

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM
ON THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2020**

Present

Councillor I Henderson – Chairman
Councillor J Coles
Councillor M Daw
Councillor J Moore
Councillor B Sandford
Councillor D Weir
Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall
Warwick District Councillors G Illingworth & R Hales
County Councillor J Cooke
4 members of the public

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

286. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

287. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

288. Co-Option of a Parish Councillor

Mrs Anne Pitt had expressed her interest in being co-opted as a member of the Parish Council and the Clerk had previously circulated a CV on behalf Mrs Pitt.

There being no objections, it was proposed by Councillor B Sandford and seconded by Councillor D Weir that Anne Pitt be Co-opted as a Parish Councillor. Resolved unanimously.

The Clerk was requested to liaise with Councillor Pitt to obtain her completed Declaration of Interest form.

289. Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 October 2020

It was proposed by Councillor J Coles and seconded by Councillor M Daw that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2020, having been previously circulated were agreed and will be signed as true record by the Chairman as soon as practicable.

290. Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions raised from members of the public.

291. Report from County Councillor – Councillor J Cooke

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

292. Report from District Councillors G Illingworth & R Hales

The Clerk had previously circulated the District Council report, which is also appended to these minutes.

293. Resignation of a Parish Councillor

The Chairman reported the resignation of David Lane and gave formal thanks for his time in Office.

294. Planning Matters

a) The following planning matters were reported.

Application Number	Application Details	Comments required by	PC Decision	WDC Decision
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	
W20/0668	Old Beams, Lapworth Street, Bushwood Erection of new dwelling and detached garage	04/06/20	Object	Granted

W20/1810	The Lyons Farmhouse, Rowington Green Application for outline planning permission for the erection of 3 detached dwellings	21/10/20	NA	Withdrawn
W20/1487	Shepherds Fold, Finwood Road, Rowington Proposed demolition of existing outbuilding; reduction in size of an existing quadruple garage building; conversion of former barn and stables to single dwelling together with replacement lean-to link and other associated works	26/10/20	No objection	
W20/1389	The Holt, Lapworth Street, Bushwood Proposed erection of aluminium-framed glass conservatory and blocking up of bathroom window	06/11/20	No objection	

b) The following planning matters were considered and decided:

W20/1526 - Barn at Rear of Little Manor Farm, Manor Lane, Pinley Green - Alteration and conversion of existing stable and barn to three bedroom dwelling.

Members raised no objection to the application. Councillor D Weir made a proposal for the Parish Council to object to the application.

295. Playing Field

a) Outstanding Reports – None

b) Future Inspection Dates – 8 November Councillor I Henderson, 22 November Councillor D Weir.

The Chairman reported that since the installation of replacement rails in the perimeter fence, it was causing issues for those users in retrieving footballs and the Clerk was asked to investigate the costs for the installation of a gate into the adjoining field.

The Clerk was also asked to contact the landowners to ascertain if they would object to such a proposal.

c) Annual RoSPA Inspection of Play Area

The Clerk reported that Play Safety had carried out the Annual Inspection of the play area. No major issues had been raised and the Clerk was asked to obtain costs for the remedial works, which included minor works to the play surfaces and painting of the goal post.

296. Reports from Village Halls

Lowsonford Village Hall

Councillor M Daw reported that the Village Hall was closed due to Covid- 19 and it was not expected to re-open before 2021.

Rowington Village Hall

Councillor D Weir reported that the Village Hall remained closed due to Covid-19 and it was not expected to re-open before 2021.

297. Highways, Footpaths & Transport

Canal Bridge 41 – Lowsonford

Following a request from the Parish Council, the Chairman was pleased to report that a temporary weight limit of 13T, had now been imposed by WCC due to safety concerns relating to this bridge.

However, as a consequence of this, WCC has had to suspend Winter gritting of Narrow Lane and Back Lane through to High Cross. This was expected to be until the bridge over the Canal at Lowsonford has had the remedial work carried out, as the weight of the gritting vehicles exceeds the new restriction.

Members agreed that this was not acceptable, and the Clerk was asked to respond to the County Council requesting that WCC consider either using a smaller vehicle or an alternative route.

Furthermore, Councillor J Coles requested the Clerk continues to press the Canal & River Trust and the County Council for updates regarding repairs to the bridge and in particular a timetable for the proposed works.

