

BUBBENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Bubbenhall Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday 21st January 2014 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Joanne Shattock (Chair) Rose Woodforth (Clerk)
Cllr Win Nwachukwu
Cllr Sam Baker Members of Public: 0

1. **Apologies** were received from Cllrs Harrison, Haynes, Powell, Symes, Hammon and Redford.
2. **Declarations of interest** None.
3. **Minutes of previous meeting on 10th December 2013** were agreed and signed by the Chair with the amendment of the date in minute 5 for the Gateway pre-enquiry meeting to 22.1.14 (from 14.1.14).
4. **Matters arising**
 - 4.1 The Clerk reported the fallen fence panel by the electricity sub-station to National Grid before Christmas; they will arrange removal and repair.
5. **Highways**
 - 5.1 **Toll Bar diversions:** At the last meeting Councillors expressed concern that the Toll Bar improvement work's diversions will increase traffic through the village and that HGVs will end up getting stuck. At Cllr Redford's suggestion the Clerk wrote to the Head Engineer for WCC Highways.

The WCC Traffic Manager has replied stating there are no diversion routes programmed to be in Warwickshire, they are all within Coventry. They do not foresee at this moment in time any change to this situation. The Council agreed that increased traffic is likely to be an on going problem during the improvement works, regardless of whether there are official diversion routes. It was agreed that the parish council would continue to pursue the matter.
 - 5.2 **A445 Signs:** The Clerk is still waiting for revised quotes from WCC for the new traffic signs.
 - 5.3 **Speed camera:** There is the possibility that Stoneleigh Parish Council will have access to a speed camera. Stoneleigh Parish Council wondered whether other local parishes would like to participate. There would be only minimal cost involved and training and clothing are provided free.

Councillors agreed that in principle if residents volunteered then Bubbenhall Parish Council would be supportive. We will wait for further information.
 - 5.4 **A445 rubbish:** The Council noted that there has been an increase in builders' waste on the A445. Clerk to report to WDC and forward to Ann Earley from the landfill for her information.
6. **Gateway Zone**

The Chair reported that the pre-enquiry meeting tomorrow will determine the schedule for the enquiry. The enquiry will run 8.4.14 to 13.5.14. The Inspector's recommendation to the Secretary of State is expected at some point over the summer.
7. **Local Plan**

Cllr Baker attended the WDC Village Housing Options and Settlement Boundaries consultation event at Baginton Village Hall and provided a brief report. The Council agreed not to send a response to the consultation as currently Bubbenhall is not impacted by the options.
8. **Underground Coal Gasification (UCG)**

The Clerk contacted Cubbington Parish Council for information regarding a presentation from the UCG action group, the presentation however was cancelled.

At the recent Liaison Committee meeting the Chair asked Smiths Concrete if they had received any correspondence from the company associated with UCG given that Smiths' land falls within the UCG suggested area. Michael Knight confirmed Smiths had not heard anything.

9. Business from members of the public

- 9.1 David Hollway, Treasurer of the PCC has written to thank the Parish Council for the Church grant.
- 9.2 Bob Cragg has written to thank the Parish Council for his gift voucher.
- 9.3 The Clerk reported many residents have complained about the recent refurbishment of the street lighting in the village and the "bright" light they emit.

10. Finance

- 10.1 The Clerk presented the financial report (payments and summary schedule attached). Cllrs Baker and Nwachukwu signed cheques.
- 10.2 The Council agreed the cost of a new grit bin purchased after last meeting due to health and safety concerns expressed during the meeting. The Council also commented it deplores the fact a resident was aggressive to the Clerk due to the siting of the new grit bin. The Council also expressed dismay that the new grit bins have not been filled yet. Clerk to contact Highways.
- 10.3 The Clerk reported the two quotes received for felling the 3 trees on Spring Hill were for £200 and £850, both from local companies who have previously carried out work in the village. After discussion the Council agreed to use Greg Byrne Landscaping (£200). Clerk to arrange.

Councillors agreed to inform the owner of the field and also the neighbouring resident that the trees will be felled shortly.

- 10.4 The grass cutting contract for the recreation ground is due for renewal. The Clerk has received a quote from a new company for £75 plus VAT per cut. The existing contractor (Heritage) have quoted the same price as last year £90 plus VAT per cut. The Clerk contacted Heritage to see if they would reduce their quote, however they could not. After discussion the Council agreed to continue with Heritage due to their reliability and previous good work. The contract will be reviewed again next year.

11. Precept

The Parish Council discussed the budget for 2014-15 fully and it was agreed the precept for the next financial year should be £12,000. The Clerk will ask for £11,461 from WDC (WDC will be providing a grant of £531 this year). The Council noted this is an increase of £1000 from last year however given that precepts are likely to capped and also the Gateway crisis, felt that residents will understand. WALC has also suggested that parish councils set their precept as high as necessary. Clerk to notify WDC.

12. Planning

- 12.1 W/13/1351: Braughing Mead, Ryton Road; Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed siting of a timber lodge that conforms with the legal definition of a caravan, in rear garden, for use as ancillary residential accommodation.
- 12.2 W/13/1713 AG; Land adjacent to Bubbenhall Bridge, Bubbenhall. The Parish Council commented the building was too large and industrial for its location in the green belt.
- 12.3 W/12/1605: Seasons, Leamington Road; erection of a two storey rear extension. WDC has refused the application. On this occasion WDC omitted to inform the Parish Council of this application.

13. Youth Space & Recreation Ground

Youth Space: The Clerk reported the tennis net has been stored in the Village Hall shed over the winter.

Recreation Ground: Cllr Baker reported there had been a problem with an overflowing bin on the recreation ground, however WDC have now emptied it. There has been no response yet from ROSPA with the queries following the recent inspection report, Cllr Baker to chase.

14. Reports from meetings attended

The Chair reported that at the January Liaison Committee meeting Smiths Concrete confirmed that at the Wolston Farm Fields site the seam is very shallow and it is expected to take 6 years to quarry plus restoration time. Smiths also confirmed that there will be no traffic through Ryton, the Highways Agency having revoked its original decision not to allow Toll Bar roundabout to be used.

15. Parish Matters (AOB)

15.1 Cllr Nwachukwu expressed concern about the water collecting at the junction of Paget's Lane with the main road as reported by the Clerk to WCC Highways months ago. Clerk to contact Highways again.

15.2 The Council noted with concern the increase in thefts from cars recently.

16. Correspondence not dealt with in other items

i) WCC: 548 bus service – new timetable

ii) WALC 109 Nov-Dec Newsletter, Data Protection and Freedom of Information Event and Governance and Accountability

iii) Flood Action Group update

iv) WALC: Government's Local Authorities' Financial Statement

v) Warwickshire Police: PCSO Designated Powers; Pledge to protect frontline policing in face of £5m budget cut

vi) WALC: Royal Garden Party Nominations 2014. Cllr Nwachukwu to be nominated.

vii) WALC: Minutes WALC Warwick

viii) WCC: Happy New Year from Public Health Warwickshire

ix) WALC Annual Briefing Seminar 1.3.14

Date of next meeting 4th March 2014