

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Belbroughton Parish Council held in the Barton Room Fairfield Village Hall on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015.**

**Present:** Cllrs. J Boswell, J Bradley, A Hood, T Jones, A Mabbett, S MacDonald, S Nock, G Parsons, S Pawley, & D Roberts.

In attendance: J Farrell Clerk. County Cllr. S Blagg. 8 members of the public also attended.

**165/15** Cllr. Roberts was elected Chairman and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**166/15** Cllr. Scurrall was elected Vice-Chairman.

**167/15** Apologies had been received and were accepted from Cllrs. Margetts, Morgan and Scurrall. Apologies were also received from County Cllr. Jenkins and District Cllrs. Sherrey and Allen-Jones.

**168/15 Declarations of Interest:** Cllr. MacDonald declared an 'Other Discloseable Interest' in agenda item 16. Council approved that he may remain in the meeting. Cllr. Macdonald advised that if a vote was required on the motion then he would not vote.

**169/15 Dispensations:** No written requests had been received.

[The Meeting was adjourned for members of the public to speak on any matter of concern relating to the agenda or for future discussion.](#)

**170/15** The meeting was re-opened and the minutes of the Council meeting 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**171/15 Membership of Committees and appointment of Members to outside bodies.**

Council noted the current scheme of delegation and thus agreed the following appointments, including the co-option of Ann Ince and Margaret Rees as non voting members to the Agricultural Holdings Committee.

**Finance Committee**

James Bradley  
Trevor Jones  
Alan Mabbett  
Paul Margetts  
Bob Morgan  
Gemma Parsons  
Sue Pawley  
Dave Roberts  
Chris Scurrall

**Planning Committee**

Janice Boswell  
Allan Hood  
Trevor Jones  
Scott MacDonald  
Paul Margetts  
Gemma Parsons  
Chris Scurrall

**Agricultural Holdings**

Allan Hood  
Trevor Jones  
Bob Morgan  
Dave Roberts  
Ann Ince (Co-option)  
Margaret Rees (Co-Option)

**Representatives appointed to other organisations:**

Worcestershire County Association of Local Councils  
Fairfield Village Hall Management Committee  
Belbroughton Rec. Committee  
Belbroughton United Charities  
Wildmoor Residents Association  
Bromsgrove Local Independent Advisory Group (Police)  
Clent Hills Liaison Committee

Dave Roberts and Chris Scurrall  
Trevor Jones  
James Bradley  
Janice Boswell  
Allan Hood  
Chris Scurrall  
Dave Roberts

**Action:** Clerk to invite Ann Ince and Margaret Rees to join the Agricultural Holdings Committee.

## 172/15 Meetings Dates

Council agreed a revised meetings calendar for the remainder of 2015:

Council Meeting	Planning Committee	Finance Committee
	26 <sup>th</sup> May (Tues)	26 <sup>th</sup> May(Tues)
1st June		
	15 <sup>th</sup> June	15 <sup>th</sup> June
6 <sup>th</sup> July		
	20 <sup>th</sup> July	20 <sup>th</sup> July
<i>August No meeting</i>		
	<i>No meeting</i>	<i>No meeting</i>
7 <sup>th</sup> September		
	21 <sup>st</sup> September	21 <sup>st</sup> September
5 <sup>th</sup> October		
	19 <sup>th</sup> October	19 <sup>th</sup> October
2 <sup>nd</sup> November		
	16 <sup>th</sup> November	16 <sup>th</sup> November
7 <sup>th</sup> December		
	14 <sup>th</sup> December	14 <sup>th</sup> December

- Meetings in May, October, & December will be held in **the Barton Room at Fairfield Village Hall** -
- Meetings in June, July, September, & November will be held in the **Jubilee Room at Belbroughton Recreation Centre** -

## 173/15 Reports

*Chairman's Report:* Cllr. Roberts welcomed new members to the council requesting that they raise any questions on procedures with himself or the clerk, as they take up their roles. He also welcomed back returning members. He hoped that the coming 12 months would prove to be more productive than the previous year when one off items had taken up a great deal of council time.

