

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOLVEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**IN WOLVEY BAPTIST CHAPEL**  
**MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2015 at 7. 30pm**

**15.72 Present**

Councillor Orchard (Chairman)

Councillors Buswell, Dixon, Hardman, Kenrick, Kuncewicz and Nixon

**Apologies**

None

**In attendance**

County Councillor Morris-Jones, Borough Councillor Pacey-Day and 5 members of the public

M. Cartwright (Clerk), J. Essex (Clerk)

**15.73 Minutes of the meetings held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2015**

**RESOLVED:** the minutes of the meetings held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

**15.74 To receive comment and information from members of the public**

It was agreed that several drains in Church Hill which had not yet been cleared be reported to Warwickshire County Council Highways Department.

**15.75 The Council received the Clerk's Report:**

- (i) 2 Defibrillator Cabinets have been ordered and delivered – 1 has been sited at Wolvey Village Hall.
- (ii) The Wolvey litter pick was held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015.
- (iii) The request for improvements to Church Hill footpath has been submitted to Warwickshire County Council.
- (iv) The request for funding for the unofficial layby at Temple Hill be filled in, kerbed and grassed over to deter use and overnight parking has been submitted to Warwickshire County Council.
- (v) Mr Horton has been contacted regarding the bridge at the Wetland Nature Reserve.
- (vi) The Larkin Pheonix 94 litre floor mount litter bin in green has been ordered for Wolds Lane cemetery.

**15.76 Planning**

**15.76.1 Application No. R15/2248 – Coppicewell Rare Breeds Farm, Wolvey Road, Bulkington CV12 9J** – the comments sent under powers delegated to the Clerk that the Council supports this application be noted.

**15.76.2** The Council received an **update** on previous Planning Applications:

- (i) R14/1737 ARMSWELL HOUSE, CHURCH HILL, WOLVEY, LE10 3LB- **pending**
- (ii) R14/1885 WOLVEY HALL, HALL ROAD, WOLVEY, LE10 3LG- **pending**

- (iii) R13/0889 HEATHCOTE FARM, MILL LANE, LE10 3HR- **pending**
- (iv) R15/0175 THE CHALET, HINCKLEY ROAD, LE10 3HQ- **pending**
- (v) R15/0317 WOLVEY VILLA FARM, COVENTRY ROAD, LE10 3HF- **approved**

**15.76.3** The Council considered the following **NEW** applications:

- (i) Proposed Electricity Pole at Coventry Road, Wolvey

**RESOLVED** the Council does not wish to make any comments on this application.

- (ii) R15/0334 Land at Gipsy Lane, Wolvey LE10 3HQ – Retrospective application for retention of new stables and ménage, including hardstanding (alterations to approved R13/0497).

**RESOLVED** the Council objects to this application on the same grounds as Planning Application No. R15/0175 – The Chalet, Hinckley Road, Wolvey on the following grounds:

- (a) This development represents inappropriate development in the Green Belt.
- (b) The brick building cannot be considered to be a temporary structure.
- (c) The building is overlarge and out of character in the Green Belt location.
- (d) The imposing nature of the building seriously affects the openness of the Green Belt, particularly when considered in the context of the multiple similar applications for stables in the area. The Council believes the cumulative effect should be considered.

- (iii) R15/0721 Cottage Farm, Coventry Road, Wolvey LE10 3HF – installation of 90kW (360 panel) ground mounted solar photovoltaic array.

**RESOLVED** the Council does not wish to make any comments on this application.

## **15.77 Finance**

The council considered financial matters relating to the Parish Council, including:

### **a) Payment of cheques:**

#### **Payments made under delegated powers**

- (i) Cheque no 300203 M Cartwright (expenses): £25.01
- (ii) Cheque no 300204 ESPO (stationery): £108.82
- (iii) Cheque no. 300205 Tranter Training Solutions – Defibrillator Cabinets - £1,608

