

WYTHALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY, 15th FEBRUARY 2018 AT THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 P.M.

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

Dr.Christine Whittaker was present as an observer.

Also present were County Councillors Charlie.Hotham.and Adam Kent.

The Chairman announced it was her intention to move the Finance Report to the end of the Meeting and invoke Standing Order 10(a)(x1) in view of the nature of the business under item 15.

1. **APOLOGIES:** were noted and reasons for absence accepted from Cllr.Mrs.S.Stewart.

District Councillor Denaro had conveyed his apologies.

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)

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

Cllr.Mrs.Baxter Member of Caravan Club

All members present who had declared an interest in Wythall Community Association.

- (iii) **DISPENSATIONS:** Nothing to report.

3. **CO-OPTION TO FILL CASUAL VACANCY:**

Resolved 5/2018:

Two applications were considered, one from Mr.K.C.Yates of 1 Alveston Road, Hollywood,and the other from Mr.Charles William(Bill) Dinenage of Crabtree Farm, Dark Lane, Wythall Following a presentation from both applicants a paper vote was taken resulting in Keith Yates being duly elected, who then read out the Declaration of Interest and signed the Register of Declaration witnessed by the Executive Officer.

N.B. Cllr.Peters challenged the validity of having a “closed” vote in this instance but, following a proposal put forward by Cllr.Footman and duly seconded, it was resolved, with the exception of Cllr.Peters, to continue with a “closed” vote in this instance. The Executive Officer to check as to the latest procedure with WorcCALC.

ACTION: The EO to investigate as above.

4. **COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:**

County Councillor Kent had provided a written Report on which he addressed Council.
(See copy attached)

County Councillor Hotham reported as follows:-

- (a) Government had elected that County Councils could increase their precept by an extra 3% and Worcester would ring-fence some of this for Care. He gave quite a detailed report as regarding the number of Care Homes in the County and the general reliance on assisted funding. A number of Care Homes closed last year and this appears to be an ongoing problem.
- (b) A new highways reporting system for WCC was now operative and looked as though it would be more efficient than the previous one. Problems can be reported via the County Website.

5. **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:**

- (a) Councillor Peters referred to the Birmingham HMA Strategic Growth Study document and the fact that consultations will be taking place staged by Bromsgrove District Council. A briefing was being held at Bromsgrove DC for Parish Councils representatives etc next week. The Chairman of Planning and the EO would be attending possibly one other if Bromsgrove were in agreement.
- (b) Councillor Turner referred to the matters he was still involved in regarding Houndsfield Lane(Lower) – a further four cars had been removed having no tax etc. He was also concerned regarding a planning issue relating to Bleakhouse Development affecting properties in Three Oaks Road.
- (c) Councillor Mrs.Baxter referred to the LSP – Police and Fire Authorities and other organisations were working closely together and were involved in trying to provide a joined-up service. – one of the issues being dealt with was how to assist vulnerable people such as the elderly, concentrating specifically on falls.

6. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

Resolved 6/2018:

- (a) The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 18th January 2018 were duly accepted as a true record of matters discussed.

7. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (Schedule attached):**

Noted.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Resolution 7/2018:

- (a) to remove lighting column 391 Houndsfield Lane(lower), obtaining costs for the work required, due to the column recently having been subjected to some vandalism.

ACTION: EO to obtain costings.

- (b) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 1st February 2018 having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee.

PLANNING:

Resolved 8/2018:

- (a) not to respond to the Consultation on Draft Brownfield Lane Register – Solihull/Local Plan Review Update as it will have no major impact on Wythall.
- (b) not to comment on the draft Bromsgrove High Quality Design Supplementary Planning Document.
- (c) to note the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5th February 2018 and applications dealt with under Standing Orders for Committees 4(d) Parish Standing Orders.

FINANCE POLICY & RESOURCES:

ADDITIONAL MEETING HELD ON 25.1.2018

Resolution 9/2018:

- (a) that the payment of the Allowance made annually to the Chairman of the Council should continue but the Executive Officer would investigate the accountability of such an allowance, reporting back to the March Meeting of the Committee. Pending receipt of further information it was agreed that, included in the Chairman's Report presented at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held in May each year, reference be made as to how this money has been spent.

ACTION: As above.

- (b) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 25.1.2018 having noted and accepted the interim actions taken by the Committee.

MEETING HELD ON THE 7.2.2018:

Resolution 10/2018:

- (a) to continue to investigate how the Parish Council could be involved in the "Battle's over" Celebrations taking place on the 11th November 2018, possibly in conjunction with the Community Association. Cllr.Mrs.Webb MBE undertook to ask some Royal British Legions what plans they had in this respect.

ACTION Ongoing.

- (b) to accept the figures as presented in respect of Bank/Budgets January 2018.

- (c) to respond to correspondence received from Wythall Community Association seeking financial help (as per attached letter) – all Councillors having received a draft for approval or otherwise.

ACTION: EO to send letter as approved by Council.

- (d) to ratify the schedule of Invoices for payment in February 2018, the following requiring specific approval:
21/18 Viking/New telephone system for Office £47.09
- (e) to approve a transfer from the Current Account to the CCLA Investment Account in the sum of £20,000.
- (f) to formally adopt the Budgets in respect of 2018/2019 (with one small amendment being made) and request a Precept from Bromsgrove District Council in the sum of £130,532.
All voted in favour with the exception of Cllr.Mrs.Hession and Cllr.Mrs.Taylor.

Councillor Peters expressed appreciation to all those who had been involved in preparing and finalising the Budget.

ACTION: As above.

- (g) to refer back to the Committee the Action Plan for further discussion.

ACTION: As above.

At this point the Chairman invoked Standing Order 10(a)(x1):

- (g) Acquisition of land for new Cemetery:
A brief report was given by the Chairman and Executive Officer up-dating the Council as to the latest situation.

Chairman reinstated Standing Orders.

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

None.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday, 15th March 2018 at 7.30 p.m at the Village Hall.**

The Meeting closed at 9.38 pm.

SIGNED:.....
CHAIRMAN

DATED: 15th March 2018

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

- (a) Dr.Christine Whittaker gave a brief report on the recent Dementure Café which had again been well supported. Phoenix Group were being extremely supportive concentrating on the elderly people with future projects in the pipeline, one being Wythall Walking Friends.