

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD AT ROWINGTON VILLAGE HALL
ON THURSDAY 10 MARCH 2022 AT 7.30PM**

Present

Councillor J Coles
Councillor A Pitt
Councillor B Sandford
Councillor D Weir in the Chair
Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall
3 members of the public

The Vice-Chairman opened the meeting.

127. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Parish Councillors C Doolan & A Marsden, County Councillor J Cooke and District Councillor R Hales.

128. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

129. Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC)

Councillor D Weir welcomed Kim Slater from WRCC to the meeting.

Mr Slater explained that the Parish Council's last Housing Needs Survey was carried out in 2016 and suggested that the Parish Council carries out a fresh survey to gather information relating to housing requirements in the area.

Mr Slater agreed to circulate the covering letter and form to members and if any changes were needed, then these could be made before its distribution. It was the Parish Council's responsibility to either post or hand deliver the survey to residents.

Dr M Wade suggested that the survey be displayed in the social club to allow for non-residents, wishing to reside in the area, to contribute to the survey.

The Vice-Chairman asked Mr Slater to comment on the correspondence from the Claverdon Community Land Trust and the Clerk agreed to forward the details to Mr Slater for comments.

130. Questions from Members of the Public

No matters were raised.

131. Resignation of Ian Henderson

The Vice-Chairman reported that due to personal reasons, Ian Henderson had resigned from the Parish Council. Members raised a vote of thanks and agreed that Ian would be greatly missed for his dedication and excellent work whilst in office.

Councillor J Coles asked The Clerk to write to Ian Henderson thanking him for his time in office and invite him to the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

132. Election of Chairman

The Vice Chairman advised that she was prepared to stand as Chairman.

Councillor A Pitt stated that she would like to stand as Chairman. Members voted on the nomination of Councillor A Pitt, there were no votes and one abstention, the nomination fell.

Members voted on the nomination of Councillor D Weir, there was one vote in favour and one abstention. It was suggested the item be deferred to the next meeting.

The Vice Chairman advised that a meeting could not commence or be held without a Chairman and reminded members that election of Chairman would be an agenda item at the Council's forthcoming annual meeting,

RESOLVED: Councillor D Weir be nominated as Chairman.

Councillor D Weir in the Chair

133. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 February 2021

It was proposed by Councillor B Sandford and seconded by Councillor A Pitt that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2022, having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as true record by the Chairman.

134. Report from County Councillor – Councillor J Cooke

In the absence of Councillor J Cooke, the Clerk read his report, which is also appended to these minutes.

135. Report from District Councillors G Illingworth & R Hales

In the absence of Councillor R Hales the Clerk read his report, which is also appended to these minutes. Councillor G Illingworth read his report.

136. Planning Matters

a) The following planning matters were reported.

Application Number	Application Details	Comments required by	PC Decision	WDC Decision
W21/1331/FUL	Land Adjacent to The Rising, Old Warwick Road Erection of detached five bedroom dwelling	23/08/21	Object	
W21/1314/FUL	Wells Farm, Nunhold Road, Pinley Green Proposed menage	02/09/21	Support	
W21/1884 & 1885LB	Manor Farm, Holywell, Rowington Proposed erection of single storey side extension	17/11/21	No representation	
W21/1944	Land at Peacock Lane, Holywell, Rowington Proposed change of use of land for the siting of a log cabin for three years as a temporary rural worker's dwelling, and to regularise the commercial equestrian use (retrospective)	10/12/21	No representation	
W21/1994	Shepherds Fold, Finwood Road, Rowington Conversion of barn to dwelling	10/12/21	No representation	
W21/2046	Yeomans House, Mill Lane, Rowington Proposed erection of replacement outbuilding with home office and gym on first floor	10/12/21	Support	
W21/2075/FUL	The Barn, High Cross Lane, High Cross, Shrewley Change of use from residential annexe to independent dwelling	28/01/22	Support	

b) There were no planning applications to be considered.

137. Playing Field

a) Outstanding Reports – None

b) Future Inspection Dates - Councillor C Doolan – 20 March 2022

138. Reports from Village Halls

Lowsonford Village Hall

Councillor J Coles reported that the refurbishment works continued and following a WDC grant, new furniture would be purchased. A clean up day was to take place on Sunday 13 March.

Rowington Village Hall

There were no updates to note.

139. Highways, Footpaths & Transport

Ms S Beard had met with Mr David Ayton-Hill, Strategic Director of Communities from WCC and Marcus Alford- Longley, to discuss the speed of traffic on Old Warwick Road and broken street lighting. Mr Ayton-Hill had agreed to follow up on the issues raised.

The Clerk was asked to write to the County Council to reiterate the concerns of local residents and copy Councillor J Cooke and the MP into any correspondence.

Councillor A Pitt had kindly cleaned inside the bus stop on Old Warwick Road.

140. Meetings & Training Days Attended & Forthcoming

None to note.

