

HAMMERWICH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting held on **Wednesday 15th October 2014 at 7.30 p.m.** at the WI Hall, Hammerwich

PRESENT: Councillors V. Wasdell (Chairman), , R. Campbell, D Bayliss, , Mrs J Davies, J. Turnbull, Mrs. M. Greenway, Cllrs Mrs V Richards, Viv Evans (Parish Clerk), and 13 members of the public

APOLOGIES Cllr P. Chapman, Mrs J Pope, Mrs R Bailye

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Action
- 1.1 As above
- 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS**
- 2.1 Cllr Mrs Richards for planning applications
- 3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**
- 3.1 Cllr Mrs Greenway was not present and the water supply problems identified by a resident were off Overton Lane, not Coppy Nook Lane
- 3.2 Subject to those corrections, the minutes were approved
- 3.3 Cllr Campbell proposed and Cllr Mrs Davies seconded that the minutes be accepted as a true record
- 3.4 **RESOLVED:** the minutes are accepted as a true record
- 4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
- 4.1 The gap in the hedging at Hospital Rd still remained and the Clerk was asked to resubmit this matter to LDC VE
- 4.2 Burntwood Town FC had been questioned with regard to the nuisance behaviour and had been able to advise that it was not them, as they did not use the pitch on the days identified
- 4.3 Cllr Mrs Greenway clarified that from her observations, the problems arose with ad hoc use of the facility from groups who were not actually booking it
- 4.4 The Clerk advised that she had contacted LDC with regard to licences for shotguns and was referred to the police.
- 4.5 For whatever reason, the gunfire seems to have ceased
- 6 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 5.1 The Chairman advised the meeting that a card presented that evening contained news of the WI Choir winning their regional heats and that they would be going to the national finals
- 5.2 All expressed their congratulations and best wishes for the final
- 6 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**
- 6.1 The Council wishes to comment that the extension would create a property which is close to the boundary, possibly constituting intrusion for the neighbouring property. (14/00923) and Cllrs suggested that this issue should be brought to the attention of planning officers VE
- 6.2 With regard to application 14/00912 Members felt the applicant was disingenuous in describing an ancillary (separate) building as an annexe. Cllrs Turnbull and Bayliss felt conditions should be imposed to retain the buildings as one property, standing, as it does, in the green belt VE
- 6.3 Alerted by Cllr Mrs Greenway, research had been done on applications for planning permissions at Nursery Bungalow, Overton Lane
- 6.4 It appeared that the Council had not been advised of CLP applications and whilst Cllr Bayliss felt this was purely an officer determined application, Cllr Campbell said that from his knowledge Councils were advised of CLP applications
- 6.5 The Clerk was requested to clarify the situation and establish what, if any, applications they should have received with regard to this property VE
- 7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATON**
- 7.1 Cllr Mrs Richards proposed and Cllr Mrs Davies seconded that Standing Orders were suspended to allow members of the public to speak
- 7.2 A resident updated the meeting on the issues at Nursery Bungalow saying that a hedge and banking had been removed from the site to allow access to the land and there has been a lot of preparation on site
- 7.3 He also advised that the footpath down there was blocked and the Clerk was asked to report this to SCC VE
- 7.4 Members were advised by the Chairman that this was the application which was the subject of a conversation at last month's meeting with regard to holding discussions with the potential developer