#### **cheques to be paid**

- (iv) Cheque no. 300206 - M. Cartwright (salary, allowances & expenses) protected under DPA 1998
- (v) Cheque no. 300207 - Hire of Wolvey Baptist Chapel on 30<sup>th</sup> March and 9<sup>th</sup> April (invoice nos. 151 and 152) - £10.00
- (vi) Cheque no. 300208 - Parish Online Annual Fee - £33.60
- (vii) Cheque no. 300209 – Hire of Baptist Chapel (WEG room hire) (invoice no.154) - £5.00
- (viii) Cheque no. 300210 -Millennium Building – 9<sup>th</sup> March - £10.00
- (ix) Cheque no. 300211 - Councillor R. Buswell – re-imburement of gift voucher and card for Alison Hodge's retirement gift – paid out of Chairman's expenses - £26.89
- (x) Cheque no. 300212 – Councillor R. Buswell – litter pick refreshments - £7.50
- (xi) Cheque no. 300213 - J. Essex – expenses – protected under DPA 1998 - £10.00
- (xii) Cheque no. 300214 - EON – quarterly electricity for street lights - £679.44

- (xiii) Cheque no. 300215 – WCC – legal fees for March 2015 - £362.02
- (xiv) Cheque no. 300216 – Wolvey Baptist Chapel – 13<sup>th</sup> April (invoice no. 156) - £5.00
- (xv) Cheque no. 300217 – Tranter Training Solutions – purchase of 2 defibrillators - £1,020
- (xvi) Cheque no. 300218 – S A Computers – technical support - £87.50

**RESOLVED** the above payments be approved  
Cheques signed and stubs initialled

**(b) To note the following:**

- (a) Rugby Borough Council (precept): £18,500
- (b) Lengthsman Scheme – invoice for £199.99 for March 2015 received (to be paid by Warwickshire County Council)

**RESOLVED** that the above 2 items be noted.

**15.78 Review of the Parish Council Insurance**

The Council considered any changes which were required to the Parish insurance. The current insurance was based on a 3 year agreement which was due for renewal in 2016.

**RESOLVED** the 2 defibrillators and cabinets be added to the Parish Council insurance policy and any councillor over the age of 80 years needs to inform the Clerk.

**15.79 Community Grant Applications**

The Council considered whether the Grants Policy needed revising.

**RESOLVED**

(i) the current practice of administering two rounds of grant applications per year be amended to one round per year for consideration as follows:

Deadline for applications - 31 August

Preliminary consideration of applications - September meeting

Decision on grant applications - October meeting

(ii) Changes to the existing policy be publicised in the Summer Newsletter and letters sent to local groups and organisations in June.

**15.80 Wolvey Action Plan**

The Council considered progress on the Wolvey Action Plan. Concern was expressed that the Council may be losing its focus in respect of some items. It was therefore

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) The Action Plan in full be included with all future agendas; and
- (ii) The Clerk be requested to circulate the Action Plan for councillors to provide an update on each item.

**15.80.1** Defibrillators – Councillor Hardman reported that one of the cabinets had been installed at Wolvey Village Hall and the Head Teacher was discussing a suitable location for the cabinet on school premises with WCC.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) It be confirmed that all users of the defibrillators are covered by the Parish Council's insurance;
- (ii) Councillor Hardman undertake a weekly visual inspection of the cabinets, (to be carried out by Councillor Dixon in his absence);
- (iii) responsibility for payment of works in installing the cabinets and defibrillators eg wiring costs be confirmed.

#### **15.80.2 Buses**

The Chairman reported that he was still awaiting an update from officers at Warwickshire County Council. Negotiations into improving the bus service to Hinckley using a flexibus were on-going.

#### **15.80.3 First Aid Training**

It was reported that as defibrillator training related to the use of the machine, this training should be incorporated with First Aid training.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) Councillors Hardman and Dixon draw up a list of suitable persons who could be offered training in the use of defibrillators, including those persons who had attended the recent First Aid Course.
- (ii) First Aid training be arranged for sometime in October, 2015

#### **15.81 Renewal of Agreement for Electricity Contract**

The Council had received notification from its current electricity provider, E-on, that its rates would increase by 50% with effect from 1 May 2015. Quotes had been obtained from other electricity providers and these were circulated at the meeting. Councillor Buswell would make enquiries with Act on Energy on Opus Energy.

