

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bearley Parish Council held in the Village Hall at 7.00pm on 14 March 2016

Present: Cllr Arslan Erinmez (Chair); Cllr Richard Le Page; Cllr Andrew Spiller; SDC Cllr Simon Lawton; and WCC Cllr John Horner (for part of meeting)

Parish Clerk: Mrs Jennifer Bendall

Public: 4 present for all or part of the meeting

Apologies: None.

1. Chairman's notice regarding the recording and filming of the meeting

The Chairman's notice regarding the recording and filming of meetings was read out.

2. Declaration of Interest (existence and nature) on Items on the Agenda

None.

3. Public Forum (subject to a time limit of 15 minutes)

The members of the public who were present did not raise any issues. The Chairman advised that he had attended the Warwickshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) briefing day and that some interesting matters were discussed. Following an enquiry that had been made to the Chairman regarding the 229 bus service through the village, the Chairman asked the Clerk to find out who can authorise bus route / bus stop changes (Warwickshire County Council or the operator).

4. To Approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18 January 2016 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 25 February 2016

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18 January 2016 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 25 February 2016 were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

5. County and District Council Liaison

SDC Cllr Lawton gave an overview of current activity with Stratford District Council including the planning core strategy, the West Midlands Combined Authority and information about Council Tax for the forthcoming year.

WCC Cllr Horner's report is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 1.

6. To Receive an Update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Stephenie Hawkins gave a brief update on the NPSG and advised that there had been no further changes since the last meeting and that the next meeting to be arranged will discuss if Bearley should continue with a neighbourhood plan.

7. To Receive an Update from the Village Hall Trust

Graham Musson updated the Council on the current status of the Village Hall, and his report is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 2.

8. To Receive an Update from the Friends of Bearley Park

Cllr Spiller advised that he has resigned as Chairman of the Friends of Bearley Park, but confirmed that he is still willing to help out. The recent car wash was a success with over £200 raised. The charge for hire of the Village Hall is to be confirmed, and other expenditure was minimal. The Friends of Bearley Park lottery was launched at the car wash with a number of tickets being sold.

9. To Discuss the Stratford Gliding Club Appeal Hearing and to Agree to the Noise Consultant to Attend the Hearing as may be required

The Chairman advised that the Inspector assessing the Stratford Gliding Club's appeal had decided to hold a public hearing where the Parish Council and other objectors could make representations. Discussion took place concerning the attendance at the hearing of the noise consultant who had carried out an assessment of the Gliding Club winch on behalf of the Parish Council ~~last Autumn in November 2015, and. This report whose report~~ had been submitted to ~~Stratford District Council~~ [to the Planning Inspector](#) along with the Parish Council's ~~objections comments~~ at that time. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the noise consultant to enquire about his availability to attend a hearing and also what his fees would be to do so. Once this information is to hand, an Extraordinary Meeting will be called to discuss and agree how the Parish Council proceeds.

10. To Receive an Update on Speed Limit Reduction

It was noted that the request to reduce the speed limit through Bearley had been agreed by WCC, and that an order had been placed for the scheme to be installed in June or July 2016.

11. To Discuss Amendments to Audit Procedure, and to Agree if BPC should Opt In or Opt Out

The Clerk explained the changes that had been made to the Audit Procedure and advised that under these changes Parish Council's with a turnover of more than £25k could opt out of the Smaller Authorities Audit Appointment (SAAA) although they would still need a limited assurance audit. Recommendation from the Warwickshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) is that Parish Councils should opt in. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that Bearley Parish Council would opt in.

12. To Discuss Changes to Financial Regulations as Advised by NALC, and to Agree to Update BPC Financial Regulations Accordingly

The Clerk advised the Parish Council on the changes that had been made to the Model Financial Regulations by NALC, and it was agreed to update Bearley Parish Council's Financial Regulations in line with these changes. It was also agreed that the Clerk could make purchases on behalf of the Parish Council using a personal debit or credit card and reclaim the expenses subject to a valid receipt or invoice being submitted, and the Financial Regulations were also updated to reflect this amendment. The Clerk to forward the revised Financial Regulations to all Councillors for their records. The Clerk advised that the changes to the Financial Regulations affected the Parish Council's Standing Orders, and that these would be reviewed at the meeting to be held in May.

13. To Discuss the Refurbishment of Parish Notice Boards

The Clerk advised that she had investigated the costs of replacement, lockable noticeboards and it was agreed that the costs were prohibitive. Cllr Le Page confirmed that Mr John Inman had offered to refurbish the noticeboards and make any repairs that were necessary. The Chairman expressed thanks to Mr Inman for his kind offer, and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to him to confirm that the Parish Council would like him to proceed, and to liaise with Cllr Le Page. As the noticeboards are made of hard wood and it is very difficult to get drawing pins in and out of it, the Parish Councillors agreed that the Clerk should purchase a staple gun to make displaying notices easier. It was also agreed that Cllr Le Page would draft a notice to be displayed on the noticeboards confirming who is allowed to display notices, and that all external organisations wishing to use the noticeboards should liaise with the Clerk

14. To Discuss Lighting of Beacons for Queen's 90th Birthday on 21 April 2016

Following discussion of the health and safety implications of ~~lighting having~~ a beacon and insuring ~~thean~~ event to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday on Thursday 21 April, along with the nearness of that date and the likely poor-turnout if held mid-week, it was agreed to celebrate the Queen's birthday at the Summer Fete to be held in August. The Parish Council to contact village organisations to ask them to support the Fete.



