**1143 ROADS & RIGHTS OF WAY**

Cllr Jim Williams stated that he had reported to Kerrie Grandison and Sgt Liam Dalton that a Paramedic and Ambulance could not get access to the Doctors Surgery on Chelmsley Lane due to the parking problems.

Cllr Bunce confirmed that a meeting had been held at the Parish Office about parking problems in the village as a whole with representation from Parish Council, Cllr Bob Sleigh, Solihull MBC, Police and Residents Association.

Cllr Wilden confirmed that Solihull MBC had now installed new litter bins in Marston Green Park.

**1144 BUS & TRAIN SERVICES**

Cllr Wilden circulated a copy of the leaflet that had been issued at the HS2 Lobby Day held on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

**1145 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010  
To be held in the Parish Hall, Marston Green.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:15