

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD AT ROWINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 12 JANUARY 2023 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 Councillors G Illingworth & R Hales
3 members of the public
Mr M Newham, Localities Officer of Warwickshire County Council for part of the meeting

140. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of County Councillor J Cooke.

141 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman declared an interest in Item 6b pertaining to W22/1967 & 1968LB, 1 Kingswood Cottages.

142. Minutes of the Meetings held on 8 December 2022

It was proposed by Councillor A Marsden and seconded by Councillor A Pitt that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2022, having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

143. Questions from Members of the Public

Ms. S Beard raised concern regarding the streetlights near to St Laurence Church.

The Clerk confirmed that despite completing the WDC on-line form to report rural street light faults, on a number of occasions, the issues were still outstanding, and she asked District Councillors Illingworth & Hales if they could obtain direct contact with an Officer.

Ms. S Beard also enquired as to when the hedges would cut back on Old Warwick Road and Mr M Newham of WCC confirmed that the work was scheduled.

Ms. S Beard asked Mr Newham if he could look to scrape back the encroaching grass and soil, which over years had covered half of the footway on this well used path. Mr Newham was aware of the issue, but feared that by clearing the grass and soil, it may result in damage to the footway. The Clerk agreed to invite County Councillor J Cooke to allocate funding from his budget for this work.

The Clerk had also submitted photos to WCC, of a blocked drain next to the church car park on Old Warwick Road.

These items would be included on the next agenda.

144. Mr Michael Newham – Locality Officer WCC

The Chairman welcomed the County Council's new Locality Officer, Mr Newham to the meeting and thanked him for attending to talk to Members regarding the issue of the canal bridge at Lawsonford, owned by the Canal and River Trust.

The Chairman stated that whilst the Parish Council understood that lorries are permitted to use any classification of road for access and deliveries, and only in exceptional traffic management circumstances, but asked if the County Council could consider the implementation of a weight Traffic Regulation Order to reduce the movement of HGV's, via structural restrictions such as a weak bridge, if the bridge is deemed safe. There was no funding available to introduce any new weight limits and the Chairman requested Mr Newham to pursue an Advisory Sign for the bridge.

Councillor J Coles invited him to express his thoughts on the Canal Bridge 41 at Lawsonford and Mr Newham suggested a Traffic Survey at an approximate cost of £600, be carried out to ascertain how many HGV's did use the bridge, with a view to Traffic Regulation Order being implemented to deter HGV's from using this bridge.

In the meantime, the Clerk was asked to contact the County Council, to request that the posts, which were used for the temporary signage, be left in place until a more definite decision be made.

Councillor J Coles raised an issue regarding flooding and huge potholes at the bottom of Mill Lane, Finwood, Lowsonford which was noted by Mr Newham.

Mr Newham encouraged members and residents to report all highways issues to countyhighways@warwickshire.gov.uk

145. Report from District Councillors

Councillor R Hales reported that the new refuse and recycling scheme was running positively, and that landfill had been greatly reduced.

The WDC Budget for 2023/204 was being considered.

Councillor G Illingworth encouraged members to respond to the Local Plan Consultation Survey which was now available.

146. 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.

147. 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	Granted
W22/1534	Ketsoc Lawns, Nunhold Road, Pinley Green, Demolition of 1980's side extension to return dwelling to original footprint - Addition of a first floor to the original footprint, currently a bungalow - Simplification of mixed roof design to pitched roof with 2 gable ends	11/11/22	No representation	Withdrawn
W22/1561LB & 1560	Oldfield Farm, Old Warwick Road, Rowington Proposed raising of roof to rear extension and installation of French windows, alterations to windows, internal alterations to layout including removal of interior wall	27/10/22	No representation	
W22/1594	Ribbons, Rowington Green, Rowington Erection of detached 1.5 storey 'Granny Annex'	11/11/22	No representation	Refused
W22/1666	Land Adjacent to Kingswood Farm, Old Warwick Road Erection of one detached dwelling and garage together with associated parking and landscaping (re-submission of W/20/0388)	14/11/22	No representation	
W22/1727	Ednam Meadow, The Cumsey, Pinley Green Replacement of two storey dwelling along with the removal of an existing container from the application site (Resubmission of W/22/0161)	09/12/22	Object	
W22/1788	Stables, High Paddock, Back Lane, Rowington Conversion of existing rural building to form a dwellinghouse following removal of existing static dwelling and stable units	14/12/22	No Representation	

b) The following planning applications were considered and decided:

W22/1803 - Wyken Field, High Cross Lane, Rowington - Application for approval of Reserved Matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to Outline Planning Permission ref: W/21/0019 (Erection of a replacement dwelling)

Members made no representation to the application.

