

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting
Wednesday, 7 February 2024 at 19:30
The Elmdon Lounge, Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green**

Present:

Cllr Clive Hill (Chairman)
Cllr Carole Pearce
Cllr Claire Kelly
Cllr Leigh Trevis
Cllr Mark Noblet
Cllr Mike Kay
Cllr Paul Powell

Clerk: Julie Brennan

Public: 3

C 24 - 016 Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

C 24 - 017 The Public

A member of the public asked if the Parish Council were aware of the solar panels recently installed by Birmingham Airport on the bund. Cllr Hill advised that the installation had been done under permitted development rules and therefore the Council had not been able to make any observations.

C 24 - 018 Apologies

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Wayne Hadley.

C 24 - 019 Declaration of Interest and Dispensations

None.

C 24 - 020 To co-opt a new member

The Chairman confirmed that the recommendation of the interview panel was to co-opt Philip Clover to the Council on the Bickenhill ward.

Resolved: that Philip Clover was co-opted to the Council representing the Bickenhill Ward.

Cllr Philip Clover signed the Declaration of Pecuniary Interests form, the Declaration of Acceptance and the Code of Conduct.

C 24 - 021 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 January 2024

The Chairman asked those members present at the 10 January 2024 meeting if they had read the minutes and if they could confirm these as a true and accurate record. Save for an amendment to correct the list of members present to remove Cllr Claire Kelly's name, the minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

Resolved: that the minutes were a true and accurate record save for the amendment to the list of members present to remove Cllr Claire Kelly's name.

C 24 - 022 Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 January 2024:

- a) C 24 – 002 – Clock at the Garden of Memory – Cllr Clive Hill confirmed that the Clock had been fixed.
- b) C 24 – 005 a - Bleed Kits – Cllr Leigh Trevis let Members know that the application for funding for four bleed kits had got through to the second round and a decision was awaited.

C 24 - 023 Recreation Committee

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2024 were noted.
- b) Members discussed options for considering the tenders received for the Grounds Maintenance Contract and agreed that this should be undertaken by the Recreation Committee at its next meeting. The Committee were asked to make a recommendation to award the three-year contract at the next Parish Council meeting based on price but with consideration also being given to quality.

Resolved: that the Recreation Committee should consider the tenders received for the Grounds Maintenance Contract at their meeting on 21 February 2024. The Committee will then make a recommendation to award the contract at the 6 March 2024 Parish Council meeting based on price but with consideration being given to quality.

C 24 - 024 Finance & General Purpose Committee

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2024 were noted.
 - b) The quote from KM Garage Doors to replace the garage door at a cost of £1,245 was considered.
- Resolved:** that the quote of £1,245 from KM Garage Doors was approved.
- c) The request to transfer the monitoring of the alarm on the Groundsman's House from ADT to CBS was considered.

Resolved: that the monitoring of the alarm on the Groundsman's House should be transferred to CBS.

- d) Members discussed the new and amended policies which were approved subject to the following amendments:
 - Privacy Policy – page 2 – add 'but is not limited to' to the end of the first sentence.
 - Website Privacy Policy – change the date to read 2024 on page 4.

Resolved: that the Privacy Policy, Website Privacy Policy (including Ts & Cs), Environment & Sustainability Policy, Document Retention Policy, Data Protection Policy (GDPR), Training Policy, Procurement Policy and Complaints Policy were approved save for the amendments noted above.

Action item: Clerk to ensure all variable details were updated on all policies.

C 24 - 025 Planning Committee

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2024 were noted.
- b) Members discussed application number PL/2024/00051/PPFL relating to Gorse Farm, Coleshill Road. It was noted that observations had been submitted regarding the expansion of the car park and potential increase in noise levels and disturbance to the adjacent property.

C 24 - 026 Events Committee

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2024 were noted.
- b) D-Day 80th Anniversary 6 June 2024 – Cllr Paul Powell outlined the plans for the event to be held at the Recreation Ground which would culminate in the lighting of a beacon. He advised that the Committee were currently obtaining quotes to purchase a beacon and were looking at various food options. It was hoped to have vintage games such as 'hook a duck' and music from the 1940s would be played.
- c) Community Day event - 14 September 2024 – Cllr Paul Powell confirmed that the planning for this event was in the early stages as the focus was currently on the D-Day event. Members discussed the

proposed date for the event which had been suggested as it did not appear to clash with any other local events currently advertised.

Resolved: that the Community Day event will take place on 14 September 2024.

C 24 - 027 Pavilion Working Group

Members noted the update from the Pavilion Working Group meeting which had taken place on 29 January 2024.

C 24 - 028 To approve the Finance Approval List & list of urgent payments made

The payments detailed on the expenditure report were considered and approved.

Resolved: that the expenditure payments detailed in the reports were approved.

C 24 - 029 Birmingham Airport Owned Property in Bickenhill

Cllr Mike Kay and Cllr Philip Clover let members know that issues remained with properties located in Bickenhill that are owned by Birmingham Airport. The issues included blocked waterways, fly tipping and lack of maintenance.

Resolved: that the Clerk should contact Melanie Cameron of Birmingham Airport to ask if the survey mentioned in her letter dated 5 June 2023 had been carried out and, if so, to ask if the Parish Council could have a copy.

C 24 - 030 Flooding in Bickenhill Village

Members discussed the issues with flooding and the Clerk was asked to contact SMBC to ascertain what they could do to alleviate the flooding problems.

Resolved: that the Clerk should contact SMBC to ask what they can do to alleviate the flooding problems.

