

**ROWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF A MEETING  
HELD AT LOWSONFORD VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 10 APRIL 2025 AT 7.30PM**

**Present**

Councillor A Coleman (Chairman)  
Councillor J Coles  
Councillor Lucy Firth  
Councillor D Weir  
Parish Clerk – Nicola Everall  
3 members of the public  
District Councillor K Aizlewood

**196. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Parish Councillor A Marsden, District Councillors R Hales & D Armstrong and County Councillor J Cooke.

**197. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**198. Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 March 2025**

It was proposed by Councillor L Firth and seconded by Councillor A Coleman, that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2025, having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

**199. Questions from Members of the Public**

Mr R Shepherd reported that the PCC had found an old file which verified that the PCC had been gifted the church car park in 1961 by a former resident of the parish. Mr Shepherd agreed to seek advice from Rotherham's Solicitors to ensure that when the land was registered formally with the Land Registry and that in doing so, he would ensure that the Parish Council continued to have full access to the playing field via the church car park.

**200. Report from County Councillor**

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

**201. Report from District Councillors**

District Councillor K Aizlewood read the WDC report which is also appended to these minutes.

**202. Planning Matters**

a) The following planning matters were reported.

<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Application Details</b>	<b>Comments required by</b>	<b>PC Decision</b>	<b>WDC Decision</b>
W24/1725	The Homestead, Case Lane, Shrewley Erection of a two storey rear extension	19/02/25	No objection subject to verification that this is within the 30% increase limits	
W24/0095	Woodlands Cottage, Mill Lane, Rowington New brick skin to the existing gable wall to create a cavity wall, upgrading the existing half brick skin, providing insulation and protection from weather	21/03/25	No objection	
W25/0230	Land to the side of Kingswood Cottages, Old Warwick Road - Permission in principle application for the erection of 1no. dwelling	27/03/25	Object	Refused

b) Planning Applications

W25/0233 & W25/0433LB - Barn, Manor Farm, Holywell - Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission ref: W/23/1747 (Conversion of barn to create 2no. dwellings and associated vehicular access) to include amendments to the internal layout and fenestration, along with approval of details for Conditions 3, 4 and 11.

Members raised no objection to this application.

c) Land on Back Lane - Enforcement Appeal Notification. Appeal by Mr T Doran – Land South-West of Back Lane, Lowsonford. Informal Hearing to be held at Warwickshire Park Hotel, Honiley on 15 April from 10am

d) Appeals:

Appeal A Ref: APP/T3725/W/24/3348356 Whitley Elm Cottages, Case Lane, Rowington

The appeal is made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) against a refusal to grant planning permission. The appeal is made against the decision of Warwick District Council. The application Ref is W/23/1564 - The development proposed is single storey extension to form ancillary accommodation for the existing business, internal alterations and changes to fenestration to Viola Cottage, conversion of the utility and storage area into additional habitable space for the studio. Appeal Dismissed.

Appeal B Ref: APP/T3725/Y/24/3348358 Whitley Elm Cottages, Case Lane, Rowington

The appeal is made under section 20 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (as amended) against a refusal to grant listed building consent. The appeal is made by Mr David Russell against the decision of Warwick District Council. The application Ref is W/23/1565/LB. The works proposed are single storey extension to form ancillary accommodation for the existing business, internal alterations and changes to fenestration to Viola Cottage, conversion of the utility and storage area into additional habitable space for the studio. Appeal Dismissed.

e) Tree Preservation Order

8 Kingswood Green, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 6LY. The reasons for making the TPO are: The individual tree has the potential to mature into an attractive specimen, to provide a significant contribution toward the public amenity. To continue to maintain and to protect those trees in the interests of amenity, and maintain the screening function that the trees provided, it was considered expedient to serve a Tree Preservation Order. The order would not prevent reasonable work from being undertaken, for example to allow the owner to discharge their duty of care but would prohibit any work from being undertaken to the trees without the planning authority's written consent. Under the Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Orders (TEMPO), the tree achieved a score of 17; TEMPO suggests that a tree with a score of 16 or more "definitely merit(s) a Tree Preservation Order".

### **203. Playing Field**

a) Outstanding Reports - None

b) Future Inspection Dates – Councillor J Coles – 13 April, Clerk – 20 April & Councillor A Marsden – 27 April

c) The Clerk was pleased to report that maintenance works had now taken place that included goal mouth repairs, goal post painting, cap replacement on the basketball post and repointing slabs. Leaf clearance had also taken place.

