

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD AT LOWSONFORD VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7.30PM**

Present

Councillor A Coleman (Chairman)
Councillor J Coles
Councillor A Marsden
Councillor T Parker
Councillor T Remment
Councillor D Weir
Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall
District Councillor D Armstrong (for part of the meeting)
17 members of the public were present for part of the meeting

123. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of County Councillor J Cooke and District Councillors K Aizlewood & R Hales.

124. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

125. Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 December 2023

It was proposed by Councillor T Remment and seconded by Councillor A Marsden that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2023, having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

126. Questions from Members of the Public

Concern was raised by members of the public, as to the future use of land at Back Lane, Shrewley which had recently been sold. The new land owner had erected a 2 metre high close boarded fence.

The issue had been reported to the Enforcement Team at the District Council, and an officer had attended the site, but reported that no breach had been made to date, and the District Council was monitoring the situation.

District Councillor D Armstrong explained that the 2-metre high fence was within the limit and invited residents to contact himself or Councillor R Hales if they witnessed any potential breach in planning within the green belt area.

127. Report from County Councillor

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

128. Report from District Councillors

Councillor D Armstrong read the District Council's report which is also appended to these minutes.

129. Planning Matters

a) The following planning matters were reported.

Application Number	Application Details	Comments required by	PC Decision	WDC Decision
W23/0986LB & 0985	Kingswood Farm, Old Warwick Road, Lapworth Replacement of the existing flat-roof single storey rear extension with a pitched roof, the removal of a canopy roof to the rear of the property, the erection of a first floor rear extension and internal alterations to the existing rear extensions	16/08/23	Support	
W23/1376LB & 1375	Holywell Farm, Holywell Listed building consent for proposed alterations to existing barn to facilitate new dwelling (Holiday cottage). Proposed alterations to carport including a gym and utility. Proposed demolition of Dutch barn and dog kennel and erection of replacement barn	25/10/23	Object	

W23/1375 & 1376LB Revised Plans	Holywell Farm, Holywell, Rowington Proposed alterations to existing barn to facilitate new dwelling (Holiday cottage) and associated new vehicle access. Proposed alterations to carport including a gym and utility. Proposed demolition of Dutch barn and dog kennel and erection of replacement barn	19/12/23	Object	
W23/1564 & 1565LB	Whitley Elm Cottages, Case Lane, Rowington Erection of a single storey extensions to create ancillary accommodation for the existing business, amendments to fenestration and internal alterations. Conversion of existing ancillary space to enlarge existing dwelling	14/12/23	Object	
W23/1633LB & 1632	Finwood Farm, Finwood Road, Rowington, Replacement of roof over existing utility, WC and family dining area, installation of conservation-style rooflights and other fenestration additions, replacement front porch, erection of a new garage with improved drive and replacement electric gate at the site entrance and associated internal alteration	21/12/23	No objection	
W23/1705	The Lyons Farm House, Rowington Green Application for variation of condition 2 of permission W/23/0493 to allow for amendments to the design, to include: Alteration to overall design of 3no. dwellings, Alterations to roof style, revision to fenestration and doors and internal alterations	28/12/23	No objection	Granted
W23/1749	Chenac, Nunhold Road, Pinley Green Conversion of former workshop into a 1-bed residential dwelling	15/01/24	Object	
W23/1769	Shepherds Fold, Finwood Road, Rowington, Conversion of barn, stable and store into a dwelling	11/01/24	No objection	

b) Planning Applications

The following application was considered and decided:

W23/1748LB – Manor Farm, Holywell - Conversion of barn to create 2no. new dwellings and associated vehicular access
Whilst members did not raise any material objections to the application, they were of the view that should WDC be minded to grant planning consent the Parish Council request that any proposed work does not detrimentally impact on the listed building, and any development has regard to the character and appearance of the surrounding area, and that the historic features of the building are retained where possible. Further, that an assessment of any archaeological implications of the proposals are carried out prior to commencement of works. Regard to also be given to existing mature trees, shrubs, and hedgerow within the overall curtilage to maintain the existing street scene.

130. Playing Field

a) Outstanding Reports – Councillor D Weir – 21 January 2024.

b) Future Inspections Dates – Councillor A Marsden – 4 February & Councillor T Remment – 18 February

131. Reports from Village Halls

Lowsonford Village Hall

There were no matters to report.

