BUBBENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Bubbenhall Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 09 March 2021 via Zoom

Present: Cllr Jan Lucas Chair of the Parish Council

Cllr Sam Baker Vice Chair of the Parish Council

Cllr Bob Powell Cllr Joanne Shattock Cllr Jim Roberts Cllr Win Nwachukwu

Cllr Stephen Cooper

In attendance: Cllr Pam Redford Warwick District Council

Cllr Trevor Wright Warwick District Council
Cllr Wallace Redford Warwickshire County Council

Mr Doug Evans Parish Clerk

Four members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PCSO Sharron Underwood and PCSO Ed King.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None received.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 19 JANUARY 2021

These were confirmed, subject to the following amendment, and would be signed when social distancing permitted:

Minute 5, Matters Arising and Updates

vii. Community fibre partnerships

DCMS was a Government department and not a company.

4. MATTERS ARISING AND UPDATES

i. Spout/trough update

It was hoped that the new trough would be installed when the weather had improved.

The Chair report that the ornamental pump on the village green had been stolen. The Clerk had confirmed that this was covered on the Parish Council's insurance and Tony Sproul had located a company in Spain who could provide a replacement. The bolts on the replacement would be welded to deter thieves, as would those on the VE Day bench. Other security measures would be discussed with the Police and insurance company

It was agreed unanimously to proceed with organising a replacement pump and to submit an insurance claim with the £125 excess.

ii. Ryton Pools and village parking issues

Cllr Powell reported that 10 'soft verge' signs had been installed on the A445, but with only 1 within the village boundary. It was felt that this could be counter-productive with inconsiderate parkers moving towards the village, or parking on Paget's Lane, once the Police cones were removed from by the entrance to Ryton Pools. Cllr Powell added that there was little value in having the signs to the east of the park entrance. Cllr Wallace Redford confirmed the fact that he had asked for collapsible bollards to be installed to replace the Police cones and he would be taking up the apparent error with the relevant department at the County Council.

iii. Dog fouling pavement stencils

The Clerk reported that he had registered the Council's interest in relation to having the stencils. Further updates would be given in due course when information was available from the Dog Warden.

iv. Gateway South update

There was nothing to report on this item.

The Clerk had requested an update from Buckinghams and the Chair had asked for the temporary signs around the village to be secured as they kept falling over.

v. Trees at top of Orchard Way

Work on the trees would be taking place on 10 March.

vi. Three Horseshoes update

The Clerk reported that he had spoken with Star Pubs and they had confirmed that the pub would be undergoing a full refurbishment once new licensees had been recruited. Information on the refurbishment was available on the Star Pubs website.

vii. Community fibre partnerships

Cllr Roberts reported that he had received an email from DCMS but there was still much uncertainty about how the whole project would progress. The Clerk gave an update on his communication with Openreach and felt that an estimate of costs for each villager who had submitted a pledge would be produced. Other thoughts were that costs for residents might only relate to those involved in routing the cable from the property boundary to the house and that Openreach fully funded the rest of the infrastructure. Cllr Baker agreed to contact a relative who had been involved in a similar project where they lived.

viii. WCC Green Shoots Fund

The Chair reported that he had asked Councillors to look into available grants and Cllr Roberts had volunteered to undertake this work.

With regards to the Green Shoots initiative, Cllr Powell gave a brief overview of the paper he had circulated previously. The planned area for planting behind the tennis court would need some work to reduce the undulations, although it would not need to be totally level. Quotations would be needed for this work and it would need to be scheduled ready for the delivery of trees from the Woodland Trust. The initiative should encompass as many people as possible from the village and could include such things as educational and environmental information boards.

It was agreed that the Chair and Cllrs Roberts and Powell would meet to discuss progressing the project.

5. POLICE REPORT

Although PCSO Underwood had given her apologies for the meeting, she had circulated her crime report via email.

Cllr Baker reported on a theft from a vehicle in a secluded layby area on the A445. Although there were houses in the area, it was very poorly illuminated and Cllr Pam Redford had been asked to look into the possibility of having additional streetlamps in the area concerned. This sort of work was very expensive and Cllr Redford that it was unlikely to proceed unless, sadly, there were many more incidents. It was agreed to keep this item on future agendas.

