

BUBBENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Bubbenhall Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday 4th March 2014 in the Village Hall

Present:	Cllr Joanne Shattock (Chair)	Cllr Redford
	Cllr Win Nwachukwu	Cllr Hammon
	Cllr Sam Baker	Cllr Pratt
	Cllr Steve Haynes	Rose Woodforth (Clerk)
	Cllr Bob Powell	
	Cllr Mark Symes	Members of Public: 1

1. **Apologies** were received from Cllr Harrison.
2. **Declarations of interest** None.
3. **Minutes of previous meeting on 21st January 2014** were agreed and signed by the Chair.
4. **Statements from the Chair**
The Chair read out the Clerk's resignation letter. Councillors expressed appreciation of Mrs Woodforth's dedication and efficiency over the past three years and wished her well in her new post. It was agreed to place adverts in the village newsletter, the various WALC circulars and also to circulate using the village email distribution list.
5. **Matters arising**
The electricity sub-station fence panel has now been repaired.
6. **Highways**
The Chair expressed dismay that the Highways Department do not seem to respond readily to requests from the Parish Council and require constant chasing emails before a response is made.
 - 6.1 The Clerk has spoken to Highways again about the puddle on Paget's Lane, first reported in July 2013.
 - 6.2 The Clerk is still waiting for revised quotes from WCC for the new traffic signs on the A445 despite further requests. Cllr Redford agreed to look into this.
 - 6.3 The new grit bins have been filled this week, the council noted that it is the first week of March and we have been requesting this since November.
 - 6.4 The Council expressed concern that the water on Stoneleigh has not been sorted despite plans to resurface the road in 2 weeks. The Clerk has been contacting Highways about this matter since July 2012. Cllrs Hammon and Redford offered to look into this. Clerk to forward correspondence to Cllr Hammon.
 - 6.5 The Council noted there has been an increase in builders' waste on the A445 and also plastic bags, presumably from lorries, hanging from trees. Clerk to report to WDC and forward to Ann Earley from FCC Environment for her information.
 - 6.6 Cllr Haynes reported there are lots of dead leaves on Orchard Way. Clerk to report to Highways.
7. **Gateway Zone**
The Rule 6 groups met at Riverside House today to exchange "proofs of evidence". The Community Group submitted 7 proofs: economic, social, commercial concerns, planning, environment, risk and public safety, and contamination and remediation. The developers and WDC also submitted their evidence. A 2 week period now commences when either side can rebut elements of fact on each side's proof. Both the Chair and Cllr Symes remarked on the immense effort involved and how WDC and the developers have barristers at their disposal.

Cllr Symes reported that a new stage to the campaign has started in order to increase community awareness prior to the 8th April start of the inquiry. There will be a public meeting about the Gateway in Bubbenhall Village Hall at 7:30pm on Friday 21st March and hopefully Jeremy Wright MP will attend. With the new publicity materials being printed (posters, leaflets and banners) this will hopefully encourage people to attend the inquiry and therefore promote a strong community feeling.

Residents will also be asked to resend updated letters of objection (sent previously to WDC) to the planning inspector. Cllr Powell expressed concern that people need more encouragement to send letters.

8. Underground Coal Gasification (UCG)

The Parish Council has received a letter from a Campaign Group "No UCG Works". Cllr Hammon warned to be careful of "anti" groups before all facts are known when the Council can take a measured view. Cllr Redford reported that WCC has written to the Government asking for clarification regarding UCG. Currently the Government support fracking however there is no support for UCG. WCC has also written to the Coal Board to request no licence be granted. WCC have still not received an application.

9. Business from members of the public

9.1 A resident has complained about the felling of the trees on Spring Hill. The Chair suggested hawthorn could be planted to accelerate the growth of a natural hedge and help reduce the lack of vegetation, the Council agreed. Clerk to ask Paul Heritage for advice and quote.

9.2 A non-resident has complained the Spout Water from the pump "smells and tastes of plastic and slightly sulphuric". The Clerk has replied stating that the spout water should not be drunk however the water from the pump maybe drunk (however at your own risk). As far as the Parish Council is aware the water is regularly monitored by Warwick District Council Environmental Department – there is a sign which states this.

