

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

**Present**

Councillor J Gaffey (Chairman)

Councillor J Coles

Councillor I Henderson

Councillor D Lane

Councillor D Weir

Warwick District Councillor – Cllr S Gallagher

Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall

No members of the public

**374 Apologies**

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

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

No questions were raised.

**376 Changes to Published Agenda**

There were no additions to the published agenda.

**377 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.

**378 Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 February 2018**

It was proposed by Cllr I Henderson and seconded by Cllr D Lane that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2018, having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record. No objections or abstentions were recorded.

**379 Report from Warwick District Councillors S Gallagher & P Whiting**

Cllr S Gallagher reported that the increase in Council Tax, equated to £5.00 per household based on a Band D property, which was the lowest increase in the area.

Bin collections had resulted in only a one-day delay following recent severe weather.

St Nicholas Park Leisure Centre was to re-open on 24 March 2018 following the refurbishment.

**380 Report from County Councillor**

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

**381 Planning Matters**

The following planning matters were considered and reported.

18/0329LB - South Rookery, Rookery Lane, Lowsonford

Repairs to the building fabric of the property. Mainly relating to the timber frame, along with the associated lead work and brickwork

The Parish Council raised no objection to the application.

**382 Current Planning Appeals**

Land Adjoining Clinton House, Old Warwick Road, Rowington Description of development: Outline application with all matters reserved except for access, for the erection of 1no. single storey dwelling house Application Reference: W/17/1423 Appellant's name: Mr. Raymond Joyce Appeal reference: APP/T3725/W/17/3190353 Appeal start date: 17/01/2018

### **383 Parish Design Statement (PDS)**

It was reported that the PDS had been posted to residents in the Parish and the Clerk had also sent copies to District and County Councillors and local estate agents.

### **384 Website**

There were no matters to report.

### **385 Reports from Lowsonford & Rowington Village Halls**

Cllr J Coles reported that Lowsonford Village Hall Review Group have organised a meeting to update residents and introduce new Trustees on Wednesday 21 March 2018 at 7pm. A recent survey regarding the future of the Village Hall had attracted a 50% response from residents of Lowsonford.

The Annual Daffodil Show, which was hosted by the Rowington & Lowsonford Horticultural Association, was to take place on 23 March 2018 and everyone was welcome.

Cllr D Weir reported that the next meeting of Rowington Village Hall was to take place on 3 April 2018.

### **386 Highways, Footpaths & Transport**

Cllr I Henderson reported that pot holes and verges had become an issue since the recent severe weather conditions.

### **387 Playing Field**

There were no outstanding Playing Field Inspection Reports.

The Clerk reported that AMW Lawn Care were to install the replacement baby swing seats W/C 12 March 2018.

It was proposed by Cllr D Lane and seconded by Cllr I Henderson that AWM Lawn Care be advised that the Parish Council accepts the 3% increase in costs for the forthcoming year. The increase was to include mowing and six weekly spraying of herbicides on pathways and the perimeter of the playing field from 1 March – 31 October 2018.

### **388 Meetings, Training Days attended & forthcoming**

Cllr J Coles – WALC Safeguarding Workshop – 26 April 2018

Cllr D Lane - WALC Warwick Area Meeting 21 March 2018

### **389 Correspondence**

a) AMW Lawn Care – Maintenance of Playing Field – 1 March 2018 – 28 February 2019

b) WALC – Events Programme

c) WDC – Street Naming and Numbering

d) WALC – GDPR

e) WALC – revised date for Warwick Area Meeting 21 March 2018

Following an email from WDC asking for suggestions for street names, it was agreed unanimously that three names should be put forward as suggestions to WDC;

John Kenneally VC - WW11 veteran, resident of Lapworth. Obituary on line. Guardian 7th Nov 2000. Additionally, Jane Ryland and Gallagher were to be put forward.

### **390 Finance**

#### **a) Paid during the month:**

None

#### **b) To be paid:**

Clerks Salary	£965.01
HMRC	£334.09
Mr D Connolly	£50.00
WALC	£30.00
Cllr J Gaffey (WM Jobs Advert)	£240.00

#### **c) Received:**

None

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.

**391 Defibrillators**

Cllr I Henderson reported that he had attended the Warwickshire Hearts defibrillator training event on 9 February 2018, and he was to set a date for a training event to be organised by the PC in the summer of 2018.

**392 Policies & Procedures**

The Clerk was requested to arrange for the review of the Council’s current Policies and Procedures and it was agreed that the Clerk should look at introducing any new and necessary policies.

**393 Resignation of Councillor**

Following the resignation of Councillor John Gaffey, it was agreed that Councillor Ian Henderson, Vice-Chairman would Chair any future meetings until the Annual Meeting of the Council.

**394 Annual Parish Meeting**

The Clerk was requested to invite members of the Parish and Representatives of organisations to the Annual Parish Meeting which was to take place on 19 April 2018.

**395 Items for Future Agendas**

None reported.

**396 Confidential Item – Vacancy for Parish Clerk**

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 Clerk left the room.

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

**Next Meetings**

Thursday 12 April 2018	Lowsonford Village Hall
Thursday 19 April 2018 – Annual Parish Meeting	Rowington Village Hall
Thursday 10 May 2018 – Annual Meeting	Lowsonford Village Hall

Signed.....

Designation.....

Date.....

## **Appendix 1**

### **Lapworth & West Kenilworth News 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

#### **Cllr John Cooke**

##### **County Fire Services**

Discussions are taking place between West Midlands and Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Services about future joint working arrangements. Discussions are at an early stage, but Warwickshire is the smallest fire service in the country and there is potential for an improved service. We will have to see if talks prove fruitful.

##### **New Specialist Benefits Advice Service**

A new specialist benefits advice service for vulnerable residents funded by Warwickshire County Council will be delivered by Citizens Advice Warwickshire from 1 April 2018. The service will provide high quality advice, support, advocacy and representation to Warwickshire residents regarding the following:

- Applying for benefits.
- Completing forms.
- Accessing Digital by Default Government services.
- Interpreting official forms and letters.
- Providing evidence to make successful benefit claims.
- Preparing requests for mandatory reconsiderations
- Appearance at appeals and tribunals.

More information at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/benefitsandwelfare>

##### **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.

##### **Wharf Lane Speeding Restrictions**

Following the decision to place a speed limit of 40mph on Wharf Lane the legal notices have been issued and the public consultation has started.

##### **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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 super-fast 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 re-skill 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.