

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT  
ROWINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 08 OCTOBER 2009**

Present: P.Cllr. G Cooper  
P.Cllr. P Lickorish  
P.Cllr. Mrs D Swain  
P.Cllr. Mrs Clarke  
P.Cllr. R Browett  
P.Cllr. Bevins  
C.Cllr. Mrs J Compton  
D.Cllr. L Caborn  
One Member of the Public

**72 Apologies**

Apologies received from Cllr. Ms Oldfield away on holiday

**72 Changes to Published Agenda**

Additions made due to time constraints under Minute 78.a Planning Matters considered by WDC; Minute 78.c Planning to be considered by RPC; Minute 82 Highways, Footpaths and Transport; Minute 84 Meetings/Training Days; Minute 85.c Circulation File; Minute 86.b Finance to be paid.

**73 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Bevins declared a personal interest in Minute 78.c Planning Application for 4 Kingswood Cottages as the applicant was known to him

**74 Minutes of Meeting held on 10 September 2009**

Resolved unanimously that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 September 2009 previously circulated to Councillors be accepted as a true record. (CB/PL)

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

One member of the public present to observe only.

**76 Play England**

Presentation by Catherine Lissaman. Regional Development Officer for the Midlands Area. Play England is a National Charity which aims for all children to have regular access and opportunity for free local play provision and play space. Play England is part of the Big Lottery Fund's Children's Play initiative and is now a government national delivery partner, working closely with local authorities. Each local authority has received funding to provide new play spaces or refurbish existing sites and Warwickshire is due to build eleven new play areas over the next two years. Important to establish where the gaps in play provision are, and to ensure that play is available and sustainable, particularly for the 8 to 13 year age group. Play England are happy to work in partnership with parishes to assist with projects, provide advice and assess existing facilities. Assistance is also available to help with a survey of residents and equipment requirements – guides available on the Play England website. Catherine Lissaman provided further information on the value of "natural" play environments and provided information leaflets for Councillors to read. There seemed to be a lack of information and knowledge regarding the funding available through WDC /WCC and Cllr. Mrs Compton and Cllr. Caborn confirmed that they would make further enquiries on this point.

Chairman thanked Catherine Lissaman for her time and the valuable information provided.

**77 Reports from District and County Councillors**

Cllr. Mrs Compton provided the following report:

- The Fire Service Improvement Review Consultation was a particularly hot topic at the moment with a lively meeting having taken place on Monday evening at Myton School.
- Portobello Bridge was under discussion as the bridge was too narrow with no cycle way or footpath.
- Seminar to discuss the proposed survey of C and D roads was scheduled for next Monday.
- Warwick Area Fund – end date looming so any applications need to be submitted quickly.
- Law courts to transfer to Leamington next year and suggestions for the use of the Northgate Street buildings were needed.

Cllr. Caborn gave the following report:

- Referring to “Lean Systems Thinking” Cllr. Caborn reported that one of the first trials was on housing repairs and although still early days it looked as if housing repair times were down from 30 days to 3 days.
- Issue of WDC housing ownership currently being explored. WDC currently paying large sums to central government out of housing rents received and it was therefore important to investigate other possibilities which might be more financially advantageous long term.
- Sustainable Communities Strategy out this week which was very ambitious but was the way forward (copy in Circulation File).
- Travel Tokens out now and a review of bus services and transport services in rural areas underway to ensure that situations such as free swimming for the over 60’s etc. would not be negated by the lack of transport in rural areas.

## **78 Planning Matters**

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

**The Bell House, Old Warwick Road** – Erection of a single storey extension to front and two storey extension to rear – **GRANTED**

**Cornerways, Rookery Lane, Lawsonford** – Erection of a replacement garage with room over and glazed link to house. **GRANTED**

**Little Orchards, Lapworth Street, Lawsonford** – Erection of two storey rear extension. **GRANTED**

**White House Barn, Lapworth Street, Lawsonford** – Alterations to levels including driveway and erection of replacement outbuilding. **GRANTED**

### **78.b Considered by RPC Planning Committee**

None at issue of agenda.

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

**The Cottage, The Little White House, Five Ways Road** – Erection of a replacement dwelling. **No objections**

**Lot 12 & 14 Oldfield Farm, Land fronting Quarry Lane, Rowington** – Erection of small American Barn 10.8m x 11.4m containing 6 stables and 1 tack room, plus Change of Use to Equestrian.

**Comments.** Whilst no material objections were raised, concerns were expressed regarding vehicular access and increased traffic movements on this very narrow rural lane, particularly with regard to large horses / transport vehicles. This observation is made on the basis that this development will be for private use only and not for any commercial purpose.

