

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday, 04 December 2019
Elmdon Lounge, Parish Hall, Marston Green**

Present:

Cllr Frank Bunce – Chairman
Cllr Clive Hill
Cllr Karen Dunn
Cllr Trevor Wills
Cllr Donna Williams
Cllr Peter Tennant

Clerk: Franciska Giles

Public: 7 members of the public

2857 The Public

Mrs Poulson

Mrs Poulson advised the Parish Council that a private notice was displaced on Elmdon Lane asking the public to protest against camtrails. It quoted various YouTube websites and addresses what appears to be conspiracy theory relating to vapour trails. The Parish Council told Mrs Poulson that it had received no official letter nor complaint therefore will not investigate the matter any further. Cllr Frank Bunce suggested that the notice should be removed if the residents feel that the tone of the document is inappropriate.

Mr Bazeley

Mr Bazeley asked the Parish Council where the Civil Services Rugby Club currently play rugby. Cllr Frank Bunce advised Mr Bazeley that they play opposite the Airport but due to Landover's potential expansion they will possibly need to find a new ground to play on. Cllr Frank Bunce added that currently the rugby club is waiting for Landover's decision before they can look at various options.

Mr Lowry

Mr Lowry asked the Parish Council what additional information the Airport had requested in relation to erecting a communal allotment shed. The Clerk advised Mr Lowry that clarification was sent to the Airport stating that the shed would stand on slabs and that no electricity and water supply would be connected to it.

Mr Lowry also asked if the current allotment tenants would have an opportunity to apply for additional allotment plots when they become vacant. The Clerk advised Mr Lowry that the people on the waiting list will be offered the vacant plots first, followed by the existing tenants and the remaining plots will be advertised to the residents.

Mr Lowry enquired when the planned allotment meeting is rescheduled for. Cllr Frank Bunce advised Mr Lowry that no date has been set just yet.



Mr Trevor Wills

Mr Wills asked why the area around Marston Green Park and Brooklands are fenced off. The Clerk advised Mr Wills that in addition to burning the grass to make way for the wildflower seeds, Wildlife Ways are resurfacing the footpath with porous asphalt.

Cllr Frank Bunce closed the meeting to the public at 19:40

2858 Apologies

Cllr Wayne Hadley, Cllr Jessica Rathbone, Cllr Kim Wallace and Cllr Jonathan Horton, Cllr Michael Kay, Cllr John Fox and the RFO offered their apologies to the Clerk which were accepted

2859 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Dispensations

None

2860 Approval of the Parish Council Minutes - Held on Wednesday 06 November 2019

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 Donna Williams

Seconded: Cllr Clive Hill

All in favour

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

2861 Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting on the 06 November 2019

Minute no. 2845 (1378) – Exhumation Request

Cllr Clive Hill advised that the Parish Council received an exhumation request from the Taylor family which the Recreation Committee discussed and three options were put forward for the family to consider. The Parish Councillors agreed to the three proposed options and the Clerk wrote to the family advising them accordingly.

2862 Matters arising from the Recreation Committee Meeting – 25 November 2019

Minute no 1336 School Rough

The Clerk advised the Recreation Committee that the new fence had been completed and that L&Q apologised for not informing the Parish Council about the contractor starting the work. L&Q had advised the Clerk that all previous access to School Rough is now closed off to prevent fly tipping and any other unauthorised activities. The Clerk posted a note on the Parish Council's Facebook page advising residents of the completed fence work and the closed off access points

Minute No 1372 - Rugby Pitch Hire

Cllr Clive Hill advised that another meeting with the Civil Services Rugby Club took place on the 25th of November but no agreement had been formalised.



