

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT  
LOWSONFORD VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2010**

Present: P.Cllr. G Cooper  
P.Cllr. Mrs D Swain  
P.Cllr. R Browett  
P.Cllr. Bevins  
C.Cllr. Mrs Compton  
D.Cllr. Caborn  
Chairman of Warwick District Council Cllr. N Pratt  
The Clerk  
One Member of the Public

**123 Apologies**

Apologies received from P.Cllr. P Lickorish, P.Cllr. Mrs Clarke, and P.Cllr. Ms J Oldfield

**124 Changes to Published Agenda**

Additions made due to time constraints under Minute 115 Localities Forum. Notes on meeting of 28 January 2010 and Letter from residents regarding bus shelter at West of St Laurence. Minute 120 Correspondence. Email from WCC on Emergency Plan Information. Minute 121 Finance to be paid – G Cooper, Print Cartridge. Minute 122. Items for Future Agendas / Information – Letter of resignation from Cllr. Ms J Oldfield. Draft Flyer produced by Cllr. Cooper for consideration.

**125 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Browett declared a personal interest in Planning Application for Ardencote Country Club Minute 113 being a member of that Club; Cllr. Bevins declared a personal interest in Planning Application for Mousley House Farm Minute 113 being a close neighbour. Cllrs. Cooper and Mrs Swain declared an interest in Minute 116 Rowington Village Hall being members of the Village Hall Management Committee.

**126 Minutes of Meeting held on 11 December 2009**

Resolved unanimously that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 December 2009 previously circulated to Councillors be accepted as a true record. (CB/RB)

**110 Questions / Observations from members of the public (limited to 15 minutes)**

Resident Mr Ernest Petrie was present at the meeting to observe.

**111 Chairman of Warwick District Council – Cllr. Norman Pratt**

The Chairman of WDC confirmed that of the twenty parishes in Warwick District, Rowington was the last but one to visit and it had been a long time since he had visited Rowington, since his cricket playing days. Cllr. Pratt wished to congratulate the person responsible for the Rowington website – [www.rowington.org](http://www.rowington.org) – which he felt was very informative and an excellent website. Cllr Cooper thanked the Chairman for taking time to visit the PC.

**112 Reports from District and County Councillors**

Cllr. Caborn provided the following report:

- A budget increase of 2.5% had been recommended by the Executive to full Council but the problem of the current deficit needed to be addressed. All Heads of Services had spent a considerable amount of time looking at how savings could be made within the District Council.
- From 1<sup>st</sup> March the WDC legal Team would move to WCC and hopefully sharing teams and services between the authorities would provide both savings and better services. No recruitment had taken place at WDC for the past eighteen months and every effort was being made to close the budget gaps.
- A new Manager of the Spa Centre had been employed and was providing lots of new ideas.
- New Head of Development Services, Mr Paul Pinkney, now in post.
- New Head of Housing from 1<sup>st</sup> April.
- A Working Party was starting to review rural transport services in a move to provide better services
- Uptake on the free swimming facilities had been good to date.

Cllr. Mrs Compton gave the following report:

- A budget increase of 2.4% had been agreed which was the smallest rise in a decade
- The number of over 65's in the area continued to increase.
- The number of children taken into care had increased since the Baby P Case and this put additional strain on WCC and foster homes.

- WCC would continue to make every effort to raise educational achievement, maintain highways and care for older people despite the current financial constraints.
- Cuts to the County Music Service had caused great consternation and it was hoped that progress could be made with a partnership with Solihull and Coventry which would provide a better service and at a lower cost.
- The Fire Service Review remains on hold with the future still under review.

### **113 Planning Matters**

#### **113.a Considered by WDC:**

**Sanbrook Farm, Narrow Lane, Lawsonford** – Change of Use of part of former agricultural building to equestrian use and accommodation ancillary to the main farmhouse (retrospective). **GRANTED**

**Fleur de Lys, Lapworth Street, Lawsonford** – Retention of steel gate and cladding with timber. **GRANTED**

**Lynton House, Queens Drive, Rowington** – Erection of two storey extension to rear of dwelling and internal alterations. **GRANTED**

#### **113.b Considered by RPC Working Party 06 January 2010**

Present: Chairman, Clerk, Cllrs. Browett, Lickorish, Mrs Swain and Mrs Clarke

**Lynton House, Queens Drive, Rowington** – Erection of two storey extension to rear of dwelling and internal alterations. **No objections.**

#### **113.c To be considered by RPC:**

**South Lawn, Old Warwick Road, Rowington.** Erection of one and two storey extensions. **No objections.**

**Mousley House Farm, Case Lane, Rowington.** Erection of replacement agricultural building with replacement stabling and a horse walker (retrospective). No objection but comment made that a more sympathetic cladding to the building would have been preferable.

