

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD AT ROWINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 8 JUNE 2023 AT 7.30PM**

Present

Councillor A Coleman (Chairman)
Councillor J Coles
Councillor A Marsden
Councillor A Pitt
Councillor T Remment
Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall
County Councillor J Cooke
2 members of the public

21. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors T Parker & D Weir and District Councillors R Hales, D Armstrong & K Aizlewood.

22. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

23. Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 May 2023

It was proposed by Councillor A Pitt and seconded by Councillor T Remment that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2023, having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

24. Questions from Members of the Public

Mrs D Sly asked for an update regarding the speeding issues on Old Warwick Road, particularly near to St Laurence Church. The Clerk confirmed that the County Council were to install various warning signs in the vicinity. These would include new yellow backs to the current chevron signs and '30mph maximum speed' on the approach to the bends.

Mrs P Ostins asked the Parish Council to address the overgrown hedges on Queen's Drive near the allotments and the Clerk agreed to write to the landowners.

25. Report from County Councillor – Councillor J Cooke

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

26. Report from District Councillors

In the absence of the District Councillors, the Clerk read their report which is also appended to these minutes.

27. 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	
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	Lawful Development Certificate of Existing use
W23/0493	The Lyons Farm House, Rowington Green, Redevelopment of farm building to provide three 'barn-style' dwellings	22/05/23	No Representation	

W23/0551 & 0552LB	Whitley Elm, Case Lane, Rowington Erection of single storey side extension, porch, 2no. replacement windows, garden wall repair and a detached two bay carport. Associated internal works	18/05/23	No Representation	
W23/0574	Erection of first floor rear extension. Address: 2 Quarry Farm Cottages, Rowington Green	22/05/23	Support	

b) The following planning applications were considered and decided:

W23/0586 - High Chimneys Farm, Old Warwick Road, Rowington. Construction of new timber framed store for the keeping of firewood and potting of Christmas trees.
Members raised no objection to the application.

W23/0647 - Ketsoc Lawns, Nunhold Road, Pinley Green. Demolition of a previous extension to the dwelling. Proposed increase in ridge height to create additional internal floorspace with the addition of two dormer windows to the front elevation.
Members raised no objection to the application.

c) W23/0574 – Quarry Farm Cottages, Rowington Green - to re-consider the decision to support this application following correspondence from the LPA due to additional information provided – Special Resolution.

Following further information from the Case Officer regarding the history and proposals including the overall floor space of the property, members agreed to withdraw the previous decision of ‘support’ and make ‘no objection’ to the application.

d) Appeals

Site Address: Ribbons, Rowington Green, Rowington, Warwick, CV35 7DB

Description of development: Erection of detached 1.5 storey 'Granny Annexe'

Application Reference: W/22/1594 - APP/T3725/W/23/3317686 Appeal start date: 01/06/2023

28. Playing Field

a) Outstanding Reports – None

b) Future Inspection Dates – Councillor A Coleman – 11 June & Councillor A Pitt – 25 June

A vote of thanks was given to Councillor A Pitt for following the cleaning of the swings and replacing the hazard tape on the broken swing seats.

c) Play Area Project/CIL

The Clerk reported that the tree application made to the LPA had raised no objections and the two trees had now been removed. The overgrown vegetation on the perimeter had also been cut back and the crown raised on the ash tree to the side entrance had been lifted.

The Clerk confirmed that Kompan had agreed to start the play area work in August 2023.

29. Reports from Village Halls

Lowsonford Village Hall

Councillor J Coles reported that the AGM would be held on 14 June 2023 at 7.30pm.

Rowington Village Hall

Councillor A Marsden reported that the AGM was held on 6 June and all members had been re-elected. Finances were healthy and £10k had been spent on maintenance to ensure the hall was kept to a high standard.

A Simple Supper would be held on 13 October and the annual Christmas event on 2 December 2023.

