

Minutes of the Meeting of Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council held at Fairfield First School on 4th October 2021.

Present:	Parish Council	County & District Council	Public
	Councillors: B Allington, J Boswell, S Danks, A Hood, S Nock, S Patchell, S Pawley	Councillors: K May	There were 6 members of public in attendance
	Clerk: C Powell		

175/21. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors A Mabbett, Dr R Morgan, A Homer, M Sherrey and S Webb.

Meeting to adjourn for an ‘Open Surgery’ for up to 15 minutes to enable residents to discuss any issues with their councillors and identify matters of concern relating to the agenda. Members of the public discussed the following:

- i. A member of the public requested the position of parking in Fairfield is reviewed and discussed at the next scheduled Parish Council Meeting in November.
- ii. Access to surrounding lanes is compromised due to parking on the pavements.
- iii. Access to footpaths and the recreation centre is compromised due to the growth of the football club
- iv. Cllr May suggested the Parish Council arrange a walkthrough of the area on match days in order to understand the issues identified by the residents.

176/21. Members Declarations of Interest:

There were no Members Declarations of Interest.

177/21. Dispensations

There were no Dispensations.

178/21. Minutes.

Council approved the minutes, amended to reflect Cllr Pawley’s attendance, of the meeting held on Mon 13th September 2021. The Chairman signed the minute book.

179/21. Reports - for information:

- Chairman's Report.
The Chairman had nothing to report.

- County and District Councillors.

Councillor May discussed the following:

- i. There will be a suspension of the Garden waste collection from 11th October – 9th November. This is due to several staff members disclosing long term health issues. Letters will be posted to all residents effected by this temporary suspension of this service.
- ii. Bromsgrove District Council are reporting Covid numbers at 400 per 100,000. There has been a significant increase in cases on the 40 – 59 year old cohort.

- Planning Committee meeting on 20th September 2021.

Councillor Pawley reported the meeting was held on the 20th September.

- Finance Committee meeting on 20th September 2021.

Councillor Nock reported the meeting was held on the 20th September.

- Clerks report on items not otherwise on the agenda.

The Clerk stated the budget setting process has begun.

180/21. Planning Application 21/01429/FUL

Councillor Pawley discussed the planning application being discussed at Full Council was mainly due to the timeliness of its receipt and also the sensitivity of the application. Full Council were asked to consider the demolition of existing structures and the erection of a replacement storage, workshop and office building. Councillor opened the application up for comment within the remit to object or accept this as a planning application.

Councillor Allington objected due to the height of the proposed structure.

Councillor Patchell objected due to the visual impact of the site

Councillor Pawley objected due to the overall impact of the area

Councillor Hood objected due to the negative impact to traffic in the area

Councillor Danks stated the application does not amount as a reasoned planning application.

It was noted that Councillors object to this application and will submit objections to the County Council before the 18th October.

181/21. Recruitment of Councillors

The Parish Council requested the Clerk send an application to those residents that have registered an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor.

182/21. Recruitment of footpath warden

The Parish Council recognised the difficulty in recruiting to this role as this is not a paid position and niche in its role and responsibilities. The Parish Council suggested the recruitment of an additional Lengthsman solely responsible for footpaths only. The Parish Council requested correspondence is drafted to County Councillors to enquire as to whether recruitment can be carried out for this role.

183/21. Sale of Mill Stones

A member of the public has requested to purchase 4 mill stones to use in his garden as an aesthetic feature. The Parish Council objected to this request as the millstones would need to be retained as spares. There is a concern that the Parish Council has a defined retention scheme for its assets and a suitable storage facility should be sought.

184/21. Maintenance Review

Councillor Hood noted Treble R Fabrications have been instructed to make a specialist key for use to open and close the sluice at Little Bell Pool.

185/21. Parish Upkeep (Maintenance, including gardening)

Councillor Patchell noted the excellent work carried out by Greenways. Councillor Nock suggested the Lengthsman carry out work to an acceptable standard at Bram Alley with a view to Greenways taking over the work as part of their contracted schedule. Also the plaque in the wall by the Church next to grit bins also need to be reviewed and worked on. The Parish Council have requested that this work is carried out by the Lengthsman before the memorial service proceedings during November.

Councillor Nock also suggested a list of items for consideration is brought to Council on a scheduled basis for discussion, review and prioritisation as a distinct agenda item.

186/21. Councillors' Items

- i. Councillor Allington requested 2 more benches on the village green. Councillor Pawley requested the benches are also cleaned.
- ii. Councillor Pawley requested the Christmas lights are tested and switched on by 1st December 2021.
- iii. Councillor Patchell requested the loan of Worcestershire County Council's weed puller instead of using chemicals.
- iv. Councillor Danks stated Chadwich Lane Quarry has been closed until all planning conditions have been carried out. A lorry was seen entering and exiting the quarry since its closure and this has been reported to Mark Lane for his urgent action.

The Meeting closed at 21:08.

To be agreed as a true record by future Committee Meeting.

Signed: **Date:**