**Land adjacent to Ardencote Manor Hotel, Lye Green Road** – Change of Use of 40.90 acre field from agricultural land to leisure use. No objections but comment made that if the traffic flow increased consideration might be given to the configuration of the entrance driveway bearing in mind the problems with speeding traffic on the C25.

#### **113.d Other Planning and/or enforcement matters:**

##### **Proposed Marina at Lawsonford – Public Meeting 12 January 2010 called by the Deaner Family.**

Notes in Circulation File. Cllr. Cooper reported that the turnout at the meeting had been extremely good and that opposition from residents was strong and clear. D.Cllr. Caborn suggested that LAMAG might like to ensure that he is kept informed on this matter and he had not received very much information from them to date.

**Cumsey Lodge Stables.** LDC Application. Concerns regarding progress and time constraints. Resolved that letter should be sent to Mr Gary Fisher. Team Leader Planning Enforcement WDC expressing the concerns of Councillors at the apparent lack of progress with this application and requesting that enforcement action be taken. Further noted that the original dwelling Cumsey Lodge had now submitted a planning application for a new tractor store and stables on the site which had been split off and sold.

**Brookfurlong Farm, Lawsonford.** Concerns regarding split of site and p.p. for new dwelling. Resolved that letter should be sent to Mr Gary Fisher WDC as above outlining the concerns of the PC regarding the splitting up of this site with the main house under offer and the remainder of the site advertised for sale as a “development opportunity” with consent for erection of a 3 bedroom bungalow. Councillors were concerned that the “special needs” which supported the application for a new dwelling, no longer exist and that in the absence of those special needs, an application to build a new dwelling the Green Belt would most certainly fail under normal circumstances.

**Sandall House Farm, Narrow Lane, Lawsonford** – 2 x planning applications submitted (exercise track conditions and construction of round pen) both currently invalid. For information.

### **114 Parish Plan**

#### **114.a Update to include consideration of:**

- Playing Field access, new benches and drainage of field. Cllr. Browett had revised the original scheme insofar as it was no longer necessary to remove the large Sycamore tree to create a new access from the church car park to the playing field. Clerk had received a letter from Mr P Fish Rowington PCC confirming that the original plans had been considered and approved by the PCC. Resolved that three quotes should be obtained, copy of the revised drawing submitted to Rowington PCC and investigation of funding sources could then begin.

- Confirmed that Mr Richard Morton had renewed the bench seat in the playing field.
- Consideration of drainage on hold for the time being.

### **115 Localities Forum**

115. a Report on Meeting of 28 January 2010 at Barford Memorial Hall to include report by **Cllr. George Cooper** on application for funding for Old Folks Fund (**Cllr. Lickorish / Cllr. Bevins**). Cllr. Cooper reported that the PC had been successful in its application for funding of £1.500 from the Warwick District Community Forum Grant Fund. The grant would be held by the PC and some discussion followed as to whether the fund should be spread over a period of time rather than spent in one lump sum. Clerk to contact Rowington Old Folks Group and suggest further discussion on spending plans. Older People in Action will also attend one of the meetings of the Old Folks Group to gather information on any issues and needs affecting older people in the community. Cllr. Cooper had also made contact with Sgt Gary Holtby about the possibility of the police attending one of the Old Folks Meetings to promote the Smart Water initiative.

Cllr. Lickorish had provided notes on the recent Community Forum Meeting which were read out and placed in the Circulation File.

115.b Consideration of application for further funding for bus shelter at St Laurence Close/Old Warwick Road.

Clerk reported that she had received a letter signed by several residents of St Laurence Close confirming their longstanding request for a bus shelter at West of St Laurence. Clerk to investigate location of a bus shelter with WCC Highways, following which further consultation with residents would take place and investigation of funding sources.

### **116 Rowington and Lawsonford Village Halls**

116.a Request from Rowington Parish Records/VHMC requesting financial support from PC in connection with WDC Rural Initiatives Grant application - £500. Of the four councillors present, two were members of the VHMC and therefore unable to vote on this matter. Item deferred until next meeting.

116.b Report if any (**Cllr. Cooper**) **None**.

