

Minutes of the Meeting of Belbroughton Parish Council held in the meeting room Belbroughton on Monday 1st November 2010

Present : Cllrs J Bradley, T Cherry, L Hardcastle, J Kitson, P Peacock, C Scurrrell, and J Westley

In attendance: Mrs C Limm, Clerk. County Cllr Ed Moore and 2 residents also attended.

338/10 Apologies : Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Deeley, Green, Ince, Hadley, Jones, Shotton and Wright.

339/10 Declarations of interest : Cllrs Cherry and Westley declared a personal interest in the grant application from Belbroughton Cricket Club since they were both vice-presidents of the Club.

340/10 Police Matters

A police representative did not attend on this occasion.

341/10 Minutes of the meeting on 4th October 2010 – the minutes were agreed and were signed by the Chairman.

342/10 Reports

Chairman

Cllr Bradley said that consultation with Belbroughton residents about the future of the Scarecrow Weekend had been raised at the last meeting. He understood that the Scarecrow Committee would be meeting in mid November and would consider this and other issues arising from the recent event.

Finance meeting

Cllr Kitson reported briefly on the Finance meeting held on 18th October. The Minutes were noted.

Planning meetings

Cllr Ince reported on the planning meetings held on 4th and 18th October. The Minutes were noted.

Clerk's report

The Clerk had attended a meeting with the District Council's monitoring and electoral officers. They had asked Clerks to remind Councillors to keep their Register of Interests up to date. The electoral services team were preparing publicity material to encourage people to stand as Councillors - information events were being organised for the new year.

A replacement rabbit had been ordered for Fairfield Recreation Ground play area and WCC would shortly be measuring up for the hard standing for the new bus shelter in Hartle Lane. Following discussion it was agreed that the shelter should be raised off the ground either on metal feet or a layer of bricks.

343/10 Standing Orders

The Council agreed to adopt revised Standing Orders as recommended by the Council's working group, including the proposed new arrangements for public participation. These would apply from the next Council meetings (Finance and Planning) in mid November.

344/10 Grant application from Belbroughton Cricket Club

The Council agreed the Finance Committee's recommendation that a grant of £1,200 should be offered to Belbroughton Cricket Club towards refurbishment of their new cricket ground roller.

345/10 Parish Projects

An update of progress on parish projects had been circulated.

In relation to purchase of a Vehicle Activated Sign, the Clerk said that she had been informed by the County Council that a response to the potential sites put forward for use of a VAS was unlikely until the county-wide speed limit review had been concluded.

Purchase of a multi-goal for Fairfield Recreation Ground as a project spread over two years (10/11 and 11/12) had been recommended by the Finance Committee. This was agreed in principle but it was suggested that there should be some further consultation with Fairfield residents, for example via the next newsletter, about whether this was the best item to purchase. The Clerk was asked to check whether hard standing or astro-turf would be needed. It was also suggested that Fairfield Councillors should consider whether any local fund raising could be done to contribute towards the cost.

346/10 Parish Meeting Room Consultation

It was agreed that the open meeting on 22nd November should take place between 7.30 and 9pm. All councillors were welcome to attend. Spare copies of the consultation document and copies of plans of the potential alterations to the meeting room would be available. Lyz Harvey would provide information about use of the room.

347/10 Worcestershire County Council Consultation

Waste Core Strategy: the Council asked the Clerk to reiterate its previous comments and to highlight the need for enforcement of any planning conditions on waste sites. There should also be a planning gain (financial benefit for the local community) if any new sites were developed.

Proposals re the speed limits on the A491: the Council supported the proposed retention of the current speed limits on stretches of the road but opposed the proposals to remove the 60 mph limit on stretches between Bell Hall and the West Hagley roundabout northbound and the West Hagley roundabout and Clent southbound. The Council noted that the road had not been built for speeds of 70 mph plus and did not consider that there was a case for changing the current limits.

Maintenance of public rights of way: the County Council had asked the PC to suggest a classification of public rights of way according to usage to help them to identify appropriate levels of maintenance. The current and designated footpath wardens had offered to

undertake this task. The Council was grateful for their assistance and requested that the footpath wardens prepare a response for the Council to consider and endorse, with a report highlighting any particular issues or points for the Council to note.

348/10 Age Well Bromsgrove

Information had been circulated about the District Council's pilot project to provide activities for people over 55. They were currently seeking suggestions about suitable activities. It was agreed that Councillors should draw this to the attention of any groups who might be interested.

349/10 Maintenance and Improvements

The Council had expressed an interest in using the Community Payback team – offenders supervised by a probation officer. The County Council had indicated that they would like to set up a second team if parish councils would be prepared to contribute to the cost. A meeting had been arranged to discuss this. The Chairman said that he would circulate the information about the meeting and asked Councillors to consider if they would be willing to attend.

350/10 Correspondence receive

Correspondence received since the last meeting was noted.

351/10 Councillors Items

No items were raised on this occasion.

352/10 Dates

Dates for Council meetings in 2011 were agreed. The preferred date for the Annual Parish Meeting was 11th April (now confirmed). The Parish Council after Christmas dinner would be on Monday 31st January. The Council agreed that Councillors and partners, County and District Councillors should be invited and should pay their own way. The Council would invite the Clerk and the footpath wardens who were retiring at the end of the year as their guests.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Signed.....Chairman