### **204. Reports from Lowsonford & Rowington Village Halls**

Councillor D Weir reported that social events were planned that included a Bollywood Night on 17 May, a Fashion Show in June and the Simple Supper in October. Maintenance continued as required.

### **205. Highways, Footpaths & Transport**

Broken Grit Bin at Preston Road, Lowsonford – this had now been installed by WCC.

The Clerk agreed to contact the County Council with regard to the vast number of pot holes and poor road surface on Mill Lane and New Road in Lowsonford.

### **206. Meetings & Training Days Attended & Forthcoming**

None to note.

### **207. Correspondence**

a) WALC Newsletters

b) Warwickshire Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation

c) WDC – On 20 March 2025, Councillors at Warwick District Council, agreed to support the District Council's interim plan for local government reorganisation in Warwickshire. Members of Full Council approved the interim plan that has also been approved by the other Warwickshire District and Borough Councils.

Two possible options are being considered, as part of the interim plan:

A single unitary council for Warwickshire, or,

Two unitary Councils (one for North Warwickshire, Nuneaton and Bedworth, and Rugby Boroughs; another for Warwick and Stratford Districts).

d) Highways Community Action Fund – Clerk to investigate

## 208. Finance

### a) Paid during the month

Kingfisher – Grit Bin	£245.78
-----------------------	---------

### b) To be paid:

Clerks Salary	£1057.76
HMRC	£96.94
RCA Regeneration	£900.00
Clerks Expenses	£16.64
Mr R Watson Notice Board Installations x 4	£1200
Lloyds Bank Charges	£4.25
Fairways – maintenance works on playing field	£864.00
WALC Subscription	£500.20

### c) Received:

Bank Interest on CIL Account	£22.45
------------------------------	--------

## 209. Community Infrastructure Levy Funds (CIL)

### a) Income & Expenditure

The Clerk updated members on the current income and expenditure of CIL funds and invited ideas for the spending of the residue.

### b) Drainage on Playing Field

Councillor D Weir had sought advice from a local contractor who had put forward a proposal to address drainage of the land and it was agreed that Councillor D Weir organise a site meeting with members of the Parish Council and the contractor to discuss the proposal.

### c) Notice Boards

The Clerk confirmed that the four new notice boards had now been installed and a vote of thanks was raised to Mr R Watson for his work.

## 210. Community Governance Review (CGR) Request from Lapworth Parish Council

A meeting is to take place at Rowington Village Hall on Tuesday 15 April 2025 at 7.30pm to consider a proposal being put forward by Lapworth Parish Council.

## 211. Tennis Club Licence

The Chairman had not received a response to her enquiry sent to WRCC and confirmed that she would chase this up.

## 212. Email Addresses

The Clerk encouraged members to set up their new .gov email address for those that had not yet done so.

## 213. Items for the Next Agenda

### 214. Next Meeting Dates

Tuesday 15 April 2025	Rowington Village Hall
Thursday 24 April 2025 – Annual Parish Meeting	Rowington Village Hall
Thursday 8 May 2025 – Annual Meeting	Lowsonford Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

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

## **Report from County Councillor J Cooke**

### **Warwickshire Fire Service takes 'significant steps' to improve fire protection in Warwickshire**

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service's Protection Team have received great feedback following a recent reinspection from His Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS).

Since the previous inspection in 2023, WFRS's Protection Team created an action plan detailing the measures to be put in place to ensure all areas of concern were addressed and reviewed, resulting the previous "cause for concern" being discharged.

The reinspection in February 2025 detailed how "the service has improved its oversight of fire safety activity with the use of performance dashboards" along with a refreshed risk-based inspection programme.

### **Award-winning online self-help guide now available to County residents to make life easier**

AskSARA provides expert advice and information on products and equipment for adults and people with disabilities, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The online self-assessment tool, which is part of Warwickshire County Council's (WCC) Living Well webpage, provides valuable resources and guidance on services across the county that can support people to make choices about their health and wellbeing, so they can stay well and independent for as long as possible.

AskSARA can provide advice and guidance on products which may be able to assist with concerns, such as low energy or shortness of breath, by finding out more information from the individual like:

Do you tire when walking?

Do you find doing tasks in your home difficult?

Do you struggle when doing tasks out of your home, like shopping?

Do you become short of breath when walking or completing household chores?

