

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
LOWSONFORD VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2018**

Present

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

Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall
No members of the public

354 Apologies

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

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

No questions were raised.

356 Changes to Published Agenda

Additions to the agenda were made under Minute 370 – Finance.

357 Declarations of Interest & Dispensations Relating to Pecuniary Interests

Non-pecuniary declarations of interest were received from Cllr J Coles & Cllr D Weir in respect of matters relating to Lowsonford and Rowington Village Hall respectively.

358 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 January 2018

It was proposed by Cllr I Henderson and seconded by Cllr D Lane that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2018, having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record. No objections or abstentions were recorded.

359 Report from Warwick District Councillors S Gallagher & P Whiting

Cllrs P Whiting had reported via email that Council business is currently focused on the budget (and thus the Council Tax) for 2018/19, and various other major projects including the proposed redevelopment of the current District Council office site at Riverside House. There was nothing of direct relevance to Rowington Parish Council.

360 Report from County Councillor

The Clerk read a report submitted from Cllr J Cooke, which is also appended to these minutes.

361 Planning Matters

The following planning matters were considered and reported.

W/18/0023 - Willowbrook House, Preston Road, Lowsonford - Construction of entrance wall and gates.

The Parish Council did not object to this application.

W/18/0121LB - Flat, Fleur De Leys - Modification to form of pitched shingle roof to flat roof of patio pergola. Address: Flat, Fleur De Lys, Lapworth Street, Bushwood, Lowsonford.

The Parish Council did not object to this application.

362 Current Planning Appeals

W16/2123/LB Rowington Hall, Old Warwick Road – Retrospective application for the installation of new slate roof to front roof slope. Appeal allowed.

Appeal Ref: APP/T3725/X/173167356 – Holywell Farm, Holywell, Shrewley – for the use of land as part of the domestic curtilage.

363 Parish Design Statement (PDS)

It was reported that following minor amendments to the PDS, Think Design & Print had now been instructed to proceed with the printing of the final PDS and would post these via Royal Mail to the residents of the parish. Copies would also be posted to WDC and WCC Councillors, the Planning Authority and local estate agents. The remainder would be stored with the Clerk.

364 Website

There were no matters to report.

365 Reports from Lowsonford & Rowington Village Halls

Cllr J Coles reported that Lowsonford Village Hall Review Group, who are an enthusiastic group, are currently considering the assured future for the Village Hall and they are encouraged by the very positive views expressed by a high percentage of villagers in their recent survey.

Cllr D Weir reported that Rowington Village Hall's new Bookings Secretary would be in post from April 2018.

366 Highways, Footpaths & Transport

It was reported that the recent resurfacing works on Lapworth Street, Lowsonford, near to the Fleur De Leys PH was now complete. However, a layby in Narrow Lane which had been resurfaced, appears to be uneven and incomplete.

Additionally, at the small triangle in Lapworth Street, no repair has been undertaken at all. This is particularly concerning because it marks the point which has been adopted by 2 childrens' school bus stops. The ground is so worn that it forms a moat, this is at the least unpleasant for parents and children, but at worst a safety risk as it was often iced over.

The Clerk agreed to contact the Highways Department at WCC.

367 Playing Field

There were no outstanding Playing Field Inspection Reports.

368 Meetings, Training Days attended & forthcoming

Clerk & Cllr Lane had attended End of Year Financial Procedures – 22 January 2018

Cllr Henderson was to attend the Planning Forum at Wren Hall, Wroxall on 8 March 2018, subject to this Parish Council being quorate.

Cllr J Gaffey to attend the WALC AGM on 28 February 2018.

369 Correspondence

- a) Review of Warwick District Ward Boundary Changes – Clerk's email of 18 January
- b) WALC – Notice of AGM 28 February 2018
- c) Warwick District Council - Warding Proposal

370 Finance

a) Paid during the month:

None

b) To be paid:

Clerks Salary	£604.09
HMRC	£164.42
Mr D Connolly	£50.00
Clerk's Expenses (Stamps)	£3.36
Mr B Joykson Repair of Telephone Kiosk	£120.00
Rowington Village Hall Hire Cost	£175.00
Think Design & Print (PDS)	£1657.28

c) Received:

Bank Interest	£2.79
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It was proposed by Cllr I Henderson and duly seconded by Cllr D Lane that the payments be approved. No objections or abstentions were recorded.

371 Defibrillators

Cllr I Henderson reported that West Midlands Ambulance Service was to hold a defibrillator training event on 9 February and Hatton WI were also holding a Defibrillator training event on 24 February 2018, and it was therefore agreed to postpone any further training events until the Spring 2018.

372 Administration Working Group

It was agreed that any recommendations in respect of improving processes will be reviewed and agreed at each Parish Council meeting prior to implementation.

373 Items for Future Agendas

None reported.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 8 March 2018 at Rowington Village Hall

Signed.....

Designation.....

Date.....

Appendix 1

Lapworth & West Kenilworth News 7th February 2018 – Councillor J Cooke

Priors Field School Clinton Lane

Following my representations WCC have agreed to take to stage 2 provision of a puffin crossing under the safer routes to school funding scheme. This will replace the crossing patrol which the school has not been able to fill for a number of months. I believe that WCC will provide the crossing in the next 18 months or so.

Children Centres

Talks between WCC's Bill Basra & St John's School are proving positive. The Governors of the school are bringing forward proposals that would see the school managing the Children's Centre based at St. John's from August 2019. Further meetings are taking place soon. WCC and the three local County Councillors have met with Bill Basra and are confident that Children Centre services will continue.

Safer Routes to School

The County Council was shortly to receive a review on those routes which are deemed to be unsafe to allow children to walk to school. Where children have to use these routes, they are often provided with free bus travel by WCC.

I was concerned that recommendations to reduce the number of specified routes may well mean that some children who use these unsafe routes such as Red Lane may lose their right to free transport. I am pleased to say that the County Council have withdrawn the proposals.

County Council Budget Passed 6th February.

- £300,000 is to be invested over two years in Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol services. The Council are aware of the growing homelessness in our towns.
- The County are investing £200,000 to attract up to £12million further funding into digital fibre optic hubs in 20 schools. This will allow the Schools and surrounding communities to benefit from a broadband experience at new superfast Gigabit speed.
- WCC will invest £330,000 into dedicated provision for school based Special Education needs. A local approach to keep vulnerable children in their own school community.
- With the increasing pressures brought about by Local Plans and development WCC will need to increase its ability to respond to, and work with, Districts & Borough Councils and will invest an additional £100,000 in transport development.
- The Community run Libraries have proved to be very successful and the budget will put £108,000 to maintaining Sunday opening in our main Libraries and to support the volunteers and community groups that operate from our libraries. WCC will also invest £100,000 in digitalisation of our heritage collection, linking the villages and town of Warwickshire, the Centenary of the end of World War 1 and Coventry City of Culture.
- WCC will be investing in a Year of Well-being to help our residents to consider how they can look after themselves and achieve independent, healthy and happy lives.
- The Military Covenant will continue to be supported and we so WCC will invest £50,000 in the Warwickshire Veterans Centre to support our ex-service personnel where they are helped to reskill and adjust to civilian life.
- Last year WCC created the Capital Investment Fund allowing it to bring forward projects which they have struggled to finance previously, thus enabling support for growth in the County. In 12 months WCC have been able to invest up to £30m extra in projects.
- WCC will increase the level of Council Tax by 2.99% plus a 2% Adult Social Care precept. This will represent an increase of £1.25p per week on a Band D property.