



BUBBENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

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BUBBENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes- to be approved at the next meeting May 2019

Minutes of the Bubbenhall Annual Parish Assembly held in the Village Hall, Bubbenhall, on Tuesday, 15th May 2018 at 7.30 pm

Present:

Cllr J Lucas (Chair)
Cllr S Baker (Vice Chair)
Cllr Win Nwachukwu
Cllr Bob Powell
Cllr J Shattock
Cllr C Pilgrim

Cllr T Wright (WDC)
Cllr W Redford (WCC)

Jane Fleming (Clerk)
Members of Public 2

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies have been received from Cllr S Haynes and Cllr P Redford (WDC)

2. Approval of Minutes of the 9th May 2017 meeting.

These were approved at the meeting and signed by the Chair.

3. Report by the Chair of the Parish Council

Cllr Lucas reported the following:

Neighbourhood plan

The highlight of the last year was the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan in January, which is now accepted as part of the planning process, and I'd like to thank Steve Haynes and Joanne Shattock for the hard work they have put in to get the plan put together.

Youth day

In August we had the first of our Lottery funded Youth days, which was very well attended, and we hope to have equal success this year. Thanks to Steve Haynes and his team for organising this.

Planning

Gateway has once again reared its head, and we are currently awaiting the notification of the date for the planning meeting where this will be considered. The Parish Council (together with representatives from Baginton, Stoneleigh and CPRE) have met with both WCC highways and WDC planning department to discuss our concerns. We may yet have another meeting before the planning committee make a decision.

Notice Board

A new notice board has been installed to replace the old one in Lower End.

Wild Flower Meadow

Signed
Chair:

The meadow was seeded last autumn, and is now due for a bit of weeding – WWT will organise a day for this, and we will be asking for volunteers from the village

Litter Pick

We held our 3rd annual litter pick in April, with good support from the village we managed to collect a mountain of litter!

Personnel

Corinne Pilgrim has completed her first full year as a councillor, having been co-opted in February 2017.

Jane, the Clerk, has recently announced her resignation and we are currently recruiting for her replacement (so if you are interested, please contact the clerk). I would like to thank Jane for her hard work and expertise, contributing greatly to the smooth running of the Parish Council over the last four years.

Finance

Jane will give the financial report shortly, but I should mention here that we are once again increasing the precept by £55.66 for a band D household, which is mainly due to the loss of concurrent services funding from WDC.

Other Matters

I will leave Road Safety and the recreation ground to the reports of Cllrs Powell and Baker respectively but would like to take this opportunity to thank both for the effort they put in to these responsibilities.

Conclusion

I have mentioned some individual Parish Councillors already, but I would like to take this opportunity to thank *all* of the Parish Councillors who voluntarily give up their time to work on behalf of the Parish. I would also like to thank our County Councillor, Wallace Redford, and our District Councillors, Pam Redford and Trevor Wright for the support they have given us over the last year.

4. Report on the Recreation Ground / Youth Space

Cllr Baker reported the following:

RoSPA Annual Inspection

The Annual RoSPA inspection was carried out in November 2017. It declared that the playground equipment was in a good state of repair and safety. The following recommendations were made:

General play area and Youth space/Multiplay court

- 1) Roof on multplay unit needs sanding and re-painting. Action: Repair by summer holiday
- 2) Worn ground under see saw. Action: Monitor/repair as necessary
- 3) Chain wear on baby swing. Action: Monitor and replace when at 40% wear.
- 4) Handrail on bridge swing damaged. Action: Monitor and replace if necessary.
- 5) Multplay court fence has loose wire. Action: Secure the wire.
- 6) Tubes in skate ramp open. Action: Seal end of tubes

Maintenance undertaken

- 1) Summer 2017 – damaged plank on top of multiplay unit floor replaced.
- 2) Autumn 2017 – new swinging net for the multiplay unit (Approx. £1800 including installation)
- 3) Spring 2018 – damaged plank on aerial swing platform replaced twice.
- 4) Mole problem monitored and contractor available to remove further infestations.
- 5) Spring 2018 – decommission/removal of dog waste bin near aerial swing as not needed and potential health risk when not regularly emptied.

Future plans

- Play bark to be delivered before summer holidays keep surface to safe levels (approx. £600)
- Replace baby swing seat (approx. £150)
- HS2 grants now available. Consider application for outdoor fitness equipment.

Signed
Chair:

5. Report on Road Safety

CLlr Powell reported the following:

HGVs.

The incidence of large HGVs entering and passing through the village appears to have been significantly less than in previous years thanks, largely, to the new signs erected in 2016. Nevertheless, residents are requested to report HGVs, especially articulated vehicles, coming into the village. A note of the name of company, registration number, time and direction, will help the Parish Council continue its close monitoring of unnecessary 'intruders'. The planning application for Gateway South has raised fears of an increase in traffic of all kinds. Many villagers have objected to the plans on the grounds that proposed measures to curb work traffic during and after construction are inadequate.

Road repairs.

The Parish Council is grateful to members of the public who identify locations where the highways are in need of repair. It is useful to have photographic evidence when explaining where repairs are needed. During the year some pot holes and road edges have been repaired but after the big freeze of the winter, more road damage is now visible and regular reports from the Parish Council to the County Highways department will continue to be made.

Speeding.

There are now eight people in the village trained as Community Speed Watchers. The team has carried out six sessions since this time last year and more are planned for the Summer. In January 2018 two members attended a special meeting in Warwick intended to ensure consistency of operations across the county. This was followed by a visit from the County Speed Watch Coordinator. He visited the sites used - in Lower End, Spring Hill and Stoneleigh Road - and promised financial support for the purchase of new light-weight Hi-Viz jackets and the cost of annual industrial calibration of the speed-gun.

Road markings and signs.

A year ago, the Parish Council requested the re-painting of white lines in the village. These have virtually disappeared in almost all areas. It is felt that visible central lines will curb traffic speeds and increase safety, particularly in the heart of the village. So far, there has been no action on this by the Highways department. On the other hand, junction warning signs on the A445, identifying Pit Hill and Spring Hill as important entries to the village, were erected last summer.

Parking.

Villagers are reminded that rule 242 of the Highway Code states: "You must not leave your vehicle or trailer in a dangerous position or where it causes any unnecessary obstruction of the road." Also, it may not be widely known that you should not park within 10 meters of a road junction. A number of cases have been reported recently to councillors where cars have been parked in a way that obstructs the highway or exits from driveways. Advice from the local police is as follows: "Should you witness an obstruction, please call Warwickshire Police on 101 at the time the obstruction takes place. Please provide the call handler with as much information as possible i.e. make/model/colour, registration, location."

6. Report by the Village Hall Committee

CLlr Lucas reported the following:

Finances

Our finances are in a healthy state – total receipts for 2017: £16,285.22, total expenditure: £11,671.38 and we have a balance of £14,023.95

We are grateful to our regular users for their support; and party and wedding bookings are still proving popular.

Activities

We've had quite a busy year, and events put on this year include:

- Picnic on the playing field in September (about 90 People attended)
- Halloween party (50 children attended)
- Quiz night

The film nights are continuing to be well supported (an average attendance of 30 to 35) and will restart in October.

In the coming year, among other events, we are hoping to repeat the September picnic day.

Refurbishments and improvements

Signed
Chair:

We had a successful bid for funds from the Warwick Rural East Forum earlier this year to enable us to fit two French doors (in place of two of the windows) to lead onto the veranda. This work should commence in June/July.

The new sound system has now been installed in the hall and is being used for film nights and other events.

7. Annual Accounts of Bubbenhall Parish Council for the year ended March 2018.

The clerk / RFO reported the following:

The Financial report as at 31st March 2018, circulated to councillors before the meeting, shows total receipts: £26,915 (precept of £13,330 and Grants and other income of £ 13,585) and total expenditure: £21,024. A balance of £21,749 is carried forward to 2018/19.

8. County Council Report

Cllr W Redford (WCC) reported the following:

Tom Mannion, Highways, has now retired. His replacement is David Elliston. The outstanding work, e.g. white lines, should be dealt with very soon.

It has been noted that the "fix my street" has not been operating to a satisfactory standard. It has been run by a private company. WCC are now looking for a new method that will work. In the mean-time "fix my street" should not be used. The address for reporting Highway issues is now

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/reporhighwayproblem>

Cllr Lucas to circulate the website

Rural East Community Fund will have an extra £1,000 per member increasing the available amount to £6000. The fund is open for bids. There will be one grant available per year.

WCC is now responsible for public health. There is currently a Mental Health campaign that needs promoting.

Pleased to see the "Blue" signs are working; however, it should be noted that they are not compulsory

9. District Councillors Report

Cllr T Wright (WDC) reported the following:

Warwick District Council (WDC) are seeking to improve the community and will be linking with Rugby Borough Council (RBC) to address various issues with a possibility of prosecutions.

The current Council offices at Riverside House are too large for the Council, and in need of costly refurbishment. Covent Garden car park has 'concrete cancer' and is becoming progressively unfit for use with two floors already closed. The sale and redevelopment of Riverside House will avoid the costs of refurbishment, will allow the council to invest the proceeds in new smaller more efficient Council offices. A new car park will replace the existing failing structure and will serve the town for the next 50+ years.

A member of the public queried the issues with car parking while this work is going on. Cllr Wright (WDC) explained that WDC are looking at this problem and are trying to resolve it along with other areas that must also be considered.

Signed
Chair: