

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday, 2 June 2021
The Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green**

Present:

Cllr Wayne Hadley - Chairman
Cllr John Fox
Cllr Sue Rogers
Cllr Carole Pearce
Cllr Clive Hill

Clerk: Julie Brennan

Public: 0

4036 The Public

Cllr Clive Hill asked, as a member of the public, for the Parish Council to contact Solihull MBC to enquire if any action could be taken to move the development of 124 Elmdon Lane along. Cllr Hill stated that he had been contacted by a resident who had already spoken to SMBC and who now asked for the Parish Council for assistance. Cllr Hill also asked for issues with the road surface and speeding cars to be noted.

Action item: Clerk to contact SMBC to request action be taken to restart the development works at 124 Elmdon Lane.

4037 Apologies

Cllr Wayne Hadley confirmed that apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Jonathan Horton, Cllr Kim Wallace, Cllr Karen Dunn, Cllr Mark Noblet, Cllr Michael Kay and Cllr Trevor Wills.

4038 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Dispensations

None.

4039 Approval of the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 5 May 2021

The Chairman 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 John Fox

All in favour – Cllr Clive Hill, Cllr John Fox, Cllr Sue Rogers, Cllr Carole Pearce.

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

4040 Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 May 2021

The Chairman asked members if they had read the minutes and if they could confirm these as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr John Fox

Seconded: Cllr Carole Pearce

All in favour - Cllr Clive Hill, Cllr John Fox, Cllr Sue Rogers, Cllr Carole Pearce.

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

4041 Cllr John Fox update

Cllr John Fox let members know that, although he would attend where possible, he was unlikely to be able to make future meetings until September 2021.

4042 Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting held on 5 May 2021

4027/1523 Bickenhill Pond

Action item: Clerk to send out Cllr John Fox's report on the pond and the item to be carried over to the next Parish Council meeting.

4030 – Matters arising from the Planning Committee meeting held on 27 April 2021

Cllr Clive Hill confirmed that Richard Cobb had spoken on behalf of the Parish Council at SMBC's recent planning committee meeting where the application by IAC to build 388 additional car parking spaces on land adjacent to Blackfirs Lane had been refused. It was thought that an appeal was likely to be made.

Cllr Clive Hill updated members in relation to the development of 2 Alcott Lane into a Class C2 care home letting them know that the Parish Council had made comments at the time when the application had been submitted.

4043 Matters arising from the Staffing Committee held on 4 May 2021

Cllr John Fox confirmed that the Committee planned to review staffing, consider appraisals for the new clerk who is in a probation period and the Groundsmen and look at what training was required. It was agreed that the next meeting would take place in September 2021 when Cllr Fox was able to resume meetings.

4044 Matters arising from the Recreation Committee Working Group meeting held on 17 May 2021

1517/3 – CIL application from Marston Green Cricket Club – Cllr Hill stated that he wished to put the application on hold pending a meeting with the Chairman of the club to consider redrafting the lease to make it clear where responsibilities lay. He was concerned that the existing lease did not make it clear who was responsible for what and that, should the cricket club choose to leave, then it would be difficult to find a new lessee given the current state of repair of the bar area. The CIL matrix was discussed and the issue with membership and it was agreed to consider the cricket club's application against the matrix at the next Recreation Committee meeting. It was also agreed that the Clerk should contact SMBC for guidance on how the CIL money should be spent.

Action item: Clerk to arrange a meeting between Cllr Clive Hill, Cllr Jonathan Horton, Steve Wragge and the Clerk to discuss redrafting the lease.

Action item: Clerk to contact Solihull MBC for guidance on how the CIL money should be spent.

1517 – Biodiversity Project with the Infant & Junior schools. Cllr Wayne Hadley confirmed that he had now met with the schools and had identified an opportunity information on what the Parish Council was working on to be included in the school newsletter.

1533 – Soil removal from Burial Ground – The recommendation was to approve the quote from Flowers to remove the soil from the Burial Ground at a cost of £180 per load plus VAT with a maximum of 5 loads.

Proposed: Cllr Wayne Hadley

Seconded: Cllr Sue Rogers

All in favour

It was resolved that Flowers be asked to remove the soil from the burial ground at a cost of £180 per load plus VAT up to a maximum of 5 loads.

1541/2 – Red Phone Box in Bickenhill – it was noted that the company who had carried out the initial work on the phone box had not returned the Clerk's calls and that it had been difficult to

find anyone who was interested in quoting for such a small job. Approval was sought for SW Fencing to carry out the installation of the additional two shelves at a cost of £120.

Proposed: Cllr Wayne Hadley

Seconded: Cllr Clive Hill

All in favour

It was resolved that SW Fencing be asked to construct two additional shelves in the red phone box for a fee of £120.

1547 – Trees at the back of 5 Musson Close, B37 7HS – the members discussed an issue raised in relation to the trees which backed onto the properties that had been built along the perimeter of the Recreation Ground. Cllr Hadley suggested obtaining a tree survey of all the trees that were located on land managed by the Parish Council which would provide a summary of the condition of the trees along with a list of actions required over a three year period to keep them in safe and good condition.