2863 Matters arising from the Finance Committee Meeting – 29 October 2019

Minute no 568.1 Anti Climb Temporary Fence – Japanese Knotweed Treatment Area

The Cllr Donna Williams advised that in agreement with the land owners the Parish Council would purchase a temporary fence to protect the area that has been treated for Japanese Knotweed. The cheapest quote was £618.04 +vat and £65.00 delivery which both the Recreation Committee and the Finance Committee agreed and the quote is to be ratified at the Parish Council Meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Karen Dunn

Secoded: Cllr Clive Hill

All in favour

It was resolved that the order is ratified by the Parish Councillors

Minute no. 577.1 – CIL Project – Parish Hall Roof

Cllr Donna Williams said that following the recent communication with SMBC there were two CIL projects which have been identified and the Parish Council is now in a position to proceed. The Parish Councillors were asked to ratify the donation of £9000.00 to repair the roof of the Parish Hall.

Proposed: Cllr Karen Dunn

Secoded: Cllr Clive Hill

All in favour

It was resolved that the order is ratified by the Parish Councillors

Minute No 577.2 CIL Project - Restoration of the Red Telephone Box

The restoration of the Red Telephone Box at Bickenhill and conversion into a small library at a cost of £2,460.00. The Recreation Committee recommended the projects and the Finance Committee were of the opinion that they could recommend it for approval. Cllr Kim Wallace expressed her concern regarding the use of the telephone box as a library as the conditions would lead to the books becoming damp.

Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill

Secoded: Cllr Peter Tennant

All in favour

It was resolved that the order is ratified by the Parish Councillors

Cllr Trevor Wills said that he understood the Parish Council would first offer the opportunity to the public to submit their projects for the CIL fund before any projects are approved by the Parish Council. Cllr Frank Bunce and the Clerk advised Cllr Trevor Wills that the Parish Council followed a stringent process whereby firstly an agreement from SMBC on eligibility and criteria was sought, then the identified projects went through prioritisation and two of the projects, approved by the Recreation and the Finance Committee, were selected as a good example for the public consultation in January 2020.



Minute no. 578 - Emergency Orders

Cllr Donna Williams stated that the RFO raised the following orders and asked the Councillors to duly note and ratify the orders.

- Rugby Pest Control – Moles on Burial Ground
- CT Locksmiths – Replacement lock and keys
- Melbicks Garden Centre – Memorial Christmas Tree

Proposed: Cllr Karen Dunn

Seconded: Cllr Frank Bunce

All in favour

It was resolved that the orders are duly noted and are ratified by the Parish Councillors

2864 Matters arising from the Planning Committee Meeting – 28 November 2019

2864.1 - PL/2019/02794

Cllr Clive Hill advised that a revised version of PL/2019/02794 was received whereby the applicant wishes to cut back some oak trees to a suitable growth point and a single branch length reduction of limb over the garden of Woodend on Blackfirs Lane.

Cllr Clive Hill said that the Parish Council submitted their comment on the application, namely that the Parish Council has no observations subject to the recommendations of SMBC's Tree Officer.

2864.2 - Approved Planning Applications

Cllr Clive Hill advised that the Parish Council that the following applications were approved by SMBC:

- PL/2019/01911 to which the Parish Council originally objected to
- PL/2019/02653 in relation to some modifications to the original plan
- Street Trading Application – Ref. 105842 (Fusion Cafe) to which the Parish Council originally objected to

Cllr Clive Hill advised that Fusion Café at Marston Green Railway Station had been approved and the vehicle from which trading will take place will be situated between the two bus stops at the station entrance from 6 a.m. until around 11 a.m. will be serving cold snacks and hot drinks.

Cllr Trevor Wills also wished to add that he is very disappointed about SMBC's approval of this application as he attended the first hearing when SMBC's did not have the facts at the ready. Cllr Frank Bunce said that in addition the Parish Council's written objection, Cllr Bob Sleigh and Cllr Clive Hill spoke at the second hearing. Cllr Frank Bunce also pointed out that the decision was not made by the Planning Committee but SMBC's Licencing Committee.



