



**Minutes of the Coughton Parish Council Meeting held in  
Coughton Primary School, Coughton on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2016  
commencing immediately after the Parish Assembly**

Present: Councillor John Gittins (in the Chair)  
Councillors Sophie Bayliss, Len Carter and Roy Piddington

Clerk: Karen Parnell

In attendance:

District Councillor Mike Gittus and County Councillor Clive Rickhards

Plus three members of the public

Apologies: Cllr Maureen McTavish

**Public participation (10 minutes)**

Repairs are needed to the pavement by the main road and this was reported to WCC. A cycle track in the area was requested and WCC will be asked if this is feasible. Reducing the speed limit is a consideration when school car park plans are in place. A bus shelter was requested but this would cost around £ 7000 which is unavailable, either within the Parish Council, or as possible grant funding.

**1) Apologies for acceptance**

Cllr Maureen McTavish

**2) Disclosure of Interests** Councillors are asked to declare personal interests in any items on the agenda. Councillors are reminded that the code of conduct that took effect from September 2012 provides that should they have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion, they should withdraw from the room and not seek to influence a decision about the matter.

None

**3) Minutes** of the Council Meeting held in January 2016

The minutes of the January meeting were agreed to be a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman as such.

**4) Matters arising** from those minutes:

Flooding

Report by Aaron McCusker - Senior Network Technician - South Warwickshire Wholesale Operations - East

I am arranging a site visit to the sewerage pumping station to check whether any refurb works have been carried out in recent years that could have a flood risk benefit for Coughton. Our records show there has been no sustained high levels at the station recently, I will let you know the outcome of the visit.

I will have flooding questionnaires sent out to the local area for residents to complete if they are aware or have noted previous sewer floodings that were not reported to STW so we can investigate further. On our system we are not

showing any sewer flooding that was found to be capacity related but due to blockages on the sewer due to defects on the sewer which were rectified or due to third party misuse.

One of our Technicians has been out to see customers at 25 & 26 Birmingham Road to investigate flood risk reported by yourself to me. Both properties have their own single serving foul sewers which we surveyed and found to be good working order. Customer at 25 showed the Technician photos of flooding in the road which was not foul sewer related but Highways responsibility.

Village maintenance  
All matters are being progressed.

#### 5) **County Councillor's report**

Cllr Rickhards:

The Council met on February 23 to allocate an additional one off £3 million transitional to help cushion the additional £10 million per year savings required by the autumn settlement. A further £10 per year savings will be required in 2017/18 financial year. £540,000 was put into short term reserves; £500,000 went to adult social care, £300,000 for mental health issues of children and young people, £100,000 for road safety education, £108,000 to support libraries, £42,000 for arson reduction patrols and £300,000 for family support. At the same meeting the Council considered an invitation from West Midlands Combined Authority to join as a Constituent member. This would give Warwickshire the same rights and responsibilities as the other founding metropolitan boroughs, such as Solihull and Coventry. The Council decided to commission a business case from officers for joining, or not, within six months at which point it would come back to Council.

#### **District Councillor's report**

Cllr Gittus: The old school in Alcester is likely to be developed into extra care housing.

An Arden Forest open day took place. The area will be planted as forest then left. A reception will be built and could be used for education in forestry as well as arranging burials.

A 'Young Will' statue has been unveiled in Stratford. This is part of the elaborate celebrations as it is 400 years since Shakespeare died.

Venture House in Stratford has been set up to work with small businesses: Rooms can be rented, as can services and offices. Entrepreneurs are available to give advice.

The Aston Martin Lagonda plant will now be located in Wales not Warwickshire. SDC is making Paul Lankester, its Chief Executive, redundant to be replaced by two Heads of Service. Savings will not be seen until 2020.

#### 6) **School Report**

Adam Walsh reported: A School Governor is a staff member at Coughton Court. The forest area will be extended. Pupil numbers are 142.

School car park funds for the planning stage of the project have been released. Officers have advised the school that the planning stages may not be complete for about another six months.

#### 7) **Planning**

**Application(s) reference: 16/00241/FUL**

Proposed: Replacement garage

At:April Cottage, Coughton Lane, Coughton, Alcester B49 5HN  
For:Mr Robin Barnes Support

***Application(s) reference: 16/00707/COUQ***

Proposed:Prior approval notification of change of use (Class Q(a)) of agricultural building to residential use (two dwelling totalling 236 sq.m)

At:Windmill Barn, Coughton,  
For:Mr S Lake

**8) Action Plan Updates**

Review of action plan/review update

Friends of the ford

Cllr Carter has attended a meeting. Cutting grass and nettles down in the area has been enabled. Edges of the pathway have been trimmed and litter has been collected. An untidy and unsafe rubble covered E road will be reported to WCC.

Flood group

A culvert has been cleared twice and the Environment Agency have been asked if it can be removed. Drains have been cleared of mud. A silted ditch will be cleared. Drain covers on the A435 have been attended to.

Community group

.A Sambourne v Coughton skittles match has taken place at the Swan in Studley. Cemetery meeting has taken place and a volunteer weekend will be on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> April. Top soil was requested. A resident has offered to buy bulbs for the area.

Transport and traffic group

Covered earlier within this agenda

**9) Finance**

**Accounts for payment**

Cheque No 303 Clerks Salary/Expenses £ 285.00

Cheque No 304 John Gittins (Website) £ 47.95

Signed: Cllr Gittins – Cllr Carter

**10) Correspondence**

None

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35 pm

.....Chairman - 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016