

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bearley Parish Council held in the Village Hall at 7.00pm on Monday 16 January 2017

Present: Cllr Arslan Erinmez (Chair); Cllr Richard Le Page; Cllr Andrew Spiller; SDC Cllr J Horner & SDC Cllr S Lawton
Parish Clerk: Nicola Everall
Public: 3 members of the public were in attendance for all or part of the meeting
 Sarah Brooke-Taylor was also in attendance
Apologies: No Apologies had been received.

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.

1. Record of members present

Noted.

2. Apologies and acceptance of reasons for absence

Noted.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

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

Discussion took place concerning trains from Solihull not stopping at Bearley and Councillor S Lawton was asked to contact London Midland, the railway company to ask for a review of this matter.

5. To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 21 November 2016

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 21 November were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

6. County & District Council Liaison

Councillor J Horner reported that the County Council Administration had released its draft budget for the next four years after the Cabinet meeting on 8 December 2016. The savings target of £67million would be delivered by spending £5 million on changing the way the Council delivers its services. Council Tax was to increase by 2% to cover general services and an extra 2% to help fund Adult Social Care. Services would be targeted at the vulnerable in our communities.

These proposals will go forward to the full Council for approval on 2 February 2017.

Councillor S Lawton reported on the budget for SDC and the accounts for 2016/17 year were looking very healthy, thanks largely to an increase in the New Homes Bonus (NHB) from central government. That bonus had increased this year by £600,000. SDC anticipated the NHB to continue to increase in the future and have budgeted for circa £2.5m in the short to medium term. This increase has come about as a result of having a Core Strategy in place.

Earlier in 2016 SDC agreed not to continue its shared services with Cherwell and South Northants.

Major one off expenses had occurred in 2016 such as the examination of the Core Strategy, the refurbishment of the Leisure Centre and an overhaul of the IT systems at the Council.

Future years were currently predicted to make a small deficit, largely due to the change from S.106 to CIL but, SDC does expect to have income into the Council to maintain its currently healthy standing.

Councillor S Lawton gave an update about Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

The Planning Inspector requested that a further evidence study be undertaken, particularly in respect to the new development at Long Marston Airfield.

The report received by the Council from third party planning experts suggested that SDC should not charge the full CIL requirement on the new development. That information was passed to Council in early December and unanimously voted against. The decision of the Planning Inspector is imminent.

SDC were therefore now waiting for the Planning Inspector to finalise her report on the CIL plan, which was imminent.

Gypsy & Traveller Plan will soon be open for public consultation.

The new development at Long Marston Airfield had been given Garden Village status by the Government.

The Government had awarded 12 other developments across the country Garden Village status, which will allow respective Councils access to £6m in funding to help support the delivery of the scheme. That includes support for infrastructure, but more importantly the two primary and one secondary school on the site.

Following SDC's decision on 12th December 2016 to remove permitted development rights at Wellesbourne Airfield, a number of emails and calls from residents asking for clarification on what this means.

It had been widely reported that the owners of the airfield issued notice to all businesses on site, that they would not be renewing their tenancy agreements from December 2016.

In November, SDC received notification that, following the eviction of the businesses on site, all buildings were being prepared to be demolished. Action was therefore taken to prevent that from happening by removing the permitted development rights on the land. That means a planning application is required to demolish any building at the airfield.

Included in that decision was the option to explore purchase of the site including through compulsory purchase. This is an option open to the Council. It had not been formally agreed that the Council will purchase the site, as was reported in the local press.

The reason this decision has been taken was to maintain the airfield's current use and to protect our Core Strategy.

If, through planning or via a government inspector, the land is granted permission for housing then the Local Plan will be under threat. It will be opened up to legal challenge by developers across the district and SDC could find themselves once again entirely open and exposed to uncontrolled development.

Following the adoption of the Core Strategy last July, SDC had undertaken a Strategic Review in order to prioritise infrastructure projects and focus on how to best deliver the Core Strategy effectively. In October a survey was distributed to the Councils Citizens Panel and the results had been collated through November ahead of the December Council meeting.

