

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD AT LOWSONFORD VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 14 JULY 2022 AT 7.30PM**

Present

Councillor J Coles
Councillor A Marsden
Councillor T Parker
Councillor A Pitt
Councillor T Remment
Councillor D Weir - Chairman
Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall
Warwick District Councillor G Illingworth & County Councillor J Cooke
2 members of the public

47. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor B Sandford and District Councillor R Hales.

48. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

49. Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 June 2022

It was proposed by Councillor A Marsden and seconded by Councillor A Pitt that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2022, having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as true record by the Chairman.

50. Questions from Members of the Public

Mr J Greenaway asked if the Parish Council had discussed the proposal from David Ayton-Hills of the County Council, to introduce additional signage on Old Warwick Road to deter the continued speeding of vehicles. The Clerk confirmed that members had discussed and agreed this at the May meeting and the Clerk had written back to Graham Stanley as requested. The County Council had not responded but the Clerk would chase this up.

51. Report from County Councillor – Councillor J Cooke

Councillor J Cooke read his report, which is also appended to these minutes.

52. Report from District Councillors G Illingworth & R Hales

Councillor G Illingworth reported that the Commonwealth Games were due to commence at the end of July and he updated members on the new Waste 1 2 3 + Service which would come into force on 1 August.

It was also announced that the District Council have used some reserves and government funding totalling around £430,000 to launch a discretionary energy rebate scheme aimed at residents in Council Tax Bands E-H who receive local tax reduction, and those persons with a disabled person reduction or severely mentally impaired, will receive a one off payment of £150 and all residents in Council Tax Bands A-H, who get council tax reduction will receive a £50 top up to the earlier payment they received of £150.

By introducing this scheme, Councillor Hales was trying to help residents who are the most vulnerable and were missed off the earlier Government scheme, which was aimed at residents A-D, but not in other bands. Residents who pay by direct debit will receive by 12th September.

53. Planning Matters

a) The following planning matters were reported.

Application Number	Application Details	Comments required by	PC Decision	WDC Decision
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	
W21/2179	The Paddocks, Shrewley Road, Shrewley	28/04/22	Support	

	Erection of lunging pen and menage. Formation of new vehicular access with parking and erection of a gated entrance with fencing			
W22/0161	Ednam Meadow, The Cumsey, Pinley Green Replacement two storey dwelling along with the removal of an existing container from the application site	27/04/22	Object	
W22/0365	Weavers Cottage, High Cross Lane, Erection of proposed single storey orangery replacing existing conservatory. Erection of single storey front extension. Proposed reconstruction of existing ground and first floor extensions to the rear of the original dwellings (approved under applications ref W83/0792 and W84/0625)	08/04/22	Support	Granted
W22/0367	Clinton House, Old Warwick Road, Rowington Proposed erection of single storey dwelling.	20/05/22	Support	
W22/0575	Holly Bank, Lapworth Street, Bushwood, Lowsonford Replacement conservatory, new Kitchen door replacing existing window, existing front gable to be rendered, replace 2 dormer windows with skylight, replace existing door with window, North elevation - replace existing window with new door DDA compliant access West - replace skylight with dormer	10/06/22	Support	Granted
W22/0763	Woodlands Cottage, Mill Lane, Rowington Erection of replacement dwelling and outbuildings and associated landscaping works	7/06/22	Support	Granted
W22/0785LB	Old Posthouse, Rowington Green, Rowington Enlargement of existing open porch and repositioning of front door	20/06/22	Support	Granted
W2/0868LB	Peacock Farm, Peacock Lane, Holywell, Rowington, Change of windows from a mix of UPVC double glazed units, metal framed units and timber framed units to UPVC double glazed units; replace dormer window with velux windows of timber and metal construction; alterations of barn to ensure structural stability to include replacement roof (retrospective)	30/06/22	Support	

b) The following planning application was considered and decided:

W22/0901 – Holywell Farm, Holywell – Installation of solar panels to stable roof

Members of the Parish Council understood from the Heritage Statement, that this was in the grounds of a listed building and therefore made no representation to the application, leaving the decision to the LPA.

54. Playing Field

a) Outstanding Reports – None

b) Future Inspection Dates – Councillor D Weir – 10 July & Councillor B Sandford 24 July

55. Reports from Village Halls

Lowsonford Village Hall

Councillor J Coles reported that the AGM had taken place on 23 June and Ben Attwood had thanked all Trustees and also Maurice Daw for his work before leaving the area.

The AGM minutes would be forwarded once approved.

Tree felling was to take place on the canal embankment.

Rowington Village Hall

There were no updates from Rowington Village Hall.

56. Highways, Footpaths & Transport

The Chairman reminded members of the Local Cycling Infrastructure Consultation.

The Clerk read an email from Richard Roberts of WCC regarding an update on the Canal Bridge 41 in Lowsonford and her reply to Mr Roberts.

Following discussions, it was agreed that the Clerk email Mr Roberts as follows:

'Your email was discussed at the meeting last evening and I was asked to thank you for your persistence with this matter, which is one of safety for the residents of Lowsonford and other road/bridge users.

