

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday, 1 November 2023 at 19:30
The Elmdon Lounge, Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green**

Present:

Cllr Clive Hill – Chairman
Cllr Mark Noblet
Cllr Mike Kay
Cllr Paul Powell
Cllr Sue Rogers
Cllr Carole Pearce
Cllr Leigh Trevis

Clerk: Julie Brennan

Public: 3

4669. Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4670. The Public

A member of the public asked if the Council were aware that one of the clock faces on the Garden of Memory clock had stopped working. The Chairman confirmed that the Clerk was dealing with this.

A member of the public asked if the Council would allow a delivery of cow manure for the use of some of the Amenity Land allotment holders. The Clerk was asked to include an item on the agenda for the next Recreation Committee for the request to be considered.

4671. Apologies

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Wayne Hadley and Cllr Claire Kelly.

4672. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Dispensations

None.

4673. Minutes: to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 October 2023

The Chairman asked those members present at the 4 October 2023 meeting if they had read the minutes and if they could confirm these as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr Sue Rogers

Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell

All in favour

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

4674. Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 October 2023

4636 – Bleed kits – the Clerk was asked to add an item to the agenda for the next Recreation Committee meeting for the purchase of a bleed kit to be considered.

4641/4611 – Post box in Bickenhill – the Clerk confirmed that Royal Mail had responded to confirm that the post box would soon be available to residents.

4642.2 - Memorial bench – The Clerk confirmed that the family who had requested the bench had been advised that it had not been approved but they had not yet confirmed if they wished to progress with the alternative site offered.

4643.3 - Dualcom monitoring of the Pavilion alarm – the Clerk confirmed that the Dualcom monitors had been installed.

4643.4 – Lockboxes for key switches on Pavilion – The Clerk confirmed that the boxes had not yet been fitted and a date was awaited.

4675. Minutes: to approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 12 October 2023

The Chairman asked those members present at the 12 October 2023 meeting if they had read the minutes and if they could confirm these as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay

Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet

All in favour

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

4676. Matters arising from the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 12 October 2023

There were no matters arising.

4677. Recreation Committee

4677.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2023 were noted.

4677.2 To approve a period of 5 years for the option on the land next to the burial ground

Members discussed the length of the option and agreed that a 20 year option should be sought.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay

Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell

All in favour

It was resolved that a 20 year option should be requested on the land next to the burial ground.

4677.3 To approve the recommendation to seek clarification on costs relating to the lease of the land around the Recreation Ground, in particular to the area called area 1

Members considered the options noting that it was important to be clear in relation to the term of the lease and costs in relation to both areas 1 and 2.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay

Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet

All in favour

It was resolved that the Clerk should contact the landowner to express an interest in area 1 and to request confirmation on the term of the lease and costs in relation to both plots 1 and 2.

4678. Finance & General Purpose Committee

4678.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2023 were noted

4678.2 To approve a budget of £200 for the groundsmen to make two benches to be installed on the Amenity Land

Members discussed the cost of simple benches and agreed that it would be more cost effective for the groundsmen to construct two benches and install them on the Amenity Land.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay

Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell

All in favour

It was resolved that a budget of £200 for the groundsmen to make two benches was approved

4678.3 To approve the addition of Cllr Paul Powell to the bank mandate

The Clerk confirmed that the Councillors currently on the mandate were Cllr Clive Hill, Cllr Mike Kay, Cllr Sue Rogers and Cllr Mark Noblet. Members agreed that the mandate should be updated to remove Cllr Jon Horton and add Cllr Paul Powell

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay

Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet

All in favour

It was resolved that Cllr Jon Horton should be removed from the bank mandate and Cllr Paul Powell should be added.

4679. Planning Committee

4679.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2023 were noted.
Item 3.3 - Concerns regarding parking and traffic congestion in relation to the HS2 application were noted.

4679.2 **To approve the addition of Cllr Claire Kelly to the Committee**
Members were asked to approve the addition of Cllr Kelly to the Planning Committee.
Proposed: Cllr Paul Powell **Seconded: Cllr Leigh Trevis**
All in favour
It was resolved that Cllr Claire Kelly should become a member of the Planning Committee.

4680. To approve the Finance Approval List & list of urgent payments made

The payments detailed on the expenditure report and list of urgent payments made were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay **Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet**
All in favour
It was resolved to approve the expenditure payments detailed in the reports.

4681. Events Committee

Members discussed the need for an Events Committee that would be tasked with organising the D-Day event and future Community Day events.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay **Seconded: Cllr Carole Pearce**
All in favour
It was resolved that an Events Committee should be set up.

Members were invited to put themselves forward to sit on the Committee, to propose a Chairman and agree the Terms of Reference for the Committee.

