**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT**

**LOWSONFORD VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 11 JUNE 2015**

P.Cllr. J Gaffey (In the Chair)

P.Cllr. Mrs N Clarke

P.Cllr. M North

P. Cllr. G Bull

P.Cllr. Mrs M Bull

P.Cllr. Mrs D Weir

P.Cllr. G Coombs

The Clerk

Two members of the Public

**23 APOLOGIES**

None

**24 CHANGES TO PUBLISHED AGENDA**

None

**25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS RELATING TO PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Cllr. Bull declared an interest in Minute 33 being a member of Rowington Village Hall Management Committee

**26 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2015**

**Resolved that the** Minutes of 14 May 2015 as previously circulated to Councillors be approved as a true record [NC/MB]

**27 QUESTIONS/OBSERVATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (Limited to 15 minutes)**

Richard and Julie Graddon were in attendance to explain the details of their planning application and to answer any questions Councillors might have regarding said application. Mr and Mrs Graddon provided full size plans and photographs for Councillors to examine.

**28 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

C. Cllr. Mrs Jose Compton provided the following report:

* Cllr. Mrs Compton had not been present at the last PC meeting as she had attended the Community Forum meeting at which Rowington Village Hall had been granted funding to assist with the upgrade of the village hall car park
* WCC Cabinet had discussed the current proposals for authorities to amalgamate and form larger authorities but at the present time there was not much enthusiasm from WCC for any such merger. However discussions continued with abutting authorities in an effort to fully explore the possibilities
* The WCC budget had also been considered and with a few overspends and a few underspends finances were currently all within the projected tolerances
* Cllr. Mrs Compton reported as a point of interest for Rowington PC that Cllr. Les Caborn had now taken over the Health portfolio at WCC.

The Parish Council welcomed their two new District Councillors – Mrs Sue Gallagher (WDC Culture) and Mr Peter Whiting (WDC Finance). Cllrs. Whiting and Mrs Gallagher provided the following report:

* The major issue at Warwick District Council was the Local Plan. The findings of the Inspector in particular, is that there is an identified unmet housing need in Coventry and Warwickshire (at least 234 dwellings per annum) which WDC will be required to address (jointly with other authorities in the Housing Market Area) before the Plan can proceed. The Inspector has stated that regardless of whether WDC needs to provide more houses to contribute towards the unmet housing need, the total supply of houses set out in the Plan is not sufficient to meet the district’s housing requirement. The extent to which additional sites may need to be allocated in the district and the location of any sites is not known and will require further work and consultation in the coming months.

It is envisaged that although WDC have not discounted withdrawing the Plan, the implications of doing so are potentially so serious, that WDC will be writing to the Secretary of State asking him to consider calling-in the Local Plan and completing the Examination in Public.

**29 PLANNING MATTERS**

**29.a Considered by WDC:**

**W15/0362** **The Threshing Barn, Finwood Road, Rowington** – Erection of a 3 storey extension. **REFUSED**

**29.b To be considered by RPC**

**W 15 / 0722 Downlands, Mill Lane, Lowsonford** – Extension and alterations to existing dwelling. **Objections.** [ One Councillor had no objections to the proposal] Contrary to RAP2 (WDC Local Plan 1996-2011) and H14 (WDC Draft Local Plan 2011-2029).The proposed extensions are considered to be disproportionate being an overall increase of some 54% over and above the original dwelling as granted permission.

The increased ridge height is again contrary to the above local policies and is considered to significantly extend the visual impact of built development. The property is located on an elevated site which is visible from the surrounding area.

Whilst the Parish Council understand the need for improvements and upgrading to the existing dwelling, they cannot support the current proposals which appear excessive, particularly the increase in ridge height. Any extensions to dwellings should respect the location of the property and its visual impact on the wider area.

\*Cllr. Coombs left the meeting at this point due to another engagement.

**W15 / 0514 Woodley, Old Warwick Road**, **Rowington** . Proposed demolition of existing rear extensions and erection of a two storey rear extension. **No objections** (as previously submitted)

**W 15 / 0789** **Mousley Hill Cottage, Case Lane, Rowington** – Proposed demolition of existing detached double garage and existing porch. Creation of new dayroom, single storey inglenook fireplace and chimney to replace existing. New single storey extension to existing rear elevation to create WC, study and entrance hall. New detached double garage with new drive access with gates and pillars to Case Lane. **No objections subject to usual WCC Highways Consultation regarding the access arrangements**

**W 15 / 0828 Elephant & Castle, Old Warwick Road, Rowington** – Change of Use of land from agricultural to residential to create extension to garden. **Objections. Inappropriate development within the Green Belt.**

**W15 / 0644 + 0645LB Fleur de Lys, Lowsonford** – Erection of non-illuminated sign on existing hanging sign (Additional Information). **No objections**.

