**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT WILMCOTE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2021.**

 **NO 117**

**1. Present:** Cllr. Ray, Cllr. Shilvock, Cllr. Stewart, Cllr. McMillan District Cllr. Shenton and twelve members of the public.

 Part meeting: County Cllr. Daniell

 **2. Apologies:** There were no apologies.

**3. 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.

 **4.** **Councillor resignations:**

Janine and Eden Lee.

 **School Trust Fund:**

Mr. Lee can no longer be a Parish Council representative for the School Trust Fund. He did say he would be happy to continue as a trustee unless another Councillor wished take his place. Cllr. Shilvock expressed an interest and this was supported by the Chairman and Cllrs. Stewart McMillan.

 **5**. **To approve for signature the Minutes of the Parish meeting held on 22nd September 2021.**

 These were agreed by all members and signed by the Chairman.

 **6. Public participation:**

 The twelve members of the public in attendance all had an interest in the Edkins mobile home site. Nic Allen who was also in attendance advised that they are still in the process of preparing plans and no further information is currently available to share.

 Amongst other items there is still considerable concern regarding the access drive to and from the site, which is too narrow for vehicles to pass each other, and the likely additional amount of traffic entering and exiting from Aston Cantlow Road.

 The Chairman, Cllr. Ray, reiterated that the Parish Council cannot make any definitive comments or decisions until full details and official notifications are received from the District Council.

 District Cllr. Shenton declared an interest in this subject and stated that he would not take part in any decisions. He did, however, offer to meet with residents if required.

 The members of the public were thanked for attending and again invited to stay as observers if they wished. One person did remain to observe the remainder of the meeting.

 **7. County & District Councillor reports:**

 District Cllr. Shenton and County Cllr. Daniell provided reports and these are appended to the minutes.

 **8. Correspondence:**

 All Correspondence circulated electronically to date was taken as read.

 District Cllr. Shenton offered to contact Orbit Housing regarding the parking issues raised by a resident in Glebe Estate.

 The County Officer at WALC has been asked to put forward a suggestion that all Parish Councils set up a one off Jubilee fund to mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. It was agreed that Councillors would give this further consideration at our meeting in January next.

 **9. Lead Councillors:**

Councillors’ areas of responsibility have been agreed and updated as follows:

A**ctivity/Topic Councillor**

Planning matters Cllr. Shilvock

Website: Cllr. Ray/Clerk

Standing Orders: Cllr. Ray

Willow Wood Play Area: Cllr. McMillan/Cllr.Ray/Clerk

Risk Register: Cllr. Ray

Financial matters: Cllr. Ray

Road Safety and Parking Full Council

(Including Community Speed Watch)

Defibrillators/Parish Emergency Plan Cllr. Stewart

Wilmcote School Trust Fund: Cllr. Shilvock

Grant applications Cllr. Shilvock

**10. Planning Applications:**

Status of current applications circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

 Application No. 21/03609/TREE Mary Ardens House, Aston Cantlow Road, Wilmcote. The notification was not received in time for Councillors to consider prior to the meeting and it

 was agreed that comments would be sent electronically to the Clerk for submission to SDC.

 **11. Standing Orders:**

a) Lone Worker Policy.

 b) Public participation at meetings

 c) Personal safety for elected members

Following on from the September meeting, and taking into account official guidelines, policies covering the above items have been agreed and included in our Standing Orders.

 The Clerk agreed to contact the Village Hall Chairman expressing concerns over the lack of external lighting.

**12. Willow Wood Play Area:**

 The annual inspection report was carried out at the end of October and three items were raised as requiring attention. Hardwood is on order to repair a couple of the items the Wicksteed engineer is due to visit tomorrow to attend to the traveller brake mechanism on the cable runway.

**13. Mary Arden Inn update:**

Confirmation has been received that the Inn has been added to the District Council list of Community Assets.

 The Chairman advised that Richard Hoskins and Ingrid Everson attended the informal meeting with the Business Development manager of Green King and their understanding is that changes are going to be made within the next six months and in fact the managers are already using their own funds to make some improvements.

 **14. Road Safety items:**

Following the meeting with residents and Mr. Stanley on The Green, copies of plans for a suggested revised location and sign were received only this morning and that unfortunately gave no time for Councillors to consider them ahead of the meeting. Responses are still awaited from the Planning Dept. and the Conservation Officer plus the residents who live closest to the The Green and have been contacted by Mr. Stanley.

 **15. HSBC Bank:** Notification had been received that community accounts were being changed to small business accounts from 1st November 2021 and there will now be a monthly charge of £8.00 and any cheque or cash transactions will incur a charge of £2.00. Our Money Manager account is savings account and will only incur charges for transactions.

 The Clerk had contacted other banks and parish clerks and the above appears to be normal procedure. Councillors had agreed electronically that we should close the playground and CIL accounts and transfer funds to the main parish council account in order to have only one standard charge per month.

