

**WYTHALL PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON THURSDAY, 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2017 AT THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 P.M.**

<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Councillor Mrs.S.Baxter	Chairman
	Councillor Mrs.D.Taylor	Vice Chairman
	Councillor R.Bell	
	Councillor D. Bibbings	
	Councillor Helen Cleaver	
	Councillor K.Footman	
	Councillor Mrs.K.Kingston	
	Councillor Mrs.S.Lee	
	Councillor S.Peters	
	Councillor Mrs.S.Stewart	
	Councillor L.Turner	
	Councillor Mrs.C.E.Webb MBE	
	Councillor Miss L.Wright	
	Miss P.Harrison	Executive Officer

Also present were County Councillors C.Hotham and A.Kent.  
The Chairman welcomed both to the Meeting.

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting, Mr.John Duddington LL.B; LLN – Local Panel Chairman of Worc.CALC – presented Cllr.Mrs.Baxter, Chairman of the Parish Council, with the Certificate in respect of the Local Council Award Scheme (Quality)

1. **APOLOGIES:** were noted and reasons for absence accepted from Cllr.Mrs.Bibbings and District Councillor Denaro.  
Cllr.Rattigan was not present and no apologies received.
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.Mrs.Baxter		CCLA	Knows Company
Cllr.Mrs.Baxter	)	Mr.R.Wood/cheque list	Acquaintance
Cllr.Mrs.Taylor	)		
Cllr.Bell	)		
Cllr.Helen Cleaver	)		
Cllr.Bibbings	)		
Cllr.Footman	)		
Cllr.Mrs.S.Lee	)		
Cllr.Turner	)		

(iii) **DISPENSATIONS:**

It was agreed to defer this matter to the next Meeting but meanwhile any Councillors who were aware of changes required to their declarations should make the Executive Officer aware and arrange to complete new forms.

3. **COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:**

County Councillor Kent introduced himself and gave a brief outline as to the Committees he had been appointed to at County and his aims and ambitions for his Ward in Wythall. Cllr.Les Turner queried how County Cllr.Kent was going to fund the provision of Smart Water – Cllr.Kent responded that he would use his Divisional Fund. It was pointed out that it was necessary to get a 60% take up and the signage was free. Cllr.Kent also reported on numerous other issues relating to highways. (See copy of his report attached)

County Councillor Hotham introduced himself to the Council giving details as to the Committees he had been appointed to at County. He gave a brief report regarding matters he was dealing with in his Ward, one being the lack of cats-eyes on the A4 35 by the M42 junction. Cllr.Hotham apologised at this point, leaving the Meeting due to personal reasons.

4. **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:**

Councillor Turner reported as follows:

- (a) The BT telephone kiosk junction Lea Green Lane and Station Road will be removed.
- (b) On the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017 the Bromsgrove Licensing Committee approved the draft Taxi Scheme, including wheelchair accessible vehicles, for recommendation to Full Council.
- (c) He was continuing to liaise with various authorities regarding the problem in Houndsfield Lane/former quarry.

Councillor Mrs.Baxter reported as follows:

- (a) Applications for funding from the New Homes Bonus Scheme, which was due to close very shortly included a third all-weather court at the Wythall Tennis Club and changing room (single sex at moment) at the Community Association to include facilities for disabled users, both in her Ward.

Cllr.Footman queried whether there was an update as regards the old Council Offices – Cllr.Baxter replied nothing at the moment but, if the plans go through as hoped, the net gain by leaving it is at the moment until a better solution is found will out-way the loss of the building standing there not being used. She understood that a proposal will be going to Cabinet and then to Full Council – which will assure a better outcome for the Council than the original idea of offloading the asset.

5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

Resolved 22/2017:

The Chairman drew attention to an extract from Local Councils Explained Section 11, Form of Minutes which was noted by the Council

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Electors held on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017 were noted and the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017 were accepted as being a true record of matters discussed and duly signed by the Chairman.

6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

Noted.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Resolution 23/2017:

- (a) to approve a request to display posters advertising the Wythall and Hollywood Fun Run on the Parish lighting columns with the proviso they are removed immediately after the event.
- (b) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee.

**FINANCE POLICY & RESOURCES:**

Resolution 24/2017:

- (a) to rescind Resolution 20/2017(k) dated 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017.
- (b) to accept the following recommendations relating to the Accounts:
  - (i) take out of Earmarked Reserves the item “Contingency” - £4000 and put it back into General Reserves.