Proposed: Cllr Leigh Trevis **Seconded: Cllr Clive Hill**
All in favour
It was resolved that Cllr Paul Powell would be the Chairman and Cllr Leigh Trevis, Cllr Claire Kelly and Cllr Clive Hill would all be members.

Action item: Terms of Reference for the Events Committee to be agreed at the first meeting and brought to the next Parish Council meeting for approval.

4682. Parish Hall Trustees

Cllr Clive Hill asked for approval for Judith Campton to become a Parish Hall Trustee on behalf of the Parish Council given that there were no nominations from the current Councillors.

Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill **Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell**
All in favour
It was resolved that Judith Campton should become a Parish Hall Trustee on behalf of the Council.

4683. A10 Bus

Cllr Clive Hill advised that the A10 bus which used to stop on Digby Drive would no longer be doing so due to issues with parked cars which made it impossible for buses to get around the island. Cllr Hill asked for approval for a letter to be sent to Transport for West Midlands asking for the service to be reinstated on Digby Drive.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay **Seconded: Cllr Sue Rogers**
All in favour
It was resolved that Cllr Hill should draft a letter to be sent to Transport for West Midlands calling for the A10 bus service to be reinstated on Digby Drive.

4684. Salary Increase

The Clerk advised that she had expected the new salary figures to be available for the meeting

but they were still awaited. No action was required at this time.

4685. External Committee Reports

Parish Hall Trustees – Cllr Clive Hill confirmed that there were no updates to share at this time.

Marston Green Village Charitable Trust – Cllr Clive Hill confirmed that it was not possible to distribute funds at the present time but monies were building up as a result of investments. Cllr Sue Rogers queried how updates would be shared with residents. Cllr Carole Pearce advised that a website was planned and meetings would be held with the community to share information when the time was right.

Airport matters – Cllr Mike Kay confirmed that the next meeting was due to take place on 7 December 2023 and he would provide an update following that meeting.

HS2/M42 J6 update – Cllr Mike Kay advised that issues with flooding were impacting the villagers and noted that Shadowbrook Lane was due to open before Christmas but only for a limited time.

Village Hall, Bickenhill – Cllr Kay confirmed that a meeting was due to take place with representatives from Highways England and that some progress had been made but there was still work to be done.

Broadband in Bickenhill – Cllr Kay advised that surveys were being done by Openreach and it was mooted that fibre could be installed before Christmas.

Solihull Area Meeting – Cllr Paul Powell provided an overview of the recent meeting and agreed to share his notes via email.

4686. Correspondence

4686.1 Email from Perry Williams Limited: enquiry regarding the installation of telecommunications equipment in Bickenhill/Marston Green

Members discussed the email enquiring if the Council wished to sell land for the installation of a telecommunications tower.

Proposed: Cllr Sue Rogers

Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet

All in favour

It was resolved that the Clerk should respond advising that the Council did not have land available at this time.

4686.2 Email from Marston Green Tennis & Netball Club regarding sports facility

Members discussed the request for funding to support the proposed development of a sports hall at the Tennis/Netball Club. The Clerk was asked to let the Clubs know that whilst the Council was in support of the idea, it was unable to provide financial support at this time but would be happy to review the situation when the plans had been developed further.

Proposed: Cllr Sue Rogers

Seconded: Cllr Leigh Trevis

All in favour

It was resolved that the Clerk should let the Clubs know that financial support was not available at this time but the Council would be happy to review the situation when plans had developed further.

4687. Date of the Next Meeting – 6 December 2023 at 19:30

4688. Confidential Matters

To resolve to close the meeting to members of the public via the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to allow for discussion of confidential matters, publicity of which would be prejudicial to the public interest.

Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill

Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell

All in favour

It was resolved that the meeting was closed to members of the public.

4688.1 **Correspondence from SMBC**

Members reviewed the information supplied by SMBC and asked the Clerk to respond advising that the Council were interested in pursuing the amendment to the lease.

Proposed: Cllr Paul Powell

Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet

All in favour

It was resolved that the Clerk should respond to the email from SMBC advising that the Council was interested in pursuing the amendment to the lease.

4688.2 **Correspondence from a resident relating to privacy**

Members discussed the correspondence from a resident and considered a draft response. The draft response advising that the Parish Council apologised for any concern but did not think it necessary to take action to report a breach to the ICO was approved to be sent to the resident.

Proposed: Cllr Mark Noblet

Seconded: Cllr Mike Kay

All in favour

It was resolved that the Clerk should send a letter to the resident apologising for any concern and advising that the Council did not think it necessary to take action to report a breach to the ICO.

4689. The Parish Council meeting closed at 22.10

4690. Date of the next meeting: 6 December 2023 - Venue: The Elmdon Lounge, Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green