



**Minutes of the Coughton Parish Council Meeting held in
Coughton Primary School, Coughton on Monday the 7th of September 2015
commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

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

District Councillor Mike Gittus

Clerk: Karen Parnell

Plus two members of the public

Apologies: County Councillor Clive Rickhards and Adam Walsh

Public participation (10 minutes)

To receive any questions or representations from members of the public:

A) Relating to items on this agenda. B) Other questions.

Concern was raised about the footway alongside the A435 being too narrow and also being overgrown. Cllr Gittus will ask Highways to rectify this.

1) Apologies for acceptance

County Councillor Clive Rickhards and Adam Walsh

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 10th September 2012 provides that should they have a pecuniary 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 July 2015.

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

4) Matters arising from those minutes:

Flooding

Amey have been out to complete both CCTV and cleansing works on Coughton Lane and Birmingham Road. They found some of the covers in the carriageway were seized within their frames so were unable to access the sewers. Works have been raised to replace these. Amey were back on site 06/09/15 at night when the traffic was at its lowest.

The issue may lie with the siltation of the sewer on Birmingham Road, if this is found to be the case WCC will ensure to have this area added to their Planned Cleansing programme to go ahead every six months.

Bridge removal

Works have been completed but for a gate post which needs replacing. Hedging will be incorporated during spring.

Two brick benches have been facilitated. A plaque and/or photoshoot with them is a consideration.

Village Maintenance

A dangerous stile across a footpath will be the subject of a site visit by Richard Barnard of WCC to discuss options including possible removal.

A further footpath in Coughton needs to be maintained by the landowner.

Dog Fouling

This continues to be a problem. Additional signage will be looked into and a dog foul bin is a consideration. The Chairman is to liaise with the nursery.

Rickyard Site Development

No further information is available. The Chairman is to liaise with the National Trust.

5) **District and County Councillor's reports**

Mike Gittus SDC: SDC Core Strategy is being progressed and is likely to incorporate 14,480 homes.

Combined Authorities were discussed at length but the involvement of SDC and WCC is uncertain as yet.

SDC is looking into what help it can give with regard to the Syrian crisis:

The council will act as a collection agency, will provide information sheets, source accommodation and offer financial support. Holiday let accommodation could also be used. WCC are also looking into initiatives to help. It was questioned how the parish councils could also help.

Information on Alcester Hub was distributed: This now incorporates the town council and a museum.

Cllr Rickhards WCC: Not present

6) **School Report**

Adam Walsh was not present.

7) **Planning**

To: Coughton PARISH COUNCIL

Application(s) reference: 15/02448/TREE

Proposed:- T1: Oak: reduce by 6m (approximately one-third) and rebalance.

At: St Peters Church, Sambourne Lane, Coughton,

For: Mr John McTavish

38 Coughton Lane: Works insisted upon by the enforcement notice must be completed by 20th October 2015.

Action plan updates

Village Group reports:

Friends of the ford

A meeting took place this morning. Advice is needed on spraying weed killer.

Works to the E Road will be completed this month. A pathway is still in need of repair.

NFU volunteers will help once a year. Planting in the area is a consideration.

WCC will not permit additional signage in the area.

Flood group

Covered earlier within this agenda

Community group

A Summer Fete took place and raised £ 1,250. £ 400 was donated to both the school and the PCC. The remaining £ 450 is in the Community Account and ideas for small projects that could benefit from monies will be sought.

A cemetery meeting will take place on 21/09/15 and the volunteer weekend will include the 10th and 11th of October.

A Coughton quiz team is needed during November.

A harvest supper on the 2nd of October was promoted.

Transport and traffic group - Car Parking

A meeting took place in July with the Capital Access and Organisation Board.

The landowner needs to confirm his willingness to sell the land and costs need to be established. A report is expected by the end of September.

The potential increase of pupil numbers and lack of parking at the school is an issue.

8) **Finance**

External Audit: Unqualified result. Closure notice duly displayed.

9) **Accounts for payment**

Cheque No 298 Clerks Salary/Expenses £ 285.00

Signed: Cllr Gittins – Cllr McTavish

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm

.....Chairman
16th November 2015