HAMMERWICH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

- 7.5 The resident who reported water quality issues advised the meeting that it extended to Forge Close but, following flushing of the system, Forge Close was improved and she suggested that this might be a solution for residents of Copsy Nook Lane
- 7.6 PCSO Bennett, who was in attendance at the meeting, was asked if there was any action that the police could take on Overton Lane and he replied that where a footpath was being obstructed by vehicles; they could take action
- 7.7 He was advised that this was mainly a night time issue and PCSO Bennett urged the complainants to contact the police every time they had a problem
- 7.8 The Chairman asked if the issues at Nursery Bungalow had exacerbated the situation but residents advised that it had not but another resident reported a particular problem with vans which blocked the road for maintenance vehicles
- 7.9 Cllr Turnbull suggested that photos would be useful evidence but he also asked for the best method for residents to contact the police
- 7.10 The PCSO replied that the public should dial 101
- 7.11 There seemed a consensus that this was not always very useful and the Clerk was asked to try to contact PCSO Passmore directly with regard to this issue VE
- 7.12 Another resident then raised the issue of parking in Burntwood Road, largely due to the use of the WI Hall, which had inadequate parking
- 7.13 The Chairman advised that the PC had tried to do something about this before but had been unable to initiate any action
- 7.14 The resident suggested “double yellows” but the Chairman reiterated that this matter had been fully investigated before and at the consultation phase – residents had rejected parking restrictions
- 7.15 Cllrs offered to contact SCC again to see if there was now anything that could be accomplished, given that the overspill parking was now blocked off
- 7.16 Cllr Mrs Davies proposed that Standing Orders be reinstated and this was seconded by Cllr Bayliss
- 7.17 Because the Chairman had promoted the presentation by Neil Turner, the same resident raised the issue of the loss of a freehold facility and that Cllrs should not be supportive of the course of action proposed by LDC
- 7.18 The Chairman advised that Members had been asked to scrutinise this document and get back to him with comments – which would, hopefully, be positive but which might trigger further discussions with LDC before agreement is reached on the final form of the tender brief
- 7.19 The issue of clearing the site was raised and the Chairman advised that this would become the responsibility of the managers of the site
- 7.20 A number of residents were concerned that the PC would not be managing this facility but Cllr Bayliss clarified that the facility was grant funded by external agencies and that the VAT which would normally be paid on construction was refunded to the Council under a special concession for PCs
- 7.21 This concession meant that if the Council made a profit from managing the facility, it would be forced to repay a large amount of VAT
- 7.22 He continued that this was why the Council was seeking a managing organisation to run the facility on behalf of the Council
- 7.23 The debate on this matter closed by Cllr Richards confirming that the PC owns the land under discussion and mention was made that the previous open space was not as publicly accessible as the current space
- 7.24 PCSO Bennett reported that the crime figures consisted of 2 petrol thefts from Muckley Corner Garage and 3 ASBs which were all neighbour related, after which he left the meeting
- 7.25 Cllr Bayliss proposed that Standing Orders be reinstated and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Davies

8 REPORTS UPDATE

- 8.1 The Clerk advised that she had commenced work on the draft plan and that she had now asked members of the steering group for their specialist input into the wording of the plan
- 8.1.1 The next meeting of the group would take place on 22 October at the WI Hall which would hopefully lead to a draft plan suitable for a second round of consultations
- 8.2 The Chairman promoted this issue to allow Neil Turner (LDC Director of Leisure and Parks) to address the meeting with regard to a joint venture to obtain a suitable tenant for Hospital Rd Playing Fields
- 8.2.1 He invited Mrs Richards to give the background to Neil’s attendance and she advised that the issue arose from a meeting of LDC Scrutiny which had received a report from him and she felt this matter should be reported to HPC
- 8.2.3 NT went through what amounted to a tender document for those interested in running the facility and he expressed the hope that, given their experience in such matters, LDC had covered every eventuality

