

## **Minutes of the Meeting of Belbroughton Parish Council held in Fairfield School, Fairfield on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012**

**Present:** Cllrs K Green (Chair), J Bradley, I Dalziel, N Hartill, C Hine, A Hood, A Ince, T Jones, J Kitson, A Mabbett, S MacDonald, and C Scurrall

In attendance: Mrs C Limm, Clerk; District Cllrs Janice Boswell and Brian Lewis, and County Councillor Ed Moore. 7 residents also attended for the presentation and agenda item about Wildmoor Quarry.

### **193/12 Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Roberts and Shotton.

### **194/12 Declarations of interest**

Cllr Ince declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in item 197/12 since the proposals could affect the land rented by her husband.

Cllrs Ince and Hine declared an Other Disclosable interest in the discussion under item 199/12 relating to a grant application from Fairfield School PTA since they were both members of the school's governing body.

### **195/12 Minutes of the meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### **196/12 Reports**

#### ***Planning meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> June***

Cllr Ince reported briefly. Minutes had been circulated.

#### ***Finance meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> June***

Cllr Kitson reported on the Finance meeting. Minutes had been circulated.

#### ***Clerk's report***

A meeting had been held with David Thomas, Bromsgrove Assistant Conservation Officer, about the Belbroughton Conservation Area appraisal. There would be a 6 week consultation period running until 24 August. Several extensions to the conservation area were proposed. The appraisal would be on the Planning meeting agenda in August.

### **197/12 Development of Wildmoor Quarry**

*Cllr Ince left the meeting for this item.*

Prior to the start of the meeting the Council had received a presentation from Mr Smithyman on behalf of the owners of Wildmoor Quarry. The Council noted that the proposals outlined for the ultimate development of the quarry into a golf course were at an early stage. Mr Smithyman had indicated that the first step in about a month's time would be the submission of a scoping report to the County Council. Planning permission might be sought by about the end of the year. The Parish Council recognised the need to consider the planning application on its merits when this was submitted. However, it noted the importance of ensuring that watertight planning conditions, with an active enforcement regime, are considered as part of any new planning approval for the site.

### **198/12 New Code of Conduct**

The Council approved the adoption of the new Code of Conduct and agree consequential amendments to the Council's Standing Orders. Councillors were reminded of the timescale

for submitting a completed Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests form to the District Council.

### **199/12 Grants for 2012**

*Cllrs Hine and Ince left the meeting whilst the application from Fairfield School PTA was discussed.*

The Council considered the Finance Committee's recommendations for capital and maintenance grants to parish bodies for 2012. The Council endorsed the Committee's recommendations concerning capital grants. The Committee had not made a firm recommendation in relation to the application from Fairfield School PTA for outdoor storage equipment. The Committee had suggested that the Council should consider whether it was appropriate to offer a grant to the PTA. The Council decided that a grant of £423 should be offered.

The Committee's recommendations for maintenance grants were approved by the Council. The Council also agreed the Finance Committee's proposal that, if Belbroughton Recreation Centre retained the skate-park which was currently being trialled, the Council should offer a contribution this year towards the additional insurance costs for this facility. It should however be clear that this would not be a permanent commitment.

The Council agreed that the Finance Committee should undertake a review of the Council's grants policies before the start of the next financial year.

### **200/12 Footpath from Belbroughton Recreation Ground to the school**

The Clerk reported that following discussions with the County Council she had written formally to ask them to consider re-designating this path as a footway. This would mean that it would be made up and maintained as a tarmac path. There were various criteria that would have to be met, including the agreement of the landowner(s) to dedicate the path to the Highways authority and the ability to connect the path at each end to another proper pedestrian footway. If the re-designation was possible, consideration would have to be given to responsibility for the initial costs and ongoing maintenance – these costs would not necessarily be borne by the County Council.

### **201/12 Parish projects**

This item was deferred until the September Council meeting.

### **202/12 Ward boundary review**

Having proposed that the number of Bromsgrove District Councillors should be reduced by 8 to 31, the Boundary Commission was now looking at suitable ward boundaries to achieve single member wards with a similar number of electors. The Parish Council had no comments at this stage of the review.

### **203/12 Hospital services**

Cllr Mabbett suggested that the Council should consider commenting on the current proposals concerning hospital services in Redditch since these would affect parish residents. Cllr Mabbett was asked to provide further information about the proposals and their likely impact for consideration at the September Council meeting.

### **204/12 Complaints procedure**

The draft procedure circulated by the Clerk was approved with one minor amendment to make clear that a Councillor who is the subject of a complaint should not take part in the decision on that complaint.

**205/12 Councillors' Items**

***County and District Councillors***

Cllr Moore reported that he had made enquiries about the County's inspections of compliance with planning conditions at Chadwich Quarry. The last survey had been done in March and no problems had been found.

***Parish Councillors***

Cllr MacDonald asked if the Council could consider at its September meeting whether completed scarecrows for the Scarecrow Weekend could be stored in the parish room.

Cllr Dalziel said that the street name in the High Street outside the butcher's needed to be repaired. *Clerk to report.*

Cllr Mabbett reported a comment from a resident of Orchard Villas, Fairfield about the blind spot for residents when turning out into Brook Road. No follow up action.

Cllr Kitson said that the 'No road marking signs' in Holy Cross Lane, Belbroughton needed to be removed. *Clerk to report.*

**206/12 Meetings in August**

It was agreed that the Planning and Finance Committees would meet on 20<sup>th</sup> August. An additional Council meeting was arranged for Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July to discuss the draft consultation document on splitting the Council.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

Signed.....Chairman