

BUBBENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Bubbenhall Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday 17th June 2014 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Joanne Shattock (Chair) Cllr Hammon
Cllr Mark Symes Cllr Pratt
Cllr Sam Baker
Rose Woodforth (Clerk)
Members of Public: 2

1. **Apologies** were received from Cllrs Harrison, Haynes, Nwachukwu, Powell and Redford.
2. **Declarations of interest** None
3. **Minutes of previous meeting on 13th May 2014** were agreed and signed by the Chair.
4. **Election of Vice Chairman**
Cllr Mark Symes was elected Vice Chairman of Bubbenhall Parish Council.
5. **Matters arising**
There were no matters arising.
6. **Highways**
 - 6.1 Many residents have commented on the new, very bright 'white' street lamps installed by WDC recently. WDC have stated that the new bulbs are in fact the same wattage as the old 'orange' sodium lights except that the light output is approximately 5% lower! WDC cannot reduce the bulb wattage in the current system. The Parish Council noted they were grateful for the replacement columns and luminaires however in future when new bulbs are required suggested lower wattage bulbs be purchased instead!
 - 6.2 The Council noted that the field which has previously caused drainage problems on Stoneleigh Road is now owned by a village resident.
7. **Local Plan**

The deadline for representations on the draft Local Plan is 27th June. The Council questioned whether WDC had made it deliberately difficult to make representations via the online form. The Parish Council will be making representations on DS16 (employment) and DS19 (green belt). The Chair and Clerk to submit. The Community Group will be making a representation and submitting several hundred names collected from the 3 parishes objecting to the Plan.

It has been suggested to the Parish Council that the 3 parish councils (Bubbenhall, Baginton and Stoneleigh and Ashow) collaborate in a joint Neighbourhood Development Plan. The 3 communities would work together as they have done during the Campaign against the Gateway in producing a joint plan.

Cllr Baker queried how useful it would be and would WDC be able to ignore it? Cllr Symes suggested researching a recently adopted successful Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Pratt stated that Milverton and Blackdown already have a Neighbourhood Plan.
8. **Gateway Zone**

The Council has been notified that the Inspector will submit his report by 19th September and that the Secretary of State will make a decision on or before 5th December 2014.
9. **Clerk vacancy**

Jane Fleming has been appointed Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer to Bubbenhall Parish Council with effect from 1st July 2014.

10. Village Green

- 10.1 Cllr Shattock met with Miles Barker-Davies, and agreed the temporary fence on the Village Green is on Mr Pattinson's land. The Parish Council is in agreement for Mr Pattinson to make the fence permanent. The Council commented how difficult it was to identify land boundaries on old maps.
- 10.2 The Spout electric pump is not working. The Parish Council agreed to the £195 plus VAT charge for identifying the problem. The Council queried whether the pump was still under warranty and also whether a maintenance plan could be purchased. Clerk to contact Tony Sproul.

11. Business from members of the public

- 11.1 A new resident has complained about Paget's Lane and the imminent likelihood of a serious accident happening. The hedges have become very overgrown on the left hand side and this coupled with the blind corners has already caused several accidents and near misses for pedestrians.

The Parish Council commented that it had previously endeavoured to get traffic calming measures in place on the Lane, however WCC does not permit the use of mirrors and traffic calming measures can only be installed on roads with a speed limit of under 30mph. Cllr Redford has previously said he would look into the possibility of changing the speed limit. Clerk to contact Cllr Redford. The Clerk will contact Highways to request the hedges are trimmed.

The resident also commented that walkers are using the lane to park their cars when going to Ryton Pools. At the last meeting Cllr Redford agreed to look into possible solutions including no parking signs. There are also several large pot holes on Paget's Lane. Clerk to report.

- 11.2 A resident has complained about the amount of litter dropped from lorries using the landfill/Smiths Concrete site on Weston Lane. The Parish Council will discuss this with both companies at the next Liaison Committee meeting on 1st July.
- 11.3 A resident has enquired about the possibility of erecting a marquee on the recreation ground. The current procedure is that the Parish Council receives a £100 donation for the use of the field, made through the Village Hall booking. Councillors discussed that they would be in favour of the Village Hall Committee marketing the Village Hall as having the facility for a marquee. Cllr Symes suggested organising the grass to be cut beforehand and also an increased deposit in case any damage is caused to the field.

12. Finance

- 12.1 The Clerk presented the financial report (payments and summary schedule attached) and also the quarterly finance update. Cllrs Baker and Shattock signed cheques.
- 12.2 The Council unanimously agreed its share of the costs for the administrator for the Community Group at the recent Public Inquiry.

13. Planning

- 13.1 W/14/0273 LB: Abbey House, Lower End; Extensions to kitchen and WC plus internal and external alterations. Permission granted.

14. Youth Space & Recreation Ground

Cllr Baker reported that Wicksteed has completed the refurbishment of the multipurpose play unit. The Council remarked on the improvement and Cllr Baker suggested an ongoing refurbishment plan for the rest of the equipment. Cllr Baker also expressed concern that more play bark may need to be purchased this year. The Council asked if Cllr Baker could look into cheaper alternatives to play bark.

15. Reports from meetings attended

No meetings have been attended however the next Liaison Committee is on 1st July and the next Rural East Community Forum to be held at Bubbenhall Village Hall is on 10th July.

16. Parish Matters (AOB) None

17. Correspondence not dealt with in other items

- (i) Stoneleigh Action Group: HS2 info
- (ii) WDC: Invitation to Chairman's Civic Service 22.6.14
- (iii) WALC: Issues with regard to the National Policy Planning Framework
- (iv) WALC: Newsletter
- (v) WCC: Open Dialogue event 14.7.14, Underground Drilling Access Consultation, Pensions for council employees
- (vi) WCC: Public Scrutiny Meeting 25.6.14

Date of next meeting 15th July 2014