

ALLESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held at 8:10pm
14th September 2020 the meeting was held via Zoom**

Present: Councillor T Burton (Vice Chairman) Councillor A Hobson
Councillor Mrs J Colledge Councillor Mrs V Parry
Councillor I Farrar Councillor L Swann (Chairman)
Councillor B Shakespeare Councillor Mrs L Hegarty

Ward Councillors: Councillor Jandu

Public: 1

In Attendance: Jane Chatterton, Clerk & RFO

Meeting Commenced at 8:00pm

394. PUBLIC FORUM**Councillor Jandu**

Tariq Khan – A Coventry City Councillor had resigned as he was filmed flouting social distancing rules at a large gathering broken up by police.

Proposed development – there was a proposed development being considered at Lions Park.

Petition – Councillor Farrar asked if there was any progress on the petition submitted by Andy Street. It was reported that the review had been requested but no response had been received.

Planning – the Senior Planning Officer had left CCC.

Mrs Mandy Davies

Openreach – Mrs Davies confirmed that the brash left behind by Openreach when carrying out cabling work had now been removed in some areas but not all. This had followed complaints being made and site visits.

ACTION: Openreach to be contacted and requested they remove the branches left on Washbrook Lane.

Phone box – information requested on the status of the PC purchasing the phone box. The Clerk updated that permission to purchase the phone box had been denied.

ACTION: Clerk to contact again and request reconsideration.

Graffiti in Elkin Wood – graffiti had appeared on trees in Elkin Wood. This had been reported to the Woodland Trust. A response was awaited.

395. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Ward Councillors, Councillors Williams and Birdi.

396. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Les Swann declared on interest in an item under Planning in relation to planning reference FUL/2020/1567, as this related to his property.

397. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 22nd June 2020 and 24th August 2020 were discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes from the meetings held on 22nd June 2020 and 24th August 2020 were approved.

398. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising that were not listed on the agenda.

399. HIGHWAYS MATTERS**399.1 Trees**

Councillor Burton updated on a question raised previously as to why trees within the parish had been marked with different markings.

He confirmed that trees with "dots" signified they were having the ivy removed from them. Trees with "crosses" would be felled. There was no confirmation to what the various numbers indicated.

399.2 Dangerous Tree – Wall Hill Court

A tree adjacent to Wall Hill Court required urgent work. This had been reported previously to CCC with no action.

RESOLVED THAT the Ward Councillors be requested to report to CCC for action. Clerk to be updated on progress.

400. PLANNING MATTERS

Planning Applications received since the last meeting

Councillor Swann left the meeting and took no part in the discussion of the planning application below.

Weekly list for the period 23 August to 29 August 2020

Application Number:	FUL/2020/1567
Site:	Land adjacent to Cornerways Farm Washbrook Lane
Proposal:	Erection of a Ménage

RESOLVED THAT: No comment.

Weekly list for the period 30 August 2020 to 5 September 2020

Nothing to report.

401. CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing for discussion.

402. Finance

402.1 to approve payments: -

Cheque Payments (Current Account)

30.06.20	E12	DD	Freeola	Website	£13.86
10.07.20	E13	100230	J Chatterton	July Salary	DPA
10.07.20	E14	100231	DM Payroll	Payroll provider	£65.50
10.07.20	E15	100232	J Chatterton	Expenses	£36.00
10.07.20	E16	100233	Louise Best	Internal Audit	£100.00
06.07.20	E17	DD	HMRC	Tax for clerk	£214.20
03.08.20	E18	100236	J Chatterton	July Salary	DPA
03.08.20	E19	100237	J Chatterton	Expenses	£62.30
03.08.20	E20	100235	Corley VH	Room Booking Sept	£84.00
03.09.20	E21	100228	J Chatterton	Laptop and Office LS	£327.93
03.09.20	E22	100239	J Chatterton	Salary September	DPA
10.09.20	E23	DD	Freeola	Website	£13.86

RESOLVED THAT the payments be approved.**402.2 Bank Reconciliation up to 30th June 2020**The Bank Reconciliation up to the 30th June 2020 was received and discussed.

Balance per bank statements as at 30 th June 2020:	£	£
	£29,044.85	
	<hr/>	£29,044.85
Less: any un-presented cheques at 30 th June 2020	£0.00	
	<hr/>	
	£0.00	(£0.00)
Add: any un-banked cash at 30 th June 2020	£0.00	
	<hr/>	
Net balances as at 30 th June 2020		<u>£29,044.85</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 2020	£17,867.01
Add Receipts up to 30 th June 2020	£13,023.00
Less: Payments up to 30 th June 2020	<u>(£1,845.16)</u>
Closing balance per cash book as at 30 th June 2020	<u>£29,044.85</u>

RESOLVED THAT the Bank Reconciliation up to the 30th June 2020 be approved.

402.3 Quarterly Report up to 30th June 2020

The Quarterly Report up to the 30th June 2020 was received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the Quarterly Report up to 30th June 2020.

402.4 Parish Land Mowing

As reported previously, it was noted that due to mowing issues experienced with Coventry City Council, that the matter be explored in regards to taking on the service.

A cost had been obtained from a local contractor who was engaged by other local parish councils, £750 per cut.

Further discussion took place on the merits of taking this course of action. They included a contractor who was more suited to the needs of a rural parish, would provide a better balance for the parish rather than running to a CCC schedule. Dates of mowing could be arranged to follow the balance to maintain road safety with the ecological impact of cutting the verges too early. Being local they could also be engaged at short notice to cut the "god cakes" and junction points if we had a fast-growing season.