2864.3 - Cllr Trevor Wills

Cllr Trevor Wills stated that the minutes of Point 5 of the Planning Committee Meeting were incorrect. Cllr Trevor Wills said that he is of the opinion that he never joined the Planning Committee and he never said that he wanted to resign. Cllr Trevor Wills was also of the opinion that Cllr Frank Bunce asked him to join the Recreation Committee but not the Planning Committee. Cllr Frank Bunce stated that he did ask Cllr Trevor Wills to join the Recreation Committee but there was no suggestion of him being unable to join the Planning Committee.

Cllr Frank Bunce pointed out that all minutes are discussed at the consequent Parish Council Meeting and all Parish Councillors have the opportunity to voice their concerns, and must do so before the minutes are passed. In order to eliminate any disagreements afterwards. Cllr Frank Bunce said that when he asked if the minutes were a true and accurate records of what was said, there were no objections or concerns raised by any Parish Councillors in relation to any incorrect minutes therefore those minutes were passed as per the correct procedure.

2865 Renewal of CPRE Membership

The Clerk advised the Parish Councillors that it is time to renew the CPRE membership and stated that the total cost for the upcoming year will be £50. The Clerk asked the Parish Councillors to approve the cost.

Proposed: Cllr Karen Dunn

Seconded: Cllr Peter Tennant

All in favour

It was resolved that the CPRE membership can be renewed at the cost of £50.

2866 Allotments

The Clerk advised that following an allotment inspection in September 2019, a second inspection was carried out on the 27th of November 2019. During the second inspection it became evident that some allotment plots had not been brought up to the required standard as stated in the Allotment Tenancy Agreement. The Clerk explained that the Allotment Tenancy Agreement runs from the 1st of January until the 31st of December each year and that the Parish Council would need to follow up on those non-conforming allotment plots before the end of the year. As the next Recreation Committee meeting is not scheduled until the third week of January 2020, the Clerk asked the Parish Councillors for their decision on whether to serve notice to the allotment tenants whose plots failed the second allotment inspection or send them a second letter asking them to bring the plots up to the required standard. The Parish Council agreed that the notices should be served.

Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill

Seconded: Cllr Donna Williams

All in favour



It was resolved that the Clerk can send a letter to the allotment tenants whose plots failed the second allotment inspection serving them notice

2867 HS2 Update

Cllr Karen Dunn advised that she attended a meeting at the Arden Hotel where some updates and information were provided.

- Piling works should be finished at around Christmas time 2019. The delay was due to some old barrels found at the Melbicks' area which will be examined shortly to identify their contents.
- Three main works are scheduled as from January 2020 around the M42/A452/A45
 - A Highways bridge will commence over the M42 in March and is scheduled to be completed at the end of 2020. Due to this work, HS2 envisages that 1 weekend in August the M42 will be closed but notices will be sent out closer to the time
 - Bridge over the A446 is underway and will conclude early 2021. Most of the construction work will be done off-site but a weekend closure is forecasted in October 2020 and notifications will be sent out closer to the time
 - New network at Northway Island is going to be created as from January 2020 and works will run for two years. Lots of groundwork will be visible and some traffic management will be in place. Regular update will be sent out by HS2. Cllr Karen Dunn advised that the public can access these updates via HS2 website or request information by subscribing to the newsletter on <http://hs2insolihull.co.uk> or by calling the Freephone on 08081434434 or by sending an Email to hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk
- At the Last Advisory Meeting air pollution was discussed. Air pollution monitoring systems will be put in place by HS2 and their whereabouts will be advised at the next Advisory Group meeting this month
- Community Funds are available and HS2 is encouraging people to apply for these funding
- More works are scheduled for the Balsall Common area and a new island at Kenilworth Road/Park Way junction will be constructed

2868 Airport Matters

None

2869 Internal & External Committee Report

Cllr Karen Dunn said that Marston Green Infant Academy achieved GOOD at the last OFSTED inspection

Cllr Clive Hill advised that the sale of the Village Hall is still on-going. The sale is hopefully going through and the solicitors are currently drawing up a contract of sale and the sale should be concluded by the end of the year.

