

Minutes of the Meeting of Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council held at The Fairfield First School on Monday 2nd December 2019.

Present: Cllrs. B Allington, J Boswell, S Danks, A Homer, A Hood, G Ingram, A Mabbett, R Morgan, S Nock, S Patchell and, S Pawley. Clerk J Farrell. 4 members of the public.

358/19 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. G Parsons.

The meeting adjourned, with Standing Orders suspended, for: 'Open Surgery' to listen to members of the public identifying matters of concern relating to the evening's agenda or any other issues.

The meeting re-opened.

359/19 Declarations of Interest - None.

360/19 Dispensations - None requested.

361/19 C.C.T.V.

a. Council listened to a presentation on the logistics of various C.C.T.V. schemes from Mr Simon Trimmer who is involved in the design and roll out of electronic security facilities in Birmingham. The Chairman thanked him on behalf of the Council for his informative comments.

b. Council approved requesting design options and costings for a scheme so as to progress its research on whether to install an automated number plate recognition scheme.

362/19 Minutes

Council approved the minutes of the Council Meeting of 4th November 2019. The Chairman signed the minute book.

363/19 Reports

Chairman's report: Cllr. Morgan thanks members for respect shown in the November meeting.

He advised of the passing of former Parish Cllr. Ann Ince saying that she was a pillar of the community and will be very sadly missed. The members stood for a one minute silence.

Planning Committee report: Council noted the minutes of the Committee meeting held 18th November 2019.

Financial Committee report: Council noted the minutes of the Committee meeting held 18th November 2019.

Clerk's Report:

1. Speed Limit Stourbridge Rd. Fairfield: C.Cllr. Webb advises: "The proposal is to introduce a 40 mph limit just after the Stoneybridge Island and to take the 30 mph back slightly. The full proposal will be sent to all consultees as per usual. Unfortunately, we cannot give a timescale at this stage, we have so many Traffic Regulation Orders in the process at the moment. As soon as I know I will let you know."

2. The Green Belbroughton: The Working Group has agreed to tree sourcing and planting with a contractor. Species to include cherry, catoniasor and silver birch. A schedule of detailed options is being produced along with pricing. (Council has approved the tree works within the limit of the £1,500 initial funding line.). A project costing in excess of this figure will be referred back to Council.

The contractor will be quoting separately for pruning the righthand side hedging and for planting options for the left hand boundary. These will be referred to Council.

3. Fairfield Recreation Ground: Pot hole repairs on the carpark subject to contractor's confirmation are due take place 9th and 10th December.

4. Drayton Road / Little Bell Hall Pool: A contractor was employed to clear the significant debris from in front of the trash screen requiring a hire of a digger with grab and two operatives. This emergency work costing £350 was authorised by the clerk (who has dispensation for up to £500 for such matters) the action was duly confirmed by the Chairman.

5. Parish Room, Belbroughton: the tenant has advised of required roofing repairs to the property, the clerk will meet with her this month to assess the works and arrange contractor quotes. Council has previously approved a £300 cost allocation. The tenant is seeking a 'change of use' for the premises and application to the planning authority Bromsgrove District Council and this can considered at the full Council in January.

6. Top Road, Wildmoor speeding: David Perridge of West Mercia Police has advised that although he cannot allocate a specific monitoring programme for this road he has asked local police to 'pay attention'.

7. Quarterly Bromsgrove area – Parish councils' meeting – Weds 11th Dec. Parkside 6.30 pm (They have a Rachel Nicholls the C.C.T.V. and Telecare Manager coming to talk about CCTV.).

8. Responses are awaited from W.C.C. on the costs of constructing the hardstanding area on Stourbridge Rd. and also whether the P.C. can employ contractors to clear gullies.

County and District Cllrs:

C.Cllr / D.Cllr May advised:

The County supports The One Worcestershire initiative (The 'Infinity Plan' to support business development). To raise profile a promotional badge image was projected onto Broadway Tower which had 7m social media 'hits'. The image was also seen at B'ham. Airport and on the M5 Oldbury viaduct. Results so far are 6.5k business enquiries

Dept. of Education recognises progress is being made on special educational needs and disabilities children. Ofsted has noted an improving position.

Operation Encompass, live since November 2018 has seen 3,000 domestic abuse referrals. Safeguarding leads in school are being trained in liaison with the police on procedures in cases.

The 'Respect' pathway the process for emergency plan for care needs is up and running.

