

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, 5 July 2023 at 19:30**  
**The Church Hall, Church Lane, Bickenhill**

**Present:**

Cllr Clive Hill – Chairman  
Cllr Leigh Trevis  
Cllr Mark Noblet  
Cllr Mike Kay  
Cllr Paul Powell  
Cllr Sue Rogers  
Cllr Jon Horton  
Cllr Wayne Hadley

**Clerk:** Julie Brennan

**Public:** 2

**4578. Chairman's welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**4579. The Public**

No items were raised

**4580. Apologies**

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Carole Pearce and Cllr Claire Kelly

**4581. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Dispensations**

Cllr Clive Hill and Cllr Wayne Hadley declared an interest in relation to items 4594 as they are both Governors at Marston Green Infant Academy.

**4582. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7 June 2023**

The Chairman asked those members present at the 7 June 2023 meeting if they had read the minutes and if they could confirm these as a true and accurate record.

**Proposed: Cllr Mark Noblet**

**Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell**

**All in favour**

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

**4583. Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting – 7 June 2023**

**4524.1 – 20mph speed limit** – The Chairman confirmed that a ticket has been raised with SMBC and a response was awaited. The Clerk confirmed that a reply was awaited on whether the PCSO team would attend to discuss speeding in the village.

**4561.1 – Purchase of the horse field next to the Burial Ground** – The Chairman confirmed that an update was still awaited from the landowner.

**4567 – VAT reclaim** – the Clerk confirmed that she had not yet completed the VAT reclaim.

**4572 – Transfer of the Parish Council's bank accounts to Unity Trust Bank** -The Clerk confirmed that she had not yet actioned the transfer.

**4575.3 – Donation to St Leonard's Church for the Weston Super Mare trip for residents** – the Clerk advised that the payment was pending the advert being posted by the Church.

**4584. Minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting – 20 June 2023**

4584.1 **Minute No. 1832/1824 – Purchase of bench to mark the coronation of King Charles III –**  
The members agreed a budget of £600 for the purchase of a bench to be installed in Millennium Wood, the style to be approved by the Recreation Committee. Cllr Wayne Hadley agreed to go to Earlswood Garden Centre to look at the benches, identify a suitable hardwood bench and provided photographs for the Recreation Committee to review.

**Proposed: Cllr Wayne Hadley**

**Seconded: Cllr Jon Horton**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** to approve a budget of £600 for the purchase of a bench to mark the Coronation of King Charles III.

4584.2 **Minute no. 1836 – to approve the request for a polytunnel on plot 6A at the Elmdon Lane allotments –** The members approved the request for a 6'x 4' polytunnel.

**Proposed: Cllr Jon Horton**

**Seconded: Cllr Sue Rogers**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** to approve the request for a polytunnel on plot 6A at the Elmdon Lane allotments.

4584.3 **Minute no. 1838– to consider changing the Burial Ground Regulations to include controlling the purchase and transfer of pre-purchased graves, the removal of wooden crosses and charging for oversize graves –** The Clerk let the members know that on a number of occasions the right of burial had been purchased by a resident and then immediately transferred to a non resident. She confirmed that the advice from ICCM was to either stop selling the pre-purchase of a right of burial or limit residents to purchasing one plot. The members discussed options and approved the limit of one plot per resident.

**Proposed: Cllr Paul Powell**

**Seconded: Cllr Sue Rogers**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** to limit the pre-purchase of the right of burial to one per resident.

**Action item:** The Clerk was asked to draft wording to be added to the Burial Ground Rules to limit the pre purchase of the right of burial to one per resident.

**4585. Minutes of the Finance & General Purpose Committee meeting – 26 June 2023**

4585.1 Cllr Mike Kay reminded members that they should send apologies to the Clerk for any meetings that they were unable to attend. He asked for approval for the Clerk to note as absent any member who failed to send their apologies.

**Proposed: Cllr Jon Horton**

**Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** that the Clerk would note as absent any member who failed to send their apologies.

4585.2 Cllr Mike Kay asked for approval for a £3,000 budget for the Community Weekend Event on 9 September 2023.

**Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay**

**Seconded: Cllr Leigh Trevis**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** that a budget of £3,000 was approved for the Community Weekend event on 9 September 2023.

4585.3 Cllr Kay asked for approval of the Donation Policy and application form, copies of which had been included in the meeting pack.

**Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay**

**Seconded: Cllr Leigh Trevis**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** to approve the Donation policy and application form.

4585.4 Cllr Kay provided a summary of the revised budget which was approved.

**Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay**

**Seconded: Cllr Jon Horton**



**All in favour**

**It was resolved** to approve the revised budget.

**4586. Minutes of the Planning Committee 27 June 2023**

- 4586.1 Minute no. 4.2 - Cllr Horton highlighted the change of use of Elm Croft from class C2 (residential care home) to class 3b (supported housing) and the Committees request that the applicant should follow regulatory guidelines.
- 4586.2 Minute no. 4.6 – Cllr Horton advised that the application for the Eco Resorts looked fine but the Committee had asked that any trees removed were replaced and that indigenous trees were used.
- 4586.3 Minutes no. 5.7 – Cllr Horton noted that the application by Hazel Farm for an agricultural building had been withdrawn.
- 4586.4 Minute no. 5.8 – it was noted that the decision on 26 Holly Lane was still awaited.

