

Minutes of the Meeting of Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council held at the Jubilee Room, Belbroughton Recreation Centre Monday 5th September 2016.

Present: Cllrs. J Bradley, J Boswell, G Ingram, T Jones, A Mabbett, P Margetts, R Morgan, G Parsons, S Pawley, D Roberts and, C Scurrall. In attendance: J Farrell Clerk. 1 member of the public also attended.

254/16 Apologies - Apologies had been received and were accepted from Cllrs Hood, MacDonald and Nock.

The meeting adjourned for the 'Open Surgery' and also to listen to members of the public identifying matters of concern relating to the agenda.

The meeting re-opened.

255/16 Declarations of Interest None.

256/16 Dispensations: None requested.

257/16 Minutes

Council approved the draft minutes of Council 1st August 2016 and the Chairman signed the minute book.

258/16 Reports

Chairman's report: Cllr. Bradley said he would aim to keep meetings as short as possible and requested that members were concise with their comments on agenda items and look not to duplicate points that other members may raise. He also was grateful to the former Chairman Cllr. Roberts for his time in the Chair and would continue the policy of pressing for the council to work as a team but also to allocate tasks to 'Working Groups'.

Clerk's Report:

1. Messages of thanks have been received from Belbroughton History Society, Fairfield Social Club and the Fairfield Community Association for their minor grants.
2. Reminder that 'Defibrillator and CPR' training, from Rob Underwood of the 'Charlotte and Craig Saving Hearts Foundation' – continues this Thursday 8th Sept 7.00pm Jubilee Room. The first session on 3rd September had 15 attendees.
3. The Green Belbroughton – no further contact from the developer, the council awaits the signing of the agreement.
4. Little Bell Hall Pool – the 'Working Group' met on 22nd August with the surveying engineer who explained the options, including potential costs, for the site outlined in his reports. Additional comments to these reports are due shortly following that meeting. The 'Working Group' will then meet to assess the final document and bring forward options / recommendations on the way ahead and what further consultations may be felt are required. There could be an urgent need for trash screen to be installed to prevent blocking of the tunnel and pipes behind the sluice gate which the Chairman and clerk will consider from the 'Working Group's' observations, otherwise the Finance Committee will consider this 19th Sept.

Council noted an excellent further investigation and report from Cllr. Margetts assisted by Cllr. Hood and agreed that this should be forwarded to the surveying engineer.

5. Local Councils Expo Chateau Impney, Droitwich Friday 9th Sept – 2 complimentary tickets. are available. The clerk and cllr. Roberts will attend this marketplace for suppliers to councils.
6. Dog Bin at Pepperwood – Still awaiting the local site Mgr. Jane Ward from Woodland Trust to confirm a meeting date to agree the precise siting of the bin. We are advised today by the H.O. that she is not available until 20th Sept. The Trust advise the P.C. it can't install the bin without their agreement.
7. The council's August payments were authorised by Cllrs. Roberts and Morgan on 22nd August and both members signed the cheques.
8. The website had issues in August with the loss of the pages menu. This caused the clerk additional time involving the re-input of data. The supplier 'Go Daddy' admitted problems were with their systems and they have offered a 25% discount on the renewal fee for 2016/17 which I have accepted.
9. Cllr. Mabbett is progressing quotations for the pot hole infilling and potential extension of the Fairfield Recreation Ground carpark and these details and the project itself should be ready for consideration at October council. However, you should be aware that BDC have now advised us that planning permission would be required for any car park extension and as the area is in the Green Belt permission would not be granted. We are seeking a comment on whether a green matted surface would however be acceptable.
10. Following a meeting with Cllr. Roberts and contractors the hedge at the Parish Room, Belbroughton will be pruned back.

259/16 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr. Bradley, and the members thanked Cllr. Scurrrell for both his time as Vice-Chairman and his ongoing commitment as a councillor. Cllr. Morgan was nominated as the new Vice-Chairman and was elected unopposed.

260/16 Belbroughton Recreation Centre - Representative

Following his election as Chairman in August Cllr. Bradley, due to time constraints, resigned from the position as representative to this parish body. Cllr. Pawley agreed to take on the role and was thus appointed.