141. Correspondence

WALC Newsletters – noted

WDC – New 123 Waste Service

Letter from Claverdon Community Land Trust - Expressions of Interest for Affordable Housing in Claverdon and surrounding parishes – it was agreed to include this in the forthcoming Housing Needs Survey.

142. Finance

a) Paid during the month:

None

b) To be paid:

Clerks Salary £660.04

HMRC £182.79

Water Plus (Allotments) £41.09

c) Received:

None

Resolved unanimously.

143. CIL Funding

a) Proposed improvements to the Playing Field, Play area improvements, outdoor gym equipment, community orchard space and wildflower planting for biodiversity and consideration of a footpath around the boundary of the play area.

The Clerk reminded members of the Public Consultation which was to take place at Rowington Village Hall on 24 March 2022 to gather the views of local residents.

b) Gateway Signage

This item was also to be considered at the public at the Public Consultation on 24 March 2022.

c) Benches – Queen’s Platinum Jubilee

The Clerk would investigate the progress on the purchase of the benches.

144. Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – 2 to 5 June 2022

The Chairman reported that a Jubilee Committee meeting had taken place on Thursday 24 February and the minutes had been circulated to members.

It had been agreed by Parish Councillors and Co-opted members on the Jubilee Committee, to host an event on Sunday 5 June 2022 called ‘Rowington Parish Jubilee Celebration’, this would be a fete directed at Rowington Parishioners with a particular prominence for children. The next Jubilee Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday 22 March 2022.

145. Adoption and Implementation of LGA Councillor Code of Conduct

The Clerk had circulated details of the LGA Councillor Code of Conduct, along with training dates. The Chairman gave an overview of the revised Code of Conduct. It was proposed by Councillor B Sandford and seconded by Councillor A Pitt that the Code of Conduct be adopted by the Parish Council.

146. Future Meeting Dates

Thursday 14 April 2022 Lowsonford Village Hall

Thursday 28 April 2022 – Annual Parish Meeting Rowington Village Hall

Thursday 12 May 2022 – Annual Meeting Lowsonford Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting 8.35pm.

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

Report from County Councillor J Cooke

Letter from The Leader & Chief Executive of Warwickshire County Council concerning Ukraine Crisis

"Warwickshire is a welcoming county, especially to those who find themselves in difficulty through no fault of their own."

"We are deeply disturbed at the events in Ukraine and offer our deepest sympathy to the people of Ukraine. As a Council we condemn this aggression and call upon President Putin to call off this assault.

Warwickshire is a diverse county, and we treasure our multicultural communities. We know that our Ukrainian and Russian residents will be worried for family and friends at home, and we want them to know that they have our sympathy, compassion, and support.

Warwickshire is a welcoming county, especially to those who find themselves in difficulty through no fault of their own. We will open our arms to any Ukrainian people who look to begin a new life in this country.

If you, or someone you know needs our help then please do call us on 01926 410410. "

Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE Leader of the Council *Monica Fogarty WCC Chief Executive*

Please find below several available resources for Ukrainians living in the UK.

- Birmingham – Several organisations are collecting donations: <https://barms.org.uk/>
- [Armac Group](#) have offered to support Ukrainian Lorry drivers with parking in Birmingham and flights to Poland.
- London Plus have put together a list of organisations helping Ukrainians in the UK and in the region, which is available [here](#).
- Accredited immigration advice available [here](#).
- [Free immigration advice](#) for Ukrainians.
- The Work Rights Centre have prepared a FAQ summarising current information for people who need to flee, the situation in neighbouring countries and where to find immigration advice, [here](#).
- Hope not Hate provide briefings on far-right threat and support via: <mailto:response@hopenothate.org.uk> which may be a helpful resource on hate crime.
- [Sunflower of peace](#)
- [United Help Ukraine](#)
- [Voices of Children](#)

Warwickshire Cars Idling Campaign

Warwickshire Road Safety Education Team are launching the Cars Idling Campaign to encourage everyone who must travel by car to cut out engine idling by switching off their engine when stationary. The campaign primarily focusses on drivers who wait with their engines running outside schools. By stopping engine idling, drivers will reduce fuel costs and save money, improve air quality, and reduce air pollutants which can help cut heart disease, reduce lung cancer and prevent asthma attacks. By reducing the amount of fuel being used, drivers can improve the quality of the air that we breathe.

Throughout March 26 primary schools across Warwickshire will be launching this campaign, with each of these schools receiving a banner for the schools' railings, a digital animation offering advice and guidance for parents and carers and an article for newsletters. The banner and animation encourage all drivers to switch their engine off.

Record number of Warwickshire children receive first choice secondary school offers.

1st March was National Offer Day, when Year 6 children and up and down the country learnt which secondary school, they will attend for the 2022/2023 academic year.

This year, there were 6,671 Warwickshire children who applied for a secondary place by the application deadline of 31 October, an increase of 6% on the previous year. Of those, 82% have been offered a place at their first-choice school, compared to 78.5% in 2021. A further 12% have been offered a place at another of their school choices, meaning a total of 94% have been offered a place at one of their preferred schools.

