

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD VIA ZOOM**  
**ON THURSDAY 9 JULY 2020**

**Present**

Councillor I Henderson – Chairman

Councillor J Coles

Councillor M Daw

Councillor D Lane

Councillor J Moore

Councillor B Sandford

Councillor D Weir

Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall

Warwick District Councillors – G Illingworth & R Hales

No members of the public

**Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic – this meeting was held via Zoom**

**227. Apologies**

An apology for absence was received on behalf of County Councillor J Cooke.

**228. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**229. Welcome to the Chairman of the District Council**

Councillor I Henderson welcomed Councillor Martyn Ashford, the Chairman of the District Council. Councillor M Ashford offered his support to the Parish Council and invited members to raise any issues with him during his time in Office.

**230. Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 June 2020**

It was proposed by Councillor D Weir and seconded by Councillor J Coles that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2020, having been previously circulated were agreed and will be signed as true record by the Chairman as soon as practicable.

**231. Questions from Members of the Public**

There were no members of the public.

**232. Report from County Councillor – Councillor J Cooke**

In the absence of Councillor J Cooke , The Clerk had previously circulated Councillor Cooke’s report, which is also appended to these minutes.

**233. Report from District Councillors G Illingworth & R Hales**

The Clerk had previously circulated Councillor Illingworth’s report which is also appended to these minutes.

**234. Planning Matters**

a) The following planning matters were reported.

<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Application Details</b>	<b>Comments required by</b>	<b>PC Decision</b>	<b>WDC Decision</b>
W19/1746	Field at Haywood Lane and junction with Case Lane, Mousley End, Rowington Application for a new access track accessed of Haywood Lane, provision of temporary mobile proprietary cattle shed, feed store and farm equipment store, installation of post and rail fencing and field gate	04/12/19	No objection	
W20/0388	Land Adjacent Kingswood Farm, Old Warwick Road, Lapworth Erection of one detached dwelling and garage together with associated parking and landscaping	27/04/20	Object	
W20/0668	Old Beams, Lapworth Street, Bushwood Erection of new dwelling and detached garage	04/06/20	Object	

b) Applications Considered

Application Number	Application Details	Comments required by	PC Decision	WDC Decision
W20/0867	Downlands, Mill Lane, Rowington Prior Approval under Part 11, Class B for the demolition of a block of stables	13/07/20	No objection	

**235. Playing Field**

a) Outstanding Reports – None

b) Future Inspection Dates – Future Inspection Dates – 19 July - Councillor D Lane, 2 August – Councillor I Henderson, 16 August – Councillor D Weir, 30 August – Councillor J Coles

c) Maintenance - The Clerk did not report any matters relating to maintenance, and Councillor M Daw confirmed that following Government Guidelines, the Play Area was now open and appropriate safety signage was in place with regards to Covid-19. The playing field was in good condition.

**236. Reports from Village Halls**

Lowsonford Village Hall

Councillor M Daw reported that the Village Hall is currently closed due to Covid 19 and the Trustees are to meet to decide if and when the Hall may reopen.

Councillor M Daw thanked Councillor R Hales for his support with regards to the recent successful application for funding.

Rowington Village Hall

Councillor D Weir reported that the Village Hall is currently closed due to Covid 19 and was unlikely to reopen before 2021.

**237. Highways, Footpaths & Transport**

The Clerk reported that the bus stop on Old Warwick Road was in need of repair and she was requested to obtain quotations for the works required.

The Clerk reported that three of the five notice boards were in need refurbishment and was to obtain quotes for the works.

The Chairman had spoken to the landowner regarding overgrown vegetation on the footpath adjacent to The Cumsey, who said that remedial work to these ditches would be carried out later in the year.

The Clerk had received a response along with an assessment carried out in 2016, from the Canal & River Trust, on the canal bridge (41) in Lowsonford.

Members raised serious concerns with the assessment due to safety implications and asked for the matter to be raised with the County Council as a matter of urgency, along with a response to the Canal & River Trust.

Given the burst water main in the central structure of bridge 41 during winter of 2019/20, the Parish Council wish to understand the assessment process and view any documentation relating to decisions about this structure. As it was considered that there may be safety implications for the community, particularly regarding the strength and structure of the bridge.

Specifically:

The Axle weight for vehicles being a concern and should be reduced to 12 tonne. The assessment further suggests a restriction of 18 tonnes total for the bridge. Not the current 40 tonnes.

Triangular signage should be put in place of an 18 tonne load both sides of bridge.

No dive water survey has taken place.

Typical issues state, 70% brickwork damage, arch barrel spalled, which is a potentially serious problem, and road surface poor.

There is also an issue relating to axle lift, which is assumed to be regarding risk of grounding and the huge scraped troughs, which can be seen on the tarmac surface on the highest point of the bridge. The damage left by these accidents allow water to seep into the structure further weakening it.

As a matter of urgency, and in the absence of any documentation about any remedial action, the Parish Council insists on a 12 or highest 18 tonne restriction on bridge 41 and immediate signage needs to be in place.

The County Council along with the District Council, should be requested to alleviate further issues, by insisting that any construction vehicles, be re-directed to use alternatives routes into Lawsonford.

It was noted that the Bridge is listed and within the Conservation Area.