Members were unanimous in their concern about a 'technical ' meeting which has taken place about the structural safety of Bridge 41 South Stratford Canal.

Specifically, the outcome of this technical meeting overturns the Surveyor's Structural Report of 2016. Effectively this technical meeting has concluded, that the resurfacing of the bridge has now resolved the structural inadequacies of the bridge. This cannot possibly be the case.

Simply, the crumbling of the stone structure of the bridge remains, and must be dealt with.

Decision: Clearly, no decision can be made by the Council relating to the removal of weight limit signage until:

- a) the terms of reference for this 'technical assessment 'of the bridge are stated, and
- b) a satisfactory assessment certificate is received by the Council.

Members of the Parish Council have asked me to relay their concerns to you and CRT in the strongest terms.

Weight limit signage - Removal of any weight limit signage at this point would compromise the safety of bridge users. The Parish Council has concluded and relay to you that this cannot happen at present.

The Parish Council would like to thank you for your persistence in this matter which is of huge concern to the residents of Lowsonford, and would welcome a site meeting with CRT as a matter of urgency.'

57. Meetings & Training Days Attended & Forthcoming

Councillor A Pitt attended Chairmanship Training on 12 July

Clerk attended Policies & Procedures on 27 June

58. Policies & Procedures

The Clerk had circulated a draft Grievance Procedure and Disciplinary Procedure. It was proposed by Councillor T Remment and seconded by T Parker that the Grievance Procedure and Disciplinary Procedures be adopted by the Parish Council.

59. Correspondence

WALC Newsletters

60. Finance

a) Paid during the month:

Councillor D Weir reimbursement for gift vouchers £60.00

b) To be paid:

Clerks Salary	£672.31
HMRC	£184.23
WALC (BACS) Clerk Training	£36.00
WALC (BACS) Councillor A Pitt Training	£36.00
Memorial Benches Installation BACS	£99.00
AMW Lawncare (BACS)	£305.01

c) Received:

None

Resolved unanimously.

d) To consider an Honorarium payment to the Clerk for her work for the Rowington Parish Jubilee Celebration

The Chairman proposed that members considered an honorarium payment of £250 to the Clerk for her work in organising the recent Rowington Parish Jubilee Celebration, due to the hours worked over and above her normal duties. Resolved unanimously.

The Clerk expressed her gratitude and thanked those Councillors who had also worked tirelessly to bring the event to a success for the Parish.

e) To consider a financial request from the Ferncumbe News for £1800 to allow for the distribution to all Rowington Parish Households

Members considered the request from Graham Harrington and the Ferncumbe News Team for a financial contribution of £1800 and the Chairman proposed that members grant the request. Resolved unanimously.

61. Planning Committee

Following a request from the Chairman, the Clerk confirmed that WALC had advised that the Parish Council should consider the adoption of a Planning Committee. Such a Committee would only need to meet as and when required, to deal with planning applications, which arose between meetings.

In principle, Councillors Marsden and Weir expressed their interest in membership, but the decision was deferred to the September meeting to obtain interest from Councillor B Sandford as a minimum of three members is required to form a committee.

62. Housing Needs Survey

Following the recent Housing Needs Survey, a full report had now been received which was adopted by Members. This would be uploaded to the Parish Council website.

63. Representatives on Outside Bodies

Councillors D Weir and J Coles, agreed to continue their representation of Rowington Village Hall and Lowsonford Village Hall respectfully. Clarity for other outside organisations was required.

64. CIL Funding

Proposed improvements to the Playing Field, Play area improvements, outdoor gym equipment, community orchard space and wildflower planting for biodiversity

It was agreed that a Working Group should be adopted to progress this project. Councillors T Remment, T Parker, B Sandford, A Pitt and the Chairman would meet at their earliest convenience.

65. Future Meeting Dates

Thursday 8 September 2022 Lowsonford Village Hall
Thursday 13 October 2022 Rowington Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

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

Report by County Councillor J Cooke

Have your say on Warwickshire's Plans for Walking and Cycling

Warwickshire County Council is encouraging all residents to complete a consultation survey to find out what people think about plans for improving infrastructure for walking and cycling.

The proposed improvement plans cover walking and cycling for both transport and recreation. Residents will also have the opportunity to feedback on the draft version of the Warwickshire Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). This important consultation is an opportunity for people who live, work, study and travel in Warwickshire to comment on various aspects of the draft plan, and help to refine and prioritise outline proposals for Warwickshire's walking and cycling schemes of the future.

Complete the consultation survey today. <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/insights-service/lcwip/>

Speech and Language webinar to provide support for families in Warwickshire

The latest Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND) webinar to be hosted by Warwickshire County Council in partnership with Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice will offer an opportunity for parents and carers to understand more about available support if their child has a Speech, Language and Communication Need (SLCN). It will also provide an opportunity to feedback on the current provision and share suggestions on how this could be improved.

There can be many reasons why a young person may have a SLCN. It may be due to physical difficulties such as a cleft palate or a hearing impairment, or it could be linked to other developmental conditions such as Autism, for example. In some cases, there is no obvious cause.

The webinar will take place **on Tuesday 19 July**, 1pm - 2pm and will be recorded for those unable to attend on the day. Parents and carers can [register to attend the webinar here](#).

Campaign launched to support families with advice on the development of children aged 0 – 5

The [new campaign website](#) and suite of animation videos covers advice on topics including sleeping advice, healthy habits, mental health, child safety, starting school and support services to name just a few.

Learning starts right from birth. That's why it's important for families to create a healthy learning environment for a child to grow and develop. Families are empowered with WCC's new campaign to take steps to lay this foundation so a child can achieve in later years.

Whatever a child learns during the first years of their life will have a lasting effect on them. Because these first several years have such a big impact, parents should lay a solid foundation full of love, support, and happiness which is crucial for a child's future life and relationships. Whether it's teaching a little one how to start washing themselves to keep clean or learning safety tips to prevent accidents in the home, there are lots of steps every family can take.

[Warwickshire's Family Information Service](#) is available to help too. Providing advice and support online, over the phone or face-to-face on topics including family relationships, finance, housing, parenting support, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, childcare, health and wellbeing and more.

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service Consultation

Chief Fire Officer Ben Brook today launched a public consultation on the draft Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) Prevention, Protection and Response Strategy, asking people to take part and help influence the way the Service will work over the next five years.

WFRS has 17 fire stations across the 764 square miles of Warwickshire and employs around 450 staff. Its work in 2020/21 included attending around 3,500 incidents, taking steps to protect over 1,000 buildings and carrying out 1,500 hospital-to-home collections for the county's most vulnerable residents.

The consultation comes against a backdrop of considerable social change and with a need to adapt to new and merging risks. Emergency response is now a smaller proportion of the work done by WFRS, who instead have an increased emphasis on prevention, protection and community support.

Responses to the consultation will be used to inform the final strategy that will set out the future direction of WFRS. The consultation runs from 4th July is at: <http://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk>

Warwickshire County Council outlines support and services available from Shire Hall

Warwickshire County Council's Shire Hall Meet and Greet team would like to remind visitors about the support they can provide and signpost to.

Shire Hall Meet and Greet can offer support with:

- WCC Library services: Including printing & photocopying, accessing computers, and providing general local information.

- Taking post for Warwickshire County Council departments: For example, Blue Badge and concessionary travel applications.
- Signposting to online information and contact numbers: For WCC and Warwick District Council services and other local services.
- Assisting with Concessionary Travel Applications: Appointments must be pre-arranged.
- Greeting people for their registrar appointment.
- Providing WCC-issued documents for public collection.
- In addition, Warwick Library and Warwick Post Office are also based on the ground floor of Shire Hall.

A full list of services is provided here: <https://bit.ly/shire-hall-services>

Shire Hall is open Monday to Thursday: 8:00am to 5:30pm and Friday: 8:00am to 5:00pm.

Funding awarded to community groups tackling loneliness

58 groups and individuals have received a total of £47,000 in grant funding, as part of a project which aims to reduce loneliness and social isolation throughout the county.

Around 40,000 people in Warwickshire are currently living with chronic loneliness. The Covid-19 pandemic had a profound impact on the nation's mental health, with successive lockdowns damaging social connections, jobs and finances. In addition, it disrupted people's ability to engage in their usual coping mechanisms and made them feel more isolated from friends and family.

This funding was made available as part of the Improving Mental Wellbeing in Warwickshire project, and residents were invited to apply for small amounts of money to help develop local initiatives that will help those who are lonely and socially isolated. The successful projects are based throughout the whole of the county, with all five districts and boroughs receiving a share of the funding. Individuals and unincorporated groups could apply for up to £500 of funding, while incorporated groups could apply for up to £1000.

Visit the County Council's [loneliness and social isolation webpages](#) for support and further resources.

WCC is looking to hear the views of children and young to help shape a child friendly County

The council has just launched Dialogue, a new online discussion platform, and Child Friendly Warwickshire is the first initiative to use the tool to engage with young people, their families and schools.

In 2021, Child Friendly Warwickshire engaged with more than 1,800 young people to develop the five guiding principles. These are for all children and young people to be heard, healthy, safe, skilled and happy.

A year on, 80 businesses and organisations have signed up to represent and be a friend of Child Friendly Warwickshire, a youth conference has been organised and hundreds of children and young people took part in the young green shoots climate change competition... there is still much to do.

Dialogue provides a safe space to form constructive ideas and make comments on some of the areas and issues the county council is thinking about. The Child Friendly Warwickshire Dialogue expands on feedback from the previous survey, asking for more of what the county council can do to make Warwickshire as child friendly as possible, linking to the five guiding principles.

To register, or read through the discussions, and take part visit: warwickshire.gov.uk/childfriendlydialogue.

Anyone under 16 will need to get consent from a parent, carer, guardian teacher or trusted adult to register.