C24 - 031 Bank Mandate

The Clerk asked for approval to remove Cllr Sue Rogers from the bank mandate following her resignation and asked if any other Councillor would be willing to be added to the mandate. Cllr Claire Kelly agreed to be added to the mandate.

Resolved: that Cllr Sue Rogers be removed from the bank mandate and Cllr Claire Kelly be added.

C 24 - 032 Committee/Working Group Structure

Members reviewed the existing committee structure and Cllr Leigh Trevis agreed to join the Finance and General Purpose Committee. Cllr Philip Clover was asked to attend the committee meetings where possible before expressing an interest in joining a particular committee.

Resolved: that Cllr Leigh Trevis join the Finance and General Purpose Committee.

C 24 - 033 Fireworks Display

Members considered the request from Chelmsley Town Council to hold a joint fireworks display in 2024 but, as there had been no allocation made in the budget, it was agreed that it would not be possible to support the fireworks display this year.

Resolved: that the Parish Council would not take part in a joint fireworks display with Chelmsley Town Council in 2024.

C 24 - 034 Taxis parking on Clock Lane

Cllr Mike Kay confirmed that he was aware of the issue with taxis parking on Clock Lane and was liaising with the resident who had contacted the Council. SMBC and Cllr Bob Sleight were also aware of the issue and were monitoring and taking action where possible.

C 24 - 035 St Peter's Churchyard donation towards upkeep

Members considered the request for a donation of £550 towards the upkeep of St Peter's Churchyard for 2024 and this was approved.

Resolved: that a donation of £550 should be made to St Peter's Church towards the upkeep of the churchyard.

C 24 - 036 Solicitor Fees

Members considered the quote of £2,300 plus VAT from Roland Gibbins of Howell Solicitors to carry out the legal works in relation to the lease of the Pavilion Bar and Lounge with the Cricket Club.

Resolved: that the quote of £2,300 from Roland Gibbins of Howell Solicitors was approved.

C 24 - 037 Audley School

Members considered the request from Audley School to hold Forest School sessions in Millennium Wood during February and the request was approved. It was also agreed that future requests should be approved by the Clerk without the need for the request to be considered by the Parish Council.

Resolved: that the request from Audley School to use the Millennium Wood for its Forest Schools in February 2024 was approved and that future requests should be approved by the Clerk.

C 24 - 038 Replacement shower boilers

Members considered the quotes received to replace the two shower boilers in the Pavilion and approved the quote from Plumb Point at a cost of £3,300. The payment of a deposit of £2,500 was also approved.

Resolved: that the shower boilers should be replaced by Plumb Point at a cost of £3,300 with a £2,500 deposit being paid immediately.

C 24 - 039 Consultation on Boundary Changes

Members discussed the recent notification of the consultation on boundary changes and agreed to form a working group to draft a response on behalf of the Council. The wording is to be brought to the March Parish Council meeting for approval before being submitted.

Resolved: that a Working Group be set up to draft a response on the Consultation on Boundary Changes and that the response should be brought to the 6 March 2024 Parish Council meeting for approval.

C 24 - 040 Renting land at the Recreation Ground and purchasing land at the Burial Ground

Members reviewed the response from the landowner advising that they would not allow the Council to rent the land at the Recreation Ground. The Clerk was asked to let the landowner know that the Council was disappointed by the decision. The Clerk was also asked to let the landowner know that the Council had not made any decisions regarding how it would use the land at the Burial Ground and therefore the value should be for the purchase of a field rather than a burial ground.

Action item: Clerk to contact the landowner to let it know that the Parish Council were disappointed by their decision not to allow it to rent the land at the Recreation Ground and to confirm that no decision had been made as to how the land at the Burial Ground would be used.

C24 - 041 External Committee Reports

- a) **Parish Hall Trustees** – Cllr Clive Hill advised that the AGM had now taken place. Cllr Hill also advised that Cllr Claire Kelly had made an application for lottery funding on behalf of the Trustees so that improvements could be made.
- b) **Marston Green Village Charitable Trust** – Cllr Clive Hill confirmed that the trustees were agreeing admin processes and it was hoped that grants would be made available shortly.

- c) **Airport matters** – Cllr Mike Kay advised that the next meeting was due to take place in early March and asked members to let him know if they had any questions that they would like him to ask.
- d) **HS2/M42 J6 updates** – Cllr Mark Noblet advised that the next HS2 meeting would take place at the end of March 2024 and asked members to let him know if they had any questions they would like him to ask.
- e) **M42 J6 updates** Cllr Mike Kay confirmed that matters were moving slowly and that a meeting with Skanska had been called on 20 February 2024 at Fentham Hall.
- f) **Village Hall, Bickenhill** – Cllr Mike Kay advised that letters had been sent to Andy Street and Saqib Bhatti MBE MP and both were being supportive and had offered to help.
- g) **Broadband in Bickenhill** – Cllr Mike Kay confirmed that things were looking positive and it was hoped that the service should be ready to go live at the end of February. Residents will have a choice of ~~two~~ providers.
- h) **SAM Meeting update** – Cllr Clive Hill confirmed that he and the Clerk had attended the latest SAM meeting where the CEO of SMBC, Paul Johnson, had provided an overview of the Council's current financial position. Cllr Hill reminded members that the slides used in the meeting had been shared by email.

C 24 - 042 Correspondence – The letter from Castle Bromwich Parish Council regarding the Chairman's Charity Quiz and the Hight Street and Designer Fashion Show was noted.

C 24 - 043 Date of the next meeting: 6 March 2024 at 19:30

Venue: The Elmdon Lounge, Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green

The meeting closed at 22:05