

WYTHALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY, 19th JANUARY 2017 AT THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 P.M.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor S.Peters	Vice Chairman
	Councillor D. Bibbings	
	Councillor Helen Cleaver	
	Councillor K.Footman	
	Councillor Mrs.K.Kingston	
	Councillor Mrs.S.Lee	
	Councillor P.Rattigan	
	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.Mrs.Baxter(Chairman); Cllr.Mrs.Bibbings(e-mail received late); Cllr.Mrs.Stewart and Cllr.Mrs.Webb MBE.

District Cllr.Denaro had sent his apologies as he had nothing to report.

Cllr.Peters had spoken with Cllr.Mrs.Webb MBE assuring her that Council understood the reasons for her absence from meetings at the present time and wished her a full recovery.

At this point Cllr.Peters referred to the fact that Cllr.Mrs.Sue Baxter had recently been appointed Chairman of the National Association of Local Councils and it was agreed the Executive Officer would send a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Council to Mrs.Baxter.

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.Helen Cleaver	Wythall Village Hall	Trustee
Cllr.Footman	Comm.Services/Item 3.1(a) Silver St.	Resident

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

Cllr.Peters reported as follows:

- (a) WCC have been liaising regarding taking over some of the lights on Shawhurst Lane from the Parish Council related to the traffic calming measures taking place in the Half Term in February.
- (b) Repairs to the bridge in Truemans Heath Lane scheduled for March 2017.
- (c) Extension/additional double yellow lines outside The Hub and Beadesert Road had been agreed, together with Hockey-Sticks outside the Medical Centre in Beadesert Road.
Cllr.Footman commented that, when he predicted some years ago the parking problems that would become evident in Beadesert Road following the developments of the Medical Practice and Woodrush School, suggesting the extension of the double yellow lines, he did not get the support that he had expected and his proposals were not progressed.

4. **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:**

- (a) Cllr.Turner reported that, at a recent Licensing Committee review of wheelchair accessibility in respect of taxis (13 at the moment provided this facility), it was agreed taxi owners should be encouraged to have more vehicles of this type by request when Licence has expired.

Confirmation had been received that two existing telephone boxes in Wythall (both in Truemans Heath Lane) would be removed due to lack of use. The EO queried whether there were any plans to remove the one in May Lane.

- (b) Councillor Peters referred to the fact that, at the Council Meeting to be held in Bromsgrove next week, the District Local Plan was scheduled to be adopted. The Inspector had approved it but with some amendments and it would be adopted wholesale lasting until 2030. It would then be essential to commence a Green Belt Review. The number of houses required within the District had been identified and Birmingham would be looking to have some of the Green Belt in Wythall.
Last week he had attended a presentation regarding the Local Transport Consultation – need to respond – closing date 17th March 2017.

ACTION: Respond to Consultation.

5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Resolved 1/2017:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 17th November 2016 were accepted as being a true record of matters discussed .

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Resolution 2/2017:

- (a) to note a request to refund the fee of £1500 in respect of a former resident of Wythall who no longer required the reserved plot in the Cemetery and the matter referred to Finance Committee.

- (b) to note an enquiry regarding the Parish Allotments as being a possible site for the erection of a Vodafone monopole or lattice tower and the recommendation to take to Finance Committee for review.
- (c) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5th January 2017 having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee.

FINANCE POLICY & RESOURCES:

Resolution 3/2017:

- (a) to resolve in retrospect the appointment of a new Chairman to the Committee, Cllr.Bibbings, due to Cllr.Rattigan having expressed his wish to step down from this position.
- (b) to resolve to note the appointment of Cllr.Mrs.Baxter as Vice Chairman.
- (c) to appoint Cllr.Mrs.Sarah Lee as Council's representative on the Woodrush Youth Management Committee on the understanding that should, at any time, Cllr.Mrs.Lee not be able to attend, the Council could appoint a substitute but clearing this with Miss Faye Parker at Woodrush prior to the event.

ACTION: The EO to advise Woodrush of this appointment.

- (d) to accept the figures as presented in respect of Bank/budgets in respect of November and December 2016.
- (e) to renew the annual subscription to the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities totalling £119.20.
- (f) not to renew the subscription to the Clerks & Councils Direct.
- (g) to award a grant of £2000 to Wythall Village Hall to cover the cost of completing the improvement works taking place in the Hall at the present time. This grant being awarded in accordance with the General Power of Competence (Local Government Act 1972 Section 7).
This was carried by a majority vote with Cllr.Mrs.Lee voting against.
- (h) to ratify the figures presented in respect of the schedule of Invoices presented in respect of payment in December 2016 and January 2017 noting that those dealt with in December 2016 had been agreed in accordance with 5.2 of the Financial Regulations.
- (i) to note a Bank Transfer would not be necessary in the current month.
- (j) to call an Extraordinary Council Meeting to finalise the amount of precept required from Bromsgrove District Council 2017/2018 due to the inability of those present to agree figures as presented by the Chairman of Finance.

