

## WYTHALL PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE WYTHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019 AT THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Ahmed  
Councillor Blewitt  
Councillor Helen Cleaver  
Councillor Mrs Dempsey  
Councillor K Footman  
Councillor Mrs Kingston  
Councillor S Peters  
Councillor Miss Powell  
Councillor Mrs Taylor  
Councillor L Turner  
Councillor Miss Wright  
Councillor D Yates

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ruth Mullett Acting Clerk to the Council  
There were 25 members of the public in attendance

Prior to commencement of the meeting there was a fifteen-minute period for public question time. This period is not part of the formal meeting and does not form part of the minutes themselves but a summary of the questions raised were: -

1. **Planning application 19/00865 – 18 and 20 Lea Green Lane, Wythall – demolition of 2 dwellings on 18 and 20 Lea Green Lane and the erection of 13 new dwellings (10 apartments and 3 houses).** The majority of residents in attendance raised concern over the above proposed planning application. The Chairman agreed that the council would call an extra Planning Committee to be held in July/August. She would also ensure the application would be called into Bromsgrove Planning Committee. Residents were advised to send their concerns in writing to the Parish Office, log them on the Planning Portal, District Councillor and their local MP.
2. **Planning application 19/00854 – Wellington Yard, rear of 36 Middle Lane, Kings Norton – change of use of land for siting of shipping containers for use for secure storage and removal of existing buildings – again same as above.**

**At this point the Chairman announced that, under standing orders, she would table a motion to invoke SO10(a)(xi) at the end of the Agenda due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed under Agenda Items 11(d) and (e).**

#### 1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs Baxter, Cllr Mrs Hession and Cllr Rattigan and these were accepted by all members present.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Chairman asked all members present to declare any personal or prejudicial interest on any items on the Agenda.

### **Other Disclosable Interest**

Cllr Helen Cleaver Item 5.2 (f) Village Hall Trustee

## 3. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S

**Cllr Kent** – Submitted a written report:

**Street works** – *I have received agreement for new lineage on both the Alcester Road and in Majors Green to assist in encouraging drivers to reduce speeds.*

*The lineage is a wider centre line combined with edge of carriageway marking to encourage drivers to allow more room near the kerb.*

*I am sure this will assist cyclist and pedestrian safety and reduce speeds.*

**Pavement Parking Consultation** – *The Parish Council have received the scheme notice to implement a pavement parking ban around the roads adjacent to the schools on Shawhurst Lane. The scheme is designed to be similar to that implemented in Dickens Heath and if approved is likely to be the first such scheme in Worcestershire.*

### **Broadband**

*I am continuing in conjunction with Worcestershire County Council assisting with several Broadband improvement schemes in Wythall which are progressing through the system.*

**Police – speeding – crime** – *I have had a meeting this week with the Police and Crime Commissioner the Local Inspector and the head of the Safety Road Partnership.*

*Raised at the meeting were the issues with my request for additional speed monitoring location areas discussed are Hollywood Lane, Peterbrook Road and Truemans Heath Lane funding for the sites is available, permission and acceptance being sought. The response was that the speeds in Hollywood Lane are that high that we need to look at engineering works to reduce speeds which are now being investigated, Truemans Heath Lane will require a reduction of the 60mph limit to allow for enforcement which I am also working on. Peterbrook Road should be able to accommodate a motor cyclist.*

*I am continuing to push for the Alcester Road to have a blanket 30mph limit the new lineage will assist in supporting this claim.*

*I am also looking at the options to provide a gated entry for Wythall again with a view to raising awareness of the village entry and assist towards reduction of speed. I may well need support from the parish on this item.*

*Also raised was the increased number of nitrous oxide cartridges being found in the area, the Inspector is going to look at educational programs with local schools to raise awareness of the illegal usage of these items and the dangers to users.*

*As reported Middle Lane's speed sign has been ordered and will be installed imminently.*

**Beaudesert Road/May Lane – Park/Nature Reserve** – *I have received excellent feedback on this topic and currently am sharing this with relevant parties to develop a scheme that meets the needs of the residents who have replied. Once a scheme has been proposed we can move forward with the various options.*

**Electric Charging Points** – *Wythall will be benefitting from the successful grant application at Bromsgrove for a roll out of charging points. This is a great step towards reducing our carbon footprint and local air quality, the first of many.*

**Smartwater** – *We will be continuing distribution of Smartwater leading into Winter for those who have not yet received a kit. The sessions will be advertised and will be for collection from Wythall Park.*

**Cllr Hotham** – Apologies received and no report given

#### 4. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S

**Cllr Denaro** – confirmed the traveller encampment in Hopwood had been granted at appeal.

On the last day of enforcement at the property in Church Close, the applicants submitted an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness.

An explanation was given as to the difference between Wythall Community Association and Wythall Club.

