

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council held at The Jubilee Room Belbroughton Recreation Centre on 13th May 2019.

Present: Cllrs. B Allington, J Boswell, A Homer, A Hood, A Mabbett, Dr R Morgan, S Nock, G Parsons and, S Pawley. **Clerk:** J Farrell, & three members of the public.

131/19 Election of Chairman and Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr. Dr. Robert Morgan was elected Chairman and duly completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

132/19 Election of Vice Chairman and Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr. Simon Nock was elected Vice - Chairman and duly completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

133/19 Apologies – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. P Margetts. 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.

134/19 Declarations of Interest – Cllr. Mabbett declared an 'Other Disclosable interest' in agenda item 16 as he was a trustee of the Fairfield Village Hall.

135/19 Dispensations – Cllr. Mabbett requested a Dispensation in respect of agenda item 16 - to remain in the room and speak to the item but not to take part in any vote. Council agreed the Dispensation.

136/19 Minutes

Council approved the minutes of the Council Meeting of 1st April 2019 and the Chairman signed the minute book.

137/19 Reports

Planning Committee report: Council noted the draft minutes of the Committee meeting held 16th April 2018

Financial Committee report: Council noted the draft minutes of the Committee Meeting held 16th April 2018.

Clerk's Report:

1. **May Elections:** 10 members were elected, uncontested to the P.C. There are therefore 4 vacancies, these are all in the Fairfield Ward. B.D.C. – Cllr. Margaret Sherrey and Cllr. Karen May are your District councillors.
2. **The Green Belbroughton:** The Developer has advised that to complete the drainage link to the High St. the County Council require three months notice for the full road closure that is apparently required. Thus the earliest this can take place is now 9th August. He had hoped to commence work in June. A Sec 104 Agreement with Severn Trent the P.C. and the Developer plus his contractor has been received which has been referred to the P.C.'s solicitors for assessment to ensure it does not weaken the council's Agreement in place with the Developer. Costs of this work are to be borne by the Developer.

3. **New bench at Dark Lane, Belbroughton** – This item funded by a resident, has been installed.
4. **Fairfield Rec Ground** – Playarea repairs – Wicksteeds have processed the order and we await a date for the works on the surface and the installation of replacement swing seats to take place. We have requested the school half term week.
5. **Parish Council grant applications:** These need to be received by 31st May, to date none have been received.
6. **Next Council meeting:** This is on 3rd June and taking place in Fairfield First School and not Belbroughton – as the W.C.C. Chief Exec. Paul Robinson is attending and more seating will be required. The June Planning and Finance Committees will be in Belbroughton as per the current schedule.
7. **Wildmoor Residents Association:** A reminder that the Association's A.G.M. is 7.30pm 5th June at Fairfield Village Hall – John Campion, the West Mercia Crime Commissioner is the guest speaker.

County Cllr.report:

Cllr. May advised that further to the March meeting with a Belbroughton parish cllr. redundant poles had been removed from the High St, and also on the High St.replacement bollards had been installed Plans are being drawn up regarding replacement of the wooden stumps on land opposite the Belbroughton School. Also, traffic calming measures are being looked at to stop drivers turning opposite the school. She would bring plans back to the Parish Council. The gullies at Bradford lane are planned to be replaced, there would be liaison with North Worcs. Water Management on what would be required.

138/19 Co-Option of Members for Fairfield Ward

The one applicant had withdrawn his application and therefore this item was not considered.

139/19 Meetings 2019

Council approved the schedule and venues for both Council and Committee meetings for the remainder of 2019 which will be detailed on the website, it would assess requirements for the remainder of the council year to May 2020 in November 2019 when it would be clearer as to the ongoing availability and costs of local venues.

140/19 Parish Council Governance

a.Council noted the following policies and procedures documents and approved their adoption for the Council year:

Standing Orders, Scheme of Delegation, Code of Conduct, Financial Regulations, Complaints Procedures, Freedom of Information Policy, Press and Media Policy, Filming and Recording Procedures, and Data Protection Policy (G.D.P.R.), Equality-Diversity Policy, Health & Safety Policy, Publications Scheme, (Draft) Death of National Figure Procedures.

Council also agreed that its Insurance cover was adequate and it noted the current Asset Register, Risk Assessments and, Risk Procedures and Policies.

b. Council confirmed its eligibility for the exercise of the 'General Power of Competence' for the next four years since the Council members were duly elected and that the clerk held the appropriate professional qualification.

141/19 Membership of Committees, Working Groups and, appointment of members to outside bodies.

