



## Coughton Parish Council

### **Minutes of the Coughton Parish Council Meeting held in Coughton Primary School, Coughton on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2016 commencing at 7.00 p.m**

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

WCC Cllr Clive Rickhards

Karen Parnell - Clerk

Two members of the public were present

Apologies: Cllr Roy Piddington

#### **Public participation (10 minutes)**

None

#### **1 Apologies for acceptance**

Cllr Roy Piddington

- 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.

There were no disclosures of interests.

- 3 Minutes** of the Council Meeting held in September 2016.

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

- 4 Matters arising** from those minutes:

Flooding:

Karen Gazey will be meeting with Jeff Morris WCC on 10<sup>th</sup> November regarding any changes that can be made to existing drains to improve the water runoff from Sambourne Lane onto A435 and the immediate area near the crossing where the curb drainage is totally ineffective and the damage to buildings is very evident. Ditching works are being carried out in Kings Coughton.

- 5 District and County Councillor's reports**

Cllr Gittus SDC: No report

Cllr Rickhards WCC: Will investigate what progress can be made regarding the car park: A meeting possibly involving the PC and WCC is a consideration. Budgets are being looked into at WCC and the autumn statement is expected from the Government shortly. Budgets will be determined in February. Changes are possible within the Fire Service which would make savings likely: This could involve merging or collaboration between "Blue light" service

providers, Control service revision or reducing crew and engines.  
Works on the A46 were discussed as was an Air Quality Group on WCC (This would monitor pollution from HGVs).

6 **School Report**

Adam Walsh reported: Sarah Mills – Service Manager (Access and Organisation) at WCC has identified that ownership of land is an issue regarding progression with the car park and the leasing of the land would appear not to be an option. It was suggested the PC and residents of Coughton put pressure on Thomas White Charity as WCC have done all they can.

The monies for this project have only been allocated for the current financial year. Cllr Gittins will liaise with Adam, WCC and Mathew White who is the agent for Thomas White Charity.

The school is doing well with good results achieved. The forest school is going well. Food for life project is being promoted. There are many outstanding elements to Coughton School not least with regard to staffing and leadership. The long term future of the school was discussed.

7 **Planning**

**Notification reference: 16/02933/TEL56**

Proposal: Installation of 10m high phase 5 SW tower and AC cobra cabinet on new root foundation with associated works

Location: T Mobile 63159 Streetworks At, Coughton Lay-by, Birmingham Road, Coughton

**Application(s) reference: 16/03048/FUL**

Proposed: Extension and conversion of redundant building to form independent dwelling

At: Coughton Lodge, Birmingham Road, Coughton, Alcester B49 5HU

For: Mr G Cooke Support

8 **Action Plan Updates**

Review of action plan/review update

Another village questionnaire is needed before any further action. This will be a PC project for 2017 and the National Trust will be invited to be involved.

Village Group reports:

Friends of the ford

A number of e mails to WCC remain unanswered. A grant has been applied for regarding works to the ford. A decision will be reached in December.

Rubbish thrown into the river has been removed by persons unknown.

Community group

Cemetery clean-up has taken place 15/16<sup>th</sup> October: Area sown with grass seed, hedges cut, brambles removed and gutters have been cleared.

Snowdrops and bluebells have been planted with 22 volunteers involved.

A Christmas walk will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> December.

A skittles event will take place in the New Year.

Transport and traffic group

5 car parking signs have been produced and are now in place. They appear to be working effectively.

9 **Finance**

To set the precept for 2017/18

The proposed budget was issued to councillors in advance of this meeting. Taking into account reduced budgets for SDC and WCC and the need to maintain reserves the precept was agreed unanimously at £ 4500.00 (i.e. no increase)

Proposed: Cllr Gittins Seconded: Cllr McTavish

10 **Accounts for payment**

Cheque 314 Clerks Salary/Expenses £ 300.00

Cheque 315 Ink for Clerk £ 58.90

Signed: Cllr Gittins and Cllr McTavish

Receipt: SDC 50% Precept £ 2250.00

11 **Correspondence**

The electoral roll for Coughton appears illogically set out, making it difficult for anyone to identify addresses and location of properties. Cllr Carter will see what changes are needed and these will be discussed with Parish Councillors before advising SDC on suitable correction before May 2017.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Date of next meeting: 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017

.....Chairman

16<sup>th</sup> January 2017