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|-------|--|--------|
| (ii)  | Treat the following as Creditors not Earmarked Reserves: |        |
|       | Grit Bin/Sycamore Drive                                  | £150   |
|       | Christmas Tree   | £150   |
|       | Cemetery Skip Hire                                       | £455   |
|       | WCA Newsletter   | £555   |
|       | LCA Award Scheme   | £100   |
| (iii) | Treat as Earmarked Reserves:                             |        |
|       | Elections  | £6000  |
|       | Cemetery   | £75000 |
|       | Allotment Drainage                                       | £ 600  |
|       | Bus Shelter/Packhorse                                    | £ 220  |
|       | Lighting Project   | £10000 |
|       | Notice Board/Station Road                                | £ 520  |
|       | Gratuity   | £ 5500 |
- (c) to respond to NALC's request to provide any good practice case studies to the effect that, at the present time, not able to put forward anything but would hope to in the future if the occasion should arise.  
**ACTION:** As above.
- (d) to advise Bromsgrove District Council that the Parish Council had no comment to make in respect of the Draft Revised Street Trading Policy.  
**ACTION:** As above.
- (e) to accept the figures as presented in respect of Bank/budgets relating to May 2017.
- (f) the Executive Officer was authorised to make arrangements with Lloyds Bank for the closure of the Instant Account.  
**ACTION:** As above.
- (g) not to award a grant to Baldwin Hungry Horse in Hall Green in respect of their request for funding to assist in raising funds towards the purchase of a defibrillator due to this request being in respect of an area outside the Parish.  
**ACTION:** Advise applicants as to decision.
- (h) to accept the schedule of payments in respect of June 2017 having resolved the above transfers.
- (i) arrange a transfer of £10,000 from the Public Sector Investment Account to Lloyds Bank (in retrospect).

- (j) to respond to queries raised by the appointed Independent Financial Adviser as follows:
- Invest £75,000 – represents the money held in earmarked reserves for the Cemetery.
  - Invest £97,940 – represents all funds held as an earmarked reserve.
  - Invest £162,874 – represents all funds held as an earmarked reserve and 50% of the general reserve.

Cllr.Mrs.Lee requested a named vote on the above:

Cllr.Mrs.Baxter	- for
Cllr.Bell	- for
Cllr.Bibbings	- for
Cllr.Helen Cleaver	- for
Cllr.Footman	- for
Cllr.Mrs.Kingston	- for
Cllr.Mrs.Lee	- against

The motion was therefore carried.

**ACTION:** Respond to the Independent Adviser as above.

- (k) that the cost of obtaining this independent advice should come out of General Reserves as it is a non-budgeted item.
- (l) to remove Cllr.Mrs.Lee's comments from the draft Finance Minutes relating to her personal concerns in respect of investment, having taken note of the extract from Local Councils Explained Section 11 which was presented under item 5.
- (m) to note the Minutes of the Risk and Governance Sub-Committee Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017 principally for information.
- (n) to note the date for the submission of the Annual Return 2016/2017 to the External Auditor had been extended to 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017.
- (o) to renew the annual contract with Mr.Robert Wood for a further twelve months at a cost of £300 p.a. plus VAT.  
**ACTION:** As above.
- (p) to note a vote of thanks was extended to the Executive Officer and her Assistant in respect of all the work completed resulting in a successful Application for a Quality Parish Award under the Local Councils Award Scheme.
- (q) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017, as amended, having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee.

**PLANNING:****Resolved 25/2017:**

- (a) to note the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 and the applications dealt with under Standing Orders for Committees 4(d) Parish Standing Orders including those dealt with under Delegated Powers.

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

- (a) Cllr.Mrs.Baxter referred to Strength and Balance Classes – Bromsgrove are encouraging the elderly population to join a scheme being run at the Hub whereby referrals from a GP entail taking up membership partake of gentle exercise.
- (b) Street Theatre at Wythall Park on the 27<sup>th</sup> July.
- (c) Wythall has been chosen to stage a Dementia Roadshow which will be held at Becketts on the 1<sup>st</sup> September. A Meeting is being held at the Parish Office on the 12<sup>th</sup> July to include all those involved in this venture to make Wythall a Dementia Friendly Village.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

**SIGNED:.....**

**DATED: 20<sup>TH</sup> July 2017**

**Items brought forward by members of the public prior to the commencement of the Meeting:**

- (a) Mrs.Joyce Webb and her neighbour of Houndsfield Lane addressed the Council giving a further update as to the situation existing as previously reported. Both County Councillors present agreed to look into these problems.