W22/1885LB - Hillside, High Cross Lane - Alterations to curtilage listed outbuilding to facilitate alternative ancillary use including insertion of first floor. Replacement of window to principle listed dwelling.

Members made no representation to the application. It was agreed that there was insufficient information to be able to make an informed decision.

W22/ 1937 - Shepherds Fold, Finwood Road, Rowington - Conversion of stables building to one bedroom dwelling
Members made no representation to the application.

W22/1967 & 1968LB – 1 Kingswood Cottages, Old Warwick Road, Lapworth
Erection of single storey side/rear extension
Members made no representation to the application.

148. Finance

a) Paid during the month:

None

b) To be paid:

Clerks Salary	£727.05
HMRC	£202.39
Lowsonford Village Hall Room Hire (BACS)	£45.00

c) Received:

None

Agreed Unanimously.

149. Future Meeting Dates

Thursday 9 February 2023	Lowsonford Village Hall
Thursday 9 March 2023	Rowington Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

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

Report from County Councillor J Cooke

Getting around Warwickshire by bus gets cheaper in 2023

Warwickshire residents are encouraged to get around by Bus in 2023 thanks to a new Government-backed scheme to save money on fares.

Most Warwickshire bus operators have signed up for the scheme aimed at capping the price of a Single ticket. This will help families, commuters and other passengers save money this winter, backed by £60 million of government investment to cap single tickets at £2 from 1 January to 31 March 2023 across England.

In Warwickshire, the following operators have signed up for the scheme:

- Stagecoach
- Arriva
- National Express Coventry
- National Express West Midlands
- Pulhams
- A&M Group - Flexibus (Service 9 only)
- IndieGo PLUS Demand Responsive Transport (DRT)

For residents who use the Warwickshire County Council-funded IndieGo PLUS DRT service in Hatton and West Warwick, the £2 single fare is now available for journeys booked for 2023. More details here: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/indiegoplus

Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards has launched a straightforward shopper's guide to returning faulty goods.

If you want to return something this bought Christmas or in the New Year, either because it's faulty or you have simply changed your mind, Please see below:-

- Under the law, a shop only has to accept the return of a faulty product from the person who bought it, (although many shops are happy to overlook this), so if you're the recipient of a faulty gift, you may need to ask the buyer to return the item on your behalf.
- However, although not part of consumer law, if you have a gift receipt, the recipient of the gift can usually return it themselves (depending upon the reason for the return – see below).
- In most cases, if the item is faulty or misdescribed you have up to 30 days in which you can return it for a full refund. After 30 days you still have the right to a repair or replacement (and a full refund if this is not possible). This applies both to goods purchased online or in a shop.
- Don't be put off by signs such as 'No Refunds on Sale Items'. Your consumer rights apply equally to full price and sale products.
- You don't have a legal right to return goods bought from a shop, simply because you have changed your mind. However, many shops do have their own returns policies and some allow no quibble returns.
- But, when shopping from home, for example on the internet, you do have additional legal rights. In most cases you can change your mind and cancel your order up to 14 days from delivery of the goods, (you may have to pay the return cost).
- If you paid using a credit or debit card you may be able to claim against the card provider if the item wasn't delivered or was faulty and the trader disappears or goes bust.
- Always keep your proof of purchase (e.g. a receipt), you may be asked for it when returning goods.

New partnership to create 2,000 homes for Warwickshire

Warwickshire County Council and its property company Warwickshire Property & Development Group (WPDG) have announced a major new joint venture which will see 2,000 new homes created across the county.

Develop Warwickshire will help bring sites forward for housing over the next 30 years, with three being taken forward for development within the next 12 months.

