

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11TH OCTOBER, 2011,
7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ROOM**

Present : Cllrs Eldridge, Eassom, Knott, Moore, Rollins (Chairman), Smith, Tunkle, C/Cllr Mrs Compton, and the Clerk.

1. **Apologies** were received from D/Cllr Mrs Gallagher, and Cllr Coates.

Disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests to be declared as and when appropriate

2. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - no public present

3. **The minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2011** were approved and signed, and will be published on the website, after an addition to item 8 line 5, to include, "when a new site is found, Leek Wootton is not on the list"

a) Matters Arising – Reference item 4c) Cllr DE advised that he has now applied to the R.I.F for an additional amount of £10,000.

4. Finance

a) Status report as circulated –second payment of precept received. Balance £8210, with P.Plan remainder £490. Six monthly budgets as circulated, Clerk advised that expenses are keeping within budget guidelines to date, and it is not expected there will be very much overspend.

It was resolved to allocate £100 towards the costs of necessary hedge maintenance for the Memorial Ground area. Cllr DE has applied for £1000 from the WRW Community Forum for this project (*7a Sept mins*) and also received promises from local organisations. Total needed is £1400. A suggestion that a small grant of £100 be made available next year, the Queen's Jubilee Year, for local organisations needing extra funding and called the Jubilee Fund, was agreed.

b) Cheques were approved for Glendale's September maintenance £179.65, and Clerk's sundries and IT renewals (web hosting £46.80) of £69.42.

C/Cllr JC reported that the Warwick Area Committee has funding available, bids can be made for transport, lighting, traffic calming, and she urged Cllrs to investigate local areas needing improvement. Details to be forwarded by 15th November 2011.

5. Planning

a) Status report as circulated, no changes.

New app. No 11/0977 – 33 Hill Wootton Road, Two storey side extension, and new garage roof, was discussed. It was agreed to register an objection due to an encroachment of the building line with houses in The Hamlet.

Police HQ's future planning application due shortly. A request received from the architects for a meeting with the PC to explain/outline the plans. Chairman will action.

b) Enforcement actions – The Old Post House – details received from WDC indicate instructions to remedy the breaches have been forwarded to the owner and a site visit will take place at the end of October.

Meadow Cottage. An inspection visit planned recently by the WDC Enforcement Officer and other officials was unsuccessful, the owner refusing entry. It was agreed this was totally unsatisfactory, but before a formal complaint is made, a final effort to obtain further comments and information, will be made, and the Chairman agreed to contact Gary Stephens of WDC with our concerns.

Planning Forum 19/9, attended by Cllr RC, report attached**

6. Highways/Transport/Footpaths/Lighting

Speeding in Hill Wootton (*sept mins*)- It was agreed to request Speedaware signs.

Tidmarsh Road - As suggested letters were sent to every resident explaining the problem, and requesting cooperation.

Footpath -The footpath into Kenilworth has now been slurry sealed but there remains an area from Broad Lane to the village unfinished – enquiries will be made.

Crossroads- Still some attention needed to a small leak near railway crossroads.

a) Village Maintenance.

- Woodcote Lane - Request for Beech Hedge maintenance reported. This produced a response from contact Mr M Stacey of WDC, who expressed a wish to attend a meeting to explain his role and how he could be of help to the PC. Clerk to action. Note - Query to be made at his visit regarding reports on the removal of dog bins.

- Golf Club Roundabout. Comments received about a lack of vision at the roundabout when crossing the road. Clerk will forward comments with a request for foliage to be thinned out.

7. Playground/Memorial Ground

a) Safety/Maintenance. Recent safety report from Glendale highlighted some areas needing attention, most of which have now been dealt with. No ROSPA report received to date.

A maintenance party carried out a great deal of work on Saturday 1st October, – many thanks to everyone who helped.

With reference to replacement of some of the play equipment as mentioned in previous minutes, a suggestion from Cllr DE, to identify what would be needed and how to obtain funding will be investigated, and Cllr KK will contact the School Council for further action.

8. Reports

Cllr CS updated Cllrs on progress on the interest in acquiring local woodland, and advised he is in contact with LEADER, and will be submitting a report shortly.

Parish Plan Steering Group is now preparing a Plan, and they meet again on the 1st November.

a) WCC C/Cllr Mrs Compton advised

Warwickshire's Chief Constable Keith Bristow has been appointed Head of the National Crime Agency.

Libraries changes/closure proposals now approved. This will mean some reduced hours at Kenilworth and Warwick, further details on WCC's website.

Also note to be taken of the recent proposed changes to electoral boundaries.

WCC Waste Core Strategy Document Preferred Options, important a response is made – Cllr DE to action.

b) WRW Community Forum Meeting 27th October. Cllr DE will be attending, and applying for the funding previously mentioned in item 4 (a). Further funding from WRW may be available for surfacing Sports Club car park. To be investigated.

c) The Directory/Bulletin usually prepared and published in October will, due to shortage of time, be produced for the November edition of the Link. Clerk will send details to all Cllrs for checking and requested reports for the Bulletin as soon as possible.

d) Other Dates for Diary

WALC AGM, 27th October will be attended by Cllr Moore, who has also agreed to be WALC's representative on their Warwick Area Committee.

9. A.O.B.

For Info - Cllr PE reported that he had found an old map dated 1926 which included a footpath over fields to Gaveston Woods.

10. Date of next meeting: 15TH NOVEMBER 2011

Signed.....Date.....

**Planning Forum meeting 19/09/2011.

Gary Stephens outlined recent developments.

- These are challenging and changing times country wide with the government's new planning strategy.
- Additionally Warwick District particularly is under pressure in that three senior planning personnel with a wealth of experience have recently retired and there has been a general reduction in staff capacity anyway. However the backlog is being prioritised and tackled.
- The Govt. recognises that present planning is '...old, slow, inefficient, undemocratic and a brake on growth and enterprise.' Its reform is key to Britain's economic recovery.
- The Localism Bill is with the House of Lords at present and in it will be a duty to 'co-operate' between developers and planners and a requirement to consult Local and Neighbourhood Plans. (Parish Plans feed into Neighbourhood Plans). There will be encouragement of 'pre-application engagement' where developers, planners and stakeholders get together and discuss proposals.
- The National Planning Policy Framework is in draft at present and is a much more direct and concise document – only 100 pages instead of over 1000! This will ensure there is enough land for growth and encourage the development of strong local communities whilst protecting wildlife and the environment.
- In future planning decisions will be made after consulting Local and Neighbourhood Plans. If no such plans exist there will be a presumption in favour of sustainable development. Warwick District is well on the way to having its Local Plan (2012??)
- There will be a Planning Guarantee speeding up the whole planning process – 12 months maximum.
- New Homes Bonus. This will be a Government financial incentive to encourage Local Authorities to build more new homes....all within financial constraints.
- There is a Coventry/Warwickshire LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership) already in existence and their website is: www.cwlep.com
Cllr R. Coates. October 2011.