

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD AT ROWINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 6 APRIL 2023 AT 7.30PM**

Present

Councillor A Coleman
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 R Hales & G Illingworth
5 members of the public

189. Apologies

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

190 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

191. Minutes of the Meetings held on 9 March 2023

It was proposed by Councillor A Pitt and seconded by Councillor T Parker that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2023, having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

192. Questions from Members of the Public

Councillor Mrs Janet Gee, the current Chairman of Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall Parish Council introduced herself and reported that she had put herself forward as a local District Council for the forthcoming elections.

Mr P Tegg raised concern regarding the volume of lager cans in hedges in Lawsonford and asked the Parish Council to raise this with the Police Authority and the County Council Highways. The Chairman suggested that the PC organised a litter pick and Mrs G Gee suggested asking Rubbish Friends, a Stratford based organisation for advice.

The Chairman advised that this was something the Police were unlikely to pursue and suggested the Parish Council organise a Litter Pick and asked for this item to be included on the next agenda for discussion. The Chairman asked members to read the recent WALC Newsletter which outlined how local parish councils have been getting involved with litter picks.

Mr B Taylor raised concern regarding dog fouling on Rowington Cricket Pitch and this was discussed later in the meeting.

193. Report from District Councillors

Councillor R Hales reported that the District Council had been idle due to the period of Purdah, but had secured a grant of £1250 for the Kings Coronation event, for Lawsonford Village Hall.

Councillor Hales gave his sincere thanks and support to Councillor G Illingworth following his sixteen years of service.

Members of the Parish Council also expressed their sincere thanks to Councillor Illingworth for his support and attendance at Parish Council meetings.

194. 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.

195. Planning Matters

a) The following planning matters were reported.

Application Number	Application Details	Comments required by	PC Decision	WDC Decision
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	

W22/1937	Shepherds Fold, Finwood Road, Rowington Conversion of stables building to one bedroom dwelling	13/01/23	No Representation	
W22/1969	Great Pinley Farm, Nunhold Road Change of use of outbuilding to a separate dwelling (family accommodation only)	10/03/23	No Representation	Withdrawn
W23/0138	Annexe at, The Cumsey, Lye Green, Holywell, Application for Certificate of Lawful Development to establish use of building known as 'The Annexe' as an independent dwelling (Use Class C3) for a period in excess of 4 years	10/03/23	No Representation	
W23/0161	High Cross Farm, Back Lane, Rowington Raising in height of existing boundary wall to front of property. Repositioning of existing entrance gate and piers to new position, including increasing in height. Replacement of existing post and rail timber fence to front and side boundary with new taller close boarded timber fence.	10/03/23	No Representation	Withdrawn
W23/0162	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)	09/03/23	No Representation	
W23/0167	Lowsonford Barn, Lapworth Street, Bushwood, Change of use of B1 (a) Office to a dwelling (Use Class C3)	10/03/23	No Representation	
W23/0201	Pinley Croft, Nunhold Road, Pinley Green Erection of single storey rear and side extension, replacement doors & windows and boxed eaves arrangement. Replacement smooth render finish to entire house and grey roof tiles	21/03/23	No Representation	
W23/0250	19 Kingswood Green, Lapworth Install a PVCU conservatory to rear of property	23/03/23	No Representation	
W23/0267	Holywell Farm, Holywell, Rowington Replace like for like old wood shed as it is falling down and a danger. Extend stable block for extra storage and a work shop in line with the guidelines.	24/03/23	No Representation	

b) The following planning applications were considered.

W23/0349 - Navigation Cottage, Old Warwick Road, Lapworth - Erection of two storey side and rear extension, with alterations to front elevation to existing dwelling.

Members of the Parish Council objected to the application on the grounds of the overall size and footprint of the proposed extension and suggested that the LPA imposes a condition relating to low pressure lighting in terms of disturbance to wildlife.

196. Playing Field

a) Outstanding Reports – None

b) Future Inspection Dates – Councillor D Weir – 16 April & Councillor A Marsden - 30 April

c) Play Area Project/CIL

The Clerk confirmed that the application for tree works had been submitted to the LPA and it would take a minimum of six weeks before a response could be expected.

d) Tree Planting – Playing Field

Amy Bambridge of Heart of England Forest gave an overview and background of her organisation and asked members to consider making an application to the Woodland Trust for the planting of a hedge and trees to the rear side of the playing field to encourage wildlife. This would also help with the often, sodden ground. Amy suggested a mixed species of plants to form a hedge, with the inter-planting of trees for an overall length of some 170 metres and to include approximately 500 plants.

