

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
ROWINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER 2017**

Present

Councillor J Gaffey (Chairman)
Councillor J Coles
Councillor I Henderson
Councillor D Lane
Councillor D Weir

Warwick District Councillor Mrs S Gallagher

Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall
No members of the public

267 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Cllr North, Warwick District Cllr P Whiting and County Cllr J Cooke.

268 Declarations of Interest & Dispensations Relating to Pecuniary Interests

Cllr Coles declared a pecuniary interest in item 275 below, relating to the planning application 17/1721 Old Beams, Lapworth Street, Bushwood and took no part in the discussion or voting.

Cllr Gaffey declared a pecuniary interest in item 275 below relating, to the planning application 17/1669 Land and barn abutting crossroads at Finwood Road and Old Warwick Road, Rowington and took no part in the discussion or voting.

269 Changes to Published Agenda

Additions to this agenda were made under Minutes 275 and 283 below.

270 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 September 2017

It was proposed by Cllr Henderson and seconded by Cllr Coles that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2017, having been previously circulated, be agreed and signed as a true record. No objections were raised or amendments requested.

271 Confidential Minute of the Meeting held on 14 September 2017

Under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press were excluded from the meeting for this item by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to an individual, information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual, and information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person.

The Chairman read the minute of the meeting held in a closed session on 14 September 2017 and it was proposed by Cllr Henderson and seconded by Cllr Coles that the minute, be agreed and signed as a true record. No objections were raised or amendments requested.

272 Questions from Members of the Public (Limited to 15 minutes)

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

273 Report from Warwick District Councillors S Gallagher & P Whiting

Cllr S Gallagher reported that the Local Plan had been approved and is now in place.

The relevant motions to set up the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) will follow shortly. One Parish and its residents have discussed the possibility of requesting a judicial review of the process of creating the plan - but no such legal action has yet been taken.

Planning applications had been submitted for Riverside House and the Covent Garden site in Leamington, and if approved, this will enable the next steps in the relocation of the WDC offices. This will result in savings of £300k per annum for WDC, a significant investment in the centre of Leamington, and the provision of a new multi-storey car park.

Following the recent WDC meeting, parishes should expect to see ongoing efforts to find possible gypsy and traveller sites, and as outlined, a transit site would help considerably to alleviate the growing problem of illegal encampments.

WDC finances continued to look in balance for the current year, though next year looked more problematic, with savings of some £200k required. While not a big sum, such savings were proving ever harder to identify.

Additionally, it was reported that the refurbishment of the Leisure Centres were proving very popular, helped by a recent event to publicise the new swimming pools.

274 Report from County Councillor

In his absence, Cllr Cooke submitted a report which was read out and is appended to these minutes.

275 Planning Matters

The following planning matters were considered and reported.

W17/1675	Farthing Piece, Mill Lane, Rowington Single storey front extension to garage with balcony above and single storey front extension	Object – The PC questioned whether the proposed extension resulted in the useable square meterage being greater than the guideline 30% increase from the original build. Furthermore, the PC noted that the proposal is not in keeping with the area
W17/1669	Land & Barn abutting Crossroads at Finwood Road and Old Warwick Road, Rowington Prior approval for the change of use of an agricultural barn into a single dwelling including associated operational development under Class Q(a) and Class Q(b).	Object – The Parish Council objects to the application and question if this is an agricultural barn or a shelter with respect to the provisions of the NPPF. This development is also in the Green Belt, and given its location, and the proposed access, poses serious road safety issues
W17/1721	Old Beams, Lapworth Street, Bushwood Proposed erection of a dwelling	Object - this application is in a Conservation Area, the Green Belt and is sited opposite two Listed Buildings. Concerns are raised regarding the ancient hedgerow, which may be impacted upon by the development. Additionally, the proposed new dwelling is not in keeping with the architecture of the surrounding area, and will have a detrimental effect on traffic.
W17/1724	Land at Meadow House/Kingswood Farm Development of 38 residential dwellings together with associated access, parking, open space and landscaping	Object – Overdevelopment of the area. The proposed development would create serious issues relating to access and egress, onto Old Warwick Road. There are also concerns regarding the potential for flooding and no via drainage in the area. There seems to be no sense of character to the development and is out of keeping of the area. Thus creating the appearance of a suburban estate in a rural setting. Cllr Henderson confirmed that he would attend the Planning Meeting to speak on behalf of the PC.

Current Planning Appeals

W14/0083 Glenthorne, Five Ways Road, Shrewley – Appeal Upheld

276 Parish Design Statement (PDS)

In the absence of Cllr North, the item was deferred to the next meeting.

277 Website

No issues to report.

278 Reports from Lowsonford & Rowington Village Halls

The Clerk agreed to remove the empty filing cabinet from Rowington Village Hall.

279 Highways, Footpaths & Transport

Concern was raised regarding pot holes on the approach to Lowsonford from Lapworth Street near to the Fleur de Leys PH.

280 Playing Field

Playing Field Inspection Reports were outstanding from Cllr D Weir – 30 April & 9 July 2017.

Concern was raised regarding the encroachment of residential gardens on the playing field and the Clerk was asked to contact the occupiers of the properties to request that the shrubs and bench be removed.

281 Meetings, Training Days attended & forthcoming

Cllr Coles & Cllr Lane to attend Councillor & Clerk Induction Part 1 – 11 November 2017

Cllr Coles to attend Councillor & Clerk Induction Part 2 – 2 December 2017

282 Correspondence

a) WALC – Legal Briefing Data Protection

b) WALC Precept Consultation

c) WDC Boundary Changes

d) WDC Standards Committee

e) WALC – Transparency Fund – Clerk to apply for funds to part cover the cost of the Parish Councils laptop

f) WALC – Budget Capping

It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate all correspondence by email and the PC would only use the bag for circulation of documents which could not be sent electronically.

Cllr Weir offered to be the primary representative for WALC Warwick Rural West Community Forum meetings. Cllr Lane offered to step in where Cllr Weir was not able to attend.

It was proposed by Cllr Lane and seconded by Cllr J Coles that the Clerk apply for funds to part cover the cost of the Parish Councils laptop from WALC's Transparency Fund. There were no objections or abstentions recorded.

283 Finance

a) Paid during the month:

None

b) To be paid

Clerk's Salary October £604.09

HMRC £164.42

Clerk (stamps) £5.11

AMW Lawncare £325.92

AMW Lawncare £562.94 (Additional works to the playing field during the month, where works had been previously agreed).

c) Received:

Bank Interest £2.24

Precept £10,514.50

It was proposed by Cllr Coles and duly seconded by Cllr Lane that the payments be approved. No objections or abstentions were recorded.

284 Defibrillator Training

Cllr Henderson reported that St John Ambulance will run a training course for up to 30 people at a time at a cost of £100 plus VAT for 2 hours. The Clerk and Cllr Henderson were asked to contact the parishes of Claverdon, Lapworth and Shrewley to ascertain if this would be of interest and place an article in the Ferncombe News. The Clerk and Cllr Henderson were asked to set a date for an initial training session and make the necessary arrangements.

285 Clerk’s Employment

Cllr Gaffey reported that an end of probationary period meeting had been convened with the Clerk and Cllr Henderson. Cllr Gaffey proposed a motion that, following a successful probationary period, the Clerk’s employment be confirmed as permanent. This was seconded by Cllr Henderson and carried unanimously. Councillors welcomed Nicola Everall and looked forward to her continued support.

286 Items for Future Agendas

None reported.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

NEXT MEETING
Thursday 9 November 2017 at Lowsonford Village Hall

Signed.....

Designation.....

Date.....

Appendix 1

Lapworth & West Kenilworth News October 2017

Using my delegated Transport budget, I have agreed to fund the following two minor road improvements. These are the two sites in the Lapworth & West Kenilworth Division which have the worst accident records.

1) A4177 junction with Haseley Knob Road

There have been 3 injury accidents at this junction within the last 3 years, where all 3 involved rear shunts into vehicles waiting to turn right. This could be addressed by improving/providing warning signs. This will cost £6,000.

2) A452 Birmingham Road (West of Red Lane)

There have been 4 injury accidents within the last 3 years. All accidents were 'loss of control' type accidents and all occurred within the vicinity of Redfern Manor. This suggests that the road surface needs addressing. The costs are more significant for this treatment and will cost circa £25,000.

Children's Centres

The consultation on the WCC proposal to reduce the number of Children Centres in the County in order to meet an agreed 1.1million pound budget cut has now closed. Kenilworth County Councillors are opposing the reduction to Children's services in Kenilworth & surrounding areas.

Myself and the two other County Councillors for Kenilworth have presented a petition to the portfolio holder Jeff Morgan objecting to the service redesign of Children's Services for 1-5 year olds.

Work is continuing reviewing the large number of consultations. The Portfolio Holder has indicated that there may well be changes to the originally outlined scheme. The matter will be reported for decision to Cabinet in November. I hope that we will be able to keep one of the two centres in Kenilworth which are well used by parents and children from Lapworth & West Kenilworth Division

Europa Way Warwick

The County Council, at its meeting on 21 September 2017, has agreed to a large road improvement to Europa Way, which is part of a comprehensive plan to improve traffic flow and make access to the new developments proposed by the recently granted WDC Local Plan. The cost will be met entirely by site developers under Section 106 contributions and department of Transport Grants.

HS2

At a recent meeting of the County Council's HS2 Members Panel of which, I am a member it emerged that a number of planning applications have been agreed across all parts of the County for various minor works including Newt Ponds.

Teachers Pay Award

I attended a Special meeting of the WCC Staff & Pensions Committee where it was agreed to recommend that Teaching Staff funded by WCC receive a 2% uplift to their salaries.

World Mental Health Day 10 October 2017

Partners including Warwickshire County Council, Coventry City Council, NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups, Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Partnership Trust (CWPT) and Rethink Mental Illness are pleased to announce an expansion of the Rethink Mental Health Employment provision, which works with individuals being treated by mental health services across Coventry and Warwickshire.

Warwickshire County Council invites business to share success of Women's Tour

Following the success of the 2017 Warwickshire stage of the OVO Energy Women's Tour, Warwickshire County Council is now inviting potential partners to come forward and support the hosting of a stage of the leading women's cycle race next year. This year's Warwickshire stage saw an estimated 90,000 residents and guests line the streets of Warwickshire to watch the Women's Tour live. As one of the largest free to view sporting events in the UK, The Women's Tour represents the pinnacle of Women's cycling in the UK. The 2017 race saw 102 riders take part representing 25 countries. The riders included 12 national champions, eight Olympic medallists and five world road race champions.

Flu Prevention

Warwickshire County Council, local Clinical Commissioning Groups and hospitals are urging communities to get vaccinated. Flu vaccinations are an important way of protecting yourselves and family from flu.

One in three people in the region are entitled to a free vaccination. Last year, most people offered the vaccine chose to be immunised. Those able to have free vaccinations include people aged 65 and over, pregnant women, children or adults with serious medical conditions and carers.

Warwickshire County Councillor Les Caborn, Portfolio Holder for Health said: "We are wholly supportive of this year's flu campaign. Protecting vulnerable people from flu, and also protecting our health and social care services this winter is a priority for us. Vaccinating healthy children is also an important way of protecting others. Although flu is a mild illness in most, it can and does kill. We urge people to make their appointment today and not to delay."