Speeding – Old Warwick Road, Rowington

Following information from the County Council, the Clerk was asked to pursue the possibility of a free speed survey on Old Warwick Road to obtain average speed limits at various points on this busy road.

298. Meetings & Training Days Attended & Forthcoming

The Chairman was to attend the WALC course on Saturday 14 November 2020 – Improving Parish Council Relationships.

299. Parish Activities

There were none to report.

300. Correspondence

Noted.

301. Finance**a) Paid during the month:**

None

b) To be paid:

Clerks Salary	£743.36
HMRC	£75.75
AMW Lawncare	£162.48
Mr P Ashwin (works to the Parish Notice Boards)	£525.00
MI Business Services (website services)	£143.00
Play Safety (RoSPA Annual Inspection of play area)	£99.00
Clerks Expenses (Poppy Wreath)	£17.00
Mr I Wilson (Internal Audit)	£225.00
Turtle Engineering AED Servicing	£124.20

c) Received:

None

d) NALC Pay Scale Increase

The Clerk had circulated the revised pay scales received from NALC dated from April 2020, and members agreed that the Clerk's salary be put in line with the new pay scales. It was also agreed to back date her salary from April 2020.

This was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor B Sandford and agreed unanimously.

302. Request for Funding from St. Laurence Church, Rowington & St Luke's Church Lowsonford

The Clerk had circulated details of a request for funding from the PCC for the upkeep of the public footpaths surrounding St Laurence Church and St Luke's Church for £750 & £150 respectively.

It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor J Coles, and agreed unanimously that the funding request be granted.

Resolved unanimously that the above items of finance be approved.

303. External Audit

The Clerk reported that the External Audit had been returned from PKF Littlejohn and that the Auditor had raised a minor issue regarding the completion of the Audit. The report was unqualified.

304. Meeting Dates 2021

The Clerk had circulated a schedule of meeting dates for 2021 which was agreed by members.

305. Future Meeting Dates

10 December 2020

Thursday 14 January 2021 (provisional)

306. Items for the Next Agenda

None of Note.

Councillor J Coles thanked the Clerk for her regular updates to outstanding matters between meetings and requested this practice continue.

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

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

Report from County Councillor J Cooke

Helping Warwickshire residents to do the right thing

Residents across Warwickshire will shortly receive a helpful guide from Warwickshire County Council and partners packed with information about services and support available to them to stay as safe, healthy, and connected as possible throughout the pandemic.

The booklet highlights how residents can continue to access key services from the council and other public and voluntary sector organisations and contains advice to help people look after themselves and their loved ones. This important information is relevant to everyone and the booklet will be delivered to every household throughout the county so people who do not use services online can get this important information at this time.

Also contained in the guide is important information from Dr Shade Agboola, Warwickshire's Director of Public Health to raise awareness of simple behaviours people can adopt to protect themselves from the virus and control its spread which is just as important now as the country enters a second phase of lockdown as it was before these measures were imposed.

The guide recognises the challenges that these periods of isolation and reduced social contact pose and signposts people to a range of support to stay physically and mentally well and seek help if in danger or without anywhere to turn.

Warwickshire Country Parks during the second national lockdown

As they did during the first national lockdown in March, Warwickshire's Country Parks and Greenways will remain open to visitors during the second lockdown between 5 November & 2 December 2020.

Warwickshire's country parks – Burton Dassett Hills, Hartshill Hayes, Kingsbury Water Park, Pooley and Ryton Pools, along with its Greenways in Stratford, Kenilworth and Offchurch, offer the chance for exercise in beautiful surroundings, which is good for health and mental wellbeing at any time of the year, but particularly during England's second national lockdown.

Warwickshire County Council ensures essential services continue during lockdown

Warwickshire County Council is reassuring residents that it is keeping essential services running and helping people stay safe during the new national COVID-19 lockdown which started on 5 November 2020.

Supporting our most vulnerable residents

WCC is ready to help residents stay at home as much as possible and help anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable with information, advice, access to services, support to access food, medicines or shopping or offer a friendly voice on the end of the phone. People can call 0800 408 1447 (opening hours Mon-Thurs 9am to 5pm, Friday 9am to 4.30pm, Saturday 9am to 3pm and Sunday 10am to 1pm), email covidhotline@warwickshire.gov.uk or go to www.warwickshire.gov.uk/coronavirusvulnerable for more information.