Some other suggestions included installing a solar powered sensor operated light on one of the properties in the area and a Parish Council contribution to any planned work.

Cllr Roberts commented that it would be good to receive feedback from the Police on the cases listed in the crime report.

6. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Pam Redford reported the following items in relation to WDC:

- All relevant information continued to be circulated via email.
- There would be a meeting with SEGRO at 4.00pm on 17 March

Cllr Redford was thanked for her report.

Cllr Trevor Wright reported the following additional items in relation to WDC:

- The last date for applications in relation to the Small Business grants was 12 March.
- Other types of grants were being considered.
- SEGRO had requested applications for community-based grants.

Cllr Wright was thanked for his update.

Cllr Wallace Redford reported the following items in relation to WCC:

- There had been no further deaths in Warwickshire as a result of Covid.
- Although the infection rate in the County was continuing to drop, 5 local wards were in the top 10 of number of infections, with 1 in the top 5.
- Infections amongst the over 60s in the Country were dropping but there had been a very small increase in Warwickshire.
- In Warwickshire, 41% of the adult population had been vaccinated.
- The Lillington LFT Centre was the most used in the County.
- Over 3000 laptops had been recycled and distributed to children and schools.
- David Elliston had now left his post and had been replaced by Ryan Machin.
- WCC was in the process of purchasing 3 new drain jetting machines.
- The newspaper article about the ceasing of the A46 link road programme was not strictly true. An application had been submitted for a new roundabout at the junction of the haul road with Stoneleigh Road which would also enable future access to the relocated farmers' market. The B4113 Stoneleigh Road would also remain one-way.
- HS2 would be building a new bridge within Stoneleigh Park.

Cllr Redford was thanked for his update.

In response to a question about HS2 grants, Cllr Redford suggested submitting an application, despite previous suggestions that the village was too far away from any work to qualify.

7. FINANCE

Councillors received and noted the previously circulated list of payments made by the Clerk under the delegated powers detailed at the meeting on 24 March 2020.

8. HIGHWAYS UPDATE

i. Dropped kerb issue at Spout

Cllr Powell reported that the repairs had been carried out to a high standard.

ii. Bollard installation on A445

This item had been covered earlier in the meeting.

Cllr Powell reported that Paget's Lane had been resurfaced and white lining in the village had been carried out. With regards to the Warwickshire Local Transport Plan Consultation. Cllr Powell gave a brief overview of the response he had written. It was agreed that the response was excellent and Cllr Powell was thanked for his work on the document. It was agreed unanimously that the Clerk would submit the response to the consultation, along with the results from the recent public transport survey carried out in the village.

Cllr Roberts reported that the litter on the A45 junction with the A423 had been cleared and the Chair confirmed that all missing and damaged road signs in the village had been reported.

9. BUSINESS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There was nothing to report on this item.

10. PLANNING

Councillors noted the outcomes on the planning applications detailed on the agenda. The Chair added that no application had yet been submitted for the proposed Gigabit Factory on the airport site. This would be closely monitored.

An application received that day would be considered at the next meeting in April and the Clerk agreed to obtain an extension to the submission date for comments.

11. YOUTH SPACE AND RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Baker reported that Chris Goddard had carried out the fencing retentioning and other minor repairs. All that remained for the time being was the tyre under the see-saw as a smaller tyre than the one previously sourced was required.

Options and ideas for a playground refurbishment were starting to be considered, along with potential sources of funding. Cllr Wright agreed to pass contact details to Cllr Baker of a local parish where such a refurbishment had been recently completed.

12. REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED

The Chair reported that he had attended a SWLEP Stakeholder meeting but there was little information to share. Cllr Pam Redford explained that there could be a need to upgrade the Neighbourhood Plan when the Local Plan was finalised.

13. PARISH MATTERS AND ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF NEXT MEETING

Cllr Pam Redford explained that WDC was progressing on merging some services with SDC. It could be that both councils merged fully in the future and Cllr Redford would welcome the views of the Parish Council at an appropriate time. In response to a question, Cllr Cooper was informed that reports on all the merging options had been published.

14. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH IN OTHER ITEMS

There was nothing to report on this item.

Date of next meeting – 06 April 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom