

## **Minutes of the Meeting of Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council held by video conference on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

Present: Cllrs. B Allington, J Boswell, S Danks, A Hood, G Ingram, A Mabbett, Dr R Morgan, S Nock, S Patchell and S Pawley. Clerk J Farrell. 0 members of the public.  
County & District Cllrs. K May and S Webb. District Cllr. M Sherrey.

### **1/21 Apologies**

Apologies had been received and were accepted from Cllr. G Parsons.

**2/21 Declarations of Interest** None. **3/21 Dispensations** None.

### **4/21 Minutes**

Council approved the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

### **5/21 Reports**

#### *Chairman's report:*

No report.

#### *Planning Committee report:*

Council noted the draft minutes of the meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

#### *Financial Committee report:*

Council noted the draft minutes of the meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

#### *Clerk's Report:*

1. The Precept request for 2021/22 at £65,000 has been submitted to the Bromsgrove District Council which collects the tax on our behalf.
2. We have received the donation of £1,000 from C.Cllr. Karen May's 'Divisional Fund' towards the costs of the repairs to the historic Belbroughton village sign located in Holy Cross Lane.
3. The 'Health and Safety' tree works at Drayton Rd. Belbroughton and Fairfield Recreation Ground are set for 1<sup>st</sup> February.
4. The new dog waste bin at the entrance to Nutnells Wood Has been installed.
5. Belbroughton Recreation Centre Playground improvements – £3250 of the £20,000 commitment from the Parish Council has been released.
6. Fairfield Recreation Ground – 'Improvements Consultation' – the Zoom meeting, open to residents has been booked for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 6.30pm.  
Cllr. Mabbett will 'Chair'. (He, and Cllrs. Ingram and Morgan form the Working Group which will report up to three improvements options to a future Council).  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87878822456> Meeting ID: 878 7882 2456.  
Or, by audio phone only- tel: 0203 901 7895 with the Meeting ID: 878 7882 2456

7. Speed monitoring Fairfield - at the request of a resident I have asked the West Mercia Police Road Safety Team (previously called the 'Safer Roads Partnership'.) if they are able to further vary the locations used to include north of the bus stop by Swan Lane – since apparently other locations used are often blocked by parked vehicles which can result in operational difficulties.
8. The two new benches for The Green, Belbroughton have been ordered and pending installation are due to be delivered to a safe site this week.

#### *County and District Councillors reports:*

**D.Cllr. Sherrey** advised that some home waste collections had been delayed recently which was due to 3 operatives being off with Covid -19 plus a further 27 isolating following contact tracing. The team was 4 crews short and have had to look to Redditch D.C. for support. Matters should be resolved by next week (11<sup>th</sup> Jan). Garden waste collections were likely to be delayed with any ongoing problems for other waste categories being clearly communicated to the public.

#### **Covid – 19**

**Cllr. May advised** that she felt movement to a higher tier 4 or lockdown was likely. Up to date stats.: per 100k of population: Worcs. City 366, Wyre Forest 355, Bromsgrove 400, Redditch 286, Malvern Hills 149, Wychavon 358. 1880 cases overall being a 37% increase on the previous week. H.M.P. Hewell has a significant outbreak and there are incidences in care homes.

The Worcs. Acute hospitals Trust is under severe tension. Potentially going to a level 5 operational level meaning no elective surgery would take place.

A great number of people from W.Mids. and the Black Country have been visiting Bromsgrove areas e.g. Client Hills and she wished for the message to go out that travel from higher tier levels is not permitted.

The former Artrix Centre site is lined up for vaccinations – however, schedules for specific actions are awaited. The Clinical Commissioning Groups (C.C.G.s) across the County are organising specific sites and they or local g. p. surgeries will contact individuals for attendance.

**Cllr. Webb** had no additional matters to report with staff at County Hall only today reporting back after the Christmas break.

#### **6/21 C.C.T.V. Belbroughton Village Shop**

C.Cllr May confirmed that a meeting had been held onsite in late December with the shop's Regional Manager, the Police and Mr Pemberton (representing the village Scarecrow Committee) to assess options for improving security at the shop and the centre of the village generally. (The shop would be replacing the glass frontage shortly).

The police had a number of suggestions, involving Smartwater and community involvement, but did not recommend C.C.T.V. They wished to discuss options with the Parish Council.

The Council agreed to listen to these at the next available opportunity, ideally the February Council meeting. **Action:** C.Cllr. May committed to set up the meeting.

### **7/21 Hagley Library**

Council noted a request from Hagley Parish Council for financial assistance towards running costs of their local library facility.

Council deferred a decision as it wished to have more detailed information on the costs and their apportionment plus details of the numbers who used the facility who were not resident in the Bromsgrove District.

**Action:** the clerk to enquire of H.P.C. and the matter to be considered at the February Council.

### **8/21 'Slow Ways' Footpath Network**

The item was not discussed and deferred to a future Council meeting as due to the health crisis the 'Slow Ways' organisation had now decided to postpone the launch of its promotion of the national network of walking routes.

### **9/21 Bus shelters**

Council noted that the bus shelter located at the Top Road / A491 junction, believed to be a County Council asset, was being abused by 'persons unknown' but before deciding whether to request demolition or refurbishment there needed to be clarity from both the District and County Councils on ownership.

**Action:** D.Cllr. Sherrey and C.Cllr. May committed to supplying a listing of all bus shelters the District Council and County Council owned in the parish area along with any it was felt had been later adopted by either the District or Parish Councils.

### **10/21 Annual Parish Meeting 2021**

Having already agreed that a 'virtual meeting' would not be appropriate for such an event Council decided that due to the ongoing health crisis it remained unable to host the public facing Annual Parish Meeting.

**Action:** The position would be reviewed at the April Council meeting.

### **11/21 Priorities 2021**

The Chairman recommended and council agreed to defer this item until the next Council.

**Action:** Members are requested to bring items for consideration to the February meeting.

### **12/21 Councillors' Items**

Cllr. Allington reported a loose drain cover on Queens Hill, Belbroughton.

**Action:** the clerk would report on the W.C.C. Hub.

Cllr. Danks advised of recent flooding at Chadwich Lane which would be exacerbated if the quarry was extended. C.Cllr. May advised that she would be grateful if photographic evidence could be provided to the County Council by the reporting resident.

Cllr Nock praised Cllr. Danks for his excellent letter detailing the Council's objections to the application for the expansion of the Chadwich Lane quarry.

**3.**

Cllr. Patchell advised that a number of drains in the centre of Belbroughton were blocked despite some highways activity. C.Cllr May agreed that the problems had not been resolved and advised that she was awaiting a detailed maintenance programme from W.C.C. Highways, specifically relating to outside 54 High St. She would report back to the Parish Council.

Cllr. Morgan wished all members a Happy New Year.

Meeting closed at 7.58pm

To be Confirmed by future recorded Council Minute.

DRAFT