

**Bickenhill Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on**  
**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at 7:30pm**  
**Parish Hall Marston Green**

**Present**

**Councillors:**

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

**Clerk:** Carole Cox

**Public:** 3 members

**1107 THE PUBLIC**

The residents raised the issue of cars parking along Elmdon Lane and the fact that double parking was causing problems with deliveries etc, in fact parking was a real problem around the village.

Cllr Bunce advised that Cllr Bob Sleight is arranging a meeting with Solihull MBC to discuss these problems.

The issue was also raised regarding the off road motorcycles and quad bikes driving on the fields at the rear of Digby Drive. The Clerk advised that the police were aware of the issue and that residents should report the incidents to the police on 0845 113 5000.

**1108 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Green, Cllr Wilden and Cllr Mills

**1109 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No interests declared.

**1110 Co-option of New Councillor**

Cllr Bunce stated that following the recent interviews, the recommendation of the Interview Panel is to propose the appointment as co-opted member, Mrs Donna Williams and that Mrs Williams will represent the Marston Green Ward.

It was therefore proposed that we accept the recommendation of the interview panel.

**Proposed: Cllr Poulson**

**Seconded: Cllr Hill**

**All in Favour**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to co-opt Mrs Donna Williams to serve as a Councillor

**1111 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 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 Wood**

**All in Favour**



**1112 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
Held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 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 1089 Digby Drive**

The Clerk advised that following the issue raised by the public at the last Parish Council Meeting, she had spoken with Solihull MBC regarding the issue. Solihull MBC had confirmed that they were trying to contact the owner of the property regarding the matter.

**Minute No 1095.4 Burial Ground – Grave Plots**

Cllr Hill advised that a meeting had been held with the lady regarding grave plots, H12 and E30. The position of the Parish Council had been discussed and the rules and regulations of the Burial Ground clarified. The lady is still not happy with the situation and is saying she will take the matter further. However, she was informed that it is our intention to turf the graves in the next couple of weeks as it is clearly maintained as a turfed Burial Ground.

**Minute No 1098 Naming of New Road**

The Clerk advised that Solihull MBC had confirmed that the new road would be named Leah Close.

**Minute No 1099 Amenity Land Lease**

The Clerk advised that the lease had been completed.

**Minute No 1100 Airport – Go-around's**

Cllr Wood advised that he had spoken with the Environment Manager at the Airport who had confirmed that go-around's were recorded by Air Traffic Control who try to assign a reason for the go-around. The vast majority of them have some sort of unavoidable factor and there is no monitoring of trends, so Cllr Wood thought there is no need to take this any further.

**Minute No 1104 St Peter's Lane**

Solihull MBC has confirmed that St Peter's Lane is in line for re-surfacing, focusing on the junction with Church Lane, as yet timescales are unknown. With regard to the materials dumped by *e-on*, they had been notified and were making arrangements to have these removed.

**Minute No 1105 Centro**

It was agreed that we should contact Rob Bird again regarding the sign and kissing gate.

**Action Item:** *Clerk to contact Rob Bird*

**1113 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
Held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**Minute No 1113.1 Quote for Tree Work in Burial Ground**

The Recreation committee had discussed the matter of the two poplar trees in the Burial Ground and three quotes had been sourced. Cllr Jones expressed her concern regarding the removal of the trees. Cllr Bunce advised that it was a matter of Health & Safety, the trees were brittle and the advice we had been given from all three contractors was to remove them.

After much debate Cllr Bunce called for a vote, all in favour of the trees being removed?

**VOTE TAKEN**

**FOR: 7**

**AGAINST: 1**

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Held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at 7:30pm

Chairman's Signature



Cllr Bunce asked for a proposal in relation to which quote should be accepted and it was proposed by Cllr Hill that the cheapest quote should be accepted.

**Proposed: Cllr Hill**

**Seconded: Cllr D Williams**

**VOTE TAKEN**

**FOR: 7**

**AGAINST: 1**

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

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

Cllr Hill and Cllr Hewlett had read the draft agreement issued by Solihull MBC, Legal team. Cllr Hill spoke about a few amendments and it was proposed that we write to Solihull MBC confirming the amendments required.

**Proposed: Cllr Poulson**

**Seconded: Cllr Jones**

**All in Favour**

**Minute No 1113.3 Remembrance Day**

Cllr Bunce proposed that we approve expenditure to place an order for the wreath for Remembrance Day. We would also place the orders for the Scouts, Residents Association and the Schools, although each will reimburse the costs.

It was also agreed that the Chairman would do the reading in Church and Cllr Poulson would be on stand-by.