The Chairman asked if grant funding would include the cost of planting and watering until the plants were established, and Amy advised that these costs were not included.

It was also suggested that the Parish Council could hold a community event, inviting locals to help with the planting of the hedge and trees, along with members.

The project was proposed by Councillor A Marsden and seconded by T Remment. All Members agreed to the proposal and asked the Clerk to work with Amy to make the application.

197. Reports from Village Halls

Lowsonford Village Hall

Councillor J Coles encouraged members to attend the Kings Coronation Celebration event which was to be held on Sunday 7 May from midday until 4pm.

Rowington Village Hall

No matters to report.

198. Highways, Footpaths & Transport

Canal Bridge 41 at Lowsonford

As no progress had been made with regard to the request for advisory signage, the Clerk was asked to follow this up with the County Council and investigate the cost for a survey.

Incident on 17 March 2023

Councillor J Coles reported that a fatality had occurred on 17 March, whereby a man had slipped on the canal steps and fallen into the lock and drowned.

Councillor Coles asked the Clerk to request a copy of the Police statement and notify the Canal & River Trust asking for a safety handrail to be installed.

Dog Fouling

Concerns had been raised with regard to the constant dog fouling on Rowington Cricket Pitch.

Mr Taylor currently provides two large bins and empties these on a regular basis.

It was also noted that a number of dog owners do not pick up after their dogs.

The Clerk had asked the District Council to consider the installation of dog bins in the vicinity of Rowington Cricket pitch, but the cost for each bin would be over £540 and the DC was not able to empty them. The Clerk had asked AMW Lawncare if they could empty the bins, but were unable to do so, because they have no way of disposing of such matter.

It was agreed that the Clerk investigates the costs for the supply and installation of up to four dog foul bins and potentially a dog bag dispenser to a maximum of £1,000.00. These would be located at each corner of the cricket pitch.

199. Car Park Ownership

Mr R Shepherd, Treasurer of the Parochial Church Council reported that the car park is not currently registered with the Land Registry, but was to have a meeting with the Diocese on 17 May 2023 and would seek advice on the matter and the likely costs.

200. Correspondence

WALC Newsletters

WDC Election information

201. Finance

a) Paid during the month:

None

b) To be paid:

Clerks Salary	£727.05
HMRC	£202.39
Lowsonford Village Hall Grant - Kings Coronation Event	£750.00
Memorial Benches Ltd	£1,160.00

c) Received:

None

Agreed Unanimously.

202. Parish Events

Lowsonford Village Hall - Kings Coronation Celebration event - 7 May from midday until 4pm.

203. King’s Coronation Bench – Playing Field

The Clerk reported that the King’s Coronation bench had now been ordered and would be installed once the play area works had been completed.

204. Parish Design Statement (PDS)

The Clerk was asked to ascertain why the last PDS had not been adopted by the District Council as this appeared to be contrary to accepted practice by Stratford District Council.

205. Confidential Items

Under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press were excluded from the meeting for this item by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to an individual, information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual, and information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person.

a) Allotments Agreement

The Chairman was to seek legal advice as she did not believe that the Agreement issued in 2008 was sufficient to protect the Parish Council.

b) Tennis Club Licence

The Clerk had liaised with the Chairman and Mr Wilson and read a draft letter to be sent to the Chairman of the Tennis Club.

It was agreed unanimously that the Clerk should now issue the Tennis Club with the letter asking for the annual rent of £450.00.

206. Future Meeting Dates

Thursday 27 April 2023 – Annual Parish Meeting	Rowington Village Hall
Thursday 18 May 2023 – Annual Meeting	Lowsonford Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

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

Report from County Councillor J Cooke

Government Emergency Alerts system - what you need to know

The UK government's new Emergency Alerts system is now live. The system will enable people to be contacted via their mobile phone when lives are in danger. It will be used to warn you in the event of emergencies, such as severe flooding.

Emergency Alerts are sent to all compatible mobile phones within an area of risk. They don't track your location, need your phone number, or collect personal data. Only the government and the emergency services will be able to send them.

If you get an Emergency Alert on your phone, you'll hear a loud, siren-like sound. A message on your screen will tell you about the emergency and how best to respond. If you receive an alert, read it carefully and follow the instructions.

On Sunday 23 April there will be a national test, which will be received on compatible mobile phone handsets.

Support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Warwickshire is improving with visible progress being made.

In the latest feedback, inspectors acknowledged the continued determination and pace of Warwickshire County Council and Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board who have been working together with a range of partners including Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice to improve the delivery of services provided.

The report noted that the local area continues to make good progress and most actions are on track on the [Written Statement of Action](#) (the improvement plan following the local area SEND inspection in 2021). Particularly good progress has been made with the [SEND Local Offer](#) and the foundations of strong coproduction practice are in place with parent carers. Waiting times for autism assessments are reducing steadily.

The Department for Education and NHS England concluded that Warwickshire have worked hard since the last monitoring meeting to demonstrate the impact of their improvement work where this is known.

Warwickshire celebrates inaugural National Supported Internship Day

Warwickshire County Council was proud to celebrate the first ever National Supported Internship Day, which took place on Monday 27 March 2023.

Supported internships are a type of work-based learning programme that provide young people with disabilities the opportunity to gain valuable work experience in a real workplace setting, whilst receiving on-the-job training and support.

Warwickshire County Council has recently received a grant of £105,000 from the National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi) to develop its supported internships programme for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Warwickshire. The grant, which will be distributed over a three-year period is designed to support more young people with additional needs to have greater choice and control over opportunities that prepare them for adult life and enable them to gain long-term meaningful employment.

Warwickshire encourages more inclusive communities with online events for Autism Acceptance Week.

Find out about free events available for everyone in Coventry and Warwickshire as part of World Autism Acceptance Week 2023. Organised by UK charity The National Autistic Society, World Autism Acceptance Week is an opportunity to highlight the importance of understanding more about autism and to inspire others to take steps to build kinder, more inclusive communities. Individuals, families, professionals and businesses are all encouraged to take part in the week by signing up to the free events on offer and taking the opportunity to discover more about autism, and the information and support available for autistic people and those who work or live alongside them.

Autism is a lifelong neurodevelopmental condition that affects how a person communicates with and relates to other people, and the world around them. Being autistic means your brain works in a different way to other people's and although there are common characteristics, each person's experience of autism is different. In the UK, there are around 700,000 autistic adults and children. The National Autistic Society has made a short video that explains simply what autism is – [watch it here](#).

New ceremony rooms available to celebrate your special occasions in Warwickshire

WCC's Registration Service is delighted to announce St. John's House and The Judges' House as two newly licensed venues for legal ceremonies to take place in the county.

Both Warwick-based venues are ready to receive ceremony bookings for 2023 and 2024 and have a multitude of rooms for you to choose from, varying in styles of décor and capacity options, to ensure you find the most suitable location for celebrating your special day.

In **St. John's House**, two beautiful wood-panelled rooms are now available for ceremonies to take place, one with a capacity of 40 people, and the other slightly smaller with a capacity of 8 people for a more intimate occasion.

The Georgian Grade II-listed **Judges' House**, built between 1814 and 1816, is nestled in the heart of Warwick next to the original Crown Court and offers an unparalleled combination of character and capacity for your joyous occasion. It features the Regency decorated Judges' Drawing Room and Judges' Dining Room on the first floor, and the High Sheriff's Office on the ground floor which has disabled access. All the rooms have different character and décor options with a capacity of between 45-100 people. To find out more about each ceremony room available please visit the [Warwickshire Ceremonies website](#)

Working group to review home-to-school transport in Warwickshire

At its meeting on Thursday 16 March, Warwickshire's Cabinet voted unanimously to create a member working group to look specifically at the County's home-to-school transport offer.

Home-to-school transport is available to Warwickshire parents under a specific set of circumstances. To qualify for help with transport, residents must meet the following criteria:

- They must be a resident in Warwickshire; and
- Their child must be attending the nearest qualifying school to their home - this is the closest school to their home address by the shortest available walking route or their priority / catchment school.

The walking distance (using the shortest walking route) from their home to the nearest qualifying school must be:

- Over two miles for children under the age of eight years; or
- Over three miles for children aged eight to 16

Click here for information. <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/transporthelpunder16>

Pothole repairs in Warwickshire to receive a funding boost

Warwickshire County Council has welcomed news following the Chancellor's Spring Budget announcement that it is set to receive an additional £2.874 Million to repair potholes around the county.

Warwickshire County Council has established a national reputation for swift responses to potholes and is consistently in the top 10 of authorities in the country for customer satisfaction with road repair and condition, according to the National Highways and Transport Survey. (NHTS)

Residents wishing to report a highways fault or pothole can visit the online portal: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/reporthishighwayproblem>