**238. Meetings & Training Days Attended & Forthcoming**

Councillor M Daw attended a training session led by WALC – Parish On-line on 16 June 2020 and suggested using CIL funds to introduce maps within the Parish.

**239. Parish Activities**

There were none to report.

**240. Correspondence**

Noted.

**241. Finance**

**a) Paid during the month:**

None

**b) To be paid:**

Clerks Salary	£743.36
HMRC	£75.75
AMW Lawncare	£133.66
Clerks Expenses	£9.86

**c) Received:**

None

**Resolved unanimously that the above items of finance be approved.**

**242. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

The Chairman was liaising with the CIL Officer at the District Council with regards to four provisional CIL projects.

**243. Rural Crime Initiative**

The Chairman was pleased to report that there had been a significant decrease in crime figures of late.

**244. Emergency Plan**

The Clerk and Councillor M Daw were progressing with the Emergency Plan and would be available for adoption at the September meeting.

**245. Future Meeting Dates**

Thursday 10 September 2020	Lowsonford Village Hall or via Zoom
Thursday 8 October 2020	Venue TBC

**246. Items for the Next Agenda**

To consider replacing payments by cheque to BACS payments.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

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

## Report from County Councillor J Cooke

New campaign encourages us all to show our local towns some love

The campaign's message to the residents of Warwickshire is clear – show your local high street some love! Whether we purchase in person, or from the comfort of our sofa doesn't matter, what's important is we support our local high streets. If we all spent just £5 per week in Warwickshire – it would be worth approximately an extra £122 million annually to the local economy and provide a much needed boost for our local independents. Firms have created short video clips showing how their businesses are ready to safely welcome back customers as our towns start to reopen.

WCC Social Distancing Traffic Proposals in Kenilworth

Measures agreed by Warwickshire County Council, Warwick District Council and Kenilworth Town Council are being introduced in Kenilworth Town Centre to support the safe reopening of town centre businesses and encourage people to use their town centre.

The following measures are being introduced:

A temporary 20mph speed limit is being introduced on The Square and Warwick Road between Abbey End and the gyratory at St Johns.

Station Road will be closed from the junction with Warwick Road to the access to the parking at Abbey End / the Waitrose service entrance. This will create space for pedestrians to circulate safely in this area.

Some planters on Warwick Road are being relocated to assist with social distancing.

A pedestrian one-way system is being introduced near to Sainsbury's due to the narrow footpath in this location.

An initial plan to close Warwick Road to through traffic was not taken forward because it did not secure universal support.

The measures will be kept under close review to ensure they remain suitable and appropriate to local needs and conditions.

Changes may be made in response to feedback, operational issues or updated Government guidance.

Feel unwell, get tested!

Residents of Nuneaton and Bedworth are being urged to undertake a test if they suspect they could have Covid-19.

A recent raised number of cases in the area has now reduced, but Warwickshire County Council's Director of Public Health is appealing to residents to remain vigilant and "not be complacent." The advice is part of a package of measures brought in by the council and local NHS partners – including George Eliot Hospital – aimed at minimising transmission.

Warwickshire Police & Warwickshire County Council asking people to behave responsibly as food & drinks venues reopen.

As pubs, bars and restaurants reopen, Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire County Council have joined forces to remind people that while restrictions are being eased, coronavirus is still prevalent in the community and people still need to behave responsibly.

Pubs across the country will be allowed to open with social distancing measures in place to help restrict the spread of coronavirus.

Warwickshire County Council is urging people to drink responsibly. Drinking more than the recommended amount of alcohol increases the risk of many diseases and cancer. The Chief Medical Officer advises that adults consume no more than 14 units per week and this should be spread across the week rather than in one single occasion. If you feel that you are not in control of the amount alcohol you are drinking, services continue to be available, to find out more visit <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/alcohol>

Coventry City of Culture

We have now had confirmation that Department of Culture Media & Sport have agreed to amend the dates for Coventry City of Culture. It will now be running May 2021 to May 2022. They are announcing this news now and will launch a new branding and website in a few weeks.

Coventry, Solihull & Warks Covid 19 Test and Trace Beacon website

WCC are working hard to develop the microsite to make it a 'one stop shop' for information on testing, tracing, our local activity, and prevention resources. We will continue to add to the content over the coming weeks in line with the pace of activity as the programme establishes.

<https://staysafecsw.info/>

## **Report from District Councillors G Illingworth & R Hales**

There are still funds available to help businesses and organisations weather the Covid-19 Crisis. The schemes now include some businesses which were excluded from the first round and there are also discretionary grants. Village Halls are eligible if you have not already been successful. Cllr Richard Hales is the expert on all these funds.

The Council will continue for the time being with home working for many officers and remote committees although public participation in planning is now established. Some support activities are being wound down and the emphasis is increasingly on recovery with the reopening of shops and now pubs and restaurants under controlled conditions. The concern is that we do not drop our guard.

We are preparing for the reopening of leisure centres and swimming pools in anticipation of the restrictions being lifted in the next few weeks.

We are also having discussions with Stratford District Council about shared working and shared expertise. We already have some shared services with them and other councils and are starting to investigate other possibilities. I know that some residents already look at cross-border facilities.

We are looking at updating the Dog Control Orders and I have raised the issue of Play Areas owned by parish councils. However exclusion of dogs can only be implemented when the area is fenced off so I understand cannot be applied in Rowington. I believe they will be consulting Parish Councils.