**Proposed: Cllr Wood**

**Seconded: Cllr Hill**

**All in Favour**

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

**Minute No 1113.4 Garden of Memory – Clock**

The company who service the clock had advised that the battery circuit board needs to be replaced. The proposal is to accept the quote.

**Proposed: Cllr Poulson**

**Seconded: Cllr J Williams**

**All in Favour**

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

**Minute No 1113.5 Service Contract – Intruder Alarm**

The annual service contract to carry out the service of the alarm and also the monitoring of the system had been discussed. The proposal is to accept the quote.

**Proposed: Cllr Hill**

**Seconded: Cllr J Williams**

**All in Favour**

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

**Minute No 1113.6 Bickenhill Road**

Cllr Bunce advised that Solihull MBC had confirmed that the road would be re-surfaced during October weather permitting. The Parish Council had written to ascertain if the speed bumps were to be re-instated and SMBC had confirmed that they would be reinstated.

**Minute No 1113.7 ANITA Cycle Scheme**

Cllr Bunce advised that a meeting with Solihull MBC, WSP and Cllr Sleigh had been held to discuss the proposed cycle route. SMBC explained that there would be no cycle path markings on any of the roads identified in the scheme, being Elmdon Lane, Land Lane, Station Road, Bickenhill Road, Coleshill Heath Road. There would just be signs advising that cyclists may be using the road as a preferred route.

**1114 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING SUB COMMITTEE**

**Held on the 24<sup>th</sup> September 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 Poulson**

**Seconded: Cllr Hill**

**All in Favour**

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



**1115 SOLIHULL MBC – SOLIHULL LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: EMERGING CORE STRATEGY**

Cllr Bunce outlined that Solihull MBC has now issued on their website, the revised Emerging Core Strategy. There is a questionnaire on the website which residents can complete and send their views directly to Solihull MBC. We have been informed that copies of these questionnaires are also available from the library. However it is important to note that this questionnaire is relating to development plans across the Borough.

The Parish Council as a Consultee has also been contacted by Solihull MBC regarding the core strategy and this consultation periods ends on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2010. Cllr Bunce advised that it is the intention of the Parish Council to produce a Community Survey which will highlight how this Core Strategy will affect Marston Green and enable the Parish Council to obtain the views of the residents about these plans before responding to Solihull MBC.

It was therefore proposed that expenditure of £800.00 be approved for the production and delivery of the Newsletter. The costs of providing a prepaid envelope had been discussed but as this would incur a further £800.00 it was agreed that we look at placing delivery boxes at strategic places around the village.

**Proposed: Cllr Poulson**

**Secoded: Cllr Hill**

**All in Favour**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to incur expenditure of up to £800.00

**1116 PARISH PLAN/VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT**

Cllr Bunce outlined that the Parish Council had previously discussed the viability of producing a Parish Plan and it had been agreed that we may need to explore this further. Cllr Bunce stated that following the Public Meeting where the idea of a Parish Plan had been raised by Borough Councillors and subsequent information from Solihull MBC regarding the Emerging Core Strategy. It was becoming evident that the options should once again be discussed.

Cllr Bunce proposed that through the Steering Group under the guidance of the Parish Council with representatives from MGOOD and the Residents Association the development of a Village Design Statement or Parish Plan is to be instigated.

**Proposed: Cllr J Williams**

**Secoded: Cllr Poulson**

**All in Favour**

**A resolution** was therefore passed to develop a Village Design Statement or Parish Plan through the Steering Group

**1117 DONATION TO PLANNING AID**

Cllr Poulson was proposing that a donation of £200.00 be made to Planning Aid for the training and assistance of Richard Cobb to the Planning Sub Committee.

**Proposed: Cllr Poulson**

**Secoded: Cllr J Williams**

**All in Favour**

**It was Resolved** that the Council in accordance with its powers under section 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure of £200.00 for the assistance and training of the Planning Sub Committee members.

**1118 DONATION REQUEST FROM M G PLAYGROUP**

The Clerk read a letter from the playgroup requesting a donation to the funds. Cllr Hill asked if there were any details on how the donation would be used. The Clerk advised that no detail had been given. It was agreed that we should write to the Playgroup and request further information.

**Action Item:** The Clerk to write to Playgroup

**1119 MILLENNIUM WOOD – LOCAL NATURE RESERVE SIGN**

The Clerk advised that Gary Farmer, SMBC, was requesting that the LNR sign be installed within Millennium Wood however, the LNR part of the board would be fitted once designation was complete.

The proposal is to inform Solihull MBC to proceed, location is to be clarified.

