

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10TH MAY 2011, AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs Coates, Eldridge, Eassom, Knott, Moore, Rollins, Smith, C/Cllr Mrs Compton, and the Clerk.

Local Election – this was uncontested – 8 vacancies filled by 8 nominations.

1. **Appointment of Officers**

- a) It was resolved that Cllr Rollins be elected as Chairman.
- b) Cllr Rollins then signed the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk.
- c) It was resolved that Cllr Eassom be elected as Vice-Chairman.
- d) Councillor's Acceptances of Office were then signed and witnessed by the Clerk.

It was agreed that Cllr Tunkle (absent) could sign his Acceptance of Office at a later date.

New Councillor Colin Smith was welcomed to his first meeting and will return his Declarations of Interest to the Clerk when completed.

Congratulations will be sent to D/Cllr Mrs Gallagher on her re-election as District Councillor for this ward, and also to C/Cllr Mrs Compton for her successful year as Chairman of WCC.

It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to John Harlow for his contribution over the past 4 years.

2. **Apologies** for absence were accepted from Cllr Tunkle, and D/Cllr Mrs Gallagher.

There were no changes to the Declaration of Interests

3. **Public Question Time** – no public present

4. **The minutes** of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th April 2011, and Parish Council meeting of the same date were approved and signed as correct records, and will be published on the website.

a) Matters Arising. The disappointing response from 7 of the organisations targeted with invitations to attend the Annual Parish meeting were discussed, it had been suggested that there was some lack of communication between organisations in the Parish. It was agreed to alert everyone via the Link and also the website of the information available to them.

Apologies were received, at a later date, from the Sports Club for their lack of response.

Note - Clerk will send thank you letters to the organisations that did send in a report.

The phone box in Home Farm is to be removed by BT.

5. **Finance**

a) Annual audit return for year ending March 2011. Details now received from the auditors Clement Keys, the return has to be completed by 4th July, and approved by full Council no later than 30th June. Notices will be displayed from 16th May advising the public of their rights to scrutinise the accounts. Internal auditor Mr Plumb has again agreed to inspect the annual accounts. As he makes no charge Clerk will purchase a small gift.

There were no changes to the asset register or risk assessment documents, but copies will be circulated to Councillors.

Due to the large increase in annual insurance from AON, and after researching other options it was agreed to change the insurance company provider to AVIVA via Came & Company, at a cost of £693.16, a saving of £141.90. The offer for a three year option was not taken up.

b) Status report as previously circulated.

Payment of precept and concurrent received from WDC.

Balance = £11,113.79, of which £588.75 is P.Plan funds.

Annual grants were approved -

£450 to the PCC for churchyard maintenance (£300), and production of the Link (£150).

£300, to the Sports Club for maintenance.

It was resolved to increase the contribution towards RBL wreaths from £25 to £40

It was agreed that on return of the cheque book from the internal auditor the Clerk and Chairman could sign outstanding cheques before the next meeting.

Cheques were approved for Glendale's April safety and maintenance £305.85, and Clerk's sundries £47.33.

6. Planning— status report as previously circulated.

No W11/0270, The Lodge, The Hayes, granted

No W11/0293 2 Rock Cottages, granted.

W11/0058LB Police HQ –Demolition of wing adjoining Woodcote.

After discussion it was agreed that there was no objection to the renewal of the consent granted for the demolition of the building, but would like the demolition of the Listed Stable Block to be reconsidered because of its listed status. It was agreed to strongly object to the proposal for the felling of a number of trees as shown on the plan. Action Cllr PE

It was noted that the car park at HQ is now being removed.

It was also agreed that a strategy is needed on how to deal with the possibly very important issues that will arise from the redevelopment of this site.

Meadow Cottage, Hill Wootton. Information received from the WDC Enforcement Officer indicated that actions are being investigated, and that the PC will be kept advised. It was felt this was not very satisfactory, and pressure for swift action will be made by Cllr TR and D/Cllr SG.

7. Highways/General village maintenance

Footpaths – Work to the footpath from the school to the roundabout now completed by members of the Community Payback Scheme—a vast improvement. Clerk has forwarded thanks to the manager.

Clarification needed from County Highways that when the footpath into Kenilworth is “slurry” sealed as advised, that it will be cut back at the same time. Action Clerk.

Saxon Mill Bridge has been closed to the public for safety reasons, no news to date on when it will be re-opened, responsibility is the Saxon Mill owners.

Highway - Smashed bollard in Warwick Road to be reported to Highways for repair. Leakage of sewage into a gully in Warwick Road needs reporting to Environmental Health.

Lighting -Some street lights need reporting to WDC Lighting Dept for maintenance. Action Clerk.

Hill Wootton - Spill from badger set in Hill Wootton is causing problems for motorists, some pot holes need attention. Action Clerk.

Reports on petty thefts in area. Clerk informed that details are circulated to Cllrs and to various email addresses registered with the Neighbourhood Watch email site.

a) Playground safety – small repairs needed to a gate catch, broken timber slat, and slight wear on climbing frame seat. Action Cllrs TR and DE.
General maintenance – nothing to report

8. Councillors responsibilities - details will be circulated for further discussion at the June meeting.

9. Reports from meetings attended.

WRW Community Forum. Cllr DE will be attending the next meeting on 26th May where discussions are to take place on proposals for cuts to the Library and Bus Services, and he encouraged everyone to try to attend some of these Forums, which discuss a wide variety of issues, and always have a police presence.

C/Cllr Mrs Compton reported that the WCC Area Committee and WRW Rural Forums may be combined which may be a cause for concern, consultations are to take place, and opinions are needed.

C/Cllr Mrs Compton reported that WCC, in partnership with Coventry City Council have signed a new contract with Balfour Beatty for all County Highways maintenance, and reported that this appears to be working well.

10. Other items - Some training dates from WALC were provided. WALC have now moved to Wellesbourne Business Park – details from Clerk.

A new Parish Council representative is needed for the Leigh Foundation Trust as Mrs Sandwell wishes to retire from the position. Discuss at June meeting.

11. Date of next meeting 14th June 2011.

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