15. To Discuss Preparations for Annual Parish Meeting on 25 April 2016

Discussion took place concerning the best day to hold the Annual Parish Meeting and what could be done to encourage more ~~people-residents~~ to attend. It was agreed that for 2016 the original date would stand (Monday 25 April). ~~The Parish clerk would to~~ write to Village Institutions notifying them of the meeting and requesting a presentation of activities. It was agreed that all households within the parish would receive a flyer through the door, and that posters would be displayed throughout the parish. It was agreed that a guillotine would be purchased for the Clerk to create the flyers. When writing to the parish organisations to invite them to report to the Parish Council, the Clerk is to advise that there is a projector available if required. The Clerk is to approach the WI to ask if they will provide tea and coffee. It was agreed that the Parish Council would look into making changes to the format of the meeting and the day of the week that it is held for ~~the next and~~ future years.

16. Finance Report

(Circulated to Members prior to meeting)

- 13.1 Payments made since last meeting - noted
- 13.2 Payments received since last meeting - noted
- 13.3 Income/expenditure year to date - noted
- 13.4 Invoices received for payment - approved

17. Planning Matters

- 13.1 To Note Planning Applications Received
Rivendell, Snitterfield Road 16/00648/FUL (to be actioned once recommendations received from Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group)
- 13.2 To Note Planning Applications Received and Actioned Under Delegated Powers
None.
- 19.3 To Note Notices of Decisions Received
7 Cherry Lane 15/04140/FUL – permission with conditions
Manor Cottage, Snitterfield Road 15/04287/LBC – consent granted with conditions
The Coach House, Snitterfield Road 15/04339/LBC – consent granted with conditions
The Coach House, Snitterfield Road 15/04333/FUL – permission with conditions

18. Correspondence and Communications Report

Noted. The Clerk drew attention to correspondence concerning piles of rubbish belonging to The Garden Furniture Centre on the Windows Are Us site. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to both The Garden Furniture Centre and the landowner requesting that the site be cleared up.

19. Date of Next Meeting

25 April 2016 7.00pm – Annual Parish Meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.00pm

APPENDIX 1

County Councillor Report - Aston Cantlow Division

The Council met on February 23 to allocate an additional one off £3 million transitional to help cushion the additional £10 million per year savings required by the Autumn settlement. A further £10 per year savings will be required in 2017/18 financial year. £540,000 was put into short term reserves, £500,000 went to adult social care, £300,000 for mental health issues of children and young people, £100,000 for road safety education, £108,000 to support libraries, £42,000 for arson reduction patrols and £300,000 for family support work allied to the County's 0-5 strategy.

At the same meeting the Council considered an invitation from West Midlands Combined Authority to join as a Constituent member. This would give Warwickshire the same rights and responsibilities as the other founding metropolitan boroughs, such as Solihull and Coventry. If Warwickshire takes up this offer then it would also mean that Warwickshire comes under the jurisdiction of an elected Metropolitan Mayor and this subservience would extend to the activities of the Districts in Warwickshire as well as the County. The Council decided to commission a business case from officers for joining, or not, within six months at which point it would come back to Council.

WCC is recruiting school crossing patrol staff (lollipop ladies and gentlemen) but not in our area. However I have discovered that a Parish Council can pay for a crossing patrol even if the criteria does not justify a WCC funded operation.

£500,000 of the £1 million allocated by WCC for grants to small businesses has already been used up. For more information and to check the eligibility of a project please visit: <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/businessgrants> or contact Warwickshire County Council's Economy and Skills Group on Tel: 01926 412709.

John Horner
01926 842068

APPENDIX 2

Bearley Village Hall Trust – Update to Bearley Parish Council Meeting 14th March 2016

Much has been happening with the Village Hall Trust and the following is a brief update:

- Lettings for 2015/6 year to date are up compared with the previous year.
- The income from the Bearley Sports and Social Club is consistent and helping with finances.
- After many years without increase the rates for the hire of the Hall to Bearley organisations has been reviewed and the new prices will be effective 1st April 2016.
- The push for grants and donations is progressing well:
 - SDC Digital Inclusion £3,996 received – Wi-Fi and supporting residents to use the internet.
 - WCC Councillors Grant £1,000 received– Upgrade pa system
 - FoBV – £600 Hearing Loop system.
 - FoBV – £350 Hot water boiler for kitchen.
 - Reviewing Grant Application for acoustic panels and new lighting in Hall
- In addition to the work highlighted by the grants and donations there is still much capital and maintenance work to be done and not all has yet been identified:
 - Electrical and Emergency Lighting. Testing complete however remedial work to be undertaken
 - Refurbish kitchen
 - Porch - complete
 - Replacement of original wooden windows and doors to changing rooms
 - New CCTV system required suggested by the police following recent incursions
 - Sewage system requiring increased maintenance
 - Car Park markings including disabled bays
 - Outhouse – repair doors and roof – conjunction with Cricket Club
 - Sports Field Drainage
 - Need for additional storage.

Whilst with the receipt of the grant monies from SDC and WCC the financial position of the Trust is improving the Trust will still very much rely on the BPC repaying the Overdraft/Loan Account as agreed when the new Hall was built. The amount outstanding at 31st March 2016 will be £13,972,38.

With the continued support of BPC and the Policy of actively applying for grants and donations it is hoped that in 3-5 years the Hall will be in a much better state than presently.

The above is being progressed by the Trustees who as dedicated, hardworking volunteers are key to the actions detailed above and in meeting the Objectives of the Trust.

In addition thanks to Kizzy Warner who has helped in the gaining of additional lettings as well as keeping the premises clean and tidy as Caretaker and Aidie Smith who has made the grounds and car park much more presentable.

Graham Musson
Bearley Village Hall Trust

14th March 2016