

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
Wednesday, 5 September 2018  
Parish Hall Elmdon Road Marston Green**

**Present:**

Cllr Frank Bunce - Chairman  
Cllr Karen Dunn  
Cllr Clive Hill  
Cllr Jon Horton  
Cllr Jessica Rathbone  
Cllr Peter Tennant  
Cllr Barbara Tocher  
Cllr Kim Wallace  
Cllr Donna Williams

**Clerk:** Carole Cox

**Public:** 16 members of the public and 2 representatives from Solihull MBC

**2631 The Public**

Kerrie provided an update and advised that the re-surfacing work had been completed on Land Lane and Station Road.

Mr Holdsworth advised SMBC that he had seen rats coming out of the undergrowth by the No. 97 Bus Stop

A resident raised concerns regarding the traffic from the new Chelmsley Lane development. He was advised to speak to SMBC Highways Department.

Trevor Wills introduced himself as the new Chairman of Marston Green Residents Association, he stated that he had a few questions he would like to ask.

Firstly he wanted to know what was happening about the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) Secondly he wanted to know what the position was regarding a Neighbourhood Plan and why the Parish Council had not pursued this course of action.

The Parish Council explained that the process had been explored over a two year period from 2012 to 2014 and had not received the support of the community, which is essential. He was also advised that due to the high cost of the preparation of a plan, in excess of £30K, it was not deemed viable.

Trevor Wills stated he thought the Parish Council was in fact missing out on £100k, from the Chelmsley Lane development. He also thought that we would miss out from the development of the Village Hall. Cllr Clive Hill, confirmed that no CIL payment will be due on this development. Trevor Wills asked about the Blackfirs Lane development, the Clerk clarified that CIL is only for new residential developments and therefore, the site does not qualify.

Trevor Wills said he had also heard rumours of further development on Chelmsley Lane. Cllr Frank Bunce stated that we cannot discuss rumours, only facts. Cllr Clive Hill added that this

was green belt land. Trevor Wills said that Blackfirs Lane was Green Belt and SMBC seem to ignore this matter. The Clerk clarified this piece of land had been re-classified by the Secretary of State.

Trevor Wills asked what the Parish Council were doing in supporting the residents regarding the 24hrs x 7 days a week operation of the new site. The Clerk advised this had been approved as part of the outline planning application and while it is understood and acknowledged this was an error, there is nothing more that can be done, it had been approved. He then asked what we are doing in relation to the appeal to the Ombudsman. Cllr Karen Dunn advised that when an appeal is lodged, the case is between the two parties involved.

Trevor Wills raised the issue of traffic islands and traffic calming in the village. He thought two roundabouts are required one at the junction of Land Lane, Coleshill Road and at Chelmsley Lane to assist with traffic off the new estate. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had previously discussed the option of a roundabout at the junction of Land Lane/Coleshill Road and SMBC had advised there was not enough room to facilitate this. Also the creation of roundabouts is costly due to the amount of services that have to be diverted.

He also raised the issue of the HS2 Community Funding Project and thought that the Parish Council could apply for a new roof for the Parish Hall and the refurbishment of St Peter's Church Hall. He was advised that the Parish Council had already spoken with the Church Wardens about the fund and the potential. Cllr Barbara Tocher said that the process had been difficult and complicated and they had in fact abandoned the application. Cllr Jon Horton said they were still looking at the options.

Final question was if the Chairman of the Residents Association could attend the Planning Committee Meetings. The Clerk confirmed that he could attend but only as an observer.

Sadie Hamilton said there had been good news from the Woodlands Trust with changes to improve the protection of ancient woodland which were imminent. Cllr Karen Dunn advised this may be the fact, however, we need to understand that HS2 has Royal Approval and will be taking down many trees over the coming years.

**2632 Apologies**

None received

**2633 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Dispensations**

None

**2634 Approval of the Parish Council Minutes - Held on Wednesday 4 July 2018**

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

***Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill***

***Seconded: Cllr Donna Williams***

***All in favour***

***It was resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate record***

**Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting on the 4 July 2018**

No matters further discussion.

**2635 Matters arising from the Planning Committee Meeting – 30 August 2018**

Cllr Clive Hill advised the Committee had discussed the planning applications. They had commented on the application for advertising signs on the roundabout at the junction of Station Road/Holly Lane. The application for the Terminal Infill Extension at Birmingham Airport is within the current building layout, so no planning issues could be identified. The Clerk asked for the minutes to be approved.

**Proposed: Cllr Jon Horton**

**Seconded: Cllr Jessica Rathbone**

**All in favour**

**2636 HS2 Update**

Cllr Karen Dunn updated members on the details from the meeting in July. The following is a brief summary of the planned work over the next 6 to 12 months along the local HS2 Route.

**Towards and including Balsall Common**

There will be archaeology and ecology testing and reports performed, also a compound is to be created, towards Lavender Hall, however, the location is yet to be confirmed.

Provision of a new roundabout at the junction of A452 and Park Lane.

**Bickenhill Exchange**

Plans to relocate the Recycling Centre are now on hold, no decision had been reached and the site may stay in its current location.

There will be road closures to perform engineering surveys, they are trying to keep to night time closures as much as possible.

A compound is to be constructed with cabins on the site, which will be fenced and gated, location is to be confirmed.

There are plans for the re-alignment of the A452 and the A446.

The roundabout on the A452, over the M42 is to be relocated, allowing for the new track and station.

**Additional Information**

A haulage route will be developed to help keep traffic away from major roads. It is envisaged that there will be an estimated 217 Lorries each day to and from Balsall Common.

Solihull MBC shared their vision to create new homes and mixed development around the new Bickenhill Interchange. They identified there would be a requirement of 150 hectares of green belt land for this purpose.

The Clerk had been contacted by HS2 who had requested to attend the October meeting to update the Council on the early works program and this was agreed.

**2637 Airport Matters**

Cllr Jon Horton had attended the ACC Meeting and reported the following.

The current Noise Action Plan is 2013 to 2018, and the next one, running from 2019 to 2023 has now been agreed. As part of the plan, there are several points to note:

Only the quietest planes will be allowed to fly at night (level 1 on the 1-16 scale of noisiness).

The allowed night time noise limit will reduce from 85 to 83 dba, and a further reduction to 81 will be investigated

They are proposing that the target applied to continuous descent, currently at 90% is increased to 96%.

The Airport are investigating adding a 3.2% angle to the runway to assist aircrafts with taking off and decreasing noise levels.

They are also tightening procedures regarding noise levels when aircrafts are taxing on the runway.

One question had been raised by a member of the committee regarding the Airport's performance, the profit and loss is down by 10% and currently they still have an acting CEO. The Airport acknowledged this stating that the weather, football and loss of Monarch had attributed to this. They had managed to replace 70% of the Monarch flights and were actively looking for an operator to provide direct flight to the US.

Air Maroc were now operating flights to Morocco and Jet 2 had increased their aircrafts from 2 to 4. However, Emirates were now keeping to two flights a day.

The levels of Customer Service had been a problem and the Airport were trying to improve this area to attract more customers as they were aiming to increase passenger numbers from 14million to 18million.

A new masterplan is to be developed for the next 15 years, a question was asked if the new plan would include a second runway to which the Airport responded "no".

**2638 Internal & External Committee Reports**

Cllr Frank Bunce offered the following report on behalf of the Parish Hall Trustees.

The following is a summary of our audited accounts for the last financial year.

Income:

- £45,064 in Hall Lettings in 2016/17
- £4,850 in Fundraising in 2016/17
- £5 in bank interest in 2016/17
- Total income was £49,919

This is £6,410 less than the previous year, however, 2015/16 accounts did include £7,000 fundraising from the Sita Trust.

Expenditure:

- £48, 823

Which is £1,900 less than the previous year. However, we did made a profit of £1,096 in 2016/17.