### **117 Highways, Footpaths and Transport**

117.a Matters reported and arising

- Work carried out by Mr. A Young - clearing of bus shelter and removal of dilapidated bench at Finwood Crossroads. Consideration to be given to replacement bench or seat in bus shelter. Cllr. Cooper reported that he had a piece of timber suitable for this purpose and he agreed to ask Mr Kevin Stiles to provide a quotation for fixing in the bus shelter.
- Request for new grit bin Finwood Road. Residents had requested a grit bin for the hill leading up from the Tom o the Wood towards Finwood crossroads. For discussion at next meeting.
- Comments received from residents in Holywell regarding need for grit bin / similar comments regarding Pinley Crossroads. Several residents in Holywell had mentioned that they did not require a grit bin. Discussion took place regarding the possibility of moving the grit bin nearer to the crossroads at Pinley or replacing the bin with a larger one. For discussion at next meeting.
- Complaints from residents regarding riding of quad bikes on Finwood Road and Dicks Lane. Reported to Warwickshire Police for investigation. Request from Police that if residents experience similar problem that they contact the Police direct.
- Problems with compacted ice on Back Lane due to running water. WCC notified and investigation ordered by them.
- Cllr. Mrs Compton reported that Variation of the TRO on Dicks Lane would be considered at Warwick Area Committee on 16 March 2010.

### **118 Playing Field**

118.a. Playing Field Inspection Reports. (**Mr R Morton / Cllr. Lickorish/ Cllr. Bevins**)

118.b New Weekly Inspection Rota (Circulated to Councillors by email).

### **119 Meetings/Training Days attended/forthcoming**

119.a 06 Mar 10 WALC One Day Briefing Seminar. "Community Engagement" Myton School, Myton Road, Warwick 9.15am – 3.00pm.

119.b 17 Apr 10 WALC Hands on Training for Volunteer Playground Inspectors. Memorial Hall, Bishops Itchington. 9.30am – 1pm.

### **120 Correspondence**

120.a 15 Dec 2009 WDC Finance. Concurrent Services Allocation 2010-11.

- 120.b 08 Jan 2010 CPRE letter regarding Keep Britain Tidy/Stop the Drop Campaign.  
 120.c 29 Jan 10 Eon Renewal of Unmetered Supply Inventory to kiosk at Pinley.  
 120.d 26 Jan 10 Letter from Mr P Fish Rowington PCC regarding proposed access to playing field.  
 120.e Feb 2010 Email from WCC re Emergency Plan to confirm that certain details/contacts within the Plan were confidential and should not be publicised in parish magazines, websites etc.  
 120.f Circulation Envelope:  
 Playing Field Inspection Rota 2010; Meetings Dates for PC 2010; WDC Free Swimming for under 16's – details; Clerks & Councils Direct Jan 2010; WDC Standards Committee Meeting 10 Feb. 2010 Agenda; WCC Poster – Dogs and Farm Animals on notice boards and some footpaths); WDC Half Term Activity Programme Mon 15 Feb. – Sun 21 Feb 2010; WDC Planning Forum Agenda 04 February 2010; CPRE Outlook Magazine Winter 2010; WDC Council Meeting Agenda 13 Jan 2010; NSPCC Helpline Information; WCC Prime Time Magazine Dec 09; WALC Newsletter Jan 2010.

## **121 Finance**

### **121.a. Paid during the month:**

Clerk – salary and allowance (Jan)	616.22
Mr A Young – Bus Shelter Works	150.00
Wicksteed Leisure – New Links for swings	25.19
Mrs A Coleman Print Cartridges	126.83

### **121.b To be paid:**

Clerk – salary and allowance	616.22
Photocopying and Postage	c/f
Mr R Morton. Fit new chain to junior swings and replace rotten plank top to bench	58.00
Mr R Morton. Playing Field Inspections	60.00
Steve's Industries. Tree surgery and clearing at Playing Field	317.25
Cllr G Cooper print cartridge	27.98

### **121. c Received:**

Bank of Ireland Interest (Dec 09)	0.00
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### **121. d Items for Consideration / Information.**

## **122 Items for Future Agendas/Information**

- A letter of resignation had been received from Cllr. Ms Oldfield due to her new business commitments. Councillors were very sorry to lose Cllr. Ms Oldfield and hoped that she would be able to return in the future.
- Copy for Parish Magazine required. In the absence of any volunteers to take on this job, Clerk to produce copy for the magazine. Resolved by those present that it would be in order to submit copy based on draft minutes rather than waiting until the minutes were approved. This would avoid delays in providing information to residents.
- Date to be agreed for APM plus improved publicity. Date agreed as 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2010. Cllr. Cooper had produced a flyer to encourage people to join the PC and to encourage attendance at the APM. Drafts to be circulated to Councillors for comment and approval.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm

### **Next Meeting:**

Thursday 11 March 2010 at Rowington Village Hall

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