- a. Council agreed Cllrs. Homer, Hood, Mabbett, Nock and, Pawley to be the Members of the Finance Committee.
Council agreed Cllrs. Allington, Boswell, Homer, Morgan, Parsons and, Pawley to be members of the Planning Committee.
Council agreed Cllrs. Homer, Hood and Nock to be members of the Agricultural Holdings Committee.
The Chairmen of the Committees would be appointed by the said Committees at their first meetings.
- b. Council approved the following 'Working Groups'.
Footway Lighting - No group, issues to come to the full council.
The Green, Belbroughton Improvements – Cllrs. Pawley, Allington, Homer, & Nock.
Traffic Calming - Cllr. Mabbett.
Little Bell Hall Pool – Cllrs. Nock, Pawley, Homer & Allington.
Fairfield Recreation Ground - No group, issues to come to the full council.
Local Quarries - Cllr. Hood.
Neighbourhood Planning -To be reviewed.
- c. Memberships to outside bodies were confirmed as:
Worcs. Calc. - Cllrs. Morgan and Nock.
Fairfield Village Hall – None, to be covered by full council.
Belbroughton recreation Centre – Cllr. Pawley.
Belbroughton United Charities – Cllr. Boswell.
Wildmoor Residents Association – Cllr. Hood.

142/19 Consultation on W.C.C. Planning 'Enforcement Plan' document.

Council requested that the Planning Committee consider a response.

Action: Item to be placed on the next Planning Committee agenda.

143/19 Stourbridge Rd. Fairfield

- a. Council approved the purchase of a fixed bench for installation in the bus shelter situated adjacent to the church. A spend of up to £500 was approved.
- b. Council approved in principle funding an area of hardstanding for use by the Community Safety Partnership.

Action: a. Cllrs. Hood and Mabbett to contact previous contractors dealing with this bus shelter.
b. The clerk to obtain cost from W.C.C.

144/19 Little Bell Hall Pool – Drayton Road.

Council approved removing further overgrown vegetation from above and surrounding the Belne stream from the boundary of the first phase of works last month to the commencement of the former pool area. Council agreed that the contractor must satisfy the Council that this work could be carried out without disturbing any nesting bird sites.

Up to five days work were approved at the cost of £1,100 per day with the current approved contractors.

The Working Group would meet again to discuss future actions at the site once the report from Rospa on safety signage and the civil engineer's report on possible pool reinstatement had been received.

145/19 Fairfield Recreation Ground - Car park

a.Council noted that it had previously approved seeking an extension to the carpark but its planning application had not been agreed nor rejected by the District Council, it requesting a schedule of exceptional reasons why such extension in the Green Belt should be agreed. These were yet to be assessed or presented.

District Cllr. May advised that she would support an application, calling it into Committee if necessary. However, she suggested a pre- application meeting with the Mrs R. Bamford and planning officers, and Council agreed that this would be helpful.

Action: Cllr May and the clerk to liaise on meeting dates

b.Council approved financing repairs to potholes on the present carpark area.

Action: the clerk to seek and instruct contractors

146/19 Fairfield Village Hall

Council noted that there had been anti-social behaviour and criminal damage at the hall. The police had recommended installing CCTV. Council noted that the hall management were considering this and methods of achieving funding. It was understood that County Cllr. Webb would contribute monies from her Divisional Fund. Council approved in principle that it would look at a future funding request if approached for assistance.

147/19 Flags

Council agreed with the recommendation of the Finance Committee to purchase Red Ensign flags to celebrate Royal Navy Day.

Action: the clerk to purchase the flags.

148/18 Councillors' Items

Cllr. Pawley requested and Council agreed funds up to £50 to be made available to the Belbroughton Parish gardener for plant purchases.

Action: the clerk to action.

Cllr. Boswell advised that the Belbroughton allotments were in excellent condition and recommended members visit the site and give feedback to future council meetings.

Traffic calming: Cllr. Mabbett advised that progress on implementing the speed reduction on Stourbridge Rd. from the A491 roundabout up to the Orchard Farm premises appeared slow as was the promised painting of white lining. C.Cllr. May advised that there were many traffic regulation orders pending with the County Council and admitted progress was slow.

Action: the clerk to obtain an update from WCC Highways.

Cllr. Mabbett advised a possible adverse effect on Fairfield due to forthcoming significant road works on the A38.

Cllr. Allington requested the Lengthsman clear footway from Belbroughton Recreation Centre to Belbroughton Primary School

The Meeting was closed at 9.35p.m.

Signed Chairman