**4 Kingswood Cottages, Old Warwick Road, Lapworth** – Erection of single storey rear extension (amended plans). **No objections** (comments made regarding design with flat roof instead of pitch).

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

**Sandall House Farm, Narrow Lane, Lawsonford** – Construction of horse exercise pen **WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT.**

**Sandall House Farm, Narrow Lane, Lawsonford** – Deletion of Condition 4 of planning permission W98/1384 (use of exercise track) **WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT.**

Clerk reported that two residents had attended a meeting with Mr John Edwards WDC during which they had been advised that it was anticipated that a fresh planning application would be submitted by Sandall House Farm to remove both Condition 4 and the condition restricting use of the gallops to the owners of Sandall House Farm only.

## **79 Parish Plan**

**79.a Update on Awards Funding** – Clerk reported that following a letter sent by RPC on 24 August 2009 a reply had been received stating that the request for retention of excess funds did not meet the criteria required i.e. projects would have to be in the spirit of the original award. The Chairman and Clerk had both subsequently spoken to Awards for All and Clerk had received a telephone call from a Senior Officer stating that if the remaining funds were required for a Village Design Statement for example, a three month extension could probably be made. It was agreed by Councillors that three months was not sufficient time to carry out this task. Resolved unanimously that the excess funds should be returned to Awards for All and a fresh application made when and if required.

Cllr. Cooper reported that he had attended a meeting of Warwick Area Committee and presented the Parish Plan which had been very well received. WCC now looking into ways of dealing with Parish

Plans and Cllr. Cooper had received an email from WCC asking if there was any way they could assist. The actions of the Parish Plan need to be prioritised – for future discussion.

## **80 Localities Forum**

80. a Next Meeting 28 September 2009 at Barford Memorial Village Hall (Cllr. Lickorish / Cllr. Bevins)

Cllr. Lickorish reported on some of the issues had been discussed – copy of the draft minutes to be put in the Circulation File.

- Community Forum Grant Fund – forum members and local groups can begin making applications to the fund.
- £6,800 carried over from last year's SN budget is to be used to pay for several flashing speed signs. Total budget for 2009/2010 is £19,208.
- Footways Lighting – discussions regarding withdrawal of WDC night time inspections of rural footway lighting. Details in draft minutes. Norton Lindsey, Lapworth, Rowington and Leek Wootton all reported satisfactory or good services relating to footways lighting in their areas.
- Barford Village Design Statement – recently published and BS&WJPC would like WDC and WCC to adopt their VDS and incorporate it into the planning regulations for the area. BS&WJPC asked the forum officers for support in obtaining: a] a reaction from WDC and WCC officers responsible for planning, b] a mechanism put in place so that there is an open dialogue between PC's and planning officers and c] supplementary planning guidance status for the VDS. The forum recognised the Barford VDS as an excellent document. Cllr Lickorish provided a copy of the VDS for Councillors to look at and it was acknowledged that the document was indeed impressive.
- LEADER – The Local Action group for LEADER will be discussing creating a Community Chest scheme for grants of £1000 to £5000 at their forthcoming meeting.
- Discussion regarding the formation of WALC Area Committee – details provided by Alison Hodge of WALC – a forum for PC's to come together and share ideas and concerns. WALC AC will then lobby WCC and WDC as a single coordinated body rather than individual parish councils. Some concerns raised including the risk that WALC AC will duplicate community forums.

## **81 Rowington and Lawsonford Village Halls**

81.a Report if any (Cllr. Cooper)

Minutes of the Meeting of 09 September 2009 to be provided for next Circulation File. Cllr. Cooper reported that investigations were currently underway to try and find a solution to the storage problems of the Parish Archives and Records – discussions had taken place regarding a separate sectional type building but various possibilities were being explored.

81.b Notice board at Lawsonford Village Hall – developments since last PC meeting regarding ownership of board and payment of additional costs. Following discussion Councillors resolved that the additional sum of £90 incurred for extra works in erecting the board and supplying new posts would be paid to the Village Hall Committee, but that it should be clearly stated in the accompanying letter that the notice board remained the property of the PC and that they would be responsible for its future upkeep and maintenance, as with the other four notice boards in Rowington Parish.

81.c Formation of Keep Fit Class (Cllr. Lickorish).

Cllr. Lickorish reported that disappointingly he had received no response/interest from the advert placed on the notice boards.