 **16. E.on footway lighting:**

At our request, a visual inspection of the footway lighting was carried out by E.on and we were advised that the columns are generally satisfactory, but eleven of the pole brackets are in poor condition due to age and require changing to accommodate LED lanterns as mercury lanterns have been phased out. The quote for replacing each pole bracket if £1,182.86.

 Cllr Ray proposed acceptance of this quote, seconded by Cllr. Stewart and agreed by all.

 **17. S137 Grant applications for 2021/2022**

 The Clerk confirmed that the application form had been updated and inserted into the December edition of the Vine.

 **18. Pathlow Park Traveller Site update:**

Since the meeting on site between the police and managers of the site it would appear that there have been no major issues.

  **19**. **Parish Online renewal due in January 2022:**

 The Councillor who was the lead in this has now resigned and it was agreed not to renew the subscription.

 **20. Community Speedwatch team update:**

The team continues to operate although no sessions were completed in September and October due to holidays and the equipment being used by the newly formed Wootton Wawen group.

 The equipment was returned in November and the Wilmcote group has conducted three monitoring sessions in Station Road and Aston Cantlow Road. During these sessions 344 vehicles passed and the details of 16 vehicles were recorded and forwarded to Warwickshire Police. The highest speed recorded was 45mph in Station Road and 39mph in Aston Cantlow Road.

 The group, made up of entirely volunteers, continues to suffer from low numbers and this is a major constraint.

 **21. Edkins Park update:**

As raised in agenda item No. 6, no updated information is available.

 **22. Items for the agenda for the next meeting:**

 Precept for 2022/2023

 Grant applications

No further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 pm.

**Wootton Wawen Ward - District Councillor’s report as at 16/11/2021**

****

**Garden Waste subscription**

**Just as a reminder, if you haven’t subscribed and are not displaying a permit on your green bin, it won’t be emptied.**

**As at 14/11/2021 49,092 permits had been purchased and over 76% of dwellings with a garden have at least one permit**

**General**

I’ve spent a fair bit of my time over the last few weeks dealing with the waste contract procurement process, the Climate Change agenda as I’m Chair of the SDC Climate Change Panel plus running the Community Speed watch Team in Wootton Wawen.

**Climate Change**

I am the Chair of the Climate Change Panel and two weeks ago I help the 2nd public question time which was well received and is broadcast live on You Tube. The next one is due to be held in January 2022 so if you have any questions regarding the SDC response to Climate Change then get in touch and ask your questions either in person at the meeting or over the internet via Teams as I have changed the format to allow for a hybrid meeting where attendance can be in person or virtually. Details are available on the SDC website on how you can do this. If you are not comfortable with asking questions “live” then I am happy to read them out and the panel of 6 will give you their opinions.

Our detailed Ambitions papers and actions have now been published and the emphasis at the moment in on decarbonising our own buildings, EV points, recycling and setting up a dedicated website so that we can help residents to make small changes that have big impacts. To illustrate this we introduced, via Warwickshire County Council, a booking system for our HWRC’s (the tips) and whilst the tonnage of waste has gone up the number of vehicles has reduced. This is because residents are filling their cars before coming to the tip rather than bringing small loads. A simple behavioural change has resulted in a reduction in carbon emissions from cars. We will also be using all of the social media channels and media to get our message across plus, in the case of the new 123+ system, bin hangers but more on that below.

**Waste and the 123+ service**

There has been increased interest in this but very little information given out and this is deliberate. The new 123+ system does not start until 1st August 2022 and between now and then there will be food waste caddies issued to every household (one large one for outside and a small one for the kitchen) and a lot of messaging to encourage everyone to reduce, reuse and recycle more. The latest analysis still shows that around 30% of waste in the grey bin should be in the blue bin or the green bin and we will be getting lots of messaging out to help clarify what should be in each bin. In addition we will be using bin hangers to get the 123+ details and messages out. These are small pieces of paper with a paper hook that fits on each bin. This will ensure that everyone who has a bin gets the details and messaging on how the system will work. Basically it works as follows:

1. **Each week – food waste is collected and emptied**
2. **Every two weeks – the blue and green bins will be emptied. You will need a permit for the green bin as you do now.**
3. **Every three weeks – the grey bin will be emptied**

The new waste contract starts, as mentioned above, on the 1st August 2022 and we will have a new fleet of vehicles, mostly diesel powered as the electric versions are just not capable of travelling the distances required before needing recharging. We will aim to replace these before 2030 with either electric, hydrogen powered vehicles or other climate friendly fuel source (if technology advances by then).

**Proposal to merge with Warwick DC**

The 13/12/2021 is a key date as that is when the decision will be made in full Council whether to merge or just continue to share services. The consultation has finished and I am awaiting detailed analysis of the responses which will be discussed early December prior to the vote.

I am however keen to get feedback from each of my Parishes on whether they feel that the merger would be good for residents and what their concerns are that I should consider before the vote.