Rowington Village Hall

Councillor a Marsden & Councillor D Weir reported that bookings were healthy. Three local residents had expressed their interest in becoming members of the Committee and forthcoming events included the Simple Supper on 2 March and the All Sorts Sale on 16 March 2024.

132. Highways, Footpaths & Transport

There were no matters to report, but the Chairman requested that Public Footpaths should be added to the next agenda for discussion.

133. Meetings & Training Days

None to report.

134. Correspondence

WALC Newsletters – noted.

The Clerk suggested that Parish Councillors be allocated designated email addresses for Parish Council business and this would be considered at the next meeting.

135. Finance

a) Paid during the month:

Clerks January Salary including back pay/underpayments	£4427.28
HMRC January	£2377.82
Passion First Aid – Defibrillator Pads	£92.40

b) To be paid:

Clerks Salary	£831.05
HMRC	£246.33

c) Received:

None

RESOLVED that the above items of finance be approved.

d) BACS Payments

The Clerk is currently authorised to make BACS payments to a maximum of £500.

In an endeavour to eliminate the use of cheques and postage it was proposed by Councillor T Remment and seconded by Councillor T Parker that, subject to approval by two other signatories, via email, the Clerk may be authorised to make payments by BACS to a maximum of £2,000, where payments are not approved in meetings.

RESOLVED unanimously.

136. Resignation of a Parish Councillor

The Chairman reported that Anne Pitt had resigned from the Parish Council due to moving from the area and members raised a vote of thanks for her support and dedication whilst serving as a Parish Councillor.

137. Community Infrastructure Levy Funding (CIL – Village Gateway Signage)

The Chairman had liaised with the County Council's Minor Works Team who had confirmed that no works could take place on highway land, unless a formal survey had been carried out by themselves. The cost of which would be £500.

Following deliberations, it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor A Marsden that the Parish Council makes a payment of £500 deposit (non-returnable, but deductible from overall costs) to the County Council to carry out a survey regarding the design and location of the proposed village gateway signage.

RESOLVED unanimously.

138 Defibrillators

The Clerk reported that the cost for replacement pads for AED's had increased significantly. Currently, spare sets were kept along with the main set, but both sets would expire at the same time, with a shelf life of some two years.

Following deliberations, it was agreed that a spare should be kept as a back up at each location.

139. Items for the Next Agenda

Public Footpaths

Email addresses for Parish Councillors

140. Future Meeting Dates

Thursday 14 March 2024

Rowington Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

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

District Councillor's Report

South Warwickshire Local Plan

Warwick and Stratford District Councils are continuing work to develop a Preferred Option to take forward the Councils' growth strategy for future years. A clear view is expected to emerge later this month as to whether to recommend that Councils should make land available to support either 1240 or 1680 new houses per year across South Warwickshire. A review of the Green Belt is due to report in the early summer. Warwick District Council (WDC) has given a public commitment to consult with Parish Councils and other stakeholders on the options for accommodating this sizeable level of development, before a Preferred Option is finalised, likely in the early autumn.

Council Budgets

WDC, along with other Councils, is in the process of setting a 5 year medium term financial plan ("budget"). The government has set a maximum Council Tax increase of 3%, less than the rate of inflation and all Councils will have to manage services within that cap. The largest element of local government cost is attributed to Warwickshire County Council (approximately 75% of the Council Tax revenue), about 8% to WDC.

Honiley Solar Farm Inquiry

Last year, developers received planning permission from Warwick District Council to build a solar farm and battery storage facility on land acquired near Honiley. The local Parish Council has challenged this decision and with the support of MP Sir Jeremy Wright KC the decision has been "called in" by the National Inspectorate. A four-day inquiry is open to the public and will be held at Warwickshire Park Hotel, Meer End Road, Honiley, Kenilworth, CV8 1NP on 20 February 2024, starting at 10:00am.

A proposal for a further solar farm has been made close to the above site, just over the border with Solihull, this proposal still to go to planning committee.

