

WYTHALL PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER 2018**
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ALCES TER ROAD, AT 7.30 PM.

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

County Cllrs.Adam Kent and Charlie Hotham were both in attendance.

Attending as a members of the public was Dr.C.Whittaker.

1. **APOLOGIES:** reasons for absence were noted and accepted from the following:
Cllr.Rattigan; Cllr.Mrs.Kingston and Cllr.Mrs.Bibbings.

District Councillor Denaro had sent his apologies.

2. (a) **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS:**
None.

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

Cllr.Cleaver) Wythall Community Association	Trustee/Member
Cllr.Turner)	
Cllr.Mrs.Hession)		Member
Cllr.Yates		Member

Current Dispensations held by these Councillors in respect of WCA.

Mr.R.Wood	Internal Auditor	All those present who were acquainted with Mr.Wood.
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Cllr.Turner	Shakespeare Line	Council's Representative
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3. **COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:**

Cllr.Kent and submitted a written report which all Councillors had received and upon which he elaborated. (See copy attached)

He referred to the new crossing outside the Schools on Shawhurst Lane and the fact that funding would be sought to maintain the services of the Crossing Lady – Coppice and Woodrush had indicated their willingness to assist – Parish Council would be approached.

Cllr.Hotham reported as follows:

- (a) He was investigating a problem at the shops on Station Road relating to vehicles exiting the car park and, in one case, hitting a car reversing off a drive opposite.
- (b) Extending double yellow lines at junction of Barkers Lane and A435.
- (c) The road service in Meadow Close had been inspected and, whilst accepted it is bad, all cases have to be prioritised in accordance with available budgets.
- (d) He gave a full report on Children's Services at County (costing £80m increasing daily) There are now over 800 children in care costing £1200 per week. Extremely concerned as regards proposed cut-backs which could affect services over several years.

Other matters referred to: weeds growing in gutters; cats eyes on A435; Footway leading from Orchard Way to Alcester Road; footpath outside Village Hall – all were being or had been dealt with.

The Chairman thanked both County Councillors for attending and giving their full reports.

4. **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:**

Cllr.Turner reported that the revised Statement of Licensing Policy had been agreed and referred to the fact that new Licensing regulations relating to animal activity licensing would come into force as from 1st October 2018.

Cllr.Peters reported having attending Bromsgrove's Council Meeting and the fact that the Local Plan was out for consultation until 19th November 2018.

Cllr.Mrs.Baxter referred to the recent problem with bin collections and the rumour going round that BDC had "runout of money" – this was not correct. Universal Credit was finally being rolled out – may be an advantage to some members of the community.

Cllr.Footman queried whether there was an update on the old Council building – Cllr.Mrs.Baxter responded by stating a grant had been received and it had been agreed the building would be replaced with low-cost housing.

Agenda Item 8 was brought forward at this point:

Dementia Friendly Community:

Cllr.Mrs.Taylor reported the “group” had received a fantastic donation through the young people who had been doing their National Citizenship training.

Arrangements were now in place for the next “Day”.

A meeting had been arranged for the 17th October at 9am at Phoenix involving Wythall Walking.

Dr.Whittaker gave a brief report on the latest “Day” when more new faces were present when music had been provided by a local resident playing his ukulele.A Happy Day. Cakes had been donated by various local businesses and helpers.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Resolved 32/2018:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 19/7/2018 were noted and accepted as a true record of matters discussed with the following amendments/comments:

a) Declarations of Other Disclosable Interests:

Cllr.Mrs.Hession was a Trustee/Member of Wythall Community Association.

b) In the amendments to the Minutes dated 21/6/2018 Cllr.Footman had referred to the fact that the Accounts received from the Community Association were un-audited – he now apologised for this statement having discovered the Accounts were, in fact, audited.

c) Page 617 (b) should go back to Committee for approval of amendments prior to presenting them again to Full Council.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: None. Remove “Action Plan” from list.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Resolution 33/2018:

(a) to respond to WCC that, whilst the Parish Council raised no objection to the proposed parking and stopping restrictions on Shawhurst Lane outside the Schools, could consideration be given to a half-mile parking exclusion zone around the Schools.

ACTION: EO to respond to WCC’s consultation.

(b) to accept the quotation from Swiftwell Environmental Ltd totalling £300 plus VAT for the cutting back of tree branches around Parish owned lights.

ACTION: Accept quotation.

(c) to allow poly tunnels to be erected at the Allotment site as long as they did not exceed the size of a small greenhouse.

- (d) to note that the final report had been submitted in respect of Tesco Bags Grant which had proved to be very successful.
- (e) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6th September 2018 having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee.

FINANCE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

Resolution 30/2018:

- (a) to note a letter from Cllr.Footman advising of his intention to step down from representing the Parish Council at Worcestershire CALC Executive and Bromsgrove Area CALC with immediate effect.
The Chairman of the Council had already written to Cllr.Footman thanking him for his past services on behalf of the Council. Cllr.Mrs.Baxter expressed a personal “thank you” not just for the time but the contribution Cllr.Footman had made to both the Executive and Area Committees.
If any member wished to be considered to take over from Cllr.Footman they should contact the Executive Officer.
- (b) to respond to the BDC Licensing Act 2003 Consultation on Draft Review Statement of Licensing Policy that the Parish Council had nothing to add to their previous comments.

