

Salford Priors Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, on Wednesday 18th. March 2009 at 19.30hrs.

Present: Councillors, KA James (Chairman), AW Wolfe, JR Stedman, M Myers, RA Francis, and DC Penn.

Also in attendance: County Councillor P Barnes, District Councillor BW Slaughter, and M.J.Philpott, Clerk. 33 members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence

Council considered and agreed apologies for absence from Cllr. Pane due to illness.

2. Declarations of Office and Disclosure of Interests

2.1 Register of Interests: Members were reminded of the need to keep their register of interests up to date.

2.2 Declaration of Interests: Members were reminded that they were required to declare and disclose any personal or prejudicial interests in items on the agenda. Councillors with a prejudicial interest were required to leave the room for the relevant agenda item.

Cllr. Stedman and Cllr. James declared a prejudicial interest in item 7.2 and Cllr. Francis and Cllr. Penn declared a personal interest in item 7.2.

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that Standing Orders be suspended in order that members of the public might speak regarding the **Warwickshire County Council Minerals Core Strategy** and also that Item 6.1 would be considered by the Council immediately following.

The Chairman opened the discussion by explaining that the Strategy had been approved by Warwickshire CC on 8.01.09 but had not been received by the Parish Council until 25.02.09. He said that an application had been made by Stratford on Avon DC for an extension of four weeks to the consultation period that was due to finish on 3.04.09. He then described the four sites in the parish mentioned in the Strategy and also the actions carried out to date. Councillors approved these actions as set out in Appendix B to these minutes. The Chairman then read out various letters received from concerned residents drawing attention to potential problems that might arise should the sites be developed.

Mr Charles Coward set out a comprehensive plan for responding to the Berry Coppice proposal whereby consultants would be employed to write statements regarding the ecology and the environmental impact and where local residents would respond to other aspects of the proposals such as highway considerations, archaeological aspects, the future need for gravel, and the presence of services on the site. The plan also included proposals for press and community involvement.

Residents were concerned that many properties in the area were owned by the landowner of the proposed gravel pit and the Chairman assured them that the District Council was liaising with the County Council to ensure this did not become an issue. Residents raised many points including possible light pollution from a roundabout at Dunnington crossroads, lorries travelling along Broom Lane, publicity, involvement of County Councillors, and whether contact had been made with Wychavon DC. Residents also offered to provide some funding if the need arose to finance professional advice.

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There being no further comments from residents, the Chairman reconvened the Parish Council meeting and Council considered **Item 6.1** of the Agenda - **Warwickshire County Council – Minerals Core Strategy**.

The Chairman proposed that a working party should be set up as suggested by Mr Coward and that funds should be provided in order to secure a professional response to the Strategy document. Cllr. Myers asked if it was in order for the Council to establish a fund for public contribution and the Clerk was asked to investigate possible methods.

Cllr. James proposed, Cllr. Wolfe seconded, and it was agreed, that £1000 should be allocated from the Council's funds towards the cost of employing consultants. The Chairman said that the remaining sum required (£450) could be taken from the Chairman's allowance. It was further agreed that a working party be established, with delegated power to the Clerk to edit and approve, to produce the response to be sent to the County Council by the prescribed date. The Chairman proposed that Cllr. Wolfe should lead the press campaign and this was agreed.

3. Open Forum

3.1 Have your say: No under 18's were present.

3.2 Public Participation: Mrs Speight expressed concern regarding footpaths on the land managed by Sandfields and in particular where polythene had been laid over the route of path AL6 near New Inn Lane. The Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of the WCC footpaths officer. Mrs Seville said that she had helped to clear footpath AL10 behind The Bell and the Chairman thanked her for this work. Mrs Sharpe said that she felt the flashing sign on the Evesham Road would be better located on School Road. The Chairman responded that the sign was an important part of the Evesham Road scheme and Cllr. Barnes, through the Chairman, explained that a traffic survey carried out on School Road had not revealed excessive speed. However, he agreed to pursue the possibility of a Speed Indication Post being installed on School Road. Mr Burgess drew attention to the very poor state of Broom Lane. The Clerk said that the County Council was aware but the work required was of a very major nature and there were likely to be more pressing priorities. Cllr. Stedman reported that the compost had been delivered to the allotments but there had been little uptake on the offer to remove stones.

3.3 Ward Members' Reports Cllr. Barnes reported on the bus service that was still delayed due to various roadworks and Cllr. James said that resurfacing work was to be carried out at Wood Bevington from Bevington Manor to the B4088 and that part of School Road from Ridsdale Close to the Junction with Evesham Road/Station Road was to be haunched.

4. Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 18th. February 2009 at 7.30pm at The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Additionally, the Minutes of the Staffing Committee held on Wednesday 18th. February 2009 at 9.50pm at The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, were approved and signed by the Chairman of the Staffing Committee.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes - Clerk's report for consideration by Council

5.1 Speed limits for C216 and B4088

The Clerk reported that he had contacted EON as instructed but the work was still awaited.

5.2 Progress on drainage works.

The Clerk reported that an order had been placed with D M Clenzing for the works at Tothall Lane.

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was expected to commence in early April. A letter had also been received from the Highways Agency regarding the willows and other matters opposite Bomford Turner.

5.3 Housing needs.

The Clerk reported that Charles Barlow would be attending the Annual Parish Meeting to inform residents regarding the housing survey. He also said that Mr Barlow would be leaving WRCC shortly after the Annual Parish Meeting and might not be replaced.

5.4 Lighting in Playing Field.

The Clerk reported that three quotations had been received from contractors to install the lights in the sums of £664 (Peter Long); £1050 (John Hendey Construction); and £1320 (EON). After confirmation that Peter Long was an experienced and reputable company and not just the lowest tenderer, the Chairman proposed, Cllr. Myers seconded and it was agreed that the quotation of Peter Long be accepted. The Clerk said that he expected the lights to be delivered to Limebridge Farm within two weeks.

5.5 Confirmation of actions taken arising from previous meeting.

Council noted the following actions taken by the Clerk from the previous meeting:

1. Minutes were e-mailed to Councillors following their review.
2. Robert Weeks had accepted an invitation to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting.
3. The disclaimer had been uploaded to the website.
4. The bus stop in School Road had been temporarily re-erected. WCC had to seek funding to get a permanent solution and a new post has been installed. The sign was awaited.
5. All allotment holders had been informed of the delivery of compost.
6. A letter had been sent to TOPs Management Committee regarding the container for the football club.
7. All village organisations had been circulated regarding the Newsletter.
8. Bomford Turner had been asked to respond to the earlier letter about the bad state of the footpath behind their factory. The Clerk said that he had spoken to Bomford Turner and it was agreed that Cllr. Myers would inspect the path together with their representative.
9. Councillors had been provided with survey forms in order to review the street lights in the parish.
10. A letter had been sent to Rev. Steve Tash regarding his move to York.
11. The subscription to Local Council UPDATE had been cancelled with effect from June.

The Chairman reported that he had attended an Emergency Planning meeting on the day of the previous Council meeting and would report at the next meeting.

6. Main Items

6.1 Warwickshire County Council – Minerals Core Strategy

This item is minuted above on pages 927 and 928.

7. Amenity, Environment and Highways, and TOPS

7.1 Contracts, maintenance and repairs, allotments, lighting, highways, and TOPS.

The Clerk reported on various matters as follows:

1. The police had been contacted regarding the broken glass in the play area and the possibility of forensic evidence being obtained. They responded that only an unbroken bottle is likely to be of use and then it is unlikely that any prints would be on their database. They will make extra visits but emphasise that the best way of finding culprits is from local knowledge.
2. The Fouling of Land by Dogs (District of Stratford-on-Avon) Order 2009 comes into force on 1st. April.

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3. Information had been received regarding a training course for the inspection of playing areas by volunteers.
4. Various instances of fly-tipping had been referred to the appropriate authorities and had been cleared. However, further incidents had arisen and were being progressed.
5. Play area inspection reports had been received from Cllr. Francis dated 23.2; 2.3; 9.3; and 16.3.09. The only deficiency reported was a large amount of litter at the rear of the car park fence.

Cllr. Wolfe reported that some re-decorating of TOPs would be carried out by members of the TOPs Management Committee on the following weekends.

Prior to the following item Cllr. James and Cllr. Stedman declared prejudicial interests and left the meeting. Cllr. Wolfe, Vice-Chairman took the chair.

7.2 New flower display contract.

The Clerk had circulated a schedule showing the details of three tenders received for the new flower display contract. The schedule did not identify the tenderers. The Clerk further reported that he had taken up the references of the lowest tenderer and these were read out and considered to be satisfactory. Council agreed that, apart from the fact that Tender "C" showed the lowest cost, it was also the tender with the best planting scheme. Cllr. Wolfe proposed, Cllr. Myers seconded, and it was agreed that the tender marked by the Clerk as "Tender C" should be accepted. The Clerk revealed that the winning contractor was Limebridge Rural Services Ltd.

Cllr. James and Cllr. Stedman returned to the meeting.

Cllr. Myers asked if the three planters that were to be removed could be re-located onto the Evesham Road island to prevent large vehicles frequently driving on to the grass. It was agreed that quotations would be sought for removing the planters and following inspection of their condition the suggestion would be considered at a later meeting.

8. Communications

8.1 Newsletter

Cllr. Wolfe reported that he had received items of news from the Clerk and it was agreed that the main story would be the gravel issue and the meeting at Dunnington.

8.2 Website

Nothing to report.

8.3 E-mail newsletter

Nothing to report.

9. Rights of Way

9.1 Report from P3 Co-ordinator.

Reference had already been made to issues in the earlier part of the meeting. It was further reported that some gas cylinders, a caravan, two refrigerators and a freezer, had been dumped on AL10 and the Chairman said he would take this up with SDC.