2870 Finance – Payments for Authorisation

The proposal was to authorise the payments detailed in the December expenditure reports.

Proposed: Cllr Donna Williams

Seconded: Cllr Clive Hill



All in favour

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

2871 Correspondences

1. Polling Places Review

Following the consultation period, SMBC's Acting Returning Officer published his proposal for the Polling District and Polling Place Review on the 11 th of November and it is now on the Councils Website <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/About-the-Council/Voting/pollingreview>

2. New Access Road Opening

The Mayor of Solihull (Cllr Stuart Davis) was at Birmingham Business Park to mark the official opening of a brand new access road, linking the Park to Bickenhill Parkway. The new 300m stretch of road known as 'Progress Way' has been constructed in two phases as a joint venture between real estate company Prologis and commercial property group, Canmoor acting as developers, following planning consent from the local authority. Funding for the project has come from investment management company, BlackRock and financial services company, Legal & General. Prologis took responsibility for developing the first section which was commenced and completed last year, while Canmoor have now completed the second section, marking completion of the project. The new road will provide flexible access to and from the business park easing congestion at peak times and futureproofing the local road network. Progress Way is currently being maintained by the two developers but will be adopted by the Council at the end of the maintenance period in 2020.

3. Government Consultation on Unauthorised Encampments

The government is currently running a public consultation on unauthorised encampments and police powers. Parishes are encouraged to either respond directly to Government using the link in the document sent to all Parish Councillors via email; or respond to the questions shown in that document and reply to NALC who will collate the responses and send a combined response to government on behalf of our sector. Deadline is the middle of February 2020.

4. HS2 – Road Closure on Bickenhill Parkway

The temporary road closures will be in place from:

- 8am on Saturday 7 December, to 6pm on Sunday 8 December
- 8am on Saturday 14 December, to 6pm on Sunday 15 December

A signed diversion route will be in place for the road closures. Working on site will be from 8am to 6pm each day of the closures, but the contractors may be on site up to an hour before and after those times. Vehicle and pedestrian access to all businesses on Birmingham Business Park, including Fujitsu, will be maintained throughout our works.



5. Carols round the Christmas Tree

On Tuesday 17th. December at 7p.m, St. Leonards Parish Church and the Baptist Free Church will be arranging the annual Carols round the Christmas Tree in the Garden of Memory. If wet, the event still takes place but under the cover of the Baptist Free Church Hall.

6. WALC Training Opportunity

A short seminar will be organised by WALC which will explore the different types of planning applications, what those applications include and how best to respond to them. The course will run on Saturday the 7th of March 2020 from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the Marston Green Parish Hall. If the Councillors are interested in this seminar, please inform the Clerk

7. BMGPC's Request to SMBC's Derek Lawlor

BMGPC sent an email to SMBC's Derek Lawlor, UK Central Delivery Manager requesting help with regards to the Highways England application for the M42 junction 6 improvements.

8. IAC (warehouse opposite Blackfirs Lane)

IAC would like to present to the Parish Council and advise of upcoming job opportunities where potentially 1000 people could be employed. Cllr Frank Bunce met their spoke person and said that the Parish Councillors need to approve IAC's request to present. Cllr Frank Bunce asked the Parish Councillors and the Parish Councillors agreed to IAC's request.

Proposed: Cllr Donna Williams

Seconded: Cllr Karen Dunn

All in favour

It was resolved that IAC's request to present to the Parish Council was approved by the Parish Councillors

2872 Roads and Rights of Way

None

2873 Bus and Train Services

The Clerk advised that an email was sent to CENTRO asking the company for their explanation in relation to the many delayed or cancelled train services in and out of Marston Green. No feedback was received up to date.

The Parish Council Meeting was closed at 20:35 GMT

2874 Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 15th January 2020 at 19:30

Venue: The Elmdon Lounge, Marston Green Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green, B37 7BT