On 9th February there would be a public presentation by portfolio holders and the MP Nadhim Zahawi, on the findings of the survey and plans to implement those findings.

Councillor S Lawton encouraged members to attend to hear what was being proposed. The meeting was to be held at 6pm in the Arts House.

7. To Receive an Update on Stratford on Avon Gliding Club

Councillor A Erinmez expressed concern regarding low flying gliders and the lack of compliance and he asked Councillor S Lawton to intervene, Councillor S Lawton said he was only able to ask Officers to assist, but had not received enough complaints in the past to justify a visit from Officers.

8. Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC)

Sarah Brooke-Taylor addressed the Parish Council and suggested exercising a Housing Needs Survey, as it had been five years since the last survey.

A template form and letter was circulated and it was suggested that those documents be tailored to suit the residents of the village.

Sarah Brooke-Taylor offered to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on 24 April 2017 to give advice and further information to residents. Based on a WRCC template the letters and forms would then be printed free of charge by WRCC and hand delivered to each household in the village by the Parish Council. Surveys could then be posted directly to WRCC free of charge.

Councillors agreed that they would edit the letter and form to make it specific to Bearley.

There were currently 16 households in Bearley on the current SDC waiting list awaiting rehousing.

The Clerk was asked to contact Orbit Housing Association to ascertain how many empty properties there were in Bearley.

9. To Receive an Update on Flood Prevention Measures

Councillor R Le Page reported that Warwickshire County Council were attempting to find a replacement for Paul Rimen, the previous contact at the Council, but were having problems with recruiting. Councillor R Le Page had made contact with Barry Ridgway who was Paul's Manager, and had sent him the requests that the PC had made on two previous occasions, for an update on proposed actions following the camera work and flood report from early 2016 and Councillor R Le Page was to pursue the matter.

10. Grass Cutting Contract

Three quotes had been received, but it was agreed that in order to properly compare each quote, clarity was required and the Clerk was asked to contact one of the companies seeking further information. The Clerk and the Chairman were authorised to make a decision based on the most economic quote once the information had been received.

11. Review of Burial Ground Charges & Forms

The Clerk was asked to seek information from other Parish Councils to ascertain if they had made increases in their burial ground fees.

12. Confirmation of Date for the Parish Assembly

It was confirmed that the Parish Assembly would be held on 24 April 2017.

13. Adoption of NALC Document LTN40

It was agreed that the Parish Council adopt NALC document Legal Topic Note Documents & Records (LTN40) and the Clerk was asked to add this to the Council's Policies & Procedures to be reviewed after twelve months.

14. Adoption of NALC Document LTN40

It was agreed that the Parish Council adopt the Warwickshire Local Council's Charter as recommended by WALC.

15. Precept 2017/2018

It was agreed unanimously to make no increase in the Precept for the ensuing financial year and the Parish Council's Precept remain the same as the current financial year. The Clerk was asked to notify the District Council.

16. Finance Report

(Circulated to Members prior to meeting)

- 11.1 Payments made since last meeting - noted
- 11.2 Payments received since last meeting - noted
- 11.3 Income/expenditure year to date - noted
- 11.4 Invoices received for payment - approved

17. Planning Matters

- 12.1 Planning Applications Received
17/00065/FUL Planet Exhibitions, Airmanship Hall, Snitterfield Road, Bearley
To support the application
- 12.2 Planning Applications Received and Actioned Under Delegated Powers
None.
- 12.3 Planning Application Appeals Notice of Decision Received
None.
- 12.4 Notices of Decisions Received
16/03834/HHPA – 133 Grange Road – Prior Approval not required

18. Correspondence and Communications Report

Noted. Discussion took place regarding Boiler Scams and it was agreed to ensure that the item be inserted in the Bearley Beacon.

19. Date of Next Meeting

20 March 2017 - Ordinary Meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 pm.