

Lighthorne Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Village Hall on Tuesday, 12th March 2019 at 8pm

Present: Cllr. A. Archer (Chairman),
Cllr. H. Archer,
Cllr. M. Langhorn,
Cllr. A. Smith,
Cllr. L. Steele,
District Cllr. C. Mills
County Cllr. C. Williams
8 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

No apologies.

3. To take any questions from the floor

A resident was concerned about the road closures that was scheduled to take place from the 15th April 2019 and lasting for up to 6 months. The work relates to gas mains been fitted through to village, causing traffic problems whilst the work is being carried out.

Cllr. A. Smith highlighted that the road closure will also affect local businesses, resulting in reduced sales and earnings. As a result of the reduced earnings, Cllr. A. Smith felt that the Gas company may need to compensate the companies affected.

The request was made from Cllr. A. Smith to Cllr. Williams regarding getting help for those companies who will be affected by the road works and road closures.

A member of the public asked if the gas mains could be re-routed, therefore resulting in less disruption to the community? Cllr. Williams replied that he had recently received information that led him to believe, that the proposed route for the gas main work was rejected, resulting in a new plan to be submitted and a delay in the road works taking place.

Due to the conflicting information, it was agreed that Cllr Williams would report back to Cllr. A. Smith by the following day (13th March 2019), on whether the work would start on the 14th April 2019.

4. Declarations of interest

There was no declaration of interest given by the Councillors.

5. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting

It was felt that the minutes were a true representation of the meeting held on the 12th February 2019. However, it was felt that an additional line should be added to note 3, in connection to the costs and funding of speed cameras.

Cllr. Smith wanted it to be noted that the developer was unwilling to fund the 30mph extension while the cost estimates by WCC are so opaque.

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Smith proposed for the minutes be approved with the allowance of additional above information to be inserted. This was, seconded by Cllr. Archer and carried unanimously. The Chairman signed and dated the minutes.

6. To consider the following planning applications

- (i) 18/03307/REM (amendment) – land west of B4100
No comment
- (ii) 19/00390/TRRE – Bishop’s Farm
No comment
- (iii) 19/00351/TREE – Smithy Cottage, The Green
No comment
- (iv) 19/00282/TREE – Land alongside Bishop’s Hill and Mountford Rise
No comment

7. County Council Matters

To receive report

County Cllr. Williams read out his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. He went on to say that if there are any pot holes within the area, to report back to him for the road surfaces to be repaired.

Grants

In response to the previous meeting, the County do award grants, with the decisions made in May each year and not paid out until the October period.

Additional Gritting

Associated costs would be in the region of £100 per day each time.

Comments were made that the additional costs would not necessarily resolve the problems experienced when using the side roads.

Traffic Calming & Road Markings

Cllr. Williams advised that it is unlikely for funding to be available for moving the 30 mph road speed areas and for changing the road markings.

Funding of Speeding Cameras

Cllr. Williams also advised that it is unlikely for funding to be available towards the cost of Speed Cameras.

Gateway Signs

Cllr. Williams did say that funding would be available for Gateway Signs and felt that this was a better approach to resolving the speeding problems within the areas.

The other above alternative solutions normally require supporting evidence before funding is made available for speed cameras and traffic calming to be implemented. Unfortunately, these changes are due to accidents occurring, leading to the changes.

Cllr. Williams to talk to Mr. Gary Palmer, in connection with Gateway Centres being implemented within the Lighthorne Parish area. More information required for the next meeting.

8.34pm Cllr. Williams left the meeting.

8. District Council Matters

(i) To receive report

News Release, included:

- Cabinet approves the making of Wellesbourne Airfield Compulsory purchase order.
- Stratford link – update
- Easter Holiday Fun!
- Residents warned of Council Tax Scams
- Elections 2019 – Thursday 2nd May 2019.

Please see attached copies of reports for further details.

- (ii) Planning enforcement investigation update – Home Farm (17/00558/CRIT)

The decision was made for Cllr. L. Steele the CPRE for advice.

- (iii) Broadband

Cllr L Steele confirmed that there was 'super fast' broadband as far as Bishops Hill(up to the Oberry Fields developments) and that the fibre optic supply to the individual houses was made via overhead cabling.It would appear that no provision for fibre optic and broadband(with Openfeach)had been made by the developer . It was suggested that residents should contact Openreach direct and request installation of the relevant cables

- (iv) Mountford Rise; smaller refuse lorry

It was noted that small refuse lorries are used in other areas of the Parish and therefore could not see any problems with a smaller refuse lorry being used in Mountford Rise

9. Parish Maintenance

- (i) Sports Pavilion/Sports Ground; update

It was agreed for Cllr. A. Archer to ask Mr. D. Lloyd to see if he could fill in the holes.

- (ii) Green / Fencing and Tree

It was agreed within the meeting that the best way forward, would be to erect an open fence, in order to mark the boundary.

Cllr Steele to write and explain the ownership of the land.

10. Contracts and Finance

- (i) Bank balance

The treasurer account bank balance was reported as £5,617.24 with the business bank account at £11,093.11.

(ii) Café lease; update

It was announced that the Lease between the Parish and Ben Thornton had now been signed and sent back to the solicitors although as yet we have not had this confirmed by our solicitor who is investigating the situation.

(iii) Income - £520.00 (rent).

(iv) Village Hall grant update

The Chair of the Village Hall Committee was present and reported on the modifications to the Village Hall. The amount requested from the Parish Council in support of the work was £4,000.

Clerk and Council members to review the Parish Council finances, in order to establish the amount of funding that they can contribute to the Village Hall modifications.

(v) To consider the risk assessment

The Health and Safety Policy was circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting.

Within the meeting, it was approved by Cllr. A. Archer and seconded by Cllr. L. Steele.

(vi) The Policy relating to Equality and Diversity

The policy was circulated prior to the meeting.

Within the meeting, it was approved by Cllr. A. Archer and seconded by Cllr. L. Steele.

(vii) Contract of Employment

The contract of employment was circulated prior to the meeting.

Within the meeting, it was approved by Cllr. A. Archer and seconded by Cllr. L. Steele.

(viii) Payee

The Clerk did not bring to the meeting the cheque book, allowing the cheque payments to be made within the meeting. It was agreed that in absence of the cheque book, the amounts and payees would be approved for payment and cheques sent out to the payee's outside of the meeting.

- Mrs. C. Hill - salary (February) £189.85
- Warwickshire County Council - lighting maintenance £180.66
- Farm Services Ltd. - sports ground work £150.00
- E.on - street lighting £109.98
- CPRE - annual subscription £36.00
- Water Plus - sports ground £92.42

10. Correspondence

- (i) Village Hall building works

Positive comments were made about how tidy the builders were in carrying out their work.

- (ii) Allotments

It was reported that the work had been carried out and settled.

- (iii) WALC newsletter (March)

- (iv) Mowing contract

For the coming year the contract will be the same as last year.

12. Date of next meeting

9th April 2019

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45pm.