**G & T site Pathlow**

I have sent a copy of my log of incidents covering the last few years to all stakeholders and Nadhim Zahawi MP is setting up a meeting with the Police and County Council to discuss and hopefully agree on a way forward that will result in an improvement for the land and property owners that border the site. As you will be aware the incidents range from vandalism to threatening behaviour and boundary grabbing/incursions.

I’m not certain at this point in time whether Nadhim will want a wide range of participants but I will keep you informed as the date and format are confirmed.

**Covid – 19**

As we know all know, Covid has not gone away and the number of infections remain high but thankfully hospitalisations and deaths remain very low. A recent report highlighted , however, that the efficacy of the AZ vaccine fell to around 43% or 44% after 5 months so it is essential that everyone that can have the booster takes it up as it increases the effectiveness to 93%

Looking at the table below you can see that the rate in Stratford district is increasing and is the highest of the Warwickshire rates of infection.



**Other Matters**

Along with other Councillors I helped plant trees at the Heart of England Forest in Binton on Friday 2nd November. The enthusiasm of the people that work there is palpable and I would say that if you do nothing else, plant trees in your garden or help the HOE charity in their quest to plant trees over their 30,000 acre area to create a woodland complete with walks, improved bio diversity, shade and all the well-being benefits that come with it. Trees produce oxygen in return for taking CO2 out of the atmosphere and storing it, so they are essential to us. 30% of the trees currently being planted are English Oak with the rest a mix of indigenous trees.

On Saturday 3rd November I gave a talk to a packed house at the Methodist Church on the District Councils response to Climate Change and I am very grateful to them for inviting me. What was meant to be a one hour session continued for over two hours with a wide range of questions. If the Parish Council or any organisation would like me to give what is essentially a 25 minute presentation followed by questions then I will be very glad to come along with either the Director for Climate Change or the Leader of the Council.

The RSA (Royal Society for Arts) issued a report recently on Climate change and concluded that over 10% of residents in Stratford are employed by the automotive trade and could be affected by the phasing out of petrol and diesel engines in 2030. The risk comes from not knowing whether there will be other jobs within the same area for those who will lose theirs. What is clear is that funding needs to be made available for retraining and upskilling of the workforce plus. to ensure that the likes of Jaguar Landrover and Lotus stay here, we need the battery or gigafactory to be built at Coventry or on the Wellesbourne campus. What is very clear is that big changes are on their way and that we need to help those that are least able to adapt to some of the changes in work skills, climate change and increasing living costs as the wealthy are more able to cope with the changes.

Your own Community Speedwatch have for the last two weeks had the speed gun back so I’m assuming that they have been active and made their presence known. In Wootton Wawen we have 10 members in my team and have been very active up until we handed the gun back to your group. The aim is to monitor and dissuade speeding just by our presence but those that do speed are reported to the Police and repeat offenders will be contacted by the Police and warned about their driving. Further offences could attract a fine and points on the licence so whilst the Speedwatch team cannot issue tickets they do have “teeth”.

Councillor Piers Daniell

**Weekly Update Warwickshire County Council**

**Alcester Division**

**Local updates**

Covid-19:

1.2 million people aged 18-29 across the Midlands have now received their COVID-19 vaccine. Getting vaccinated means protecting yourself from the virus so you can keep safe and be there for your family and friends. If you know anyone in this age group, please recommend they get theirs by clicking on http://ow.ly/qJJm50FZgqJ

Cases in the county continue to fall. Deaths however are rising very slightly.

Warwickshire Retail Crime Initiative Disc system:

Piers will be speaking to shops and businesses in Alcester this week to get as many signed up as possible for a trial of the Disc system for Alcester. This scheme is running successfully across other towns across Warwickshire and is having a positive impact on theft and antisocial behaviour. If we can get enough businesses engaged then we qualify for our own radio system between the businesses and the Police which compliments the phone app which it uses.

Live booking at HWRC:

It's great news for residents as live bookings are now available at Warwickshire's Household Waste Recycling Centres.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/2545/live-booking-for-warwickshire-recycling-centres-makes-recycling-even-easier

Road Safety Week 2021:

Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership is unveiling exciting plans to spread road safety and active travel messages to families, primary schools and communities as part of Brake Road Safety Week 2021.

Find out more: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/2555/warwickshire-road-safety-partnership-supports-brake-road-safety-week-2021

Reception and Junior School Places:

Parents and carers who have children who are due to start in Reception or to move to a Junior School in September 2022 are being encouraged to apply now for their school place.

More and apply: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/2554/warwickshire-parents-and-carers-can-now-apply-for-reception-and-junior-school-places

Avian Flu Warning:

The UK Health Security Agency is now urging people in Warwickshire not to touch any sick or dead wild birds – with avian flu confirmed in the swan populations in the centre of Stratford-upon-Avon.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/2542/public-urged-not-to-touch-sick-or-dead-birds-as-avian-influenza-confirmed-by-defra-in-worcestershire-and-warwickshire>

Updates:

Please be aware that Mark and Piers post regular updates to /AmazingAlcester/ – but we are also keen to share good news. If you have any stories that you want us to share, please let us know.

www.facebook.com/amazingalcester/