

ALLESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held at 7:45pm

22nd January 2024 the meeting was held at Corley Village Hall, Church Lane, Corley

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

Ward Councillors: Councillor Jandu

Public: 2

In Attendance: Jane Chatterton, Clerk & RFO

Councillor Burton was in the Chair.

The Chairman opened the meeting.

538. PUBLIC FORUM

538.1 Barking dogs and fencing

Resident attended the meeting to ask if there was any progress on the issues he had raised with the property on Wall Hill Road, mainly barking dogs and a high fence.

The Chairman confirmed that everything had been passed to CCC who were the Authority who carried out the legal process to gain an injunction to prevent more than 3 dogs being kept on the premises.

The issues with the fencing and boundary had been passed to the relevant CCC department.

It was confirmed that the Parish Council were planning to pursue a complaint against CCC for their inaction, this would be discussed later on the agenda.

538.2 Hollyfast Lane – traffic concern

Following a conversation with a concerned resident, Councillor Davies had acquired confirmation that 90% of Hollyfast Lane residents shared road safety concerns. Again, it was noted that the road was not a through road and for access to residents only, but motorists ignored this and used the narrow lane as a cut through between the Tamworth Road and Wall Hill Road.

Concerns included:

- Safety of drivers – vehicles travelled too fast for the conditions
- Safety of pedestrians – dog walkers regularly use this lane
- There were always a lot of driver confrontations
- Concern for horse riders – there are properties on the lane with stables and grazing and an equestrian business with horse riders using the lane
- Fly tipping had increased considerably with weekly dumping of general and cannabis waste
- Residents felt that this was impairing the quality of life
- The lane is part of the Ancient Arden and has ancient oak trees along it which are being damaged and eroded

Councillor Davies updated that the Parish Council would like to have the road physically closed as a through road. This was something that CCC had previously carried out in Butt Lane to prevent a rat run and protect the narrow lane of this conservation area. Once the roundabouts on the Tamworth Road/Long Lane junction, which was part of the Appledown Development, were in construction traffic would look for routes to avoid the congestion. It was also noted that the CCC had approved further housing developments on Fivefield Road, opposite Hollyfast Lane. These concerns had been raised with the case officers but ignored.

Some practical issues, including a turning circle, would need to be addressed for such a closure to go ahead.

ACTION:

- (i) Councillor Davies to request TPOs on the ancient oak trees.
- (ii) Councillor Davies to request new signage in the interim "access for residents only".
- (iii) All fly tipping to be reported to CCC by ourselves and as many residents as possible.
- (iv) Petition to be raised (wording to be agreed - Clerk, Chairman and Councillor Davies).
- (v) Councillor Jandu to present the petition.
- (vi) CCTV camera to be installed on Hollyfast Lane. (Chairman and Councillor Grove).

539. UPDATES FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

Councillor Jandu

Apologies for missing the last couple of meetings, this was due to illness.

Browns Lane development – Objections had been presented at the Planning Committee Meeting, but the development had been approved.

Ward Councillors are opposing as strongly as they can and developments on the Green Belt.

Boundary Commission review – this is currently underway.

ACTION: Clerk to send a copy of the Parish Council's suggestion to Councillor Jandu.

540. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor Swann and City Council Councillor Birdi.

541. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

542. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th November 2023 were received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th November 2023 were approved.

543. MATTERS ARISING

Nothing further to discuss.

544. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Councillor Davies updated that the CCC Rangers had finally replied to the various issues.

Litter pick 18th February

A Parish litter pick would take place on Sunday 18th February.

ACTION: to be advertised on the PC Noticeboard and Facebook page.

Oak Lane Flooding/Discharge to ditch

Officers attended Summerfield and Saxondale to carry out checks, but the water level was too high.

Road closures

The weekly lists show Oak Lane closure at Summerfields from 26th February to 1st March. No further information is known as the hyperlink is broken.

Another closures for Oak Lane are, 11th March to 15th March for drainage works outside Summerfields and also at the junction of Oak Lane/Brick Hill Lane for Severn Trent work to renew a pipe on ¼ to 2/4 and again to rebuild a chamber from 2nd April to 9th April. This information would be given by Councillor Davies to Ian Lewis.

Footpath signs

The footpath signs require updating/repairs. Councillor Davies has provided a list of locations following a survey. Councillors were asked to provide information of any other signs.

Cracks in roads

The cracks in the road on Bridle Brook Lane have been reported to CCC, but were not considered to be any worse following an RTA involving a tractor and trailer.

House on the A45 (The Gables)

Evidence can be seen of further construction work having been completed and photographs from the rear of the property showing another domestic building alongside the main house.

ACTION:

- (i) Clerk to send google images and the photographic evidence to Enforcement.

Electronic signs for the A45 (HGVs)

It was agreed to stick to “unsuitable for HGVs” signage and not electronic signs.

Cutting down healthy Oak trees

ACTION: Councillor Davies to provide the contact details and Clerk to speak to the Land Agent, Godfrey Payton.

Flooding on Wall Hill Road

The road was clear when checked. The pipe under the gateway is blocked and needs clearing.

ACTION: Clerk to contact relatives of the deceased land owner to arrange works. Cllr Davies to provide contact details.

A45 site visit

ACTION: Councillor Davies to liaise and book a date with Ian Lewis.

