

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BELBROUGHTON AND FAIRFIELD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023, 7.00PM AT FAIRFIELD FIRST SCHOOL

**PRESENT:** Cllr. E Davies, Cllr. S Davies, Cllr. Gibbs, Cllr. Hardeman, Cllr. Knight, Cllr. Mabbett, Cllr. Morris, Cllr. Nock, Cllr. Pawley and Cllr. Wilkes

**ALSO PRESENT:** Clerk – Ruth Mullett  
There was 23 members of the public in attendance.

### 449/23 – APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr. Allington and reason for absence approved by all Councillors.

**Chairman adjourned the meeting for an ‘open surgery’ to enable residents to discuss any issues with their councillors and identify matters of concern relating to the agenda, this does not form part of the formal meeting.**

The meeting re-opened.

### 450/23 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Gibbs declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest on agenda item 14.1, Fairfield Villa due to the proximity to Fairfield Recreation Ground.

Cllr. Wilkes declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest on agenda item 14.1, Fairfield Villa due to a Housing Needs Survey conducted on land adjacent to the Recreation Ground.

Cllr. S Davies declared Non-Registerable Interest on agenda item 14.1, due to volunteering on match day.

### 451/23 – CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to co-opt Ben Standing as a Parish Councillor in his absence and Council agreed for him to sign his Declaration of Acceptance of Office at a later date.

It was **RESOLVED** not to co-opt Clive Morris as a Parish Councillor.

### 452/23 – DISPENSATIONS

It was **RESOLVED** to grant Cllr. Gibbs and Cllr. S Davies a dispensation.

### 453/23 – MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and the Extra-Ordinary Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023, the Chairman duly signed them.

### 454/23 – DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

#### Cllr. Nock

Cllr. Nock confirmed that during August council ceases with very little activity. Although he was one of five members of the Governance Task Group of which he is Vice Chairman. The Group have

meet virtually during August to consider alternative governance structures. These range from a Committee System all the way through to a Mayoral System at the other end of the spectrum, with alternative hybrid models in between. The Committee System would involve all members in the legal act of decision making, whereas a Mayoral System may involve only one person. A recommendation will be made to Cabinet in September and brought to Full Council.

### **Cllr. May**

- There has been a serious incident of a dog biting a resident on Belbroughton Village Green and the resident has been advised to report the matter to the Police. It was agreed to purchase two signs, one for Belbroughton Village Green and one for Fairfield Recreation Centre with, "Please keep your dog under control at all times". Clerk to source the signs and Cllr. May to fund them.
- Cllr. Wilkes stressed that something needs to be done with regards the parking in Fairfield, suggesting double yellow lines as it is a breach of the Equality Act.
- Bradford Lane gutters need clearing – Clerk to instruct Maintenance.
- Cllr. Pawley reported the BT box at the entrance to The Talbot carpark. Cllr. May confirmed she was in the process of having it removed.
- Cllr. Hardeman asked whether the speed camera could be repositioned by the woodyard on Hartle Lane. Cllr. May to investigate.
- It was agreed to arrange a Police Surgery, one for Belbroughton and one for Fairfield.

### **455/23 – COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

#### **Cllr. Webb**

- Has taken up the issue of the bus shelter adjacent to Wood Lane in Fairfield and awaiting confirmation from County Council as to who owns it.
- Wildmoor Quarry – appreciate that there is not at present a live application but is trying to get ahead of the curve to make residents aware.
- Pinches Phase 4 – amended plans are due to be submitted once all information has been received at County. Although this is a Bournheath application this will affect neighbouring parishes.
- There is currently a Sandy Lane footway programme in force.
- A new VAS pole has been installed in Top Road and trying to obtain funding for a sign.
- Highways have been to look at the hedges on Bournheath Road and Brook Road and will be writing to landowners.

### **456/23 – LITTLE BELL HALL POOL**

Chairman, Cllr. Allington, Clerk and a resident meet with Wade Muggleton from Worcestershire Countryside Centre. It was agreed to cut back the strimming of Little Bell Hall Pool to twice a year. The area at the top of the dam to be enhanced as a wildflower patch and it was agreed to bring green hay from the grass verge opposite St Kenelms Church in Romsley as this was abundant with different wildflower species. It was also agreed to remove the Lottery Fund Grant sign from the pool as the information was incorrect.

Due to the time, the meeting was deferred at 9.15pm. An Extra-ordinary meeting was arranged for Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 to finish the business on the agenda.

**To be agreed as a true record by Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council**

**Signed .....**

DRAFT