In addition, the Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme helps our most vulnerable residents at times of unavoidable crisis such as this, when they have no other means of help. The Scheme provides basic and essential help for food and energy. For more information and details on how to apply www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme

Household Waste Recycling Centres

Household Waste Recycling Centres will remain open with the existing booking system continuing to operate, to ensure that social distancing can be safely maintained. Reuse shops will not be open during lockdown.

In order for the sites to remain open safely and maintain safe social distancing, officers will continue to control the number of vehicles on site at any one time, so customers need to book a 15 minute slot via the Eventbrite link on the council website at warwickshire.gov.uk/hwrc

Registration Services

Warwickshire Registration Offices are open for pre-booked appointments only.

If your wedding or civil partnership ceremony has been cancelled due to the lockdown, contact Registration Services to rebook ceremonies at registration@warwickshire.gov.uk, adding the venue name and date of ceremony in the subject line.

Births can still be registered. At the present time the appointment will be a two-stage process. Initially all details will be taken by telephone.

All appointments for notices of marriage or civil partnership are currently going ahead. Priority will be given to couples marrying within the required legal timeframes.

All deaths will continue to be registered by telephone appointment instead of face to face to help ensure the safety of everyone.

Individual Citizenship ceremonies will continue as planned; individuals will receive an invitation once Registration Services receive the necessary documents from the Home Office.

Mental health services

Worry and anxiety are common problems, but the lockdown situation may make this worse for some members of our community. To help with these pressures, the County Council has put together mental health advice and resources to offer tips and advice at this uncertain time. These include: [Wellbeing for Warwickshire](#), [Togetherall](#), [Warwickshire Safe Havens](#) and [RISE](#) for young people. [Every Mind Matters](#) also has practical advice on how to look after mental wellbeing while staying at home.

A full list of the services available can be found on the County Council website: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mentalhealth>

For anyone struggling during the pandemic and beyond, dearlife.org.uk is a new resource which provides a range of support and signposting to vital services for Warwickshire residents who don't know where to turn for help to address complicated and negative thoughts and feelings, or for anyone who is worried about someone they know.

Libraries

While all Warwickshire Libraries are closed for browsing, the library service is offering the 'Click and Collect' service that operated earlier this year, whereby customers can order books online or by telephone to collect from libraries across the county.

The County Council is reassuring customers that they don't need to return their library books during lockdown. All fines will be waived so people can keep hold of their books and stay safe at home.

A reduced contactless Mobile Library Service is currently in operation. Staff can select up to 4 books per customer to be collected from designated locations around Warwickshire.

The service is also still very much open online, so people can continue to access eBooks, eAudio, eMagazines and eNewspapers and their weekly digital activity programme completely free of charge.

For more information on how to access library services during lockdown, visit <http://library.warwickshire.gov.uk>, call 0300 555 8171 to speak to a member of staff, or email libraryenquiryteam@warwickshire.gov.uk

Report from District Councillors G Illingworth & R Hales

Leamington Spa continues to be the Covid hot spot in the County. Whether this is because of the number of students or because a new testing station has opened recently, we have no idea. In Leamington Spa, the majority of cases are in the younger ages whereas in Nuneaton it is affecting the elderly more.

There is a new Grant Support Scheme administered by WDC for businesses affected by the current shutdown. Details are on the WDC website. Village Halls may again be eligible.

Work is starting on setting the District Budget for next year and WDC face continuing loss of income in areas such as car parks and business rates and likely cost rises in other areas.

A paper going to Executive next week proposes the negotiation of the new Waste Contract for next year jointly with Stratford on Avon. This would inevitably lead to some rationalisation of collection cycles between the two authorities.

The Regulation 16 Consultation on the Canalside Development Plan Document started on the 9th November, and ends on 21st December.

This consultation is only concerned with the legal compliance and soundness of the draft document. However, it is mentioned because, there was a feeling that previous consultations have not adequately covered the rural areas.

This one is difficult because hard copies cannot be accessed at the normal deposit points. The Council have been advised by the Planning Inspectorate that this can be carried out remotely and the documents can be accessed at https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20799/development_plan_document