Cllr Clive Hill asked the Clerk to ascertain who owned the 3Ms field with a view to the Parish Council obtaining a formal lease.

Action item: Clerk to obtain quotes for a tree survey to be conducted.

Action item: Clerk to ascertain who owns the 3Ms field and to request a formal lease be entered into.

1548 – Request from Marston Green Lions to install a three seater bench at the Recreation Ground - The members discussed the request for a multi-coloured memorial bench to be installed at the Recreation Ground. It was agreed that more information was required before a decision could be made and Cllr Clive Hill agreed to make further enquiries with the Lions.

Action item: Cllr Clive Hill to make further enquires with the Lions and report back.

1549 - LOLER certificate for the lift in the Pavilion – members were asked to consider the quotes for the provision of a LOLER certificate for the lift at the Pavilion. It was agreed to approve the appointment of Elevate Lifts as, although their quote was slightly more expensive than the cheapest option, they had provided guidance and advised that only one certificate was required per year due to the lift being a platform lift.

Proposed: Cllr Wayne Hadley

Seconded: Cllr John Fox

All in favour

It was resolved that Elevate UK Lifts be asked to provide the LOLER certificate for the lift at the Pavilion for a fee of £125 plus VAT.

1550/1 Request for an ashes plot and interment to be treated as resident – the members noted that Mrs Bradley had lived in the village for over 60 years and that the family home had only recently been sold. It was agreed that the request for an ashes plot and interment should be dealt with as a resident.

Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill

Seconded: Cllr Wayne Hadley

All in favour

It was resolved that the request for the ashes plot and interment should be dealt with as a resident.

1550/2 – Request for ashes to be interred on top of an existing grave which already has two bodies interred – the members discussed this request but felt they needed more information before making a decision.

Action item: Clerk to look into ashes interments on top of burials and report back.

1550/3 – Membership of the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management – the members approved the Parish Council becoming members of the ICCM at a cost of £95.

Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill

Seconded: Cllr Carole Pearce

All in favour

It was resolved that the Parish Council should become members of ICCM.

Action item: Clerk to arrange for membership and payment of the £95 fee.

4045 Matters relating to the Finance Committee

4045/1 – GDPR Review - Cllr Wayne Hadley noted a request that the Finance Committee should undertake a review of GDPR and asked members to approve the delegation to them.

Proposed: Cllr Wayne Hadley

Seconded: Cllr Clive Hill

All in favour

It was resolved that the Finance Committee should undertake a review of GDPR on behalf of the Parish Council.

4045/2 - Bickenhill Church & Land – it was agreed that his item should be carried over.

4045/3 - Fairway's quote to weed and feed the Recreation Ground – the quote for the annual weed/feed had been emailed to members on 18 May 2021.

Proposed: Cllr Wayne Hadley

Seconded: Cllr John Fox

All in favour

It was resolved that Fairways should undertake the annual weed/feed treatment at the Recreation Ground for a fee of £1,100.

4045/4 – Budget position as at 30 April 2021 – the budget position was noted.

4046 Matters Arising from the Planning Committee held on 20 May 2021

Cllr Clive Hill highlighted a planning appeal which was being considered in relation to 47 Holly Lane noting that the Planning Committee's earlier concerns had been reiterated in relation to back garden developments in general and egress onto Holly Lane in particular.

4047 Approval of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21

4047/1 – To receive and note the Annual Internal Audit Report - the annual internal audit report was duly noted.

4047/2 – To consider and approve the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 (Section 1) - the Clerk had circulated a paper copy to members. Cllr Wayne Hadley read through each of the questions (1 to 9) for members to consider and answer.

Proposed: Cllr John Fox

Seconded: Cllr Wayne Hadley

All in favour

It was resolved that the Clerk complete section one as approved and it was duly signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

4047/3 – To consider and approve the Accounting Statements 2020/21 (Section 2) - the Clerk had circulated a paper copy to members. She asked members if they were happy to propose and for the completed form to be approved.

Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill

Seconded: Cllr Carole Pearce

All in favour

It was resolved that Section 2 of the return was approved and it was duly signed by the Chairman having already been signed by the Clerk

4048 External Committee Reports

No matters for discussion.

4049 Internal Committees

Cllr Wayne Hadley read out the list of Internal Committees and the names of the councillors appointed to each.

Proposed: Cllr Wayne Hadley

Seconded: Cllr Carole Pearce

All in favour

It was resolved that the membership of the internal committees was approved.

4050 Approval of Finance Approval List (circulated by email)

The proposal to authorise the payments detailed on the expenditure reports was approved.

Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill

Seconded: Cllr Sue Rogers

All in favour

It was resolved to approve the expenditure payments detailed on the report.

4051 Correspondence

4051/1 - Letter received from residents of Blackfirs Lane

Cllr Wayne Hadley read out a letter which had been received from residents of Blackfirs Lane thanking the Parish Council for its support in opposing the planning application by IAC to construct 388 car parking spaces on land adjacent to Blackfirs Lane. The letter was duly noted.

The Parish Council meeting closed at 21:40

4052 Date of next meeting 7 July 2021 at 19:30

St Peter's Church Hall, Church Lane, Bickenhill B92 0DN