261/16 Working Groups

Members discussed the operation of the groupings and noted that neither the clerk nor Chairman was able to attend all 'Working Group' Meetings. The following points were also noted and would be further considered at the October Council:

- a. Groups had no decision making powers, but would recommend actions to Committees or the Council.
- b. As at present the groups were not open to the public.
- c. They should have clear aims and timescales to work to.
- d. Each group should nominate a member to be its co-ordinator who would set up and run meetings.
- e. The present lists of groups was agreed but would be kept under review.
- f. Memberships of each group should be assessed prior to the October Council with any desired changes advised to the clerk.

262/16 Scarecrow Weekend

Council approved the use of Parish Council land by the Scarecrow Committee during its fundraising weekend 24th-25th September. Council further approved offering the use of the Parish Room, Belbroughton should it remain unoccupied. The Scarecrow Committee would be asked to ensure that all sites were returned to good order immediately after the weekend.

Action: clerk to inform the Scarecrow Committee

263/16 Belbroughton Defibrillator

Council approved a donation of £300 to the 'Charlotte and Craig Savings Hearts Foundation' who had delivered two training sessions on CPR and defibrillator training.

264/16 Fairfield Recreation Ground – Play area

Cllr. Jones advised council of the poor state of parts of the surface of the play area. One quote had been received for the work on some 70 Sq. Mtrs. Council approved seeking further quotes that would include recommendations on the extent of the work before considering commissioning the works and were also mindful that the annual ROSPA inspection was due this month which may highlight the issues.

Action: the clerk to seek further quotes and refer the ROSPA report to Council.

265/16 Farm Business Tenancies

Council noted that the notice of the review process of the rents payable by the tenants was required to be issued by the end of September. Council approved by a vote of 8 for, 2 against and 1 abstention to seek an increase in the rents, effective from 1st October 2017 to £100/acre p.a. for the ensuring three year period, having received guidance from three local land agents whom had all quoted a wide range of potential rental figures. The increase and resultant level of the council rents was felt to be equitable for the three term.

Action: The Clerk to arrange the issue of the formal notice of review and to undertake the processes.

266/16 Fairfield Defibrillator

Cllr. Ingram advised that the wider community use of the football club defibrillator was not workable as it had been installed primarily for use by the club. Council approved by 10 votes to 1 to give an initial donation of £300 to the Fairfield Community Association's 'Community Heartbeat' application for grant aided funding to purchase a defibrillator and training and servicing package. Should the grant application not be successful the Council approved reviewing this commitment and would further consider funding a defibrillator.

A motion for the council itself not to apply for grants from external bodies was defeated.

267/16 Parish Room Belbroughton

- a. Council noted that the preferred applicant had now decided not to proceed and would not be taking up the tenancy. The second preferred applicant was being contacted by the agents to meet with members of the Working Group. The Working Group would report the outcome to Council and thus there were no further actions approved.
- b. Cllr. Roberts advised that re-pointing work was now required on the building. Council approved a sum of up to £300 to carry out this work.
Action: the clerk and Cllr. Roberts to arrange the works.
- c. Council approved exploring the costs and options of acquiring outline commercial and residential planning permission for the Parish Room site. And, requested that the clerk and the Chair of the Planning Committee meet the District Council to seek an informal opinion.

268/16 Fairfield – Pedestrian Crossing

Council defeated a motion by 7 votes to 4 votes for the use of Parish Council funds to contribute towards a possible provision of a pedestrian crossing by the County Council. This being in line with the Council policy that it should not grant-aid activities that were the responsibility of major public authorities.

269/16 Inconsiderate Parking - - Grit Bins in Fairfield

Due to time constraints the council agreed to defer consideration of these agenda items 16 & 17.

270/16 Dog Bins

Council approved by 10 votes to 1 vote to fund the purchase, installation and servicing of a dog waste bin to be placed on green space land Pepperwood Close, Fairfield. This would be subject to the landowner agreeing to the installation.

Action: Cllr. Ingram and the clerk to progress.

271/16 Councillor Items

Cllr. Scurrell requested that the next Council consider attendance at the County Council Planning Committee meeting when it considers the Veolia ES Ltd Sandy Lane Wildmoor planning application which is due to be heard later this year.

Cllr. Jones requested that the October Council considers the merits of commencing work on a Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr. Mabbett requested that a future council considers the car park improvements and proposed extension at the Fairfield Recreation Ground.

The Meeting was closed at 9.40 p.m.

Signed Chairman