30. Highways, Footpaths & Transport

Incident on 17 March 2023

Councillor J Coles reported that the date for the inquest had not yet been set.

Dog Bins – Cricket Pitch

The Clerk reported that three new small dog foul bins had now been installed on the corners of the Cricket Field and the third, larger bin was awaiting delivery.

Litter Issue in Lawsonford

The Clerk confirmed that she had emailed PCSO Jack Power at Warwickshire Police Authority SNT, who confirmed he would make his presence known in the area.

The Clerk had also invited PCSO to a Parish Council meeting, but no confirmation had yet been received.

Skip at Canal Entrance – Lawsonford

Councillor J Coles asked the Clerk to contact The Canal & River Trust to ask why there was a skip located at the entrance to the canal basin as it was deemed unsightly.

31. Car Park Ownership

Mr R Shepherd, Treasurer of the Parochial Church Council had reported to the Clerk that as the car park is not currently registered with the Land Registry, he would raise the matter at the next PCC meeting and report back to the Parish Council.

It was agreed that the PC should consider registering the car park and seek advice and the likely costs at the next meeting.

32. Correspondence

WALC Newsletters

33. Finance

a) Paid during the month:

None

b) To be paid:

Clerks Salary	£727.05
HMRC	£202.39
Clerks Expenses (BACS)	£6.00
Online Office Supplies Stationery (BACS)	£78.40

c) Received:

VAT Reclaim	£1287.93
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34. Parish Events

St Laurence Church – Rowington Parish Festival Week commencing on Sunday 4 June

35. Items for the Next Agenda

Broken Parish Council notice board at Rowington Village Hall.

36. Future Meeting Dates

Thursday 13 July 2023	Lowsonford Village Hall
Thursday 10 August 2023 (Provisional)	Rowington Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.26pm.

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

Report from County Councillor J Cooke

Warwickshire Fire Service urges people to #BeWaterAware

As temperatures are set to soar this Bank Holiday weekend, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service are urging people to stay safe when spending time in or around open water.

Sadly, last week the deaths of six people were reported, due to drowning in open water, including two young men in Yorkshire on Wednesday.

In response to the tragic incidents, firefighters are urging people to #BeWaterAware and understand the dangers that swimming in lakes and quarries can bring. Even on a warm day the temperature in open water can remain very cold, causing cold water shock. It's also essential that people know what to do should they see someone in trouble in the water.

There are three simple things to remember - **Call, Tell, Throw**:

- **Call 999** – ask for Fire & Rescue if inland or the Coastguard if by the sea
- **Tell** the struggling person to try to float on their back
- **Throw** them something that floats

For more information on RNLI's 'respect the water' campaign and advice on what to do in the event of an emergency in open water, visit: <https://rnli.org/safety/respect-the-water>.

Interactive Futures – Gateway into Games event heralded as a great success

Organisers Warwick District Council, Warwickshire County Council, and the Warwickshire Games Collective are reflecting on an inspiring and motivational event for all involved.

The first face-to-face Interactive Futures event since the Covid-19 pandemic was a sell-out with an audience of hundreds of students, parents and local people seeking to move into the video games industry.

Those taking part enjoyed a packed programme of talks hosted by Marie Foulston, Creative Director and Videogame Curator on a range of topics ranging from why there is a career for everyone in games, the different routes into the industry and what the future of Games might look like. The event also shone a light on how well the industry responds to issues of equality, diversity and inclusion.

Dozens of 'Silicon Spa' studios exhibited including Kwalee, Rebellion, Playground Games, Lively- A Keyword Studio, SEGA HARDlight, Ubisoft, Third Kind Games, Lab 42, Sumo Leamington, Secret Mode, RiVR and Soul Assembly. There was also the opportunity for delegates to enjoy some valuable one-to-one time with developers, artistic creatives and recruiters to review portfolios and CVs.