HAMMERWICH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

- 8.2.4 However, it was agreed that Members should have a chance to review the document and submit comments to LDC for any requested amendments
- 8.2.5 Following Neil's presentation, the Chairman asked if an organisation which was not a sports club could take it on and Neil replied that given the tender brief, that would be unlikely
- 8.2.6 Cllr Mrs Greenway wondered if there could be opportunities for two sporting facilities to share the management eg cricket in summer, soccer in winter and Neil agreed this would be possible
- 8.2.7 Cllr Campbell asked about LDC/Hammerwich Parish Council responsibilities following any handover and was advised that they would still be landowners with the responsibilities that would accrue from that situation
- 8.2.8 Cllr Campbell also suggested an annual review and Neil agreed with close co-operation between parties as this facility was very high profile in the community and needed to be professionally run
- 8.2.9 Cllr Bayliss asked if maintenance equipment would be kept on site and therefore more buildings erected
- 8.2.10 Neil responded that this could not be discounted but felt that any new management might continue to buy in maintenance services rather than tie up capital in plant
- 8.2.11 Cllr Bayliss noted that Cllrs needed to respond to the draft document before next meeting to meet the DC timescale so Members agreed to respond as quickly as they could
- 8.2.12 NT left the meeting at that point, after having been thanked for attending and after Cllr Mrs Richards expressing the hope that Member responses to this report would be supportive of the work undertaken by LDC
- 8.3 The Clerk reported that she had agreed with J Smith LDC to effect the repairs to the play equipment that Members requested at the previous meeting
- 8.4 There was nothing to report on footpaths but Cllr Mrs Davies raised an issue which occurs frequently at Hall Lane rail bridge – ie signs warning of floods are installed and then not removed when the flood has cleared. The Clerk was requested to contact SCC VE
- 8.4.1 The Chairman identified 2 locations – Pingle Lane and Meerash Lane where the gullies need clearing and the Clerk was requested to contact LDC VE

9 ANY MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- 9.1 Cllr Mrs Greenway asked if the matter of facilities for older children could be discussed as she had been approached by the Partnership Manager to raise this matter
- 9.2 Members agreed to review the issue of the noise nuisance at Hospital Road which tied in with the above request
- 9.3 Cllr Mrs Richards asked if Members could look at the issue of the overgrown plot on Burntwood Road
- 9.4 Installation of 2 trees to replace one recently removed

10 BTC/LDC COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SCHEME

- 10.1 Cllr Campbell outlined the dial a ride scheme which LDC/BTC were operating jointly within the parish of Hammerwich
- 10.2 In response to a question from Cllr Bayliss, he indicated a few Hammerwich residents have registered to use the scheme but about 15 have also made enquiries about the service which costs £2.00 per journey to anywhere within the Hammerwich/Burntwood area
- 10.3 Cllr Bayliss also advised the meeting that he could not see details of the scheme on BTC website
- 10.4 Cllr Campbell advised this was as a result of the recent indisposition of the full time Clerk and the matter would be rectified
- 10.5 The Chairman asked if he could get to Lichfield using the scheme and was advised that, at present, he could not
- 10.6 Cllr Mrs Greenway said the scheme was attractive in theory but she was not sure of the value for money and Cllr Turnbull felt that a taxi offered 24/7 service, not just 3 days a week and would, he thought, be cheaper
- 10.7 Cllr Campbell countered that for someone with limited mobility – this service would allow them a door to door service to eg Morrisons in Burntwood
- 10.8 The Clerk was requested to get full details and this matter would again be discussed at the next meeting

11 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- 11.1 An email was forwarded by Cllr Mrs Bailye with regard to the difficulty that the bus from the Erasmus Darwin Academy has in dropping off 2 children in Hammerwich
- 11.1.1 Members realised this was the Nursery Bungalow location which was causing difficulty but the Clerk advised that she had already contacted SCC, as Education Authority and the police
- 11.2 A letter had been received from SCC's new Highway Contractor – EM with regard to nuisance in a lay by at Muckley Corner
- 11.2.1 As this was not in the parish, Members had no comment to make

HAMMERWICH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

12 CORRESPONDENCE SENT

12.1 None other than that already referred to above

13 FINANCE

13.1.1 Cllr Mrs Davies Cllr proposed and Cllr Campbell seconded that the accounts be approved

13.1.2 **RESOLVED:** to approve accounts for payment for September

13.2. Members had no queries with regard to the bank reconciliation

13.3 As the Clerk had not reissued her draft budget suggestions, she agreed to email everyone with a copy to be discussed at the next meeting VE

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14.1 19th November

Chairman _____ 19th November

The meeting closed at 9.42 pm