**Cllr Mrs Hession** – apologies given and written report submitted

*I met residents and the Enforcement Team from Bromsgrove District Planning, plus the owners of the site in Houndsfield Lane where there is digger and training activity. The owner has requested retrospective planning permission. This has been going on for a long time, before I became Ward Representative. I am hoping to get this moved along somewhat.*

*I attended a meeting with a number of agencies – Council, District, County plus senior members of the Police regarding some issues arising from a property in Selsdon Close ref. anti-social behaviour.*

*I am continuing to work with Cllr Turner and Woodrush School regarding the adoption of the station.*

*Recently supporting the school with their WW2 project.*

*Instigated a donation to the Neighbourhood Watch Team at Majors Green, where they have recruited over 40 residents to their scheme and highlighted a number of vulnerable residents. They are now looking at Street Watch and working with the local SNT Police Team.*

*Finally, I am continuing to support residents with regards to some concerns on the Cornfields Estate on Selsdon Close, such as dangerous light fittings which the builder installed, plus the overgrown stream into the soak pool. Cllr Hotham felt the flood/waterways team would have actioned clearing and cutting the overgrowth and damaged verges.*

*The Parklands Estate off Gorsey Lane have complained about parking. New estates seem to lack adequate parking space.*

*Local speeding continues to be high on the agenda.*

**Cllr. Mrs Baxter** – Apologies received and no report given.

#### 5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 5.1 Due to exceptional circumstances, the minutes of the previous meeting were not available. They will be ready for approval at the next full council meeting.

## 5.2 COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Community Services

A verbal report was given on the Community Services Committee meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> July with the following actions to be taken.

- (a) **Worcestershire County Council** - A Proposed Prohibition of Parking on Footways and Verges on Various Roads in Hollywood had been received from Worcestershire County Council with a response date of 16<sup>th</sup> August 2019. Cllr Footman asked whether we could secure an extension on our submission date until after the next Community Services Committee to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

**ACTION** : Acting Clerk to contact Worcestershire CC

- (b) **Fairways/Urban Mowing Contract** – the committee again discussed the poor standard of workmanship with regards the mowing contract. The recommendation from the committee was to pay the June invoice and to monitor their performance and take photographic evidence of the mowing and forward these to the parish office. This would then form evidence if it was decided to go down the route of sending the Contractor a written warning. It was agreed to take this course of action with one abstention - Cllr Miss Wright.

**ACTION** : Pay June invoice and monitor and take photographs of the grass cutting.

- (c) It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019 having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee.

### **Finance, Policy & Resources Committee**

A verbal report was given on the Finance, Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019 with the following actions to be taken.

- (a) **Key Safe** - It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to purchase a key safe to be installed on the front of the office with a budget of no more than £60.00 to include fitting.

**ACTION** : Source a suitable key safe and take to the next Finance Committee

- (b) It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to note and accept the bank/budget figures in respect of June 2019.

- (c) It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the schedule of payments in respect of June 2019.
- (d) It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to arrange a transfer of funds from CCLA to Lloyds Current Account in the sum of £10,000.
- (d) **37 Silver Street (former Parish Office)** To be discussed outside the Agenda.
- (e) It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to grant £200.00 to the Wythall and District Poppy Appeal under the power LGA 1972, s. 145.
- (f) It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019 having noted and endorsed the interim actions taken by the Committee.

### **Planning**

- (g) It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to ratify the decisions made at the Planning Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019.
- (a) It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019 having noted, endorsed and ratified interim actions taken by the Committee.

## **6 PAROCHIAL INTEREST FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

- (a) Dementia Friendly Village – Cllr Mrs Taylor gave a report on the Café and confirmed that a grant of £1,250.00 from the Dramatic Society had been received which will be used to purchase dementia aids.

**The Chairman invoked Standing Orders, tabling a Motion under SO110(xi) due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed under Agenda Item 5.3.**

### **6. 37 Silver Street (former PC Office)**

Cllr Footman gave an update on the current position with regards the lease. The lease is currently a rolling lease rather than a fixed term. The tenant being responsible for the maintenance of the interior fabric and the Parish Council being responsible for the exterior. The tenant has written to outline his solicitors' views on what would be part of a new fixed term lease. Nine years with a two-year break clause. The maintenance of the property as currently existing. Advice is being sought from Worcestershire CALC for recommendation of a solicitor specialising in this type of work.

Whilst the tenant is responsible for the interior maintenance there has been water penetration from the roof area for which the parish council has accepted responsibility and limited reinstatement costs. This issue is still outstanding and it was unanimously agreed to obtain three quotations and rectify this position as soon as possible.

**ACTION:**

It was agreed the Clerk should act as above and report back to the next Finance Meeting.

**The Chairman reinstated Standing Orders.**

7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Thursday, 19th September 2019 at 7.30 pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CHAIRMAN**

**DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT