

# Hammerwich Parish Council Minutes

## 19 February 2020

**In attendance:** Councillors Wasdell, Greenway, Ho, Taylor, Smith, Place, Ennis, Grundy and King.

**Also in attendance:**

3 Members of the Public

Ellen Bird – Parish Clerk

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Thurlow submitted apologies.

Councillor D Smith, Staffordshire County Council (SCC) and Councillor Silvester-Hall (LDC) also submitted apologies.

**Noted**

It was noted that Councillor Cadwalladar-Alan had submitted his resignation to the Council.

**Noted**

### 2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Grundy declared her husband sometimes worked with LDC officers who the Council used for contracts.

**Noted**

### 3. Approval of Parish Council Minutes held on 22 January 2020

**Councillors resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2020.**

### 4. Matters Arising

There were none.

### 5. Chairman's Announcements

There were none.

## 6. County/District/Police Reports

There were no official reports.

Councillor Greenway reported the latest crime statistics for the local area.

**Noted**

## 7. Neighbourhood Plan (NHP)

It was noted that the next meeting of the steering group was 24 February at 7.30pm.

Councillor Greenway provided an update on how work on the NHP was progressing.

**Noted with thanks**

## 8. Speedwatch

Councillor Taylor presented a speedwatch report to the Council.

**Noted with thanks.**

Councillor Taylor suggested she have an informal discussion with SCC regarding speed calming measures for 2020/21 financial year.

**Resolved to ask Councillor Taylor to discuss this with SCC informally to establish what options were available to the Council.**

## 9. Parks and Open Spaces

### Oakfield Park

Councillor Greenway reported she had followed up Councillor Ennis' request from a resident to cut back the hedge and planting adjacent to their property on Lawnswood Avenue. She was concerned that completing the work requested would leave the residents property very exposed.

Councillor Ennis reported that she had conveyed these fears to the resident who accepted that he would need to take action on his fence to ensure their privacy. He asked that councillors cut the hedge back on the cut through between the park and Lawnswood Avenue as it was too high.

**Resolved to ask the Clerk to ask LDC Officers to clear the overgrowth around the property and to request a quote to getting the hedge cut back as per the residents request.**

### Benches

Councillors reported further positive feedback regarding the new benches.

**Resolved for Councillors to send photos of the new benches for inclusion on the Website.**

### Netherton Green

**Councillors asked the Clerk to chase the work on Netherton Green with LDC officers.**

## **10. Highways and Footpaths**

### Wharf Lane

**Councillors asked that the Clerk write again to the farmer on Wharf Lane requesting the hedge be cut back.**

### Scrap Yard

It was noted that someone had been placed fencing in the road to prevent the end of the lane by the scrap yard being used by drug dealers.

### Pingle Lane

It was noted that there was a dangerous overhanging branch which had been reported by LDC to SCC Highways but no action had been taken.

**The Chair said he would investigate the matter and request that action be taken by SCC.**

### Railway Bridge

Flooding had been very deep under the bridge in recent days.

Network Rail have visited again. Councillor Greenway reported that they had informed the landowner that when the flooding had receded they would dig out the drainage ditch completely.

She also reported that Network rail had informed the landowner that they had no knowledge of the scheme to open the railway track as a 'greenway'. Councillors had heard rumours about the track being reopened as a railway line.

### Norton Lane Bin

It was noted that Councillor Silvester-Hall had no progress to report regarding the bin.

**Resolved to defer to future meeting.**

## Church Lane

Councillors discussed concerns raised by a local Parishioner regarding anti- social behaviour at the Church turning area.

**As this was a Police matter, Council asked that the Clerk formally pass this on to the local Police and Community Support Officer.**

### **11. Planning Applications**

20/00078/FUH – 107 Burntwood Road

It was noted that neighbours had raised pollution concerns regarding the chimney. The Council felt that this needed to be given serious consideration by LDC before a decision was taken.

20/00111/ABN – Land South Hammerwich House Farm

No Comments

**Resolved to ask the Clerk to submit comments where necessary, on behalf of the Council.**

### **12. Correspondence Report**

The clerk provided an update on correspondence received and sent.

**Noted**

### **13. Grant Request**

Councillors considered 2 grant requests  
-Hammerwich Gardening Guild  
-St George's Day event to be held at the Cricket Club

**Resolved to**

- a) Grant the gardening Guild £200**
- b) Grrant the Cricket Club £300**

### **14. Accounts for Payment**

The statements for the Business Current Account and Savings Account as at 07 February 2020 were £59,731.77 and £8,282.10 respectively.

The Parish Council are asked to approve the following payments at their meeting on 19 February 2020:

	Cost	Invoice No	Cheque Number
Clerk's wages (February)	£508.14	10	101132 (£400) and 101133 (£108.14)
WCAVA (Payroll Feb)	£8.20	2020324	101134
Lichfield District Council	£19,428.46	M0007539343	101135
Staffordshire Parish Council Association (Training)	£35	-	101136
David Ogilvie (benches) replacement cheque *see detail below	£2107.20	184699	101137

The Council also approved Cheque number 101140 for £7.13 for the Clerk's February Expenses. The Grant Cheques for Hammerwich Gardening Guild Cheque No 101139 for £200 and Cheque No 10113 for £300 for Hammerwich Cricket Club to use for the St George's Day event were also approved.

The Parish Council are asked to note the following income:

Source	Amount	Reference
WACVA	£183.40	-
Cheque no 101125 (to David Oligreave) showing as returned to bank acc with code UNP on bank statement	£2107.20	-

**Resolved to approve the accounts for payment.**

## 16. Boundary Review – Consultation Approach

(This item was taken at the start of the meeting in order that all councillors could vote as Councillors Ho and Taylor left before the end of the meeting as they had outside commitments)

Councillors considered three options to determine the consultation approach they would take in the Boundary Review Consultation.

Councillor Place had formally requested a recorded vote on each of the items.

The Council considered the following options

- a) That Hammerwich Parish Council investigates transferring the Triangle Ward to Burntwood Town Council

Vote results:

In favour: 0

Against: Ennis, Greenway, Grundy, Ho, King, Place, Smith, Taylor, Wasdell  
Councillor Thurlow was not present.

- b) That Hammerwich Parish Council looks to take ownership of Highfields Ward from Burntwood Town Council

Vote results:

In favour: 0

Against: Ennis, Greenway, Grundy, Ho, King, Place, Smith, Taylor, Wasdell  
Councillor Thurlow was not present.

- c) That Hammerwich Parish Council continues discussions with Burntwood Town Council regarding potential minor boundary changes.

Vote results:

In favour: Ennis, Greenway, Grundy, Ho, Place, Smith, Wasdell

Against: King, Taylor

Councillor Thurlow was not present.

**Resolved to continue discussions with Burntwood Town Council regarding potential minor boundary changes.**

## 15. Public Participation

(Standing Orders were suspended)

### Housing development

A local resident expressed concerns about planning applications in the area and the lack of infrastructure that was put in place to support new developments and ensure the roads, surgeries, schools etc were in place to support new and existing residents.

The Chair informed the resident that the Parish was very active in preventing development of the Greenbelt, was developing a Neighbourhood Plan setting out

the case for the need for sufficient infrastructure with new developments and also that the planning inspector had supported refusal of development on some greenbelt areas that were being discussed.

**Noted**

Speedwatch – Hanney Hay Road

There was a request for speedwatch to visit Hanney Hay Road.

**Resolved to ask Councillor Taylor to liaise with the police to establish whether speedwatch could cover Hanney Hay Road.**

Anti-Social Behaviour Church Lane

A local resident explained the impact Anti-social behaviour had upon him and his family.

Having understood in greater detail the impact of the anti-social behaviour was having on the resident, Councillors wanted to do more than just write to the PCSO on this matter.

**Resolved to ask the Clerk to write to the County Council, MP, SCC Highways and the Church, in addition to the PCSO in order to try to help the resident.**

Dark Lane – Rights of Way

**Noted that the Lane was overgrown.**

(Standing Orders were reinstated)

**16. Items for discussion at future meetings**

- Finance Report
- Parish news – how best to share news

Meeting closed at 9.40pm