**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT WILMCOTE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2015 – NO. 76**

1. **Present:**  Cllr. Ray, Chairman, Cllr. Roberts, Cllr. Stewart, Cllr. K. McMillan, Cllr Shilvock, Cllr. Lowis, one member of the public and one member of the press.

**Resignation:** Cllr. Ray advised that he had received a letter of resignation from Mrs. Mcmillan as of today’s date and thanked her for her efforts over the past years.

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

1. **Apologies:** There were no apologies
2. **Written requests for dispensation for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests where that interest is not already in the register of members’ interests.**

No written 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. McMillan – Potential pecuniary interest in possible development of land identified in the NDP.

1. **Minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2015:**

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

1. **Public participation:**

Mrs. McMillan was attending as an interested party in Planning Application No. 15/02889/FUL and was content to wait until this was discussed under agenda item 11.

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

District Cllr. Lawton mentioned the six week consultation on the proposed modifications to the Core Strategy and went on to say that category 2 & 3 Local Service Village allocations for housing should be a maximum of 84 i.e. 12% of the total housing requirement. In his opinion it will be less for areas in the Green Belt as housing can only be considered for infill sites or on brownfield. A further consultation will include Local Service Villages.

Cllr. Lawton advised that the result of the Combined Authorities consultation was that SDC would not join with the West Midlands Combined Authority at this stage. It was agreed that the Leader of the Council sits as an observer on the newly formed Shadow Board of the proposed West Midlands Combined Authority to ascertain what would be available for Stratford on Avon District. Opportunities will be sought with other councils such as Gloucester, Worcester, Solihull or even to consider staying as we are.

Cllr. Lawton also reported that the District Council has voted to make provision for a small number of Syrian refugees. Accommodation, jobs, transport and school facilities will be required.

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

In addition to this he advised that WCC are investigating options for a combined authority with other neighbouring Shire districts and Dementia Friends are hoping to raise £10,000.00 by Christmas.

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

Cllr. Ray explained that the Parish Council is governed by the procedures set out in the Standing Orders – all Cllrs. have a copy. Certain financial delegations are in place for the Clerk relating to the Play Area and Cllr. Roberts for obtaining advice or reports from Planning Consultants when deemed necessary.

The structure and sharing of the workload was discussed and Cllr. Ray put forward the following proposal:

Activity/Topic Lead Councillor

Planning matters: )

SDC Core Strategy ) Cllr. Roberts

Special Landscape Areas )

Local Service Villages )

Neighbourhood Plans: All Councillors

Website: Cllr. Ray and the Clerk

Standing Orders: Cllr. Shilvock

Legal matters: Cllr. Lowis

Willow Wood Play Area: Cllr. K. McMillan

Risk Register: Cllr. Ray

Financial matters: Cllr. Ray

Road Safety and Parking awareness Cllr. Stewart

Wilmcote School Trust Fund: Cllr. Ray currently. Cllr. Stewart offered to take on this role and Cllr. Ray will contact the Trust Fund members.

All Cllrs. were in agreement to the suggested roles delegated to them.

1. **Road Traffic Items:**

Cllr. Stewart had drafted two leaflets, one relating to parking issues and the other for delivery to Wilmcote residents in an endeavour to enlist a team of people who would be interested in forming a community road safety awareness group. Four residents have already expressed an interest but ideally around ten are needed.

The leaflets were approved by all Cllrs. and Cllr. Stewart will obtain a quote for printing. It is proposed that these will be delivered with the next Neighbourhood Plan update letter and housing needs survey papers. Copies to be posted on the website and published in the Parish magazine.

Anonymised photographs of repeat offenders’ vehicles will be posted on the website and registration details forward to the Police.

Cllr. Horner suggested that we contact Binton Parish Council about the road safety awareness scheme as they are currently in negotiation with West Mercia Police about training – perhaps we could combine with them.

Due to the concerns raised by the school about safety along Church Road various ideas were put forward such as, CCTV, extended yellow road markings, more visual signs such as road narrows. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Horner to enquire whether he is able to provide any information resulting from the meeting he attended regarding school safety zones and safer routes.

1. **Neighbourhood Plan update:**

An updated version of the draft Neighbourhood Plan had been received from the consultant incorporating changes discussed at the NP meeting on 2nd September. Cllr. Ray circulated this to all members of the group together with an action list requesting completed actions/comments by today’s date. Very few have been received so far. He will forward what is available to the consultant and the next draft plan will be made available to all residents for their views.

No information is currently available from SDC on Traveller sites.

Cllrs. agreed that a housing needs survey should be carried out by WRCC. It was accepted that the survey form is a standard format but the covering letter has been altered to suit Wilmcote Parish. WRCC has given assurance that the report will only be issued to the Parish Council and not to any third party.

Cllr. Ray has been in contact with Matthew Neal, SDC, updating him on our current position. Mr. Neal has agreed to meet up for a discussion when required. Cllr. ray will also approach him regarding a sustainability report.

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

*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. Permission refused.

*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. Proposed Lawful Development permitted.

*Application No. 15/02094/LDP* 18 Glebe Estate, Wilmcote: Proposed single storey rear extension. Proposed Lawful Development permitted.

*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. Application withdrawn.

*Planning application No. 15/02858/FUL* 125 Aston Cantlow Road, Wilmcote: Dormer window to front elevation: Permission granted

*Planning application No. 15/02500/OUT* Land off Billesley Road, Wilmcote: Outline planning permission or the erection of 9 no. new dwellings with all matters reserved. Pending consideration.

A copy of a letter to SDC had been forwarded to Cllr. Ray from Mr. & Mrs. Baker stating their objections to the proposals in this application.

The following application was considered:

Cllr. McMillan declared a pecuniary interest in this application, remained in the room but did not take part in the discussion.

Application No. 15/02889/FUL 22B Aston Cantlow Road, Wilmcote: Demolition of existing single storey rear extension and erection of replacement single storey rear extension.

The application was discussed and Cllr. Roberts proposed the following response be made:

The block plan provided with this application appears to be incorrect as the property next door to No. 22B has an extension to the rear.

Wilmcote Parish Council is of the opinion that the proposed replacement single story rear extension would not be disproportionate and therefore recommends that the application is granted.

Cllrs. Stewart, Lowis, Shilvock and Ray were all in agreement with this proposal.

**12. Progress reports:**

The Elms, Pathlow: The Camping and Caravanning Club Exempted Camping Team have advised that the Committee will be making a decision at their meeting later this month and will advise us of the outcome.

Footway Surface Treatment Works: All works have now been completed.

Community Grant Energy Fund: Cllr. Lowis looked into this to find it is only for schemes using renewable energy.

Litter Bins: Two new bins have been provided by SDC, one on the Bovis Triangle and the other in Glebe Estate.

Accounts 2014/2015: The external audit has been satisfactorily concluded.

Goal posts, Bovis Triangle: It was reported that one of the nets appears to have been deliberately removed. Cllr. McMillan has the net and will endeavour to re-fix it.

1. **Correspondence:**

- Distance Learning Modules, a wealth of information for Councillors at all levels.

- Warwickshire County Council Lengthsman Scheme – expressions of interest requested by the end of September 2015.

- Combined Authorities Consultation – deadline 24th July 2015.

- Independent Advisory Groups – Critical Friends of the Police.

The following were received after the agenda had been circulated:

* Invitation to WALC A.G.M. on 4th November 2015.
* Syrian Refugee Crisis. Stratford District Council’s Cabinet voted to help out where possible.
* Notification confirming Warwickshire County Council decided not to join West Midlands Combined Authority at a meeting of the full Council on 3rd September 2015.

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

New rubber matting has been laid under the Scale swings.

A parent had expressed concern about the split in the centre post of the swing bay and movement when older children are using the cradle swing. This is being closely monitored for deterioration by the playground inspectors.

In the meantime quotations for replacements have been obtained from The Playground Company.

After considerable discussion Cllr. McMillan proposed that the cradle swing and two cradle seats should be removed as soon as possible for safety reasons and to allow Councillors to consider other options. Seconded by Cllr. Ray and all in agreement.

It was also agreed that we would ask Mr. Compton if he would be able to remove the items and Cllr. McMillan offered to assist if required.

Cllr. McMillan agreed to a meeting with the Inspector to discuss the situation, if one can be arranged to suit both parties, and the Clerk will endeavour to arrange this.

1. **Combined Authorities Consultation Update:**

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:**

Core Strategy Proposed Modifications in Response to the Inspector’s Interim Conclusions - August 2015: Cllr. Roberts confirmed that the agreed Parish Council representation was submitted prior to the deadline.

1. **Payment of outstanding invoices:**

C. P. Wheeler (grasscutting) £ 60.00 (100491)

E.on (maintenance) 137.44 (100492)

David Holmes Planning 968.00 (100493)

E.on (repair) 46.80 (100494)

WILLOW WOOD PLAY AREA

Cheque cancelled (100053)

Playground Supplies 72.00 (100054)

Playground Supplies 2340.00 (100055)

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

**meeting:**

Items for the next agenda to include:

Road traffic items.

Neighbourhood Plan update

Willow Wood Play Area update

Stratford on Avon Draft Core Strategy update.

1. **Date of next meeting:** 18th November 2015.

No further business – Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35 p.m.

**County Council – September 2015**

An additional council meeting was held on September 3 to respond to a consultation document issued by the seven metropolitan unitary councils that made up the old West Midlands County to form a Combined Authority. A combined authority would take over housing strategy, economic development, transport planning, coordination of mental health and public services. Warwickshire and Coventry LEP would continue into the near future.

There are proposals for a strategic investment board that would invest in a few large projects using the borrowing capacity of all the members and attracting funds from the private sector. Warwickshire has the lowest levels of debt relative to all the other possible members and would probably see its gearing increased to the same level as all the other councils.

The issue that concerned me was that this Division is a net contributor to all the public bodies that support it; Westminster, Warwickshire and Stratford on Avon District. I analysed the depravation in Warwickshire from Government statistics and compared what happened to the 10% most deprived and the 20% least deprived if we joined West Midlands. Of the 33 most deprived in Warwickshire only 3 remain in the bottom 10% and the richest 20% would include 160 from Warks rather than 66 if we join. This means the division’s transfer payments would go into Birmingham and the north county communities would lose out in funds and more people would make greater contributions.

All councillors present voted not to enter into discussions except the Labour Group who voted in a block to join.

Public Health has reported that Warwickshire has more than 9,000 Dementia Friends and hopes are high to soon reach 10,000. Trading Standards are urging people to have their electric blankets tested and Fire and Rescue are reminding people to fit smoke alarms and have their chimneys swept.

Tourism is getting a boost with grants to the total of £150,000 for development of tourism

**John Horner**

For information only.

The following payments were made between meetings:

SDC (bin emptying supplement) £ 2.52 (100486)

Tyler Parkes Partnership Ltd 1065.60 (100487)

Grant Thornton 240.00 (100488)

Wilmcote Village Hall 28.00 (100489)

CPRE 36.00 (100490)

WILLOW WOOD PLAY AREA

Playground Supplies 72.00 (100052)

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Wilmcote Village Hall 84.00 (100016)

Cheque cancelled (100017)

Kirkwells 1248.00 (100018)