

ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
LOWSONFORD VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 12 JULY 2018

Present

Councillor I Henderson – Chair
Councillor J Coles
Councillor M North
Councillor D Weir (for part of the meeting)

Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall
No members of the public

43 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Parish Councillor D Lane and County Councillor – Councillor Cooke.

44 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

45 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 June 2018

It was proposed by Councillor J Coles and seconded by Councillor D Weir that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2018, having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as true record.

46 Questions from Members of the Public

There were no members of the public present.

47 Report from Warwick District Councillors

Councillor S Gallagher reported that the District Council had secured £1.4 million of Lottery Funding to support the project at the Pump Rooms in Leamington Spa. The band stand had been removed for restoration and was expected to be returned in October 2018.

Heritage Open Days were to be run at various venues throughout the district from 6 – 9 September and 13-16 September 2018 and there would be in excess of fifty places of interest to visit.

CLr Gallagher also reported that the Community Grant Fund was now open and the deadline for applications was 10 September 2018, the Community Forum Meeting was to take place 27 September 2018.

CLr Gallagher was the new Parish Champion and had attended a recent course for Clerks and Councillors and it was hoped that day courses would be available in the near future for community organisers.

48 Report from County Councillor

Councillor J Cooke was unable to attend the meeting and the Clerk read his report, which is appended to these minutes.

49 Planning Matters

The following planning matters were considered and reported.

W18/1226 Erection of a two storey 5 bed dwelling – Land adjacent to The Rising, Old Warwick Road

The Parish Council objects to this application on the following grounds:

Adverse impact on the character and appearance of the area

As described in the Rowington Parish Design Statement published in December 2017 one of the much-valued characteristics of the Rowington Green area is widely spaced houses with significant areas of garden surrounding the dwelling. An aerial view clearly demonstrates this point (Attached). The proposed development destroys the balance and symmetry of the properties along the Old Warwick Road and will compromise the established, open pattern of development.

Highway safety

Contrary to the assertions in the planning application, there have been a number of serious road traffic accidents in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development. For example, on 19 March 2018 there was a three vehicle RTA near the junction with Finwood Road which resulted in Old Warwick Road being closed for a number of hours. The proposed development, with direct egress onto Old Warwick Road, fails to demonstrate that it does not cause harm to highway safety.

Plot Coverage and Overdevelopment

The proposed development is too large for the proposed site. The site is long and narrow and the proposed development, which occupies almost the entire width of the site, is inappropriate and unbalanced. It is introducing a level of planning density that is completely inappropriate for a rural community.

Eastfield Manor – The Clerk was awaiting confirmation from the Case Officer to establish of the works being carried out at the property were within the agreed planning application.

50 Playing Field

- a) Outstanding reports – Cllr D Weir – 20 May 2018.
- b) Goal Nets

It was agreed that the Parish Council purchase two new goal nets for the Playing field at a cost of £65.00. These would be delivered to AMW Lawn Care, who would install the new nets.

51 Reports from Lawsonford & Rowington Village Halls

Councillor J Coles reported that the recent Hog Roast raised a total of £1737.32 and it was a successful event.

New oak doors had been fitted to the main entrance of the hall and the drainage works were to commence, which would take approximately two weeks. Following this, the necessary works to the toilets would commence.

There was nothing to report from Rowington Village Hall.

52 Parish Activities

7 July 2018 - Bring and Buy Book Sale at Tom O' The Wood noon -5pm
23 August 2018 – The Mikron Theatre Co. 'Revoltin' Women' at Rowington Village Hall 7.30pm
19 September 2018 – Coffee Morning at Lawsonford Village Hall 10.30am – 12 noon
1 September 2018 – Simple Supper & Speaker Evening at Rowington Village Hall 7.30pm
2 September 2018 – Shrewley Village Show 1.30pm – 5pm
6 October 2018 – Ferncumbe Ladies Charity Breakfast at Hatton Village Hall 8am – 10am £10
12 October 2018 – Rock Choir at St Laurence Church, Rowington, 7.30pm
17 November 2018 – Christmas Fair 10am – 3pm at Shrewley Village Hall
8 December 2018 – Christmas Dinner & Comedy Cabaret Evening at Rowington Village Hall

53 Highways, Footpaths & Transport

The Clerk had contacted the Canal & River Trust regarding speeding cyclists on the towpath at Lawsonford to request for suitable signage for the safety of users of the canal tow paths, but had not received a reply to date.

54 Meetings, Training Days attended & forthcoming

The Chairman had completed the recent Police Academy course.

It was agreed that the Chairman should write to Jeremy Wright MP who was now a full member of the Cabinet & Culture Secretary giving the Parish Councils support.

55 Correspondence

WDC – Gambling Policy Consultation

56 Finance

a) Paid during the month:

None

b) To be paid:

Clerks Salary July	£709.73
HMRC	£68.16
AMW Lawncare	£320.78

c) Received:

Bank Interest	£2.50
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Resolved unanimously that the above items of finance be approved

57 Financial Regulations

The Clerk had circulated suggested changes to the Parish Council’s Financial Regulations to bring them up to date with current legislation and subject to minor amendments it was proposed by Cllr M North and seconded by Cllr J Coles the revised Financial Regulations be adopted.