ACTION: EO to notify BDC as above.
- (c) it was agreed to consider a suggestion put forward from the Community Services Committee that a Facebook page be set up for the Parish Council, together with using other social media facilities. A Social Media Policy to be formulated for the next Finance Meeting when this item will receive further consideration.

ACTION: As above.
- (d) to note and accept the figures in respect of Bank/Budgets for July and August 2018.
- (e) having noted all the information provided at an informal meeting held with representatives of the Community Association attended by Cllr.Mrs.Baxter; Cllr.Mrs.Taylor; Cllr.Bibbings and the Executive Officer, it was resolved to
 - (i) honour the contents of the “grant” letter dated 25th June 2018 but would still want to see a recovery plan, i.e. how the Association are aiming to increase their income. The Grant being ring-fenced to cover the cost of the Park Groundsmen.
 - (ii) pay the instalments in respect of July, August and September 2018 totalling £3600.
A vote was taken on the above with the result being seven “for” with Cllrs.Mrs.Webb MBE; Cllr.Mrs.Baxter; Cllr.Mrs.Hession and Cllr.Bibbings abstaining.

(f) to accept the schedule of payments in respect of August and September 2018 noting that those in respect of August had been dealt with under delegated powers, i.e. Finance Regulations FSO 5.2
Noting that the payment of £5275 plus VAT in respect of Prysmian related to Electrical Testing carried out in 2014 prior to entering into a Maintenance Contract – Prysmian had overlooked issuing the Invoice.

(g) to note Prysmian had advised an increase of 5% on their current rate of £32.65 per point per annum as from October 2018 – revised rate £34.28.
The EO to clarify whether all lanterns had been replaced as per the Contract.

ACTION: EO to report back to Finance Committee on the above.

(h) to ratify in retrospect a bank transfer in the sum of £15000 from the CCLA Investment Account to the Current Account.

(i) To renew the Contract with Mr.Robert Wood to act as Council's Internal Auditor at a fee of £300 for a further twelve months as from May 2018.

(j) to accept a quotation from Swiftwell Environmental Ltd in the sum of £380 plus VAT for the cutting of the boundary hedges at 37 Silver Street (former Parish Office).

ACTION: EO to notify the Contractor and arrange a date for the work to be carried out.

(k) to adopt the Information Security Policy as presented.

(l) to note the contents of correspondence received from the Shakespeare Line Promotion Group and to confirm to the Group that the Parish Council supports their aims.

ACTION: EO to write as above.

(m) not to adopt the GDPR/Subject Access Requests Policy (SAR) as presented with some amendments as agreed previously and refer back to the Finance Committee,

ACTION: As above.

(n) to stage a "Parish Open Day" possibly in October at the Britannia Room, Wythall House – 2pm until 8pm. Details to be advised.

ACTION: Arrange "Day".

(o) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 12th September 2018 having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee.

PLANNING:**Resolved 31 /2018:**

- (a) to note the Minutes of the Meetings held on the 13/8 2018 and the 10/9/2018 applications dealt with under Standing Orders for Committees (4(d) Parish Standing Orders.

8. **DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY:** This item was dealt with after Agenda item 4

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

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, 18th October 2018 at 7.30 pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

SIGNED:.....CHAIRMAN

DATED: 18th October 2018

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

- (a) Mrs.Joyce Webb, Houndsfield Lane – activities relating to the crushing of hardcore on the site opposite her dwelling – dust problem! Cllr.Turner said he would deal with this through Environmental Services. She expressed her disappointment at the state of Wythall Park whilst appreciating it is not run by the Parish Council. Queried why Bromsgrove DC did not help fund the Park when Wythall residents pay their rates but do not have a Park (other than a “private” one) whilst Bromsgrove residents have a Park that cannot be reached by public transport from Wythall. Concerned as regards S3 bus service – broke down causing her to wait over an hour for a replacement. Not enough bus shelters in Wythall. Used to be proud to say she lived in Wythall but cannot say the same now. Cllr.Mrs.Baxter resonded by saying she totally agreed with Mrs.Webb – Wythall residents pay rates enabling them to use Sanders Park but cannot get there on public transport. Most Councils are extremely short of funds at the moment and Wythall Park is maintained by a team of volunteers. Funding has been obtained via the S106 money emanating from local developments which has enabled upgrading the Children’s Play area and adult exercise equipment etc.

The Parish Council has, again, awarded them a Grant for the maintenance of the Par (34 acres).

Concern was expressed as regards the amount of dog fouling in the Park. County Cllr. Adam Kent added his comments regarding the Park which, in his opinion, is so badly mis-managed.

Dr. Whittaker commented on the loss of local groups, i.e. the History Group etc and her concern that the “community” could be taken over by developments – for instance, could those responsible for the Community Association sell off the land at some time in the future.

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