I think at this point it is important to briefly recap the progress made over the last two years. I became Chair in 2015 and the Trustees were aware a number of problems existed in the hall and agreed to make an effective plan of works to rectify the situation.

The following is from the minutes of that meeting:

“Cllr Frank Bunce advised he was happy to take the chair, but would wish to clarify that he could do nothing about the problems of the past but was happy to move forward with the running of the hall. He also understood that there were a number of issues to be resolved, but with the appointment of a Hall Manager, Lisa Tenant he was hopeful that a number of issues will get resolved. Lisa was already working on a list of jobs which were required and these would be formulated into priority list and quotes obtained to carry out the work. However, not everything would be resolved overnight and of course there would be some financial constraints”.

At the AGM in 2016 the Trustees reported that 2015/16 we spent £32,000 on the following projects.

1. Purchased and installed a new cooker and extraction canopy for the kitchen.
2. A microwave, pump flasks and a hoover for the use of our hirers.
3. LED lighting in the hall the kitchen and bar area.
4. External notice board for the benefit of all hirers to advertise their activity's
5. New heating system.
6. New fire alarm system
7. Refurbished the floor of the main hall.
8. New coloured lighting in main hall
9. Upholstery of fixed seating in the Elmdon lounge
10. New lounge furniture
11. Replaced fire doors
12. Fitted a new secure back gate

At the AGM in 2017 The Trustees reported that in 2016/17 we spent a further investment of £20,000

1. Anne Dunkley Hall, refurbished the tiled area
2. New stage steps
3. Mary Wilson Room, painted and decorated and new blinds due to be fitted
4. Refurbished the car park surface
5. Wi-Fi facility fitted
6. Security system fitted including CCTV camera's
7. Temporary repairs to sections of the roof

These improvements have been achieved by using the reserve fund and our Hall Manager's efforts events for fund raising. Unfortunately, all our efforts could be under threat due to unforeseen problems with the roof. During the last financial year, we have had a number of leaks from our roof, professional advice was taken and the roofing report suggests we need to spend approximately £17,000 to carry out the repairs.

This news is of great concern as ideally the work needs to be completed before winter sets in, to prevent any issues with flooding inside the hall, which can only make the situation even more serious and could become an H&S issue.

We have made an all-out effort through the summer to raise funds for the roof repairs and to date have raised £5,000 toward our £17,000 target.

I cannot stress enough the importance of finding the funds to carry out the work on the roof. The Parish Hall is the heart of our community, we cannot allow this hall to fail you only have to consider what happened to the village hall because of, amongst other issues, the major one being roofing problems. I would ask for your support in all our fund-raising efforts rest assured the trustees, through our Manager, Lisa, are doing everything to raise the money.

**2639 Finance – Payments for Authorisation**

The proposal is to authorise the payments detailed on the expenditure reports.

**Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill**

**Seconded: Cllr Barbara Tocher**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** to accept the expenditure payments detailed on the reports

**Minute no 2639.1 Orders Raised**

Fairways - Hedge Cutting - Recreation Ground and Allotments £915.00

Broxap - Replacement Dog Bin - £186.00

CT Locksmiths – New Padlock Burial Ground - £60.14

Aqua Clean – Jet Washing of Play Areas - £400.00

**It was resolved** that the orders are duly noted

**2640 Correspondence**

**Minute no 2640.1 SMBC Tax Reduction Scheme**

**Minute no 2640.2 Highways England Letters re M42 Junction 6**

- Update letter on the progress received 14 August 2018
- Email requesting a meeting to discuss changes to the scheme
- Further Statutory Consultation (copy distributed to members)

**2641 Roads and Rights of Way**

Cllr Jon Horton reported the amount of rubbish being left by cars parked on Church Lane. The Clerk advised to report it to Solihull Connect.

**2642 Bus and Train Services**

Nothing to report

**2643 Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, 3 October 2018 at 19:30

Venue: Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green