

**Minutes of the Meeting of Belbroughton Parish Council held in the Jubilee Room Belbroughton Recreation Centre on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2015.**

**Present:** Cllrs. D Roberts (Chairman), J Boswell, J Bradley, A Hood, T Jones, J McFarling, Dr R Morgan, S MacDonald, G Parsons, S Pawley.

In attendance: J Farrell Clerk. 2 members of the public also attended.

**243/15** Apologies had been received from Cllrs. A Mabbett, P Margetts, S Nock & C Scurrell. County Cllr. Rachel Jenkins and District Cllr. Chris Allen-Jones.

**244/15 Declarations of Interest:** None.

**245/15 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.

**246/15** The meeting was re-opened and the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman following amendment to minute **212/15** which is now recorded as -

*Communication Council approved placing 'parish news' items onto the 'My Parish' website 'notice board'. Council noted that the Annual Parish Report would be delivered to residents by post, and hand as well as electronically to those who had requested it via e mail.*

*Cllr. Roberts recommended Cllrs. may wish to attend Calc training sessions on communication to assess if the Council could gain further ideas on contacting residents.*

**247/15 Reports**

*Chairman's Report:* Cllr. Roberts advised that he was in contact with a representative of the Belbroughton Scarecrow Committee who was seeking assistance with finding a site for their proposed purchase of a defibulator. He would bring back to council for consideration should there be a request for a joint venture.

*Planning Committee:*

Council noted the minutes of the committee meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015

*Finance Committee:*

Clr. Bradley advised Council that the first quarter's financial performance was satisfactory and in surplus, it had also benefitted from the payment of the Tax Support Benefit from the District Council which had not been in the budget. He confirmed that the council lawyers were expecting payment of their legal fees relating to The Green Belbroughton from the Developer. Council noted the minutes of the committee meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

*Clerk's Report:*

1. The Green Belbroughton – The Council's solicitors still await confirmation of the acceptance of the terms of the agreement by the Developer. They had chased 15<sup>th</sup> June, and 1<sup>st</sup> July. The position remains as previously approved by Council that if the terms are unaltered then the Council Chairman and the Chair of Finance Committee may sign the agreement on behalf of the Council. Any changes in the 'Terms' would need to come back to Council for consideration.

2. The hedges on- Galtons Lane, Belbroughton continue to cause concern – the overgrown appearance has been reported to W.C.C. regularly over last 12 months but it remains to be cut. The W.C.C. are having problems in getting the land agent for the owner of the land containing the hedges to take on the responsibility for the works.

3. The Footway lighting working group met 8<sup>th</sup> June and sought further information from W.C.C. on possible late night / early morning switch off to save energy cost, the terms of the Prysmian contract and other issues. This information has been received and a further meeting of the Working Group will be held and its recommendations brought back to Council.
4. The Traffic Calming working group has yet to meet with the 2<sup>nd</sup> July evening meeting postponed.
5. One Capital grant application has been received along with three minor grant applications. The assessment group of Cllrs. Morgan, Pawley, Mabbett & Scurrell will be meeting to assess the applications prior to the next Finance Committee.
6. A letter of thanks had been received from Belbroughton Recreation Centre for the 2014/15 capital grant of £1150.
7. The final 'Ward Members' fund monies of £577 donated by former District Cllr. Janice Boswell had been received. The payment for the same amount can be authorised by the Finance Committee 20<sup>th</sup> July and the cheque issued to the beneficiary, the Belbroughton Recreation Centre to assist with works to improve drainage.
8. Grant Thornton the external auditors have signed off the 31/3/2015 annual return, and the statutory notice will be displayed.
9. The First World War commemoration memorial plaque had been unveiled at the Fairfield Recreation Ground on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

#### **248/15 Parish Council Procedures**

Further to the recommendation of the Working Group, Council approved the following which in future would now be displayed on the website.

The Council's Standing Orders, including the Policy on filming, photographing and social media reporting of public meetings.

The Complaints Procedure.

The Code of Conduct.

The Scheme of Delegation.

The Freedom of Information Policy

The Publication Scheme.

The Press and Media Policy.