He advised that the Belbroughton Cricket Club had been successful in raising £60k from the English Cricket Board and Sport England towards the new cricket nets and surface, and they thanked the Parish Council for its support and grant of £1,150.

The Fairfield Recreation Ground play area required repairs to the surface and he and Cllr. Jones would be attending to these shortly with the repair kits recently purchased from the original contractor.

He hoped that Council meetings could be shortened in duration with councillors being concise and brief with comments when considering agenda items.

*Planning Committee:* Council noted the minutes of the committee meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

*Finance Committee:* Cllr. Bradley advised that the Committee had approved a one year fixed term deposit with Nationwide Building Society. Council noted the minutes of the committee meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

*Clerk's Report:*

- 1 The Nationwide 12 months fixed deposit was opened 14<sup>th</sup> May with the £20,000 – rate 1.40%.
- 2 Clerk & Cllr Roberts met with the District Council tree officer on The Green, Belbroughton and he has agreed to a 4 metre lift pruning of the canopy of the oak tree to enable residents to walk safely under the branches.
- 3 Severn Trent contractors have been chased again to make good the verges in Hartle Lane.
- 4 The Parish Lengthsman and the two village gardeners have given written acceptance of the terms and conditions of their contracts for 2015/16.
- 5 Parish bodies have been invited to submit their grant applications.
- 6 The Green Belbroughton – The Developer has yet to respond to the council's lawyer's documentation with either an acceptance or any request to vary terms.
- 7 A licence agreement has been issued to Mr Liam Walls granting permission to undertake a metal detecting survey on The Green Belbroughton. When signed and returned he has until 30<sup>th</sup> June to carry out the works and report back to the Council.
- 8 Vacated B.T. phone box site Holy Cross Lane : B.T. will not contribute costs to any improvements here. WCC have yet to respond on what if any structures may be installed.
- 9 The County Council are yet to respond to a request to place flower troughs onto the railings in High Street, Belbroughton
- 10 Police have advised that they will be carrying out speed checks in Fairfield towards the end of May. Also following Cllr. Roberts contact with Belbroughton School the police will look to help dealing with irresponsible car-parking.
- 11 The Councillor vacancy in Fairfield has been advertised and it is anticipated that the 1<sup>st</sup> June Council will proceed with the co-option process.
- 12 Former Cllr. Karen Green is making very good progress and hopes to be discharged from hospital later this week.

*County Cllr. Sheila Blagg:*

She advised that the County Council will be carrying out speed surveys on Stourbridge Rd. Fairfield.

She had responded to the Principal Planner County Council Scoping Opinion Request regarding the Wildmoor Quarry Sandy Lane:-

The proposals would require a material change to the current placing consent. The Wildmoor Quarry does not have a permit to import material for restoration. The walls of the quarry are now the nesting grounds for Sand Martins. Concern over planning for retention of certain retail and business activities in view of the green Belt. A proposal to create a Materials Recycling Facility is not within the permitted developments in the Green Belt. Concerns over the availability of Construction and Demolition waste for refilling.

The Ballast Phoenix Ltd permit application had yet to be decided by the Environment Agency as it was awaiting a further report on how the company would deal with air quality.

#### **174/15 Parish Council Procedures**

Council set up a working group of Cllrs. Bradley, Mabbett, Nock, Pawley and, Scurrrell to review Council procedures with the aim of reporting back to the July Council.

**Action:** Clerk to co-ordinate the Working Group meetings.

#### **175/15 Annual Return**

Council noted the comments from the internal auditor and approved the signing of the Annual Return for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

**Action:** The chairman would sign the return and the clerk would forward this to the external auditors Grant Thornton.

#### **176/15 Parish Tidy up Day.**

Council noted the offer from Ringway PLC to carry out a village tidy up on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr. Roberts advised council that he would be meeting representatives 22<sup>nd</sup> May to assess precise actions proposed.

Council noted that Ringway PLC had offered to leaflet the local area informing residents of the works and requesting volunteers to join councillors in the 'tidy up'. They would be also holding a staff / apprentices 'recruitment fair' for 2 hours between 11.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. at the Belbroughton Recreation Centre.