The partnership with WPDG and leading developer Countryside Partnerships, which will see £2.5 billion of developments completed, is part of the county's drive to realise the potential of its development sites, commercial buildings and mineral rights in as sustainable a way as possible, creating homes and jobs for local people.

Councillor Peter Butlin, Deputy Leader of Warwickshire County Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property, said "This partnership is key to our ambition to make the most of the county's assets for the benefit of local people and local communities. Unlocking our sites to create sustainable, high-quality homes and communities is a key ambition for the council, and Develop Warwickshire will play a major role in this."

Let's Talk Warwickshire to help you stay well this winter!

In the latest Let's Talk Warwickshire Podcast, Warwickshire's Director of Public Health, Shade Agboola, discusses winter health. Shade talks about the steps residents can take to stay as healthy as possible during the winter months.

With darker days and colder temperatures, the winter months can be a time where viruses are on the increase. It can also be more of a struggle to go out and see people which can impact wellbeing, and along with the pressures from the rising cost of living, people may feel that they need some additional support.

The podcast episode is [available to listen now](#). It covers topics such as the importance of maintaining good mental and physical health, vaccinations and check ins to support family, friends and vulnerable neighbours.

To help stay as healthy as possible, it's important to:

- Continue to reduce the risk of viruses such as COVID, flu, norovirus and general winter colds by regularly washing hands, staying at home if feeling unwell and using tissues to catch coughs and sneezes and disposing of them quickly.
- Stay up to date with any vaccinations. Certain groups are eligible for the flu and/or COVID vaccines and boosters – it's important to book and attend any appointments for these vaccines.
- Check in on others, whether this is family, friends or neighbours. A chat with loved ones can give a mood boost and also support more vulnerable people if they're not able to get out in the colder months.

Warwickshire's Gritters will continue to keep the County's roads safe for residents

Warwickshire County Council is reassuring residents that highways across the county will continue to be gritted this winter. With the winter gritting period now well underway, Warwickshire County Council is reassuring residents that, despite national media claims to the contrary, its gritting fleet is unaffected by the ongoing shortage of Heavy Goods Vehicles Drivers and will operate as normal over the winter months.

Last winter season, Warwickshire's gritting service:

- Carried out 53 gritting runs;
- Covered 58,300 miles in total, which is the equivalent of approximately 2.3 times around the circumference of our planet; (Based on 24,901 miles circumference);
- Used approximately 9,692 Tonnes of salt which is equivalent to 346 lorry loads. (28T delivered each lorry);
- Involved 95 members of staff, including drivers, depot supervisors, duty managers; and
- Was supported by County's Fleet Maintenance Service who keep the 38 gritting vehicles on the road (29 front line vehicles and 9 reserves)

Warwickshire County Council has 5 dedicated depots for the gritting fleet, one on each geographical area of the county and have six weather stations and even employs a dedicated winter roads weather forecaster to help decide when there will be a need to grit.

Leamington Farmer Prosecuted

At Coventry Magistrates Court on Wednesday 7 December 2022, Mr Ewan David Wells (age 64) of Main Street, Hunningham, Leamington Spa pleaded guilty to three offences under the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

The charges covered a period between November 2019 and May 2021 during which Mr Wells caused unnecessary suffering to a sheep by failing to take appropriate action to promptly obtain veterinary attention or arrange for its humane destruction. He failed to clean out the areas where his animals were housed, resulting in a heavy accumulation of muck and slurry that in turn led to the contamination of food and water. He also failed to ensure there was adequate water provision.

Finally, he failed to protect his animals from pain, suffering, injury, and disease as there was barbed wire, rubbish, and scrap metal in areas which his animals had access to.

Warwickshire County Council offers energy advice to businesses amid cost of living crisis

With so many challenges facing businesses given the current energy situation, WCC recently ran a series of webinar sessions to help support businesses in the Agricultural Sector as well as the Retail, Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure sectors.

The sessions provide the opportunity to hear and learn from experts on how to reduce energy consumption, with practical tips on how to reduce businesses' energy consumption, guidance on how to lower energy bills and information on further funding and business support.

The webinars are available to view on WCC's YouTube channel now:

Agricultural webinar: <https://youtu.be/1V98bdGyCZc>

Retail, Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure webinar: <https://youtu.be/WPKA2OSZWxA>