The Data Protection Policy.

The Procedures General Information.

**Action:** Clerk to upload documents to website.

#### **249/15 Annual Parish Report**

Council approved the draft annual report and with minor amendments which the Chairman and clerk would input the final report would be printed by the District Council and then distributed during July and August.

**Action:** Chairman and clerk to finalise the report and the clerk to arrange printing. Cllrs. under direction of Cllrs. Bradley and Scurrell to distribute the report.

#### **250/15 Parish Projects**

Council noted individual Cllrs. current proposed projects for the term of the Council:-

Cllr. Pawley -Improvements to Sylvester's Corner Belbroughton and new Christmas lights for Belbroughton. Cllr. Hood - Mobile speed camera. Cllr. Boswell - Assistance for elderly residents via support for local clubs. Cllr. Morgan - Mobile speed camera. Cllr. Bradley - Further works at Hackmans Gate Lane to complete the circular footpath around Belbroughton. Cllr. McFarling – Assistance for residents of Pepperwood Close Fairfield. Cllr. Parsons - Picnic tables and adult outdoor gym equipment for Fairfield Recreation Ground. Cllr. Jones - New notice boards for Fairfield and the re-surfacing of the playarea at Fairfield Recreation Ground.

Cllr. MacDonald - Purchase and maintenance of a defibulator, possible needs from the Traffic Calming Group and an older children's play area. Cllr. Roberts - Improvements to the Belbroughton village centre area.

Council approved setting up a 'Working Group' of Cllrs. Boswell, McFarling, Parsons and Pawley to assess costed proposed projects and bring back its recommendations to the September Council for consideration.

**Action:-** Cllrs present and those absent from the meeting to provide, via the clerk, their costed parish project proposals to the 'Working Group' for consideration by the 28<sup>th</sup> August.

The 'Working Group' to report recommendations to the 7<sup>th</sup> September Council.

Clerk, to give costing assistance as requested by Cllrs.

### **251/15 Footway Lighting**

Council delegated the decision to pay for the replacement of street light point 35 - Stourbridge Rd Fairfield, which has a corroded column, to the Finance Committee meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July. Fairfield Cllrs. would assess if the replacement was needed and if so whether the light was located in the ideal position. The Committee would also assess if a late night / early morning partial switch off timer should be incorporated if the point was replaced.

**Action:-** Fairfield Cllrs. to assess and advise the Finance Committee.

Clerk to request of W.C.C. the cost of removal of the column.

### **252/15 Belbroughton U13s F.C.**

Council approved the display of a recruitment poster in the Bell Heath and Fairfield notice boards.

**Action:-** clerk to arrange and inform the F.C. of other display options in Belbroughton.

### **253/15 Councillor Information and future agenda items:**

Cllr. Pawley was concerned at the incomplete grasscutting undertaken by the District and County Councils.

**Action:-** the clerk would seek clarification of the areas the District and County covered.

Cllr. Hood advised that the Agricultural Holdings Committee would be arranging its next walk of the council farmland.

Cllr. Boswell advised of a 'More the Merrier' coach trip to Moreton in Marsh on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2015 , details being available from Mr Miles Cowper on 01562 883477.

Cllr. Bradley advised that the Belbroughton Recreation Centre would be spending £10,000 on toilets improvements and £2,000 on the kitchen.

Cllr. McFarling wishes to place the consideration of the purchase of additional dog waste bins on the next agenda.

Cllr. Jones requested that the gateway speed limit signs and VAS signs are cleaned.

**Action:-** clerk to request action by W.C.C.

Cllr. MacDonald advised that various entries in the Belbroughton.com website were out of date.

Operation of the website is undertaken by a third party and consideration of its future operation is to be placed on the next Council agenda.

Cllr. Roberts wished to record the excellent work carried out by the operatives of Ringway Plc on 6<sup>th</sup> June whom had given their time freely. A formal letter of thanks would be sent.

Cllr. Roberts requested he and a Fairfield Cllr. meet with the District Council representatives who were involved in assisting parish councils with further village tidy up schemes.

The Meeting was closed at 9.25 p.m.      Signed ..... Chairman.