Birmingham Airport expansion

The Birmingham Airports Authority published a plan back in 2018 to expand airport numbers by 40% by 2033. The numbers of people flying reduced substantially in the years of the Covid pandemic and have now recovered to 2019 levels. The Authority is investing in its own solar farm and will be installing new security lanes over the coming months, so expect some further disruption! As numbers continue to rise, the authority will at some point review its plan to expand Terminal capacity and its Night Flying policy. Further information is available on the Airport's newsletter.

County Councillor Report – Councillor J Cooke

Local organisations presented with Kings Award for Voluntary Service by County's Lord Lieutenant

Three voluntary and charitable organisations in Warwickshire have been recognised this month in formal award presentations by the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, Tim Cox.

The groups have each received the King's Award for Voluntary Service, which is the highest award a local voluntary group can achieve in the UK and is equivalent to an MBE.

On Friday 26 January the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, Tim Cox, met with the CEO of **Helping Hands** Community Project, Lianne Kirkman, at the charity's office in Leamington Spa to formally present the charity with its KAVS. The charity, based in Leamington Spa, extends a compassionate hand to those affected by the causes and effects of homelessness including vulnerability in housing, domestic abuse, addiction, isolation, mental health challenges, and poverty.

Julie de Bastion, who set-up **Own Books** ten years ago to help children of all ages and backgrounds have access to free books at home, was formally presented with her charity's KAVS by Tim Cox on Wednesday 17 January. She was accompanied by family and friends at a formal presentation which took place at The Judges' House in Warwick.

Earlier this month on Saturday 6 January, the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire also met with the **Warwickshire Search and Rescue Team** to formally present their organisation with a KAVS. The presentation happened at the team's new Headquarters building at Stoneleigh near Kenilworth. The charity is one of 36 operational Lowland Rescue teams across the UK, and their mission is to search for vulnerable and high-risk missing persons across the county.

Updates to the way customers log highways issues and report feedback

Warwickshire County Council has launched a new platform to support the way customers can report a problem or log customer feedback through its website. Through the Council's website customers can report a range of highway problems from potholes to streetlights; traffic signals to rights of way.

Links to all the reporting options can be found at - www.warwickshire.gov.uk/reporhighwayproblem

The system updates mean an improved experience for customers. This includes the option to be updated on the progress on some of the issues logged e.g., when a pothole has been fixed.

Highways issues logged before 16 January 2024

Customers that have reported highways issues before 16 January 2024 will still be able to view the details of their previous reports using existing log in details but will need to set up a new account to log any new issues. [View previous reports](#)

Warwickshire County Council want to know what residents think about the reuse and recycling services at the nine reuse facilities and recycling centres across the county.

The online survey, which closes on 4 February 2024, is asking visitors of the reuse shops about their experience of donating to or buying from the shops. It also seeks views on the running of the recycling facilities and the appointment booking system.

The reuse shops are a treasure trove of preloved goods for the home and garden. The range of preloved items available at bargain prices includes: homewares, furniture, toys and games, books, films and music, garden and DIY tools, musical instruments, exercise equipment and bikes.

Complete the survey today: https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/insights-service/recycling-centre_2023/

Cabinet endorses Safer Warwickshire Serious Violence Prevention Strategy

The Serious Violence Prevention Strategy 2024-30, presented by the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board demonstrates a long-term commitment from partner agencies across the county to address both the occurrences and underlying causes of violence.

Whilst Warwickshire is a safe place to live, the strategy acknowledges the devastating impact that violence can have on families and sets out a shared commitment by partner agencies to work together to prevent violence in the county.

Key agencies including the Police, Probation Service, Warwickshire Youth Justice, Fire and Rescue, the local Integrated Care Board, District, Borough and the County Council have fully supported a three pillar, Public Health approach of:

- Preventing violence before it happens
- Responding to the immediate risk of violence
- Developing long term support for local communities.

A copy of the cabinet report can be found here [Safer Warwickshire Partnership Serious Violence Prevention Strategy 2024-30.pdf](#)

Can you suggest a location for electric vehicle charging points in Warwickshire?

Warwickshire residents are being encouraged to suggest possible locations for future electric vehicle charging points in the county.

Anyone can make a location suggestion by visiting [Request a new electric charging point – Warwickshire County Council](#) or calling 01926 410 410.

The Council is particularly interested in hearing about those areas where there is a high demand for electric vehicle charging, such as:

- Residential streets with no off-street parking
- Public car parks
- Rural locations.