

## **Knightwick and Doddenham Parish Council**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at 8pm on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2011 in the Village Hall, Knightwick.

### **Present;**

Mr S K Munday - Chairman

Mrs G Evans

Messrs; F Budden, B Munt, A Warburton (District Councillor), G M Brewin (Clerk).

**Apologies:** P Edwards, D Kirkbright, C Smith (County Councillor), D Hughes (District Councillor),

**Visitors:** Mr K Pugh, Wolverley Homes.

### **Questions from members of the public:**

Mr K Pugh of Wolverley Homes attended to tell the council of his plans for the development of the redundant St Mary's Church into a single private dwelling and the need to provide an alternative location for the bats currently roosting in the church roof. There was a wide-ranging discussion on Mr Pugh's plans and bat conservation relating to agenda item 6.

### **The formal meeting commenced at 8.15pm.**

#### **1. Members' apologies for absence and declarations of interest.**

The apologies from Cllrs P Edwards and D Kirkbright were accepted. The chairman Cllr S Munday declared a personal interest in agenda item 5(b)

#### **2. Confirm the minutes of the meeting on 23/5/2011 circulated in advance.**

These had been circulated in advance. They were agreed as true records and signed by the chairman.

#### **3. Reports; County Councillor, District Councillors, Parish Footpath's Warden.**

In sending his apology for absence Cllr C Smith drew the council's attention to the mobile speed-camera project initiated by Suckley Parish Council and expressed the hope that the council would join this initiative to which he would be allocating some of his WCC-allocated funds this year.

Cllr A Warburton (District Councillor) reviewed the work of the development plan by Malvern, Worcester and Wychaven District Councils to replace the now-defunct swjcs. A detailed consultation process with local councils would be inaugurated over the autumn period to enable the final plan to be in place when the current structure plan expires at the end of the year.

He outlined also the plans by MHDC to reduce their senior staff numbers now that substantial parts of the operation had been incorporated into joint activities with other district councils. An announcement would be made soon on this.

#### **4. Financial Matters;**

a) Approve payment – Village Halls Plus Group – Village Hall insurance £147.29. - Agreed

b) Approve payment - R Thomas; Lengthsman's Account £144 +vat - £172.80 - Agreed

c) Approve payment – Clerk's expenses Jan – June 2011 - £35.47 - Agreed

d) Approve payment - L Cotterill – Accounts audit £50 +vat - £60 - Agreed

#### **5. Planning Matters;**

a) Note the clerk's delegated response to Planning Application -

Roof Insulation at St Mary's Church, ref 11/00680/LBC

*'This council objects to this proposal which will change considerably the appearance of the internal roof structure of a listed building.'*

Noted

b) Consider a response to appln. 11/00785/FUL Garage at St Mary's Church.

After a discussion it was agreed that the council had no objection to the garage as such (but considered the cladding could be a more sympathetic finish) but the whole aspect of the change of use of the church would need to be considered in more detail when the documents became available.

#### **6. As Trustees of the Village Hall – consider the proposal from Wolverley Homes -circulated in advance.**

Following the discussion with Mr K Pugh of Wolverley Homes prior to the formal meeting it was agreed that the trustees had no objection in principle to improving roosting facilities in the roof space of the Village Hall but would need to see detailed proposals before a final agreement could be made.

#### **7. Work on the A44 Teme River Bridge. consider the proposal - circulated in advance.**

After a prolonged discussion the following proposal was agreed unanimously;

This council is extremely concerned that the project of renovation of the carriageway and installation of a 'vehicle restraint system' (VRS) on the A44 over the River Teme at Knightwick was poorly executed and has resulted in the overall safety of the junction between the A44 and B4197 being severely reduced. This council believes that it is imperative to give priority to every-day users of a dangerous junction over the small possibility of a serious incident resulting in a vehicle breaking through the bridge parapets. The VRS should be reconfigured to restore the real level of visibility that existed prior to its installation.

The clerk was asked to send the portfolio of detailed discussions between the council and the contractors to Cll C Smith – County Councillor and request that he take this matter to the appropriate county council members requesting a reconsideration of the current position as set out in the council's resolution above.

#### **8. Correspondence**

The clerk was asked to take up again the matter of effluent outflow at the rear of the Old Rectory Knightwick with the owners and MHDC Environmental Officers.

#### **9. Clerk's Report**

He would arrange with the Parish Paths Warden Mr B Lee to repair or remove the Notice Board at the A44 Bus Stop which had fallen down.

He would advise members when the 'Change of Use' planning applications for St Mary's Church became available and if necessary call a special meeting to discuss them.

#### **10. Items for the next meeting**

Status and condition of the Footbridge over the River Teme  
Updates on items 6,7,8 above.

#### **11. Confirm the date of the next meeting:**

12<sup>th</sup> September 2011 – agreed.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Chairman.....