

WYTHALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY, 17th NOVEMBER 2016 AT THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 P.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor Mrs.S.Baxter	Chairman
	Councillor S.Peters	Vice Chairman
	Councillor D. Bibbings	
	Councillor Mrs.H.Bibbings	
	Councillor Helen Cleaver	
	Councillor K.Footman	
	Councillor Mrs.K.Kingston	
	Councillor Mrs.S.Lee	
	Councillor Mrs.D.Taylor	
	Councillor L.Turner	
	Councillor Miss L.Wright	
	Miss P.Harrison	Executive Officer

1. **APOLOGIES:** were noted and reasons for absence accepted from Cllr.Bell; Cllr.Rattigan; Cllr.Mrs.Stewart and Cllr.Mrs.Webb MBE.

The Chairman asked members to ensure a text message is sent to the Executive Officer or the Chairman before closing time at the Office at 2pm advising as to any late apologies giving a reason.

2. (i) **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS:**

(a) Register of Interests:

Councillors must complete their Register of Interests and update them as and when necessary.

- (b) To declare any disclosable interests relating to items on the Agenda and their nature (Councillors with such interests must leave the room for the relevant items unless they have a current dispensation)
None declared.

- (ii) **DECLARATIONS OF OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS:**

Cllr.Peters	Wythall Village Hall	Trustee
Cllr.Turner	Application 16/0844 Mereside Farm Children's Nursery	
	Has been involved in discussions with Applicant and, as a substitute member of the BDC Planning Committee would not be participating in discussions due to not wishing to be seen as having a predetermined opinion and would be speaking on this issue at the Planning Meeting at BDC.	

Cllr.Mrs.Baxter and Cllr.Peters stated they would not be commenting on this Application due to being members of the BDC Planning Committee.

3. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:**

Cllr.Peters reported as follows:

- (a) Proposed traffic calming measures in Shawhurst Lane had now been advertised and Public Notices displayed. A letter will be going to residents between Beaudesert Road and May Lane. The Consultation will run from the 23rd November to the 21st December 2016.
- (b) There had been a problem with the timetables for the 150 bus service – no exact notification that the service goes to the Alexandra Hospital or Worcester Hospital.
- (c) Cllr.Turner asked if there was any news as regards the sale of the former Library premises in May Lane. Cllr.Peters responded that, as far as he knew, it had been sold.

4. **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:**

- (a) Cllr.Turner reported that Bromsgrove Licensing Committee were going to introduce a penalty points scheme rather similar to the Driving License Penalty Scheme which should ensure drivers and employers are aware as to regulations.
This is not a national scheme but several Councils already operate it.
Consultation would be taking place shortly.
Cllr.Helen Cleaver asked what type of offences would be involved – Cllr.Turner replied “a very long list”.
Bromsgrove DC would be changing their Council Tax and Benefits system to bring it more in line with Redditch. 19th December was the change-over date. Cllr.Footman queried what the changes were – Computer system change.
Cllr.Peters commented that the Licensing Committee had approved the new regulations regarding scrap metal sites which appeared to have resulted in fewer collections around the roads.
- (b) Cllr.Mrs.Baxter referred to the fact that the next Agenda for BDC was very large including one item regarding the merging of Planning with Redditch as a shared service to be known as Strategic and Planning Services but with Bromsgrove paying two-thirds of the running costs as they have more applications. However, all Planning Staff will be at Redditch which she found a very odd arrangement. Cllr.Cleaver queried whether the Planning Portal would remain the same and the response was in the affirmative.

5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Resolved 40/2016:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 20th October 2016 were accepted as being a true record of matters discussed .

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:****PLANNING:****Resolved 41/2016:**

- (a) that, having listened to the comments as presented by the Applicant, Mr.Lowe, in respect of Planning Application 16/0844 already dealt with by the Planning Committee on the 7th November 2016 when the Committee had agreed to object on the grounds it was considered to be overdevelopment in the green belt and with further child placements this would inevitably result in more movement of vehicles in the Lane, but in the light of the representations made by the Applicant prior to the commencement of the Meeting it was agreed to take a vote as to whether or not the comments sent to Bromsgrove Planning be changed to “no objection” or remain as they were. Following a vote it was resolved (five not to change and two not to object) that because at the time of making the decision the Committee were not aware as regards any “special circumstances having been identified” Council’s decision should remain the same.
- (b) to delegate to the Chairman of Planning and Executive Officer a response be sent to Stratford-upon-Avon relating to Community Infrastructure Levy due to the time factor necessary to respond.

ACTION: Respond to Stratford-upon-Avon.

- (c) to note the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7th November 2016 and the applications dealt with under Standing Orders for Committees 4(d) Parish Standing Orders including those dealt with under Delegated Powers.

