**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT WILMCOTE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 15TH JULY 2015 – NO. 75**

1. **Present:**  Cllr. Roberts, Cllr. A. McMillan, Vice Chairman, Cllr. Stewart, Cllr. K. McMillan and one member of the press.

**Part Meeting:** Cllr. Ray, Chairman, County Cllr. Horner, District Cllr. Lawton

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. Ray, Chairman, had sent apologies as he was unsure what time he would be able to arrive for the meeting due to another commitment. Cllr. A. McMillan chaired the meeting in his absence.
2. **Requests received from Mrs. K. Shilvock and Mr. C. Lowis to be co-opted as a members of the Council:**

Cllr. Roberts proposed, and Cllr. K. McMillan seconded the proposal, that Mrs. Shilvock and Mr. Lowis be co-opted. All members were in agreement. Both parties signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and were given a Register of Members’ Interests form for completion and return to the Clerk as soon as possible.

1. **Written requests for dispensation for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests where that interest is not already in the register of members’ interests.**

No requests were received.

1. **Declarations of dispensations granted for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests already in the register of Members’ Interests:**

Cllr. Ray – Pecuniary interest in land identified in the NDP

Cllr. Roberts – Pecuniary interest in land identified in the NDP.

Cllr. K. McMillan – Potential pecuniary interest in possible development of land identified in the NDP.

Cllr. A. McMillan – Potential pecuniary interest in possible development of land identified in the NDP.

1. **Minutes of the meeting held on 20th May 2015:**

The minutes were approved by all members and signed by the Vice Chairman.

1. **Public participation:**

There were no members of the public present.

1. **County & District Councillor’s reports:**

Cllr. Horner had provided his June report prior to the meeting and this is attached on page 8.

In addition to this report Cllr. Horner advised that WCC is on track for making 60% savings in the next two years and care needs for adults and children remain very costly.

Cllr. Roberts asked Cllr. Horner if he would kindly obtain a copy of Mr. Malin’s report justifying his decision to withdraw his initial objections to the proposals in Planning Application No. 15/01222/FUL 165 Aston Cantlow Road.

District Cllr. Lawton reported that he has now completed his training and supports five Parish Councils in his role as a District Councillor plus being a member of various District Council Committees. He sits on the West Area Planning Committee and advised that he would not be able to listen to or participate in debates any planning applications – he cannot be swayed as he may not be able to support the Parish Council at a Planning Committee meeting. Cllr. Lawton is also involved with Highways in relation to the proposed A46 dual carriageway.

Cllr. Lawton reported that several general policies were adopted on an interim basis at the Council meeting on 22nd June. On 20th July the Council endorsed further proposed modifications to the Core Strategy to go forward to a further public consultation due from 13th August. The modified Core Strategy plus representations received will then be forwarded to the Inspector.

The following sights were proposed to be adopted:

2,300 homes within the plan period from a total of approximately 3,000 homes at Gaydon/Lighthorne Heath New Settlement;

650 homes at the Canal Quarter, Stratford-upon-Avon

2,100 homes within the plan period from a total of approximately 3,500 homes at Long Marston Airfield New Settlement;

450 homes north of Bishopton Lane, Stratford-upon-Avon;

65 homes south of Alcester Road, Stratford upon Avon;

500 homes south of Daventry Road, Southam.

1. **Parish Council procedures for the benefit of new members, and delegation of Lead Councillors:**

Deferred to the next meeting.

1. **Bank Mandate:**

A new Mandate was signed by all members of the Council and the Clerk. The clerk informed the three new members that they would be required to produce proof of identity at any branch of HSBC to enable the mandate to be validated.

1. **Road Traffic Items:**

The main issues of concern are pedestrian safety/parking on pavements, traffic speed on the A3400 in Pathlow and in the Parish generally, in particular safe access to the school.

Cllr. Stewart had recently distributed a leaflet to residents in Pathlow to gauge interest in forming a Community Speed Aware Team. Several residents have expressed an interest in taking part.

In view of this it was agreed that a leaflet should be delivered to Wilmcote residents with the aim of getting a larger group together and Speed Aware training should be actioned as soon as possible.

The issue of dangerous driving and parking outside school has been raised again and the Vice Chairman of the School Governors has requested support from the Parish Council to obtain more effective restrictions on parking and driving speeds before a serious accident occurs. Recently a parent visiting the school had a near miss when a tractor had to mount the pavement to pass a bus travelling in the opposite direction. Cllr. Horner recommended that the school should contact the Alcester/Bidford Community Forum and write to the Road Safety Team at WCC with these concerns.

Cllr. Horner also suggested that the Parish Council should ask the Alcester/Bidford Community Forum once more for assistance in having speed checks carried out on the A3400. If this proves unsuccessful again a letter could be written to the Police Commissioner.