ACTION: EO to arrange Meeting.

- (k) to appoint Mr.Paul Mitchell to continue working as the desktop publisher in respect of the Parish Council Newsletter but on a freelance basis, Mr.Mitchell having left Woodrush School, at the same cost of £224 for four editions, commencing with the first edition May 2017.

ACTION: The EO to draw up a Contract between the Parish Council and Mr.Mitchell having cancelled the one with Woodrush.

- (l) to allow further investigations to take place in ascertaining whether Wythall would be an option for a Dementia Village.

ACTION: To be further pursued.

- (m) to make a refund of £1500 to the former resident of Wythall who had purchased a burial plot at the Cemetery and now no longer lived in the Parish and did not require the plot.

ACTION: The EO to arrange a refund.

- (n) to authorise Community Services to pursue further an enquiry relating to the installation of a Vodafone Mast in the Allotments.

ACTION: The EO to pursue this matter if it arises in the future.

- (o) not to stage a Christmas Lights competition.

- (p) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11th January 2017 having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee.

PLANNING:

Resolved 4/2017:

- (a) to note the Minutes of the Meetings held on the 8th December 2016 and 9th January 2017 and the applications dealt with under Standing Orders for Committees 4(d) Parish Standing Orders including those dealt with under Delegated Powers.

7. **ITEMS OF PAROCHIAL INTEREST FOR INFORMATION ONLY:** None.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, 16th February 2017 at 7.30 pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

SIGNED

CHAIRMAN

DATED: **16th February 2017**

Matters raised by residents prior to the commencement of the Meeting:

1. Mrs.Hazel Reed,Cambria Close, Majors Green:
Expressed strong concerns as regards the impact the proposed developments in the Solihull Local Plan will have on Majors Green. 700 dwellings are proposed to the west of Dickens Heath eroding the Green Belt. Local facilities at present used by residents of Majors Green will disappear (Football, Tropical Garden Centre/Restaurant. Etc. There will no longer be a Green Belt buffer between Solihull and Bromsgrove.
Flooding has been an issue on surrounding roads and further building will only serve to exacerbate the situation.
There is already increased traffic using Haslucks Green Road; fast traffic; the recent addition of coloured tarmac has had some benefit. Street lighting is already poor and in some locations non-existent. Public transport services has diminished over the last fifteen years. The train service is already over capacity in rush hours with passenger's standing room only. There is no provision in the plan for more trains.
The proposed ten year plan does not make any provision to improve the above. The current infrastructure does not support such a development and sought the Parish Council's support in their representations.

2. Mr.Derek Forsythe, Majors Green:
Had been extremely active as regards accidents occurring on Haslucks Green Road and some very good improvements had been made. He had been dealing with County Cllr.Stephen Peters. He was concerned at the sheer volume of traffic using all roads in Majors Green. On Bills Lane 600 properties were planned. To gain access to the M42 onwards to the M5 traffic would probably go through Wythall, via Majors Green. 190 properties were under construct by Belway on Fulford Hall Road and further developments were taking place on Aqueduct Road and other areas close to Majors Green all converging into the Bromsgrove area. If Dickens Heath infrastructure is an example then we should all be very concerned. Cllr.Peters had passed information through to Richard Clewer to make sure County will be responding. What would the advantages be as a group and what feedback could they get from District Council. He thanked Cllr.Peters for following up all the problems.

Cllr.Helen Cleaver, Chairman of Planning Committee, proposed that the most practicable solution would be for a group to get together involving representatives of the Parish Council and residents of Majors Green, to formulate a response to the Solihull MBC Draft Local Plan, consultation expiry date having been extended to 17th February, from the Parish Council incorporating all the concerns raised. It was considered essential that a response was submitted by the Parish Council.

ACTION: Informal meeting to be arranged as soon as possible as above.

3. Cllr.Mrs.Kingston (speaking as a member of the public) drew Councils attention to the problems emanating from the development of the replacement house on the Alcester Road close to New Road, i.e. state of footpath (lady had fallen as a result), visibility etc. Cllr.Peters undertook to investigate.

ACTION: Cllr.Peters.

Cllr.Mrs.Kingston also queried whether a response had been received in respect of her concerns as to lack of lighting on the A435 travelling from the M42 Island towards Wythall just past the junction with Dumblepit Lane. The EO had raised this matter with County Council and would chase it up.

ACTION: EO to pursue.