COMMUNITY SERVICES**Resolution 42/2016:**

- (a) to place an order with Prysmian and Western Power to replace Lt.518 Lea Green Lane at a cost of: Prysmian £512 and Western Power £560 plus VAT as soon as possible – Insurance Claim against WCC whose Contractor totally damaged column when hedge cutting.

ACTION: EO to place orders as above and investigate the possibility of including an additional line in the Parish Accounts in respect of Insurance claims for damaged columns.

- (b) to thank A.F.Blakemore & Son Ltd (Spar) for the donation to the Parish Council of three wall-mounted Notice Boards and approve the installation of one on the end wall of Spar in Simms Lane and the other in the Wythall Community Hub (already agreed with Miss Faye Parker).

ACTION: EO to write to Blakemore & Son and arrange installation for Notice Board at the Hub.

- (c) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 3rd November 2016 having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee with some minor amendments.

FINANCE POLICY & RESOURCES:**Resolution 43/2016:**

- (a) Members were asked to give consideration as to whether or not they would like to be the Parish Council's representative on the Woodrush Youth Management Committee replacing Cllr.Rattigan who had been unable to attend due to personal problems. Further discussion would take place at the next Finance Meeting.

ACTION: Place on next Finance Agenda.

- (b) to express a vote of thanks to both Cllr.Footman and the Executive Officer for producing a response on behalf of the Council to the Department for Communities and Local Government to the Technical Consultation Paper – The 2017/2018 Local Government Finance Settlement - Resolution 38/2016 refers. All members had received a copy and the response thereto.
- (c) not to respond to the Public Consultation/Bromsgrove & Redditch Draft Statements of Community Involvement – no Councillors had raised any objections.
- (d) to note and accept the figures in respect of the Bank/Expenditure/Receipts relating to the month of October 2016.
- (e) to ratify the schedule of Invoices for payment in November 2016 as presented including a separate entry in respect of payment due to the Wythall Branch of the Royal British Legion in the sum of £18.50.
- (f) that it would not be necessary to arrange a transfer for the current month but agreed to delegate the Bank signatories to arrange a transfer from the new Investment Account to the Current Account during December 2016 if deemed necessary.
- (g) to alter the Financial Regulations in respect of the change in making monthly payments and the need to arrange a transfer of funds from the new Investment Account to the Lloyds Current Account immediately following a Finance Meeting thus enabling sufficient funds to cover the items on the cheque list – to be ratified at the next Full Council Meeting.

ACTION: Amend Financial Regulations as above.

- (h) to change the wording of Standing Order 4(a) Committees and Sub-Committees as follows "where a Councillor is also a member of a principal authority this Standing Order will not apply if it would result in predetermination of any issue being discussed, i.e. Planning"

ACTION: Make alteration to Standing Orders as above.

- (i) to change the wording of Standing Order 4(v) by deleting “at the next Annual Meeting to formally name substitutes for each Committee”.
- (j) that, in order to complete the Application in respect of the Local Councils Award Scheme it was necessary for Council to approve a Parish Council Action Plan for the year 2017. This was duly approved.
- (k) to accept the recommendations put forward by Cllr.Footman in respect of some changes to the following: Councillor & Staff Training Policy; Grant Awarding Policy & Health and Safety Policy; Members Allowances and Expenses Policy. Revised/amended documents to be provided with a complete set of Standing Orders etc in due course.
- (l) to adopt the Policy Disciplinary & Grievance Procedure (NALC Legal Topic 22).

ACTION The Executive Officer to supply amended/replacement documents in due course.

- (m) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 9th November 2016 having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee.

7. **ITEMS OF PAROCHIAL INTEREST FOR INFORMATION ONLY:**

- (a) Cllr.Mrs.Lee reported that the Hub were seeking support advertising a scheme whereby baskets of food etc. were donated prior to Christmas to be handed to the Cotteridge Food Bank. It was already on the Parish Website and Notice Boards.
- (b) Cllr.Mrs.Kingston queried the possibility of cats-eyes or reflector posts being installed on the A435 identifying the bend in the road having left the M42 Island and travelling towards Wythall. The Executive Officer would contact County Cllr.Mrs.Griffiths.
- (c) Cllr.Mrs.Baxter was looking into the possibility of making Wythall a “Dementia Village” and a meeting had been arranged with representatives from County and Bromsgrove Councils.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, 19th January 2017 at 7.30 pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.09 pm.

SIGNED

CHAIRMAN

DATED:

19th January 2017

Items raised by members of the public prior to the commencement of the Meeting:

- (a) Mr.Lowe of Mereside Farm Childrens Nursery (Planning Application 16/0844) addressed the Council outlining his concerns at the way in which his Application had been dealt with by Bromsgrove District Council and the timing issues. He queried whether, in the light of the information he had provided, the Planning Committee/Council would reconsider their objection to the Planning Application. See Planning Committee Report above.
- (b) Dr.Christine Whittaker was also present but did not speak.