**29.c Other Planning/Enforcement matters**

Enforcement Item Pr2. Ardencote Manor banner/sign on C25 The Cumsey, plus potential planning breach. WDC Steve Hewitt dealing and had confirmed that he had visited the site and would provide an update shortly

Letter from Harlequin Group regarding **Proposed Base Station Installation at 107295 Land at Ivy House Farm, Finwood Road, Turners Green.** For comment. **No objections**

**30. PARISH DESIGN STATEMENT**

Update on progress by Steering Group. Deferred until September meeting.

**31. PARISH WEBSITE**

31.a Update (if any) [www.rowingtonpc.org.uk](http://www.rowingtonpc.org.uk). Clerk continues to add items to the website as and when received.

**32. LOCALITIES FORUM**

32.a Warwick Rural West Community Forum. Meeting: 14 May 2015.

Next meeting 24 September 2015 – Shire Hall, Warwick (Cllr Gaffey and Cllr. Mrs Weir)

**33 ROWINGTON AND LOWSONFORD VILLAGE HALLS**

33.a Reports (if any) to include successful Community Forum Grant application by Rowington Village Hallin the sum of £3000. Cllr Bull reported that work to the car park was scheduled for 13,14 and 16th July 2015.

**34. HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATHS AND TRANSPORT**

34.a WDC Flooding Reports (if any) plus details of WCC Small Scale Flood Alleviation Grant Scheme.

34.b WCC Temporary Road Closure B4439. Noted

34.c Ardencote Manor Sign on The Cumsey C25 / Speeding on The Cumsey- see Minute 29.c above. It was suggested that issue of speeding on the C25 should be raised at the Community Forum with a request that Warwickshire Police endeavour to address this longstanding problem.

34.d Reports by Councillors on any highway issues :

* Leaking water by St Luke’s Church, Lowsonford
* Overhanging trees on B4439 restricting the footpath opposite St Laurence Church.

34.e Reports by Councillors on any footpath issues. Reports Sheets due from – Cllr.Coombs

**35 PLAYING FIELD**

35.a Playing Field Inspection Reports - **Cllr. Coombs (26 April) Cllr. Gaffey (17 May) Cllr. Bull (07 June)Cllr. North (21 June) Cllr. Mrs Clarke (05 July).** Clerk to update playing field inspection sheet to include the new equipment

35.b Update on installation of new play equipment (Clerk). New equipment now installed.

35.c Query from resident regarding new football nets to be purchased by Rowing Action Group. Clerk confirmed that she had ordered a new set of football nets for the playing field following a request from former members of Rowington Action Group who still held some funds, previously collected towards playing field improvements.

**36 MEETINGS.TRAINING DAYS ATTENDED / FORTHCOMING**

36.a 16 Jun 2015 Induction Day – Being a Good Councillor and Clerk. Lapworth Village Hall 10.00am. Noted

36.b 27 Jun 2015 An Introduction to Planning Control for Town and Parish Councillors. Town Hall, Leamington Spa. 10.00am – 4.00pm. Noted

**37 CORRESPONDENCE**

37.a 21 May 15 WDC Visits by the Chairman of WDC and Advance Notice of Annual Parish Supper. Clerk had forwarded a list of PC meeting dates for consideration by the WDC Chairman

37.b 22 May 15 Landmark Trust – Kasia Howard. Letter of thanks to all those who helped to make the Golden weekend such a success. Noted

37.c Circulation Envelope:

WDC Council Meeting 20 May 2015; WDC Standards Committee Agenda 02 June 2015; CSW Broadband Update; WDC Small Grants Scheme 2015-2016

**38 FINANCE**

**38.a. Paid during the month:**

None

**38.b To be paid**

Clerk Salary & Allowance (May) £ 828.97

David Connolly – P. Field Inspections (11 & 25 May) £ 50.00

AMW Lawn Care (Playing Field) Inv. 4388 £ 170.21

Clerk – Replacement PC Battery £ 122.39

Rowington Village Hall – Donation S137. £ 1500.00

Sports Supplies – Football Nets £ 72.75

Severn Trent Water – Allotments £ 68.67

Cardiac Science (De Fib Pads Lowsonford) £ 34.74

**38.c Received:**

Bank of Ireland Interest (May 2015) £ 2.37

Resolved that the above items of finance be approved [NC/MB]

**38.d Items for consideration/information**

Annual Return 2014-2015 for approval and submission to Grant Thornton. Copy of Governance Statement circulated to Councillors with this agenda. Annual Return signed by Internal Auditor. Resolved that the Annual Return for 2014-2015 be approved. Chairman and RFO signed the Annual Return Form.

Clerk away on holiday 13th to 20th June. Noted

**39. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

None

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

**NEXT MEETING – Thursday 09 July 2015 at Rowington Village Hall**

Signed……………………………………………………………

Chairman

Date……………………………………………………………….