**RESOLVED** subject to a satisfactory response being received from Act on Energy, the Parish Council change its electricity provider for street lights and Christmas lights to Opus Energy.

#### **15.82 Annual Renewal of Parish Amenity Verge Cutting 2015 with Rugby Borough Council**

A letter had been received from Rugby Borough Council notifying the Parish Council that the total amount payable for rural verge grass cutting for 2015 was £1,807.

**RESOLVED** the Parish Amenity Verge Cutting for 2015 and the conditions contained in the letter from Rugby Borough Council be agreed.

#### **15.82 The Council received an update on the "Lengthsman scheme"**

As WS Gardens were experienced in grounds maintenance works on the highway, Councillor Hardman would contact Warwickshire County Council to request some flexibility to allow for the contractor to use his discretion in respect of any works needed outside the 30 mph zones.

As this was a pilot scheme, it was important that WCC councillors were made aware of the success of the scheme and local people should be encouraged to report any improvements to the Parish Council in order that comments could be forwarded on to WCC. It was agreed that this should be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.

The Axe and Compass be contacted in respect of grass cuttings which had been disposed of and left in a nearby ditch. This would also be reported to Warwickshire County Council.

**15.83 The Council considered arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting.**

The Chairman's report and Financial Report for 2014/15 were noted and communication with residents and the tools used should be highlighted at the meeting.

**15.84 Neighbourhood Plan**

Discussions were held on whether the Parish Council should pursue a Neighbourhood Plan.

**RESOLVED** a Working Group be formed to explore and investigate whether or not it is feasible to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan.

**15.85 To review public perception of the Parish Council's role**

Confusion by Wolvey residents between the identity, roles and publications of the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council needed to be addressed, including whether the Parish Council minutes should be published in their entirety in The Link.

A request had been received regarding the publishing of photographs of the Church Spring Fair in the Picture Gallery on the website.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) As soon as it is reasonably practicable, the Parish Clerk provides the Editor of The Link with a summary of the Parish Council minutes;
- (ii) Councillor Kuncewicz liaise with The Link editor, B. Hilliard, to agree a form of wording which provides an explanation of the difference between parish and parochial church council; and
- (iii) Permission be given for the photographs of the Church Spring Fair to be published in the Picture Gallery.

**15.86 Publications and documents – noted**

- (i) Thank you card from Alison Hodge
- (ii) Council Matters 2015
- (iii) Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document Submission to the Secretary of State
- (iv) Unity Customer newsletter

**15.95 The Council considered exclusion of the public under Public Bodies (Amendment Act 1960, section 1) in view of confidential nature of business to be discussed:**

- (i) Legal advice regarding the boardwalk at the Wolvey Wetland Reserve
- (ii) Staffing Matters

**RESOLVED:** to exclude the public

**15.96 The Council considered action regarding the boardwalk at the Wolvey Wetland Reserve:**

The Council received a draft Agreement and drawings from its Solicitor. Following a lengthy discussion, it was

**RESOLVED**

- (i) the Agreement be accepted, with the exclusion of the sentence as requested by M. Bass;
- (ii) the drawing includes a title, date and signature; and

- (iii) Councillor Hardman prepare a written statement recording the reasons for the decision to proceed with the Boardwalk Agreement, to be kept with the Boardwalk Agreement, should it be required for future reference.

#### **15.97 Staffing Matters**

Councillors discussed which pension scheme it should join and training for the Clerk.

**RESOLVED** approval be given for:

- (i) Wolvey Parish Council to apply for membership of the Warwickshire County Council Pension Fund (Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS));
- (ii) The Clerk to join the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) at a joining fee of £10 and annual subscription £118; and
- (iii) The Clerk to attend WALC training course (Being a Good Councillor and Clerk) - £45

#### **15.98 Minor Matters**

Signs left on the footpath in The Square be reported to Rugby Borough Council's Planning Department.

#### **15.99 Date of Next Meeting:**

Next meeting of the Council due to be held on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 in Wolvey Baptist Chapel**

**16.00 The meeting was closed at 10.10pm**