Council agreed to aim to set up 'volunteer teams' to carry out activities at three sites: Holy Cross Lane, around the Lychgate at Belbroughton Church and Fairfield Recreation Ground. The District Council had offered assistance with litter pick equipment and refuse bags.

Council noted that risk assessments would be needed and volunteers would require to be suitably briefed before undertaking any works.

**Actions:** Chairman and clerk to clarify with Ringway PLC actions and advertising leaflet content.

Cllrs. to advise asap the Chairman and clerk of their availability on 6<sup>th</sup> June.

Clerk to co-ordinate B.D.C. support for the day and produce risk assessments.

#### **177/15 Footway Lighting**

Council appointed Cllrs. Jones, Parsons, Pawley and Roberts as a 'Working Group' to review the council strategy for footway lighting improvements.

**Action:** Clerk to co-ordinate the Working Group meetings.

#### **178/15 Speeding**

Council appointed Cllrs. Mabbett, Macdonald, Morgan, Nock and Parsons as a 'Working Group' to review the council strategy for seeking traffic calming actions.

**Action:** Clerk to co-ordinate the Working Group meetings.

#### **179/15 Council's Annual Report**

Council agreed to retain the existing format and distribution for the report.

**Action:** Cllrs. to advise clerk of suggested inputs by 8th June, the draft report to be considered at the 6<sup>th</sup> July Council.

#### **180/16 Belbroughton Cricket Club**

Council approved the writing of a letter of support for the cricket club which was applying for a grant from B.D.C. for improvements to changing, showering and toilet facilities.

**Action:** Clerk to write to the cricket club informing of the parish councils support.

### **181/15 Sylvester's Corner**

Cllr. Pawley advised Council that discussions were ongoing with local residents on how best to improve and maintain this site and Council deferred a decision on future maintenance requirements.

### **182/15 Councillor Information and future agenda items:**

Cllr. Pawley requested a review of outstanding parish projects in placed on the next agenda.

Cllr. Hood was concerned at the noise from the main hall being heard in the Barton Room.

**Action:** clerk to write to the Fairfield Village Hall Committee requesting soundproofing of the door to the main hall.

Cllr. Hood felt that the bad smells at the Jubilee Room, Belbroughton Recreation Centre had not improved.

**Action:** clerk would again write to the Centre requesting that look at remedies.

Cllr. Mabbett advised that the missing road name sign at Brook Road had still not been replaced.

**Action:** clerk to remind the District Council.

Cllr. Mabbett felt there was an opportunity to site an additional grit bin in Dordale Road.

**Action:** clerk to discuss options with the County Council.

Cllr. MacDonald requested that the road name sign 'Forge Lane' attached to the Horseshoe public house was repainted.

**Action:** clerk to ask James Callaghan to carry out the work.

Cllr. MacDonald requested that the Annual Parish Meeting unapproved minutes were made available.

**Action:** clerk aim to action within a month.

Cllr. MacDonald requested that e communication was placed on a future agenda.

Cllr. MacDonald praised the improvement work co-ordinated by the footpath wardens on the bridle way alongside the cricket club.

Cllr. Bradley advised that Worcs. Wildlife Trust would like to carry out a housemartin survey in parts of Belbroughton.

**Action :** Cllrs. agreed to assist by informing residents of the survey by verbal contact and the clerk would send an e mail to the group database.

Cllr. Boswell suggested that a meeting is arranged with the Developer of the site adjacent to The Green, Belbroughton where it appears that he is not responding to the Council lawyers regarding the potential agreement with the Council.

Cllr. Parsons felt that the Council's display board in Fairfield was poorly sited and an alternative position should be sought. Item to be placed on a future agenda.

Cllr. Parsons requested that the purchase and erection of barriers to deter traveller groups at Fairfield Recreation Ground be placed on a future agenda.

**Action:** Cllr. Jones would speak with the Fairfield Villa Football Club to assess what kind of barrier may be considered at the entrance which would not impact on their activities.

Cllr. Parsons was concerned at the amount of equipment and rubbish accumulating around the Fairfield Recreation Ground building leased by the football club.

**Action:** Cllr. Jones would discuss with the football club.

The Meeting was closed at 9.45 p.m.

Signed ..... Chairman.