A definitive map had been provided to the contractor and this included land up to the A45 and not beyond. This would continue to be maintained by CCC. This would include roadside verges within the parish boundary excluding the A45. It would also include Pickford Green Lane and Part of Pickford Grange Lane.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) Clerk to contact CCC and provide the extra information as requested.
- (ii) Councillor Burton to send the definitive map to the Clerk.
- (iii) Agenda item for October's meeting.
- (iv) If permission is granted from CCC, consultation with parishioners would take place before any final decision is made.

402.5 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019-20

The Clerk updated that the AGAR 2019-20 had been concluded.

RESOLVED THAT: the update be received.

403. Equipment to Participate in Zoom meetings

At August's meeting it was agreed that it was necessary to ascertain whether Councillors required assistance to be able to attend virtual meetings. If required, where appropriate, the Parish Council would purchase the suitable equipment.

The only Councillor who required equipment was Councillor Swann, all other Councillors had confirmed they had the required equipment.

RESOLVED THAT

- (i) The update be noted.
- (ii) The laptop be added to the Parish Council Asset Register.
- (iii) The laptop would be covered by Councillor Swann's household insurance.

404. Japanese knotweed

This issue with Japanese Knotweed on Washbrook Lane had been reported several times. This had also included providing photographic evidence and detailed information, officers from Coventry City Council had not been able to action its treatment or removal.

The Parish Council had obtained a quotation from a local contractor to consider whether the work could be carried out by the parish council.

Discussion took place on whether this was appropriate as the onus was on the CCC.

It was noted that the vegetation had started wilting and did not look healthy.

RESOLVED THAT

- (i) Clerk to contact Contract Services (CCC).
- (ii) Clerk to send the quotation and information to the Ward Councillors requesting they progress.

405. Road Closures

It was reported that over 12 months ago the Parish Council were due to meet with the Cabinet Member to discuss the problems caused by the Parish roads being frequently used for events such as road races or cycle races. This resulted in many road closures which caused inconvenience for parishioners and businesses.

It was acknowledged that the meeting should be rescheduled now before events stated to be organised again. This could prove easier to arrange as the meeting could be held virtually (Zoom or Teams).

ACTION: Clerk to arrange a meeting with Cabinet Member and Councillor Burton.

406. Coventry City of Culture

The Clerk updated that she had tried to engage with the Area Officer for Allesley with a view to inviting them to a Parish Council meeting so they could discuss events, opportunities, grants etc available through Coventry City of Culture. It was noted that the Producer for Coventry South had attended other Parish Council meetings several times to provided updates.

ACTION: A formal invitation to be sent to the Jacqui Ibbotson, Collaborative City Producer for North West Coventry.

407. Website compliance

The Clerk updated that substantial work had been carried out to update the Parish Council website to be compliant with the new legislation. The Accessibility Statement had been uploaded.

RESOLVED THAT the update be noted.

408. Police and Crime update

Nothing to report.

409. CCTV

No further progress to report.

Councillor Farrar had purchased some new equipment capable of ANPR made by Hikvision and although initially impressed had not had the equipment long enough to give a recommendation.

ACTION: Councillor Hegarty and Burton to liaise and arrange a meeting with a contractor. Agenda item for October's meeting.

410. Governance**410.1 Standing Orders September 2020**

The Standing Orders had been reviewed and updated.

RESOLVED THAT the Standing Orders September 2020 were approved.

410.2 Financial Regulations September 2020

The Financial Regulations had been reviewed and updated.

RESOLVED THAT the Financial Regulations September 2020 were approved.

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

Petition written to CCC and Robert Jenrick MP, Housing Minister – Councillor Farrar updated that a petition had been launched which aimed to persuade council chiefs to review Coventry's development blueprint. The Local Plan is a document which sets out how many homes and commercial premises should be built across the city and where. But opponents say plans for thousands of homes on Green Belt land in the city should be abandoned in favour of building on brownfield sites - where previous development has already taken place.

New junctions and a flyover for the A45 were approved as part of controversial plans for 3,495 homes on former green belt land in Eastern Green. The petition had been jointly launched by Coventry Conservative leader, Cllr Gary Ridley, and West Midlands Mayor Andy Street, who argue a policy to build on brownfield sites should be introduced.

Mr Street - who earlier this year made a 'Green Belt Pledge' and wrote to Coventry City Council outlining his concerns - says Coventry's Local Plan is based on inaccurate numbers which predict massive population growth in Coventry of 31 per cent by 2031.

Councillors were encouraged to support and sign the petition.

Closing of Clay Lane – the proposals to close Clay Lane to through traffic had support from parishioners and also concern had been expressed from some. Further clarification would be required before discussing formally.

It was proposed that CCC are updated as to what the aim of the "barrier" is and to the types of vehicles that access would be limited to. Further discussion was required.

Meeting dates – Councillor Shakespeare proposed changing the meeting day to allow the Ward Councillors to attend. It was noted that the absence of Councillors Birdi and Williams were not due to the group meetings. Councillor Burton pointed out that the Clerk is only contracted for Mondays and works for other parish councils on other weeknights.

ACTION: Councillor Jandu to send meeting dates to the Clerk.

412. Date of the next meeting

The date of next meeting was confirmed as Monday 12th October 2020.

The meeting closed at 9:00pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN
CLLR LES SWANN

12th October 2020