### **Warwickshire parents and carers with children starting school in September 2025 will get their school news on 16 April**

Warwickshire parents and carers who have applied for a school place for their child in either Reception or Year 2 of a Junior School starting in September 2025 will get the news of their school place on National Offer Day (16 April).

As with the Secondary National Offer Day earlier in March, the Council will automatically accept school places on behalf of each family on this day. This means that parents and carers don't need to take any additional action but wait to hear from their new school.

On receipt of their school place, only those families who have alternative plans for their child need to contact the Admissions team. Details on how to do this will be included in their letter.

For more information on primary school admissions in Warwickshire, visit [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/primaryplace](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/primaryplace)

### **Warwickshire Libraries to introduce quicker and more user-friendly online system in April**

Customers of Warwickshire County Council's library service are being reminded that exciting changes are coming next month to the important online systems that provide Warwickshire Libraries' website and app.

The changes are part of plans for the service to deliver a quicker and more user-friendly online experience.

The online system currently manages Warwickshire Libraries' book collection, e-resources, customer accounts, and loan history. It supports access to the online catalogue, Library App, online borrower account management and renewals, PC use in the library, Hublets, eBooks, eAudio, eMagazines and eNewspapers.

The new library management system will provide an improved user experience with several new features, including a new Library App which will enable customers to use a digital library card, making issues and renewals much more efficient.

The system changeover will take place between Wednesday 9 April & Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

During this period there will be temporary changes to some library services. For example, access to the library app and access to borrower accounts will be temporarily unavailable.

For more information, please speak to a member of staff at your local library or visit the FAQs

webpage: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/librarysystemchangeover](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/librarysystemchangeover)

### **TICK- tock, it's time for Tick Bite Prevention Week 2025**

Warwickshire County Council, along with colleagues from UKHSA, is highlighting Tick Bite Prevention Week to help promote what you should do if you or a family member is bitten by a tick.

Ticks are small, spiderlike creatures that feed on the blood of animals and people. Ticks are particularly common in grassy and woodland areas, where you are more at risk especially when carrying out activities such as, hiking, cycling or camping. However, ticks can also sometimes be found in urban gardens too.

Shade Agboola, Director of Public Health at Warwickshire County Council said: "It can be quite distressing when you or a loved one has a tick bite. The advice below will help you to safely remove a tick and to recognise the symptoms of secondary illnesses such as Lyme disease.

If you have been bitten by a tick, please follow the following guidance from UKHSA:

- If you spot a tick, you must remove as soon as possible using a tick-removal tool or fine-tipped tweezers. These can be purchased in pharmacies.

- Fine-tipped tweezers are different to regular tweezers that might be used to remove eyebrow hair. Fine-tipped tweezers are very narrow and pointed at the tip and ensure that ticks are not squashed during removal.
- To remove a tick, grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and pull upwards slowly and firmly.
- You can remove ticks safely yourself or you can ask for assistance from others if needed.

### **Report From District Councillors**

#### South Warwickshire Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation Responses

The Preferred options Consultation for the SWLP closed on 7<sup>th</sup> March. Preliminary numbers show that over ~6084 respondents submitted ~23,600 representations. This is five times as many respondents as we had to the previous Issues and Options consultation, a striking improvement meaning views of residents will be better represented. Officers are currently working through the responses, including over 1000 submissions by email or post, before results can be summarised. We have asked portfolio holders to ensure that the consultation results are made available as soon as possible.

#### No Mow May 2025

WDC is again taking part in No Mow May this year, with a focus on ensuring both residents' enjoyment of their local area and the benefits to plants and wildlife that the initiative provides. A key difference from previous years is that the Council has selected certain verges and green spaces to take part in No Mow May based on their size and potential to improve biodiversity. Certain verges are also being included in a Wildflower Verge Trial to test once-per-year mows. These spaces are being finalised, but do not include any areas in the Arden countryside. If you would like to request a given space is included please let us know. Note most verges in Arden are managed by the County Council (as a rule of thumb, roads with a speed limit over 30mph).

#### County Council elections

Warwickshire County Council will be holding elections on 1<sup>st</sup> May. Please remember to register to vote by 11 April to take part in the 1<sup>st</sup> May elections, by going to [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote).

#### Interim report on Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation

WDC submitted an interim report on devolution and local government reorganisation in March. The current proposals under consideration are either a single unitary authority across Warwickshire or two split North and South Warwickshire unitaries. The eventual result depends on what strategic authority (i.e. mayoral) areas are considered viable by government. Analysis is ongoing and we expect an initial response from central government in the coming months.