There had been three weeks of flooding in Worcestershire - A section 19 notice was issued in an area of Hagley so investigations will take place on the causes of flooding in that area.

Across the County there had been 100 road closures, 97 people rescued from cars, 60 school closures, 40 houses flooded and 50 businesses impacted.

Organisational job reviews were taking place at the County Council.

Over 200 man hours were involved in fly tipping removal this year.

As the District Council are not convinced that there is a need the Parish Council itself will, as approved previously, purchase and install the Wildmoor dog waste bin adding it to the collections schedule.

She confirmed that resurfacing at Mearse Lane Belbroughton is on the W.C.C. work programme Cllrs. referred Waystone Lane and Dark Lane Belbroughton as also needing attention.

Bromsgrove Local Plan: by the 11th November deadline 236 sites had been offered up from landowners in the Green Belt. She confirmed that it would take many months to work through these.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. May for her attendances during the year despite her very busy schedule.

364/19 Footpath - Belbroughton Rec. Centre – Primary School

Council approved the costings from County Council approved contractor B G Churchills for the repairs to the County Council footpath. These involve the taking out of tree roots, levelling the immediate surrounding area and re- surfacing.

County Cllr. Karen May has offered to cover the £1,500 cost by granting the sum from her C.Cllr. Divisional Fund.

Action: the clerk to make the formal application to C. Cllr. May and to instruct the contractor.

365/19 Parish Area Pavement Footways

- a. Council agreed that pavements should have a rolling maintenance programme to keep them useable. C.Cllr May acknowledged that to encourage people to have healthier lifestyles open walking routes were very important to the County Council.
- b. Schedules would be drawn up for Fairfield by Cllr. Mabbett and for Belbroughton by Cllrs. Patchell and Pawley.

Action: The schedules to be advised to C.Cllrs May and Webb who would assess the County and District Councils' abilities to assist with any immediately necessary clearances and to set out longer term strategies. Dependent upon 'County' and 'District' action the Parish Council would also utilise its own resources to improve pavement accessibility.

366/19 Parish Contractors

Cllr. Patchell advised that the contractors should have amended listing of work schedules and meetings were to be set up by the Working Group with the gardeners and the lengthsman to discuss work plans for 2020.

Action: The Working Group to report back to Council.

90.

367/19 Little Bell Hall Pool – Refill of Pool.

Further quotations for the surveying of the site were still awaited following recent site visits by engineers. Council agreed that the Finance Committee can decide at its next meeting which dam engineer should be appointed to advise on the structures condition and the costs of remedial works required. The engineer would also be asked for comments on maintenance costs of leaving the site as a stream and not refilling the pool. It would be useful also to have a flood risk assessment of the area.

368/19 Fairfield Villa F.C.

A useful meeting had been held on 27th November with representatives of the football club and a report had been circulated.

Council noted the report and agreed that the Finance Committee would consider the matters raised relevant to funding, at its next meeting.

The football club would be written to thanking them for the meeting advising that the Council will respond in due course to the issues raised.

369/19 Parish Council ‘Annual Dinner’.

Council agreed to hold an ‘Annual Dinner’ early in the New Year, and that this would as usual be at the members own expense.

Action: The Chairman would investigate venues.

370/19 Councillors’ items

Cllr Boswell advised of the Carol Concert 15th December organised by the donkey sanctuary to be held on The Green, Belbroughton. Council had not been formally approached for permission to use the site but Council agreed that this permission would none the less be given.

Cllr. Danks advised of the W.C.C. Planning Committee meeting 3rd December when the two Wildmoor Quarry applications would be determined. He would be attending on behalf of the Wildmoor Residents Association and taking the three minutes time allocated to re-iterate their objections and to challenge the conditions that are said to be placed on the application should it be agreed. C.Cllr May suggested he demand a quarterly review was put in place to test that any conditions set were being adhered to.

Council agreed to a request from Cllr. Allington that the debris pile from the Little Bell Hall Pool trash screen should be removed now rather than await spring as had been the Lengthsman’s intention.

Cllr. Allington requested again that W.C.C. address the condition of the bus shelter on the A491. C.Cllr May confirmed she would chase this as part of the County’s current review of such structures.

Cllr. Mabbett requested that a future Council considers activities by itself, and the supporting of other events in the community, for the 75th year commemorations of V.E. Day in May 2020.

The meeting was closed at 9.12 pm

Signed Chairman