10. Planning general

Nothing to report

11. New Planning Applications for Council's consideration

None were reported

12. Planning Decisions

None were reported

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13. Staffing

Cllr. Stedman reported on the meeting held on 18th. February and the proposal that a formal appraisal was only appropriate in a grievance situation. This was confirmed and it was left to the Chairman and the Clerk to arrange a suitable occasion for a more informal review that would be reported back to the Council. Generally, reviews would be carried out annually.

14. Matters raised by Councillors

14.1 Cllr. Myers raised the issue of the Councillor Surgeries suggesting an alternative arrangement whereby residents could make an appointment to meet councillors. The chairman said that the trial period should be continued to its conclusion in May when a decision would be made as to the future of the surgeries.

15. Consideration of Correspondence Received**15.1 WALC Training Programme.**

Council noted the programme and members were asked to let the Clerk know if they wished to attend any courses.

15.2 WRCC Competitions 2009.

Council agreed not to become involved in any competitions due to the current heavy workload of the Clerk.

15.3 Salford Priors Village Fete Committee.

Council noted the proposals from the Fete Committee.

15.4 WCC Emergency Planning Dept., indent for supplies.

Council proposed to indent to a total of 100 space blankets, 10 tabards and 200 empty sandbags.

15.5 WALC, Local Leadership 2020 training session.

Council noted the information provided.

15.6 Simon Walker regarding SDC corporate strategy.

The Chairman said that SDC considered they had met the policy statement to maintain a low level of Council Tax and therefore it was not an ongoing strategy.

16. To Table

Council noted the following tabled documents.

- 16.1 Town and Parish Standard Issue 4, February 2009.
- 16.2 LCR Volume 60, No.6, March 2009.
- 16.3 Clerks & Councils Direct, Issue 62, March 2009.
- 16.4 Coventry & Warwickshire NHS Partnership Trust.
- 16.5 Local Councils Update, Issue 113

17. Finance**17.1 To consider and approve the payments and transfers listed in Appendix A.**

Council noted the income transactions in Appendix A Item 20.1

Council considered the expenditure transactions listed in Appendix A Item 20.2. Authorisation for payment was proposed by Cllr. Myers, seconded by Cllr. Wolfe, and carried. Cheques were signed by Cllr. Wolfe and Cllr. Francis.

Council considered the Clerk's proposal to transfer £8500.00 from No.1 account to the Community account. Authorisation for transfer of funds was proposed by Cllr. Myers, seconded by Cllr. Wolfe, and carried.

18. Date of Next Meeting

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Ordinary Meeting of Parish Council on Wednesday 22nd. April at 7.30pm at The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors.

Also, the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 15th. April at 7.30pm at The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors.

Mrs Seville queried the date of the Annual Parish Meeting being in Easter week and said this was most inappropriate due to people being away on holiday. The Chairman responded that the Council had had little choice due to a number of factors but noted the resident's concerns.

19. Closure of meeting

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 9.42 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

APPENDIX A**20. Finance****20.1 Income transactions for approval**

Tn. No.	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Details
6393		5.44	0.00	5.44	HSBC interest on No. 1 a/c
6394		0.04	0.00	0.04	HSBC interest on No. 3 a/c
6395		500.00	0.00	500.00	WCC grant
6396		50.00	0.00	50.00	S Pearson allotment deposit
Totals		£555.48	£0.00	£555.48	

20.2 Expenditure transactions for approval

Tn. No.	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Details
8378	dd	18.58	2.42	16.16	Plusnet Broadband
8379	102100	621.84	0.00	621.84	Clerk's salary, March
8380	102101	262.09	34.19	227.90	GBD (Evesham) Ltd.
8381	102102	115.43	15.06	100.37	Staples, stationery
8382	102103	7200.15	939.15	6261.00	Advanced LEDs, Playing Field lights
8283	102104	52.58	0.00	52.58	Severn Trent Water
8384	102105	67.73	8.24	59.49	BT
8385	102106	271.28	0.00	271.28	Stratford on Avon DC
8386	102107	64.14	0.00	64.14	HM Revenue & Customs
8387	102108	36.37	5.42	30.95	Beta Fire Protection Ltd.
Totals		£8710.10	£1004.40	£7705.70	

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20.3 Transfers

Proposal to transfer £8500.00 from No.1 a/c to Community a/c.

20.4 Account Balances at 11.03.09

Community a/c	£613.09
No.1 a/c	£31019.67
No.3 a/c	£163.63

APPENDIX B**Warwickshire County Council Minerals Core Strategy****Chairman's proposals for preparing the Parish Council's response**

1. Set up a small Working Party made up of Parish Council and other interested persons to formally submit response with delegated authority to the Clerk to submit working party's response without coming back to the Council.
2. The Working Party to meet and formulate strategy.
3. Council to approve a budget to allow the Working Group access to independent advice. The Clerk to authorise expenditure.
4. Clerk to request a copy of the response to the proposals from the Governors of Dunnington School.
5. Clerk to invite a representative of Ragley Estate to the meeting in Dunnington on the 25.03.09.
6. Chairman to contact the MP asking him to provide a statement for the meeting to be read out.
7. Chairman to consult with the County about the status of the current plan.
8. Clerk to maintain a record of the Parish Council's actions in respect of the consultation process.

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