**4587. Update from the Pavilion Working Group meeting 27 June 2023**

Cllr Jon Horton provided an update on the current situation noting that a number of options for improving the Pavilion had been considered. Cllr Mike Kay had drafted heads of terms which were currently being considered by the Cricket Club and, once they had done so, a meeting would be set up to progress matters.

**4588. To approve the Finance Approval List and list of urgent payments made**

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

**Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay**

**Seconded: Cllr Clive Hill**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** to approve the expenditure payments detailed in the report.

**4589. To further consider the application for a grant from Lily's Tea Parlour/Push on Wellbeing following the presentation meeting on 14 June 2023**

Members considered the application in light of the presentation given but, as they still had concerns on where funds were to be used and on the financial statements, it was agreed that no donation would be made.

**Proposed: Cllr Leigh Trevis**

**Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** that on this occasion, no donation would be made to Lily's Tea Parlour/Push on Wellbeing

**4590. To approve the proposal for the Mayor's Community Weekend Event 9 September 2023**

Cllr Leigh Trevis provided an outline of plans for an event which would take place on Saturday, 9 September 2023 at the Recreation Ground. Local clubs would be invited to take part and food and entertainment would be available. Cllr Jon Horton and Cllr Mike Kay asked if consideration could be given to an event, probably a barbeque, at Bickenhill. It was agreed that some of the £3,000 budget previously approved could be made available for this.

**Proposed: Cllr Mark Noblet**

**Seconded: Cllr Wayne Hadley**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** to approve that the Community Weekend event should take place on Saturday, 9 September 2023 at the Recreation Ground and Cllr Horton and Cllr Kay to look into holding a village barbeque in Bickenhill.

**4591. To consider next steps in relation to the boundary issue at the Recreation Ground given the delay in receiving the report from the Parish Council's solicitor**

Cllr Clive Hill advised that, despite a lengthy delay, the report from the Parish Council's solicitor was still outstanding. Members discussed options and the Clerk was asked to raise a complaint with the practice



**Action item:** Clerk to raise a formal complain with the Parish Council's solicitor regarding the delay in receiving the report on the boundary determination.

**4592. To approve the creation of a volunteer group to undertake work on areas within the Parish on a regular basis**

Cllr Wayne Hadley outlined his plans for a volunteer group who would meet regularly to undertake things like litter picks, linking up with other local groups where possible.

**Proposed: Cllr Jon Horton**

**Seconded: Cllr Leigh Trevis**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** to approve the creation of a volunteer group.

**4593. Castle Bromwich Parish Council Civic Service – update on event**

Cllr Hill let members know that he and the Clerk had attended the Castle Bromwich Parish Council Civic Service and reception and that it had been a great success with opportunities to network and share experiences with fellow councillors.

**4594. To discuss the request to send a letter to Network Rail requesting that the fence between the train line and the Infant Academy is screened to obscure the view**

Cllr Hill advised that the headteacher had asked if the Parish Council would be willing to write to Network Rail in support of their request for a fence to be installed to obscure the view of the trainline from the school. The headteacher was concerned that, when incidents occurred on the line, staff and students could potentially view the aftermath which would be upsetting.

**Proposed: Cllr Mark Noblet**

**Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell**

**All in favour**

**It was resolved** to write to Network Rail in support of the Infant Academy's request for a fence to be installed to obscure the view of the trainline from the school.

**4595. To note the WALC survey of member councils and agree the deadline for responses to the Clerk**

Members were asked to send their feedback on the WALC survey to the Clerk by 1 August 2023 to ensure it met the deadline

**4596. Correspondence**

4596.1 **To note the enquiry regarding parking restrictions on Digby Drive and SMBC's response** – the correspondence was noted.

4596.2 **The Journal from ICCM** – the correspondence was noted.

**4597. External Committee Reports**

**Parish Hall Trustees** – Cllr Hill advised that there was nothing to update on at present.

**Marston Green Village Charitable Trust** – There were no updates to share at this meeting.

**Airport matters** – Cllr Jon Horton provided a summary of the most recent meeting of the ACC noting that the airport was looking at hybrid planes and options to install solar panels where possible. He confirmed that various upgrades were being carried out and that the airport was back in profit.

**HS2/M42 J6 update** – There were no updates to share at this meeting.

**Village Hall, Bickenhill** – Cllr Kay confirmed that an upgrade plan was awaited.

**Broadband in Bickenhill** – Cllr Kay confirmed that Cllr Bob Sleigh was still looking into this.

**Solihull Area Meeting** – Members were asked to let the Clerk have any questions they wished to be put to Cllr Ian Courts at the SAM meeting.

**4598. The Parish Council meeting closed at 22:05**

**4599. Date of the next meeting: 6 September 2023** - Venue: The Elmdon Lounge, Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green

