**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN WILMCOTE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 20th MARCH 2019 – NO. 101**

1. **Present:**  Cllr. Ray, Chairman, Cllr Shilvock, Cllr. Fraser, Cllr. Stewart, Cllr Ledger, Cllr. Lowis, Cllr. McMillan, Ian Shenton, Conservative Party Candidate for the forthcoming District Cllr. election, two members of the public and one member of the press.

1. **Apologies:** County Cllr. Cargill

**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. To approve for signature the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th January 2019.**

 These minutes were approved by all members present and signed by the Chairman.

 **5. Resignation of Councillor:**

Denise Massey had submitted a letter of resignation dated 12th February 2019 to Cllr. Ray.

**6. Public Participation:**

 Two members of the public were attending as observers and provided a copy of their comments to the planning department on application No. 19/00503/FUL for the Councillors’ information.

 Cllr. Lawton, current District Cllr. for Wootton Wawen District, is standing down and Ian Shenton attended to introduce himself as a candidate for the forthcoming elections .

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

 County Cllr. Cargill provided a report and this is on page 6.

 **8. Planning Applications: status of current planning applications:**

 *Planning application No. 18/01475/FUL* 22B Aston Cantlow Road, Wilmcote.Conversion of an existing brick garage to form a self-contained domestic annexe including extension of roof line to accommodate a first floor. Pending.

Planning

*Planning application No. 18/03268/FUL* Dunroaming Stables, Gospel Oak Lane, Pathlow: Planning application for 2nd pitch with associated development (hard standing and utility block) on existing Gypsy Traveller site – part retrospective. Application withdrawn.

The following applications were then considered:

*Planning application No. 18/02785/FUL* Unit 5 Featherbed Lane, Pathlow: Change of use of building to gymnastics club and dance academy (Use Class D2) and associated café (retrospective).

Cllr Ray proposed that this application be supported providing the visibility splays are satisfactorily maintained for safety at the access in view of the extra traffic to the site as well as extra traffic on the road since the gymnastics club and dance studios opened. Seconded by Cllr Stewart and agreed by all.

The following application notifications were received after the agenda was circulated.

*Planning application No. 19/00626/FUL* 145 Aston Cantlow Road, Wilmcote:

Alterations to roof to form adequate living accommodation on first floor including associated internal alterations.

After consideration it was agreed that the parish council has no objections to the alteration and re-design of the roof to make this property more suited to a family home. Proposed by Cllr Ray and seconded by Cllr Shilvock. All were in agreement. It was pointed out by Cllr. McMillan that it is unclear if there is planning permission for the ancillary accommodation to the rear

*Planning application No. 19/00503/FUL* Arden View, The Orchard, Wilmcote.

Erection of one single storey residential dwelling and associated works including demolition of part of single-storey garage forming part of Arden View.

After some discussion Cllr. Ray proposed that we ask our consultant, David Holmes, to advise with reference to the NPPF, WNP, SDC core strategy and any relevant appeals, and how does the existing permission for a pool house and swimming pool affect the current application, if at all. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Shilvock and agreed by all Cllrs.

**Cllr. Shilvock & Clerk to action.**

As agreed at the previous meeting, Cllr. Shilvock had produced a draft suggested process for use when appointing a planning consultant. Cllr. Ray asked Cllr. Shilvock to look at this alongside the timeline already in existence for responding to planning applications to ensure our internal process will continue to be feasible and, if so, to circulate a revised timeline to all Cllrs.

 **Cllr. Ray to provide a copy of the timeline for Cllr. Shilvock to**

 **action.**

 **9. Correspondence received:**

 - Enquiry from Cllr. Horner as to whether Parishes would like additional roads gritted, at their cost.

 The Clerk has asked Cllr. Horner to let us know what sort of costs would be involved and he is currently looking into that with the County Highways Dept..

 - Village Hall Emergency Plan details were received and the Clerk indicated to all present, before the meetings started, the locations of the emergency exits.

 - E.on: Notification received that mercury lamps will no longer be available after June this year and will be replaced with LED lanterns.

 The quote received to provide electrical connections and services to 30 street lights is for the lump sum price of £12,270.00. Cllr. Ray proposed, and it was agreed by all, that we have the lanterns changed as and when one fails.

 - Stones/boulders on highway verges: A query was raised whether these are in fact allowed. The response from the Highways Officer indicated that it is a widespread problem throughout Warwickshire, they do not condone the placing of anything and advised it would be the liability of the frontager. However, any action leading to litigation is low on the list of priorities and ultimately depends on resources.

 **10. Progress report:**

*Rural Broadband:* Cllr Jefferson advised that a meeting was recently attended in London and SDC was advised to submit a business case allowing them to BID for funding.

 Eight responses were received as a result of our survey and the poorest speeds are up around Gypsy Hall Farm and Marsh Road.

 *Procurement Policy*: This has now been agree and inserted into the Standing Orders.

 *Pathlow Traveller Site*: Cllr Cargill has succeeded in arranging a site visit for the 25th March with Mr. Paul Gibbs, Gypsy & Traveller Team Manager and the Community Safety Manager, WCC.

 **11.** **​Elections**: Nomination packs were handed out with a reminder from the Clerk that the completed forms must be returned to her by the 27th March.

**12. Future Investments in the Parish:**

 This item to be taken forward to the new Council.

**13. Proposed application form for S137 grants:**

Cllr Ray had circulated a draft document ahead of the meeting and, following discussion, agreed to make some modifications and re- circulate for further consideration.

 **Cllr Ray to action.**

**14. Willow Wood Play Area:**

Grant application: Unfortunately this was unsuccessful.

 Roundabout: The new roundabout is now installed and in use.

