

ALLESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** held at 9:15pm 9th May 2023, held at Corley Village Hall, Church Lane, Corley

Present: Councillor T Burton (Chairman) Councillor A Hobson (Vice Chairman)
Councillor Mrs M Davies Councillor Mrs V Parry
Councillor Ian Farrar Councillor S Grove

Ward Councillors: 0

Public: 0

1. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Meeting 23rd May 2022

The minutes from the meeting held on 23rd May 2022 were received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 23rd May 2022 be approved.

3. Chairman's report on the past year and future plans

At our first meeting of the year we were pleased to welcome and co-opt Simon Grove as a new Councillor following the retirement of Councillor Colledge.

This was our first year verge mowing, having finally completed the Service Level Agreement with CCC. The contractor, Heritage and Sons, as well as making a tidy job were able to provide a responsive service allowing us to balance road safety with conservation. I have heard numerous complementary comments about the verges from parishioners and other road users throughout the year, both from those who want to see the Spring flowers go to seed before being cut, and those concerned about visibility at junctions. We are still on a learning curve, but I hope all agree that it has been worth the small extra cost to residents.

Traffic diversions from various roadworks in and around the parish have proved a constant source of complaint. I must thank Councillor Davies as our Highways Lead and Ian Lewis, CCC project manager for the new A45 junction for working together to try and resolve these issues quickly. Numerous 'Road Closed' signs have been appearing in the parish with no prior notification which have been a constant source of frustration, especially to the Clerk who has to field the phone calls. On some occasions multiple closures at the same time have cut off residents and through traffic, and we have requested consultation rather than notification for closures within the parish. After escalation within CCC we are now receiving better information but still no consultation. We were much relieved when Fillongley Road Bridge in Meriden was finally re-opened in November, taking away much of the diverted traffic.

Our July meeting began with a public forum to hear about the new Keresley Link Road proposals from CCC officers, with Keresley PC members and residents also in attendance. The discussion became so heated that our meeting had to be abandoned. Residents were very disappointed that the plans had been drawn up for a local road purely to serve the new housing development and not the much needed bypass to relieve traffic on local roads. Once again CCC dictated what was going to happen with no consultation, showing the contempt in which we are held by CCC officers.

One of our main projects over the past few years, the closure of the narrow section of Watery Lane to motorised traffic, finally appears to be coming to fruition. I must thank Councillor Grove in particular for his hard work on this. I hope that we see some action within the next few months.

Our CCTV network has continued to be rolled out slowly, we now have 4 systems of our own, operating within the parish. I am pleased that we have been able to assist the police on more than one occasion and as the number of cameras increases so will our effectiveness.

The election was once again uncontested and I welcome all members back. We still have one vacancy which I hope we can fill soon. Congratulations to Councillor Jandu on his re-election as Ward Councillor, and of course to Councillor Birdi who takes the role of Lord Mayor this month. I hope that we will still see him at our meetings.

I finish by thanking all members, and of course the Clerk for her hard work.

4. Reports from Coventry City Councillors

Nothing to report.

5. Report of Representatives on Allesley Charities

It was agreed to remove the requirement for a report from the Allesley Charities.

6. Open Forum discussion on: - Projects, suggestions and ideas for APC for 2023-24

- Boundary Review
- Tree planting
- Kissing gate update – list going to the Rangers

Meeting closed at 9:30pm