## **82 Highways, Footpaths and Transport**

82.a Matters reported and arising

- Nameplate at Pinley (Cllr. Browett). Resolved that this should be left as Pinley Road but that no further notice boards were required in Pinley Lane.
- Preston Road resurfacing. Mr Peter Hallam had advised Clerk that this was on the 5 year resurfacing programme but seemed to have slipped through the net. Clerk to chase further but in the meantime 31 potholes had been filled along Preston Road.
- Email received from Annmarie Grace WCC Access Project Co-ordinator. Proposed Variation to TRO on Dicks Lane, Rowington. This appeared to be a request from the landowner for a variation to allow him to drive farm vehicles along a section of the bridle path and nothing to do

with the original request for use by motor cycles. The proposed variation did however appear to circumvent the original proposal insofar as opening a section to traffic would also allow motor cycles access. Clerk to request information from WCC relating to exactly where the request had come from.

- C25 Claverdon Shrewley Road. Cllr. Mrs Compton had raised this longstanding matter again with Mr Chris Fossey WCC. An email from Mr Fossey 11 Sept 09 confirmed that the Road safety Engineering Team were still unable to intervene due to the low levels of personal injury crashes (only two such incidents recorded) The importance of residents recording accidents on this stretch of road was again highlighted. In the meantime the potential review of C and D roads might possibly be helpful. Cllr. Mrs Compton that a seminar on this road survey was scheduled for Monday 12 October 2009.

### **83 Playing Field**

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

83.b ROSPA Annual Inspection. Carried out during September. Clerk had requested that the report be sent

by email and was expected shortly.

83.c Request from resident at St Laurence Close for tree pruning. Resolved that letters should be sent to

adjoining properties to obtain views on removal or pruning of trees which provided a screen for residents. Steve's Mowing to be asked to quote for pruning and for removal.

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

84.a 21 Sept 09 WDC Planning Forum – Next Meeting 07 December 2009. Items for agenda by 25 November 2009.

84.b 16 Oct 09 WDC Chairman's Skittles Evening at Stoneleigh Deer Park Golf Club, The Old Deer Park, Coventry Road, Stoneleigh. 7.30pm.

84.c 25 Oct 09 The Chairman of Warwick District Council Councillor Norman Pratt and Mrs Pam Pratt Invitation to Chairman's Civic Service at St Mary's Church, Cubbington at 11.00am followed by refreshments in Cubbington C of E Primary School.

84.d 31 Oct 09 WALC AGM Ettington Community Centre. 10.30am.

### **85 Correspondence**

85.a Sept 09 WCC Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Authority Improvement Plan Consultation. Due to the complexity of the Consultation Document it was resolved that a separate Working Party should discuss this matter more fully before responding. Meeting to be arranged. Mrs K Chambers (resident) had sent her apologies as she had hoped to attend the meeting in connection with this item.

85.b Jul 09 WCC Annual Update of Parish Council Community Emergency Plan for final review. Discussion surrounding the Emergency Plan highlighted the fact that further information regarding the exact purpose of the plan and how it should work was required. Resolved that a separate Working Party should examine this matter in more detail. Meeting to be arranged.

85.c Circulation Envelope:

The Western Express – 15 Sept – 01 Oct 09

WDC Standards Committee Agenda 23 September 2009; CPRE Outlook Magazine; WALC Newsletter Sept 09 to include Legal Topic Note on Handling Complaints LTN 9 (2) and Freedom of Information LTN 37; List of Public Consultation Meetings – Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service Improvement Plan; Heart of England Way – Footnotes Autumn 2009; Warwick District's Sustainable Community Strategy 2009/2010.

### **86 Finance**

86.a. Paid during the month:

None at issue of agenda

86.b To be paid:

Clerk – salary and allowance

to include final settlement pay award (1%) back dated to April 09

641.93

Photocopying and Postage	c/f
Contribution to Rowington VHMC for BT Connection (Apr –Sept 09)	215.94
CPRE Annual Subscription	29.00
Steve’s Industries Ltd – Playing Field	200.10
Awards for All – return of grant overspend	2068.00
<u>86. c Received:</u>	
Bank of Ireland Interest - Nil	
WDC Precept Second Instalment	8428.50

Resolved that the above items of finance be accepted (CB/NC)

86. e Items for Consideration / Information.

- Vacancy for Clerk to be advertised – Clerk confirmed that following her resignation letter of June 2009, she would be retiring from her position at the end of December 2009. Adverts to be placed in Parish Magazine.
- Vacancy for Parish Councillors. No applications received to date.

87 Items for Future Agendas/Information

- Budget Meeting for 2010/11 to be arranged. Suggested dates to be circulated by email and a suitable meeting time agreed between Councillors

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.10pm

**Next Meeting:**  
**Thursday 12 November 2009** at Lawsonford Village Hall

Signed.....  
Chairman

Dated.....