9.3 The Kenilworth Centre has contacted local parish councils as they are currently putting a bid together to provide a service for young people in rural areas surrounding Kenilworth. The service would enable young people (11-17 years) to access activities at the Kenilworth Centre on a weekly basis. They would be collected from Baginton and Bubbenhall by mini-bus each Wednesday evening by qualified youth workers. The Clerk and Cllr Haynes have provided numbers of young people to the Centre.

9.4 Cllr Symes remarked about the recent refurbishment of the street lighting in the village and the "bright" light they emit, Cllr Hammon said he would pass on comments to Monica Brown at WDC.

10. Finance

10.1 The Clerk presented the financial report (payments and summary schedule attached). Cllrs Baker, Nwachukwu and Haynes signed cheques.

10.2 Cllr Symes reported that more Gateway publicity materials (leaflets, posters and banners) have been ordered plus the printing of the proofs of evidence at a total cost of approx £1800 to be shared between the 3 parish councils. An invoice is expected by next council meeting in April.

10.3 The Clerk requested Councillors look at the Parish Council's asset register as it requires updating after the Youth Space project. Cllrs Baker, Haynes and Clerk to complete.

11. Planning

The Council has received official notification that the application to extract sand and gravel from Wolston Fields Farm and import to Bubbenhall Quarry has been granted.

12. Youth Space & Recreation Ground

Youth Space: The Council agreed to make use of volunteers to paint the multi-court fencing. Cllr Haynes to provide quote for paint for next meeting.

Recreation Ground: Cllr Baker reported that she has spoken to the inspector regarding the gate to the multi-courts. During last inspection it was noted the gate was a finger entrapment hazard - apparently this was fairly low risk and requires no action. In the report every year the trim trail is said to require wood preserving however after speaking with the manufacturer, the wood is pressure treated so does not require additional maintenance. The inspector said he would look at the trail during the next inspection in September.

Cllr Baker has now received 3 quotes for refurbishing the climbing frame; this will be put on the agenda for next meeting. Cllr Baker reminded the Council more play bark will need to be ordered in April.

13. Reports from meetings attended

13.1 Cllr Nwachukwu attended the recent WALC meeting. A representative from WDC attended to discuss the Local Plan. Following additional analysis the housing numbers have increased from 10,000 to over 12,000. Over the period 2011-2029, 720 houses need to be built per year. Coventry City Council has not adequately planned for their housing need and WDC may be asked to help.

13.2 Cllr Symes attended the Local Plan meeting on 20.2.14 and noted it was an exercise in managing PR. WDC have moved housing numbers around in allocation, which will impact the area of South Kenilworth to the A46. This is due to the fact that 75% of WDC land is on green belt.

14. Parish Matters (AOB) None.

15. Correspondence not dealt with in other items

- i) Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner: updates
- ii) WALC: E-petition to change NPPF
- iii) WALC: Capping on Parish and Town Councils for 2014-15 and Internet Banking
- iv) WALC: No Capping of Parish Council Precepts 2014-15 - Ministerial Statement
- v) WALC: Pre-Determination Guidance Provided by DCLG
- vi) WALC: Updates to Legal Topic Notes 8 Elections, 30 Defamation, 79 Staff Pensions, Update on Discontinuation of Cheque Payments
- vii) WALC: Parish and Town Council briefing event on Consideration of Changes to WC Councillor Wards, Events to Commemorate World War I
- viii) WCC: Warwickshire County Council Offering Free Compost Bins
- ix) WCC: Public Interest Debate on Unitary Authority for Warwickshire. Cllr Hammon commented that parish and town councils would be given greater authority if it happened and also that it would be likely there would be two unitary authorities not one.
- x) WCC: Temporary Road Closure - Stoneleigh Road, Bubbenhall 19.03.14
- xi) WCC: Public Health Warwickshire
- xii) WCC: Warwickshire Week of Thrift: 24-30.3.14
- xiii) WDC: Community Governance Review 2013/2014 – responses by 30.4.14. Clerk to contact Cllr Hammon for advice.
- xiv) WDC: Local Plan Catch-up Meetings
- xv) Warwickshire Police: Rural Crime and Safety Event invite

Date of next meeting 8th April 2014