**Proposed: Cllr Hill**

**Secoded: Cllr Wood**



**FOR: 8**

**ABSTAIN: 1**

*A resolution was therefore passed to notify SMBC to proceed with installation of sign following clarification of exact location*

**1120 AIRPORT MATTERS**

Cllr Wood attended the Airport Consultative Committee meeting in September. Birmingham Airport had released a press statement regarding the use of Continuous Descent Approaches (CDAs), which allow aircraft a smooth descent from a minimum level of 4,000ft to the ground. CDAs have been in use at Birmingham for the past year and 95% of arriving aircraft now use the technique, reducing fuel consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and noise. Cllr Wood asked the committee about raising the level from which the CDAs start. The representative from NATS responded that CDAs routinely start from a higher level when the traffic is quiet (potentially 20,000ft), but next year the minimum level will gradually increase to 6,000ft. One consideration for the future will be the introduction of Continuous Climb Departures (CCDs), which will allow aircraft a smooth climb up to a minimum altitude of 10,000ft.

There is an Airport Working Party (AWP) meeting scheduled for October to review the Night Flying Policy (NFP). The NFP is normally reviewed every two years and was not scheduled for review this year, but there are some issues in the NFP that the AWP wanted to review after 12 months, so an extra review is to be conducted.

**1121 INTERNAL & EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nothing to report

**1122 FINANCE – PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION**

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

**Proposed: Cllr Jones**

**Secoded: Cllr J Williams**

**All in Favour**

*A Resolution was passed to accept the expenditure*

**1123 CORRESPONDENCE**

**Minute No 1123.1 WALC – Invitation to the AGM 27<sup>th</sup> October 2010**

No one available to attend

**Minute No 1123.2 Marston Green Residents Association**

The Clerk advised that a letter had been received expressing their appreciation for the donation.

**Minute No 1123.3 Resignation of Cllr David Rowe from Bickenhill Parish Council**

**Action Item:** Clerk to arrange to send a letter from the Parish Council thanking him for his services.

**Minute No 1123.4 Letter from Mr & Mrs Moore – Request to Pre-purchase a grave plot**

The Parish Council discussed the request and it was agreed that as Mrs Moore's parents are buried in the Burial Ground this request should be approved.

**Proposed: Cllr Jones**

**Secoded: Cllr J Williams**

**All in Favour**

*A Resolution was passed to approved the pre-purchase request*

**Minute No 1123.5 Solihull MBC – Black History Month October 2010**

Copies issued.

**Minute No 1123.6 E-mail from Evergreens**

The request was discussed and it was agreed that the Marston Green website would be more suitable.

**Proposed: Cllr Poulson**

**Secoded: Cllr Jones**

**All in Favour**



**Minute No 1123.7 Centro – Bus Network Review**

**Minute No 1123.8 Invitation – Centre of England Arts, Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2010  
11:30am to 2:30am**

**Minute No 1123.9 Marston Green Community Groups**

The Clerk advised that a thank you letter had been received from the group along with a copy of the accounts.

**Minute No 1123.10 WALC Newsletter (sent by e-mail 5<sup>th</sup> Oct)**

The Clerk wished to clarify some of the topics covered within the Newsletter.

a. Local Referendums to veto excessive Council Tax.

b. Elections May 2011, WALC are still waiting for a decision on whether local council elections will be delayed due to the Government's wish to hold a Referendum on UK parliamentary voting system. WALC made a representation on the detrimental effect of holding local council elections three weeks after other local authority elections.

c. Date for Annual or First Meeting of New Council after Elections  
The annual meeting in a year of ordinary elections shall be held on the fourteenth day after the new councillors come into office. (Local Government Act 1972 sec 7(2)). The term of office for councillors is four years and the term finishes on the fourth day after the election. The elected new councillors come into office on the same day as the "old" councillors retire, (Local Government Act 1972 sec 16 (3)). Therefore the first meeting of the newly elected council must take place between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> day after the elections.

d. Audit Commission to be disbanded

e. Future of the Standards Framework for Local Authorities in England

**1124 ROADS & RIGHTS OF WAY**

Cllr Williams stated that he had spoken with Kerrie Grandison, Solihull MBC, regarding the poor state of the road markings along Station Road and she had confirmed that she will be looking into the matter. It had also been confirmed that the hedges along the central reservation and the slip road will be cut back later this month.

**1125 BUS & TRAIN SERVICES**

The Clerk advised that Cllr Wilden had attended a meeting with Phillip Hammond and Caroline Spelman regarding the HS2. Cllr Wilden had produced a report about the issues raised which the Clerk would circulate.

**1126 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010  
To be held in the Parish Hall, Marston Green.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:15