This year, 97.5% of parents and carers applied online for a secondary school place. Those applicants will have received an email, or can still check their online parent portal. Letters to the remaining applicants have been posted.

Warwickshire Libraries launches exciting pop-up exhibition exploring the role of news in our society

in partnership with The Living Knowledge Network and The British Library. The exhibition will be displayed in different library locations over the next few months, with the aim of starting conversations about the news in Warwickshire and the vital role it plays in all our lives.

The Breaking the News exhibition, which has debuted in Rugby Library on 1st of March, will go on tour across the county featuring in multiple Warwickshire Libraries between March and August 2022, with a focus on celebrating the news, and examining what stories make the headlines and why to challenge our ways of thinking. It will showcase some of the most important local stories and help residents to explore the significance of news within our local communities. The exhibition will also get visitors to question if the news can ever truly be objective, encouraging open questions for discussion such as:

- How do your opinions and beliefs influence the news you choose?
- When does news become propaganda?
- Why do we devour crime stories and sensationalism?
- Who decides which stories to suppress and which to spotlight?

For more information about the Breaking the News exhibition in Warwickshire, visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/breakingthenews

New 5 Year Autism Strategy approved for Coventry and Warwickshire

The announcement means that the strategy has now been adopted by the key organisations who lead on autism services across the region, and Coventry City Council joins Warwickshire County Council, NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Warwickshire Autism Partnership Board in giving their approval to the strategy. The new Autism Strategy commits the partner organisations to commissioning high quality autism services and support, as well as working closely with one another to build local communities that are more inclusive and welcoming for autistic people and to improve the lives and opportunities for autistic children, young people, and adults.

Warwickshire partners say NO MORE to Domestic Abuse in line with national campaign

The Violence Against Women and Girls Board (VAWG) is backing the UK-wide campaign, NO MORE WEEK, to help victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence in Warwickshire, to access the specialist support services available to them throughout the county.

The weeklong campaign, which runs from Sunday 6 March through to Saturday 12 March will this year ask everyone to **#JoinTheChorus** and use collective voices to end domestic and sexual violence.

In Warwickshire, the VAWG Board would like to use the campaign to push messages out about the support available to everyone. For domestic abuse support there is the Warwickshire Domestic Violence and Abuse Service and specifically for victims of sexual violence, there is the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) – also known as the Blue Sky Centre.

For a full list of all the support services available to you in Warwickshire please go to www.talk2someone.org.uk In an emergency please dial 999.

For more information about Refuge and the Domestic Violence and Abuse Service please go to www.refuge.org.uk

Sustainability and Environmental recognition for Warwickshire County Council

WCC receives recognition for achieving ongoing ISO 14001 certification for its Environmental Management System (EMS) and placed 7th in the region for sustainability by the Environment Agency.

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) have been rated amongst the top local authorities for sustainability by the West Midlands' Local Authority Sustainability Benchmark. Published on behalf of the Environment Agency, the benchmark looks at actions taken in detail across the sustainability agenda. Overall, WCC were awarded a score of 62% and ranked 7th of the 21 regional authorities that took part.

Progress towards the county being net zero by 2050 also continues. Last year WCC Cabinet approved the funding for a costed plan for the county as a whole to be developed during 2022. Following on from a WCC commissioned report last year on the impacts and potential effects of climate change in Warwickshire, a further strategy and action plan for adaptation will also be developed in the coming months.

Report from District Councillor R Hales

I can update that we agreed our budget and have agreed to freeze our council tax, despite the rise in inflation and associated costs that we are going to face as a council over the coming 12 months. WCC & Police Commissioner have increased their levels of tax, so we as residents will see an overall increase in our tax.

The new bin contract starts in August this year with introduction of 123 contract and with it the introduction of a green bin charge starting at £20. I would like to point out to all residents that there is a scheme to purchase a composter for £5 - [Composting – Warwickshire County Council](#) which is environmentally more friendly.

We are still waiting on confirmation from central government about our request to merger with Stratford District Council, but we have started to merger operational services, and we have used these savings to enable the freeze in council tax as previously mentioned.

Report from District Councillor G Illingworth

Arrangements continue to enter the post-Covid arrangements at Riverside House though certain precautions continue. The latest WDC Council Meeting was held in the WCC Council Chamber in Warwick.

At that meeting was the Budget for 2022-23 was agreed. The proposal carried and put forward by Conservative, Whitnash and Labour parties makes no increase in the WDC tax. An alternative to increase it by 5% proposed by the Liberal Democrats and Greens was defeated. The overall budget does now assume a Green Bin charge when the new collections are introduced in August.

I recently attended a meeting with Birmingham Airport. Despite a reduction over the Christmas period passenger numbers have now risen to over 50% of pre-Covid levels and there is much activity to recruit back towards the previous employment.