Warwick Library has reopened with a fresh look that provides an improved experience for customers

Following a short closure to enable refurbishment work, the library reopened on May 30th

The improvements include:

- A new sensory area to encourage library use by children and adults with additional needs
- Relocating the children's area to provide additional space and create a focal point to the library
- Creating a lighter, more welcoming space with an improved customer flow

Councillor Yousef Dahmash, Portfolio Holder for Customer and Transformation at Warwickshire County Council said: "We would like to thank customers for their patience during this short closure, and we look forward to welcoming them back to the new look library. The improvements we have made will offer a more flexible library space making it more accessible for customers of all ages for years to come."

To find out more about what's available at your local library, visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/libraries.

Visitors to Ryton Pools Country Park discover six species not seen before at the site

During a recent "BioBlitz" event, visitors to Ryton Pools Country Park spotted six species that had never been seen at the site before.

The event was organised as part of the national Big Help Out held during the coronation weekend, and saw more than fifty visitors given magnifiers, shaker sheets and recording sheets before they set out to explore the diverse habitats across the park.

Smaller creatures were brought back to the visitor centre in pots, where the ranger team were on-hand to help identify the different species.

Among the recorded species were the Nut-Tree Tussock Moth, a Kentish Snail, a Copse Snail, a Soldier Beetle (*Cantharis decipiens*), a Chequered Click Beetle, and a Kidney-Spot Ladybird. While the Kentish Snail is a recent introduction to the UK, the remaining species are relatively common. However, the discoveries indicate the importance of carefully examining the surrounding wildlife and show that many species can go unnoticed until they are at risk of significant population decline.

For more information or to book a place on the walk at Ryton Pools, visit the Warwickshire Country Parks Eventbrite page: <https://bit.ly/3rhMtgG>

Take part in a consultation on housing related support services in Warwickshire

The consultation period will run for 12 weeks from May 22nd to August 11, 2023 and asks for people's views on how services will be offered in the future.

Housing related support services support people with vulnerabilities and additional needs to enable them to attain the skills required to be able to gain and/or maintain a tenancy and live independently in the community and help prevent homelessness.

These services are offered either through accommodation-based support, where temporary housing and support are delivered together or through floating support for those who need support to manage and maintain their accommodation if it is at risk. Working with people the support worker develops a personalised support plan to help improve people's ability to maintain their housing and help them be independent after the support ends.

You can put forward your views either individually or as part of a group in the following ways:

- Complete the online survey online at <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/insights-service/redesign-of-housing-related-support-services/>
- You can also respond in writing to: Warwickshire County Council, Housing Related Support Consultation, Shire Hall, Market Place, Warwick, CV34 4RL or by emailing peoplestrategyandcommissioning@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Let's Talk Child Friendly Warwickshire

A new episode of the Let's Talk Warwickshire podcast has been released, exploring the Child Friendly Warwickshire (CFW) initiative.

The podcast series discusses important issues facing the communities of Warwickshire. This latest episode shines a spotlight on the exciting CFW programme, featuring a conversation between John Coleman, Assistant Director for Children's Services, Alice Battersby, Co-Chair of the Warwickshire Youth Forum, and Abbey Baker, Development Worker, along with our podcast host, Gail Downey. The podcast episode is available to [listen to the podcast now](#).

You can learn more about the initiative on the <https://letstalkwarwickshire.podbean.com/>

County event supports young people to be heard

Last week (9 May) around 40 young people from across Warwickshire came together with county leaders for the first Child Friendly Warwickshire Youth Voice event.

The event at Shire Hall, Warwick was attended by young people from the county's Youth Council, Children in Care Council, Care Leavers Forum and IMPACT (SEND Forum). They were joined by children's service managers, elected members and professionals from the public sector partners to talk about a range of local issues that affect them.