Cllr. Stewart agreed to draft a leaflet about parking on pavements for publication in the Parish magazine/placing on vehicle windscreens. A further suggestion was for photographs of offending vehicles to be taken for posting on the website/forwarding to the Police. Cllr. Horner said that if delivery vehicles are obstructing pavements a phone call to the Companies’ Head Offices should be effective in having this curtailed.

Cllr. Lowis raised his concern about the quality of the street lighting in Wilmcote. It was explained to him that the lighting is the responsibility of the Parish Council and is in fact footway lighting not street lighting. It is understood that Mercury lights are being phased out this year so that, as and when a replacement light is required, it will automatically involve an upgrade at quite considerable cost.

Cllr. Lowis agreed to look into the information we received about the £400,000 community energy grant funding to see whether this is something the Parish Council could apply for to assist with upgrade costs.

1. **Neighbourhood Plan update:**

The meeting on the 7th July was focussed on introducing Michael Wellock from Kirkwells Consultants to start the process of their involvement in the Neighbourhood Plan. Mr. Wellock will draft a summary for discussion at the next Neighbourhood Plan meeting on the 2nd September. Cllr. Ray asked that all Councillors attend the Neighbourhood Plan meetings in the future.

It had previously been agreed with Sarah Brooke-Taylor, WRCC, to have a Housing Needs Survey carried out in September. Some concerns had subsequently been expressed from a Cllr. who had experienced the use of WRCC for a Housing Needs Survey when it transpired that the results were published to other parties in advance of being provided to the Parish Council.

After some discussion Cllr. Ray suggested that a copy of the WRCC questionnaire should be obtained for modification, where necessary, to suit our requirements, details requested of their methodology for analysing the responses, WRCC Terms of Engagement and their assurance that the final report will be passed to the Parish Council only and not any third party. All Cllrs. were in agreement with this suggestion.

Cllr. Lawton suggested that our Parish Plan may need to be updated for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan and recommended that Cllr. Ray should ascertain whether this is the case.

1. **Planning Applications: update on current status of applications:**

*Application No. 15/01238/FUL* The Long Barn, Pathlow: Conversion of a barn to a dwelling: Permission granted.

*Application No. 15/00663/FUL* The Wharf, Wharf Lane: Conversion of ancillary outbuilding to a holiday let and new roof: Permission granted.

*Application No. 15/01177/TREE* Mary Ardens House: Various tree works: Tree works approved.

*Application No. 15/00765/FUL* The Stables, Featherbed Lane: Use of land and buildings for agriculture, equine re-schooling, equine psychological rehabilitation therapy and the teaching of children/adults about how to ride: Permission granted.

*Application No. 15/00452/VARY* Arden Hill Farm, Pathlow: Variation of condition 1 of planning permission 09/00258/VARY to allow the dwellings approved under 07/02371/FUL to be occupied as permanent dwellings as opposed to restricted to holiday accommodation only. Gone to Appeal.

*Application No. 15/00448/VARY* Arden Hill Farm, Pathlow: Removal of condition 2 (restriction to holiday accommodation only) of planning permission 99/01309/FUL (Proposed demolition of steel-framed “lean-to” covered yard and conversion of redundant agricultural building to 3 No. holiday lets) in order to allow permanent residential occupation of the building. Gone to Appeal.

*Application No. 15/00811/FUL* 24 Marsh Road: Proposed detached double garage: Refused.

*Application No.15/01321/FUL* 17 Church road, Wilmcote: Reposition existing vehicular access and driveway. Permission granted.

*Application No. 15/01184/FUL* 53a Aston Cantlow Road, Wilmcote: Request from the Case Officer for the Parish Council to reconsider our recommendation. Permission granted.

*Application No. 15/01222/FUL* 165 Aston Cantlow Road: Construction of five dwellings with new shared surface access road, closure of existing vehicular access and construction of new access on to Aston Cantlow Road. Pending consideration.

Cllr. Roberts reported that an amended Highways response has been posted on the SDC website to the effect that Mr. Malin had re-visited the site with a colleague to measure the visibility splays more accurately and agrees that the splays required for 40mph can be achieved providing the grass/hedgerow on the verge is cut back.

Having driven up the hill a few times Mr. Malin is of the opinion that it is unlikely that vehicle speeds exceed 40mph or that vehicles will attempt an overtake manoeuvre. He is therefore withdrawing his objections, subject to conditions.

*Application No. 15/01277/LDP* The Elms, Birmingham Road, Pathlow: Single storey side extension, canopy porch to front entrance and pitched roof to existing flat roofed structure to rear and single storey rear extension. Pending consideration.

*Application No. 15/02094/LDP* 18 Glebe Estate, Wilmcote: Proposed single storey rear extension. Pending consideration.

The following application was considered:

Planning Application No. 15/02251/FUL Lime House, Church Road, Wilmcote: Redevelopment of existing dwelling to increase first floor area and re-planning of ground floor.