544.1 Closing off of Watery Lane

A site meeting has been arranged with the new CCC Officer and residents on 31st January. Councillor Grove to lead. Three affected residents had volunteered to contribute to the closure in order to expedite it, however it was felt that this would set a dangerous precedent with CCC and could put the Parish Council in a difficult position in the future. It would be used as a last resort only.

544.2 HGV signs

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

544.3 Speeding issues Wall Hill Road**ACTION:**

- (i) February's agenda.
- (ii) Clerk to invite PSCO Team to February/March meeting.

544.4 Traffic Issues Hollyfast Lane

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

545. PLANNING MATTERS

Nothing to discuss.

546. FLOODING

Nothing to discuss.

547. SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

ACTION: Clerk to set up new Facebook page.

548. POLICE AND CRIME UPDATE

ACTION: invite to February's meeting

549. FLY TIPPING – Cllr Parry to lead

All incidents have been reported.

ACTION: Clerk to write to Steve and Jo thanking them for emptying the bins.

ACTION:

- (i) Clerk to find out the name and contact details for the officer who has taken over from Anthony Malloy.
- (ii) Details to be shared with Councillor Davies.

550. CCTV

Washbrook Lane system – contractor has been chased for the installation.

Hollyfast Lane – in progress.

551. CORRESPONDENCE

551.1 FOI Response from CCC

A FOI had been sent to CCC asking for a breakdown of expenditure for road safety installations by Ward. CCC had refused the request on grounds of cost.

ACTION: Clerk to email the information to Councillor Jandu.

551.2 Coventry City Council Complaint

For a considerable time, the Parish Council are not receiving any responses from various Officers at CCC. Letters to the CCC Leader are also ignored.

The Clerk and Chairman attended CCC and PC meetings with CCC officers and lack of communication is frequently raised at these meetings. The Chairman had written to Adrian West, Members and Elections Team Manager but the questions raised still remained unanswered.

Information on how to raise a Formal Complaint had been provided by Mr West.

The several issues were discussed in detail.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) the Parish Council agreed unanimously to raise formal complaints with the Local Government & Social Care Ombudsman.
- (ii) Each area of complaint to be covered separately.
- (iii) Clerk and Chairman to work on the list of complaints.

551.3 Blocked footpath Common Lane/Church Lane corner

ACTION: Clerk to contact NWBC.

552. WALC Membership 2024-25

Discussion took place on the merits of the Parish Council resubscribing to WALC for 2024-25. The current cost was £409.00. It was felt that this was not value for money.

RESOLVED THAT it was agreed that the Parish Council would not renew their membership for 2024-25.

553. FINANCE

553.1 To approve payments

Expenditure

2023-24

DATE	REF	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
06.11.23	E41	J Chatterton	Clerk Salary November	DPA
06.11.23	E42	HMRC	Tax & NI Clerk November	DPA
06.11.23	E43	J Chatterton	Clerk expenses Nov	£26.00
06.11.23	E44	J Chatterton	Correction	£10.00
30.11.23	E45	J Chatterton	Clerk Salary December	DPA
30.11.23	E46	HMRC	Tax & NI Clerk December	DPA
12.12.23	E47	DM Payroll	Payroll half year	£60.00
12.12.23	E48	Gordon Marston	Half year hosting fee	£50.00
12.12.23	E49	Dan Jackson	Half year hosting fee	£50.00

12.12.23	E50	Peter Llewellyn	Half year hosting fee	£50.00
12.12.23	E51	David Docker	Half year hosting fee	£50.00
12.12.23	E52	Jane Chatterton	Clerk expenses Dec	£36.00
08.12.23	E53	Freeola		£13.86*
30.12.23	E54	Unity	Service Charge	£18.00
02.01.24	E55	J Chatterton	Microsoft Renewal	£59.99*
02.01.24	E56	J Chatterton	Clerk Salary January	DPA
02.01.24	E57	HMRC	Tax & NI Clerk January	DPA
02.01.24	E58	Heritages	Full Winter cut	£1,020.00*
02.01.24	E59	J Chatterton	Stationery & Supplies	£83.46*

*inc VAT

553.2 Bank Reconciliation 31st December 2023

The Bank Reconciliation 31st December 2023 was received and discussed.

Balance per bank statements as at 31 st December 2023:	£	£
Account 1 Unity	£11,922.33	
Account 2 Barclays	£19,344.30	
	<u>£31,266.63</u>	£31,266.63
Less: any unsigned cheques at 31 st December 2023		(£0.00)
Add: any un-banked cash at 31 st December 2023	£0.00	
	<hr/>	
Net balances as at 31 st December 2023		<u>£31,266.63</u>

The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows:

CASH BOOK

Opening Balance 1 st April 2023	£21,834.60
Add Receipts up to 31 st December 2023	£20,221.75
Less: Payments up to 31 st December 2023	<u>(£10,789.72)</u>
Closing balance per cash book as at 31 st December 2023	<u>£31,266.63</u>

RESOLVED THAT the Bank Reconciliation 31st December 2023 be approved.

553.3 Quarterly Report 31st December 2023

The Quarterly Report 31st December 2023 was received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the Quarterly Report 31st December 2023 be approved.

554. Parish area and boundary/Government Boundary Review – North Warwickshire

The Parish Council have submitted their idea of the Boundary Review.

555. Councillor's reports and items for future Agenda:

Look at changing the order of the agenda for future meetings.

556. Date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 26th February 2024.

Meeting closed at 9:45pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN
Councillor Thomas Burton

26th February 2024