True to the ethos of Child Friendly Warwickshire, the event provided a platform for young people to ask questions, gain insight into the roles of the councillors, and ensure their perspectives were heard and valued. By actively engaging with the young councillors, Warwickshire County officials demonstrated their commitment to shaping policies and initiatives that align with the aspirations and needs of the younger generation.

With a focus on celebrating the youth voice, the event featured engaging activities such as drumming, salt sculptures, badge making and more. The atmosphere was vibrant as participants took part in four group discussions, addressing crucial topics: mental health and wellbeing, more things for young people to do, staying safe, and their experiences at school.

To find out more about Child Friendly Warwickshire visit <https://www.childfriendlywarwickshire.co.uk>

Bus travel to stay cheaper for longer in Warwickshire

It's great news for residents as the government announce that adult single bus fares will continue to be capped at £2 until the end of October, making it cheaper for residents to travel by bus.

In addition to this extension to the popular scheme, the government also announced that, from November 2023, single adult fares would be capped at £2.50 for another 12 months.

The scheme means that bus passengers in Warwickshire will only pay a maximum of £2 for a single bus journey, regardless of the distance travelled. The Government has committed £200 million of further investment to extend the scheme. Further investment has also been confirmed to protect vital bus services people rely on for work, education, medical appointments and shopping.

For more information about public transport in Warwickshire, visit: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/public-transport>

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service reminds residents of the risks of hoarding

May 15th–25th was National Hoarding Awareness Week and WFRS is supporting the campaign, which aims to safeguard people with hoarding tendencies.

It is estimated that hoarding affects between two and five per cent of the population. Excessive hoarding can contribute to health and safety issues, as well as underlying mental health issues, but it also increases the risk of fire in the home and the blocking of escape.

Hoarding is a recognised mental disorder, defined as collecting items and the inability to discard items, even though they appear to others as having little to no value.

It not only poses challenges to individuals and their families but can also lead to serious fire risks. Accumulated clutter in hoarded homes can obstruct exits and limit accessibility for both occupants and emergency services in the event of a fire, significantly escalating the potential for injuries and fatalities.

Up to 1.2 million people across the country may be affected by hoarding.

Report from Warwick District Councillors

New council administration and councillors for Abbey and Arden

After the May election the council now has a new Green-Labour administration. The councillors for Abbey and Arden are:

Kyn Aizlewood – Kyn.aizlewood@warwickdc.gov.uk

David Armstrong – David.armstrong@warwickdc.gov.uk

Richard Hales – Richard.hales@warwickdc.gov.uk

Please feel free to contact us with any issues. In Abbey and Arden we are particularly focusing on development of the South Warwickshire Local Plan and making sure we have the chance to hear the views of local residents. Further information is available at:

www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/faqs.cfm

WDC No Mow May campaign

The Council is celebrating a successful first 'No Mow May' in the District, with grass cutting suspended throughout the month of May in the majority of areas to let grass and wildflowers grow, providing a much-needed boost for insects and wildlife.

Grass cutting was suspended on highway verges, Council housing estates District's parks and open spaces, with cuts still taking place in children's play areas, cemeteries, sports pitches, and major parks. The Council's contractors will now resume mowing.

Councillor James Kennedy, Portfolio Holder for Climate Change, said: "It's been fantastic to see the results of No Mow May across the District, and to hear from the many residents that supported this initiative and even took part themselves. This is a significant gesture at a key time to improve the plight of nature and ensure that our ecosystem thrives."

In order to understand people's current awareness of the annual scheme and to ensure that it can continue to build and be successful in future years, the Council are now undertaking a short survey on No Mow May throughout June, with residents encouraged to take part at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/NoMowMayWDC.

Warm & Safer Home Grant Scheme

The council is raising awareness of the 'Warm and Safer Home Grant scheme' with up to £10000 of funding available for eligible residents. Owner occupiers who are in receipt of benefits such as Universal credit, Income support or Pension credit can access funding for a wide range of home improvements to improve heating or security. Contact HEARTsouthteam@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk for more information.