 Equipment purchasing protocol for the future: Cllr. McMillan reminded the council that it had been suggested that the parishioners might like to be consulted about what equipment is in the playground when the current items need replacing. It was agreed that a survey form should be drafted for consideration.

 **Cllr. McMillan to action.**

Future inspections: We have been notified that the current inspection company may need to increase their charges due to increases in their current run meaning they may have to do our inspection on a separate day. Cllr. Shilvock proposed that we should contact other parish councils to ask what their inspection regime is and if they use qualified inspectors. Cllr McMillan suggested looking into the possibility of training courses for playground inspections.

 **Clerk to action.**

**15. Road Traffic Items:**

 Community Speedwatch: Mrs Massey is due to deliver the speedwatch equipment to the Clerk having indicated that she and her husband no longer wish to be involved. One other member of the group is most likely leaving the village as well so the Clerk will contact the police to enquire whether training would be available if we are able to get some more volunteers. Mr Philps has agreed to

take over the organisation of this if we have enough volunteers.

Car parking: Mrs. Massey had supplied the wording provided by the police to discourage parking on pavements and will circulate this to all Cllrs. **Cllr Ray to action.**

 Parking is still very much an issue over the bridge in Station Road currently made worse by the work being carried out along the canal towpath. It was agreed this must continue to be monitored.

 Speed limits throughout the village: Cllr Ray understands that traffic speed for quite a lot of roads in Birmingham has been reduced to 20mph and will enquire with County Cllr Cargill what the criteria is and if this may be a possibility for Wilmcote.

**16. Payment of outstanding invoices:**

There were no outstanding invoices.

 **17. Councillors’ reports and items for the agenda for the next meeting:**

 No reports or specific items for the next agenda.

 **18. Date of next meeting:** 22nd May 2019. Annual General meeting followed by an ordinary parish council meeting.

No further business – Chairman closed the meeting at 21.25 p.m.

***Budget (Passed Monday25th Feb)***. SDC has a 1.5% increase this year with a 2% increase thereafter  This make a Band D property charge at £139 in 2019/20. This is one of the lowest rates certainly in the County and we are still delivering excellent services. This is a balanced budget and ensures we can meet

our minimum financial reserves in 5 years time when we expect current funding from Government to end. The revenue support grant has ended, the Rural Services Delivery grant will end this financial year and the New Homes Bonus will be down to an estimated £1m by 2024. If nothing is done then we will be at the minimum level of reserves by 2023/24 (£2.5m).

***WCC***. A 4.99% increase has been passed to include the Adult Social care element (2%). Meaning a band D property is £1432

***PCC***. An increase of £24 has been agreed. It should be noted that the reserves are being used for any capital investment.

***Parishes***. are not capped at the moment and therefore any increase is down to them.

**Wellesbourne airfield**. Still progressing. Funding for the CPO has been allocated in the budget for legal costs. We have the resources to outright purchase the site if it comes to that. We have the backing of the government over this and we may see movement from them on this important issue to us.

**SDC Planning dept.** You may have noticed a number of changes however that is mainly to replace agency staff. Approaching 90% permanent staff at last count. However we are still seeing many changes as there are always better offers around.

**Fire & Rescue Service**

Of local interest is that following lobbying the proposal to remove the two retained fire engines from Coleshill and Stratford have been dropped. This is good news for the region.

**Hospital to Home - FRS**

The FRS, using volunteers, have effecively contracted to take patients from hospital to home freeing up beds.

Started 2018 to 2020 when currrent fundeing runs out

At the moment, they employ 40 staff to meet demand (on demand). Two hospitals at the moment (Warwick and George Elliot). 2 x specialist vehicles. Operate 10:00 to 00:00. Teams of two fully trained in advanced first aid. The do a self and well check at home (need to ask permission first) and before leaving will remedy as many issues identified as possible (only 50% people take up the offer so far, but good start). Uniformed staff.

Ramping up. Some to Alcester.

Why FRS? Because: trusted service, trained staff, existing staff used, and best they get to see the homes of ‘customers’ and do safety assessments. Bespoke service, separately funded from better care fund-winter pressures. This sounds like a good scheme the may well prevent people being readmitted due to accidents at home.

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**Gypsy & Traveller Supplementary Planning Document**

This will be coming before cabinet in March/April. Comments please

**WCC budget meeting 7/2/19**

Headlines:

* 90% of OOP savings have been made. 1 year to go
* Major investments have and are being made in the County strong growth
* Capital spend over the next 2-3 years just in the Stratford District is £9.8m mainly on roads improvements
* The retained fire tenders are being kept at Coleshill & Stratford. This is a good news item
* £500k specifically for rural & community transport to reduce isolation/loneliness through working with partners
* £200k into WCC transport planning to help developments go though
* £300k into a healthy eating fund via the sugar tax.
* New gritting lorries with sat navigation/intelligent distribution to reduce the amount of salt being used.
* Younger persons mental health. £2m invested in this important topic

Mark Cargill

Member for: Alcester Division

Bidford West & Salford Priors

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For information only:

The following payments were made between meetings:

Information Commissioner 40.00 BACS

E.on energy (Feb) 172.04 DD

David Holmes 294.00 BACS

Wilmcote Village Hall 56.00 BACS

E.on energy (March) 155.39 DD

E.on maintenance 137.44 BACS

WILLOW WOOD PLAY AREA

G. Compton 250.00 BACS

SDC New Lease and rent 450.00 BACS

Playground Supplies (Inv 5669 ) 72.00 BACS

Playdale (roundabout balance) 4,854.50 BACS

Playground Supplies Ltd(Inv 5676) 72.00 BACS