

Minutes of the Meeting of Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council held at The Fairfield First School on 2nd July 2018.

Present: Cllrs. B Allington, J Boswell, J Bradley, A Hood, T Jones, A Mabbett, P Margetts, S MacDonald, S Nock, G Parsons, S Pawley and, C Scurrall.

Clerk: J Farrell and twelve members of the public.

County Cllr. K May and District Cllr. M Sherrey were also in attendance.

206/18 Apologies – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Dr. R Morgan. Apologies were also received from County Cllr. S Webb.

The meeting adjourned, with Standing Orders suspended, for the 'Open Surgery' and also to listen to members of the public identifying matters of concern relating to the evening's agenda.

The meeting re-opened.

207/18 Declarations of Interest - None.

208/18 Dispensations - None requested.

209/18 Minutes

Council approved the minutes of the Council Meeting of 4th June 2018 and the Chairman signed the minute book.

210/18 Reports

Chairman's report:

The Chairman had no report.

Planning Committee report: Council noted the draft minutes of the Committee meeting held 18th June 2018.

Financial Committee report: Council noted the draft minutes of the Committee Meeting held 18th June 2018.

Clerk's Report:

1. Under delegated powers a replacement brushcutter (strimmer) costing £414 has been sourced and paid for. Authorised by Chairman and Vice Chairman 19th June. This will enable Paul Hardcastle to continue his volunteer work and replaces the five year old machine which had failed and after examination was not economic to repair.
2. Signage to deter dog fouling in Fairfield Recreation Ground has been ordered.
3. The grass mowing contractor has added the two small sites in Bell Heath to the twice monthly cutting schedule.
4. Parish Projects: The diversion of the footpath at Brookfield Farm – Two new kissing gates have been installed plus a pedestrian gate. The gates were paid for by the County Council, the installation costs £550 will be met by the Parish Council. WC.C. will now inspect the installations looking to approve and thus complete the diversion works.

County Cllr. K. May report:

Her monthly report on County Council activities is available under a link on the Parish Council website.

Cllr. May emphasised: that work would commence 18th July on improvements to Kidderminster railway station, Worcester Children First is the name of the new name of the delivery model for children's services. Reducing plastic – certificates will be issued for good practise. Summer roadshows are being held to consult with the public asking what are their requirements from the County Council. The 16th Sept event in Saunders Park is the closest venue for Bromsgrove residents to attend.

WCC Highways have worked on dust sprinkling on ten roads in the county to deal with tar melt which has delayed other road improvement works.

She would check the position on the requested resurfacing of High St Belbroughton.

District Cllr. M Sherrey report:

She advised that a planning application at the rear of Nash Lane remained pending with more investigation work being undertaken by the case planning officer. The application will in due course be heard by the BDC Planning Committee which meets monthly

The Chairman thanked both cllrs. for their work for the parish residents.

211/18 Councillor Vacancy

Council considered the one applicant and voted to co-opt Mr Gerald Ingram to represent the Fairfield Ward. He signed the 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Undertaking to Observe the Code of Conduct' and took his seat on the Council.

212/18 Belbroughton and Fairfield P.C.C – Maintenance Grant

- a. Council listened to a presentation from Mr Glynn Ashman, Church Warden at Holy Trinity Church Belbroughton on the financial position of The Parochial Church Council as detailed in its December 2017 accounts. He also commented on its likely future income and expenditure. Mr Ashman then took questions from councillors.
- b. Council confirmed the recommendation from the Finance Committee to increase the Maintenance Grant by £1000 to a total of £3,200 for 2018. It was understood that the P.C.C. would use these additional funds for the Holy Trinity Church churchyard maintenance.

213/18 Local Minerals Plan

Council listened to a presentation from a Mr Richard Parton regarding his company's desire for an expansion of minerals extraction in Wildmoor which would mean the 'nominating' of areas of land, including land owned by the Parish Council, for consideration by the County Council following its call for new sites for inclusion in the Local Minerals Plan.

Mr Parton took questions from both councillors and members of the public on what was an information gathering exercise only.

After 30 minutes of the presentation Council defeated a point of order motion from Cllr. Scurrill requesting: 'That the Council moved on to its next business as enough Council time had been devoted to the item'.

Council requested that Mr Parton writes to the Parish Council giving clarity on the precise land areas involved, his application process to the County Council and, how he not being the landowner would seek to extract the mineral deposits.

214/18 'Smartwater'

Cllr. Mabbett on behalf of Fairfield Cllrs. presented a previously circulated report on the distribution of kits in the Fairfield ward which was endorsed by the majority of Fairfield Cllrs.

Council approved by 9 votes in favour 2 votes against and 2 abstentions that it should accept the recommendation from Fairfield Cllrs. that the pilot roll out should go ahead for 'Smartwater' kits in Fairfield as set out in the report.

Votes recorded:

In Favour: Cllrs. B Allington, J Boswell, J Bradley, A Hood, T Jones, A Mabbett, S Nock, S Pawley and, C Scurrall.

Against: Cllrs. S MacDonald and G Parsons

Abstentions: Cllrs. G Ingram and P Margetts.

Council noted that it would require a report on the success of the roll out process.

215/18 The Green, Belbroughton

The Chairman advised that the Agreement with the Developer had now completed and the required funds had been received.

The trees immediately adjacent to the boundary had been felled by the Developer's contractor in accordance with the District Council permissions. The developer had declined a request the previous week from the Chairman for an indication of his timetable for the construction of the properties. No further actions were considered by the Council.

216/18 Villages Tidy Up

Cllr. Hood detailed to the Council the works required for repainting the railings on High St Belbroughton. Council approved £480 labour costs plus paint materials costs for this work. The County Council who own the railings would require to give their consent.

Council also endorsed in principle the further maintenance works on the list previously circulated to members.

217/18 Footpath Wardens

- a. Council agreed to seek an assistant volunteers to help the current warden who has been in post for 8 years. Members agreed to contact local residents who may be interested in applying as volunteers.
Council thanked Paul Hardcastle for his past and present work on the footpaths.
- b. Council agreed that Barhale Ltd who were currently installing the water pipeline for Severn Trent, which crossed the parish area, should be approached to assist with carrying out and cover all or part of the costs of resurfacing footpath path BB554 from its junction with BB556 down through the gulley to gate accessing the next field.

218/18 Annual Report - Due to time constraints this item was deferred until the next Council.

219/18 Council Processes - Due to time constraints this item was deferred until the next Council.

220 /18 Councillors' Items - Due to time constraints this item was deferred until the next Council.

The Meeting was closed at 10.10 p.m.

Signed Chairman