After some discussion it was agreed that a response of No Objection should be submitted with a request that a condition is imposed that no construction vehicles can be parked on the road at any time and deliveries of materials cannot be made between 8.45 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. as this property is opposite the school.

1. **Progress reports:**

Insurance: The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council insurance has been renewed under a three year contract with Hiscox.

Transparency Code: transparency obligations are currently for parish councils with an annual turnover not exceeding £25,000 and therefore no action is required at present for Wilmcote Parish Council.

The Elms, Pathlow: The Camping and Caravanning Club Exempted Camping Team have advised that a site visit has taken place whereby the access to the site will have been assessed and we will be contacted in due course when a decision has been made.

Footway Surface Treatment Works: Ian Nicholls, South Delivery Team Leader, County Highways has apologised for the delay in completing works, due to a Health and Safety issue. Completion of these works is now scheduled some time during week commencing 27th July depending on weather conditions.

1. **Correspondence:**

- Information about the National Rural Crime Network. - £400,000 community energy grant funding:energy**share** has partnered with M&S Energy to run their first ever Community Energy Fund, a competition to distribute up to £400,000 in grants to renewable energy projects that benefit the community.

1. **Willow Wood Play Area update:**

The May and June inspection reports raised a defect in the matting under the swing bay. It is termed as low risk but could become a trip hazard. Cllr. Ray proposed that Playground Supplies should be asked to rectify the problem as soon as possible. Cllr Roberts seconded this proposal. Four Cllrs. were in agreement.

1. **Planning Consultant report:**

Cllr. Roberts confirmed that David Holmes Planning Ltd. had prepared and submitted a full objection to Planning Application No. 15/01222/FUL on our behalf and invoiced as per their quotation.

1. **Stratford on Avon Draft Core Strategy:**

Cllr. Roberts advised that he is continuing to keep in touch with the District Council and the current position is as reported by District Cllr. Lawton.

Cllr. Roberts proposed that if the subject of Local Service Villages in the Green Belt arises in the next public consultation we should engage the services of Tyler-Parkes Partnership Ltd. Cllr. Ray seconded the proposal. With a show of hands five Cllrs. were in favour and two Cllrs. abstained.

1. **Payment of outstanding invoices:**

C. P. Wheeler (grasscutting) £ 60.00 (100482)

Mrs. H. Martin (internal audit) 60.00 (100483)

David Holmes Planning 968.00 (100484)

Mrs. E. Butterworth (expenses April-July) 91.23 (100485)

WILLOW WOOD PLAY AREA

G. Compton675.00 (100050)

Playground Supplies 72.00 (100051)

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

SDC (posters for public meeting) 67.44 (100015)

**20. Councillors’ reports and items for the agenda for the next**

**meeting:**

Items for the next agenda to include:

Parish Council procedures for the benefit of new members, and delegation of Lead Councillors.

Road traffic items.

Neighbourhood Plan update

Willow Wood Play Area update

Stratford on Avon Draft Core Strategy update.

1. Date of next meeting:

16th September 2015.

Not further business – Chairman closed the meeting at 10.20 p.m.

**County Council Report June**

Warwickshire’s early learning take-up is the best in the country. Warwickshire County Council’s Early Years team has had a government seal of approval having achieved the country's highest take up rates of early years learning.

Cyber crime is a very real threat to small businesses. Warks. Trading Standards recently held a seminar where a hacker showed in front of the audience how easy it was to break into business computer systems using a web site and an email address given by a member of the audience. Cyber crime must be taken seriously by everyone.

Work on the development of the multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) continues. In the MASH practitioners and managers of agencies working with children and adults will be co-located and provide efficiencies in service delivery and improve outcomes for Warwickshire residents. This method of working has been successfully demonstrated by the Youth Justice Centre in Leamington.

The success of the Council’s Priority Families initiative has been recognised and WCC has been asked to join a small group of Local Authorities to design the new National Evaluation Programme for Phase 2. Phase 2 widens the criteria for inclusion on the programme and so more families will be helped.

Trading Standards went undercover to inspect Warwickshire’s car dealers and servicing technicians last month following complaints about service quality.

Trading Standards also seized illegal and illicit tobacco from individuals, homes and businesses around Warwickshire in the last 12 months. Over this period, 8 businesses in Nuneaton were found to be selling illegal and illicit tobacco. The tobacco was often found to be contaminated with a number of dangerous drugs and trace elements

On a personal note I have been taken on responsibility for Community Safety. This portfolio includes flood risk coordination, fire and rescue, and crime prevention.

John Horner

For information only.

The following payments were made between meetings:

Shakespeare Line £ 5.00 (100477)

Broker Network (Insurance renewal) 585.46 (100478)

HMRC (PAYE) 306.60 (100479)

E.on 137.44 (100480)

SDC Election 100.00 (100481)

WILLOW WOOD PLAY AREA

Playground Supplies 72.00 (100048)

SDC Lease 100.00 (100049)