58 Next Meeting Dates

It was agreed that it was not necessary to hold a meeting in August and therefore the next meeting of the Parish Council would take place on Thursday 14 September 2018 at Lawsonford Village Hall.

59 Funding for Rowington Village Hall

Following receipt of a request for funding towards the necessary tree works at Rowington Village Hall, it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr J Coles that the Parish Council grant funding of £820.00 to Rowington Village Hall under S137.

60 Items for future Agendas

None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed..... Designation..... Date.....

Report from Councillor J Cooke – July 2018

St. John's Childrens Centre

I read from the recent press release: -

In Kenilworth, there will be changes to the service provided at St John's Children's Centre. The county council has been working with Barnardo's and St Johns Primary School to explore options where the day to day management and administration of the children centre site are transferred to the school. We are anticipating this will happen from 1st April 2019.

The school will ensure that we get as much use as possible out of the building. For some of the time, the building will fulfil school functions and also assist in its role as a 'teaching school'. This will have benefits to children and families across Kenilworth with school age children.

At the same time the school has also indicated that the building will be available for the provision of wider services to the community. In addition to traditional children centre services such as health visiting, midwifery, stay and play and family support; it is also hoped that a wider range of services will be able to use the building such as the School Health and Wellbeing Service for a broader age range.

A spokesperson said: 'The way children and family's services are provided in Warwickshire is changing to provide more flexible and mobile support to people in a wide range of community locations. Until the new service is established in 2019, people will see a number of changes to services on offer at their local children's centre, in many cases services will reduce as new forms of support are developed. As plans develop further, we will endeavour to share details about services with local communities, so people are aware of any changes and where they can go for advice and support.'

Local families and children's centre users are invited to attend a drop-in session at St John's Children's Centre on Thursday 12th July 12.45pm until 2.15pm to discuss the new timetable which will be in place from July 23 to March 2019.

Warwickshire County Council is committed to providing the best service possible to help families in the county stay safe, healthy and independent and will continue to fund and work in partnership with others to deliver services to children and families in Kenilworth

Castle Road Pedestrian Crossing Kenilworth

I have just agreed to the installation of new LED beacons and poles as the current ones are dull and are difficult to see in a number of lighting conditions at a cost of about £6000. I have also arranged for the Tree covering around the beacons to be reviewed by Peter Hallam.

Trees & Potholes

I have recently asked Peter Hallam to cut back the trees near the new warning sign on the bend at Red Lane following notification by a Burton Green Parish Councillor. I have also reported further representations from a local cyclist on a number of areas including road surfaces and the condition of gutters in various parts of Lapworth & West Kenilworth.

Slim your Bin

Slim Your Bin will encourage and teach you to recycle more and waste less in order to shed pounds from your rubbish bin by providing practical advice and information. Once you have signed up to the scheme you will receive weekly emails on bin slimming themes. Examples of those themes are:

- shifting everything recyclable from your rubbish bin to recycling bin;
- getting the right thing in the right bin;
- cutting down on food waste and minimising waste in general.

Each suggested activity is worth points and over the month you will accumulate points based on the activities you have taken part in. At the end of the month, the three individual dieters who earn the most points will be given a £20 voucher. Once a year, a donation is given to a charity or community project chosen by residents, and they can vote for the one they would like to

win. The scheme has been running since 2017, two charities, Myton Hospice and Parkinson's UK, have received a donation of £650 each.

To register please go to <http://www.warwickshire.slim-your-bin.com/>

Fire service issue warning over grass fires

It's been a busy weekend for our fire control who have dealt with around 100 calls to a range of different incidents. Unfortunately, a number of those, 18 in total were to fires in the open in park areas and grassland. Some of these unbelievably, given the moor fires in Bolton have been started deliberately.

If you start a fire in parks or woodland areas with this intense heat, it will spread very quickly. This means that you are not only endangering yourself by setting the fire, but more importantly, you are also risking the lives of our crews and the communities we serve.

We are urging those starting fires to think before they act, the last thing we want is to have a major fire on our hands where lives are at risk, when it could so easily have been prevented. Equally we are sure that you don't want a criminal record and potentially a prison sentence. Let's put a stop to arson! If you spot someone setting a fire, then please call 999 and report it before it gets out of hand.

Fire Service welcome HMICFRS Inspection team

Warwickshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service welcomed Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS) last week as it takes part in the first set of the national inspection programme.

Inspectors were welcomed to Warwickshire on Monday 2 July where they met with the Chief Fire Officer, Andy Hickmott, before heading out to stations to interview fire-fighters and officers from across the Fire and Rescue Service and the wider County Council. As part of the inspection, the team will focus on three key themes:

- How effective the Service is at preventing, protecting against and responding to fire and other risks;
- Whether the Service provides value for money; and
- How well the Service looks after its people and ensures fairness and diversity.

For more information on the HMIC Inspection process, log onto: <https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmicfrs/fire-and-rescue-services>