

LAWLEY AND OVERDALE PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Unit 2 West Centre Way
On Tuesday 7th October 2014

PRESENT:

Cllr. Alan Hussey, Cllr. Darren Blackburn, Cllr. Rob Parker, Cllr. Richard Long, Cllr Tony Proctor

CLERK:

Sharon George

IN ATTENDANCE:

Steph Morley (Prospective Parish Councillor)
Carol Binnington (Deputy Clerk GDTC)

2014/065 CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2014/066 APOLOGIES

Cllr. Deb Crane

Apologies RECEIVED and ACCEPTED

2014/067 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Interest	Declaration	Minute no.
Steph Morley	Personal re LCC	Chairperson of Puddleducks Under Fives based at LCC	2014/073

2014/068 MINUTES

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd September 2014 were APPROVED. It was RESOLVED that the minutes be signed and ADOPTED as a true record. This was PROPOSED by Cllr. Blackburn and SECONDED by Cllr. Long

2014/069 HISTORY TRAIL/FUN RUN

- The order for 500 booklets to accompany the Trail has been placed and delivery is expected this week.
- A discussion took place regarding asking for a donation for the booklets now that the initial batch have been taken free of charge. It was decided that any donations made should be given to charity and as we have supported Combat Stress in the Fun Run that they would be the recipient of any donations. This was PROPOSED by Cllr Proctor and SECONDED by Cllr Blackburn and all Members agreed.
- The Fun Run went very well and we have had a de-briefing meeting to discuss all aspects of the organisation of the event and what could be done better/differently next year. There have been many requests to make this an annual event and we are looking at the possibility of making it a 10k run but this is still under discussion as the costs are considerably more as it has to be a timed event. The working group for the planning of the event is to meet in November to look at pre planning for September 2015.

2014/070 PET UPDATE/REPORT

The Clerk reported on the works completed to date which was shared with Members and it was agreed that a good job has been done by the PET operatives. Members had requested that the data sheet is put in a monthly order so that it can be seen what works have taken place and when – whilst this had been done, Members also requested that the amount of time spent on each 'job' was also recorded to quantify the works and additional detail was also requested. The Clerk will amend the data available for the next Full Council Meeting. We will be putting all of this information/photographs of before/after on our website now that we have the photograph of the PET team sent to us by TWC.

2014/071 REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

ACTION: COUNCIL VACANCY - The Clerk reported that the resignation of Lyndsey Weston as a Parish Councillor has been received due to health and work issues. This leaves a vacancy on the Council. The Clerk is to check if we need to co-opt now as there is an election in May 2015. The ruling is 6 months prior to any elections so the time frame is clear but by the time we have advertised and recruited it would be within the 6 month period. The Clerk will advise members on any outcomes:

The Clerk advised Members that having checked the position with Democratic Services at TWC that we have to advertise the vacancy as the time frame is taken from the date of resignation and that this exceeds the 6 month period. The Clerk will place an advert immediately and will note on it that this vacancy has 6months to run before the elections in May 2015.

ACTION: PIYC BIDS- Submit bids by 5th September:

The Clerk advised that the PIYC Bids had been submitted for both the Lawley Community Centre and for a crossing provision on the Dawley Road. No responses are expected before 17th November as the panel has a considerable number of bids to review. We will be notified of the outcome in due course.

CRB/DBS - The Clerk advised Members that the CRB/DBS certificates are due for renewal. A discussion took place as to whether this was a necessary expenditure/requirement for Members. The Clerk is to seek advice from NALC and the local council as to whether or not this is a legal requirement and advise Members of the outcome of these discussions:

The Clerk advised that after checking with both NALC/SALC and TWC that the response was that we should ask ourselves the question "will any of your Members be in a situation where they will be alone with young people or vulnerable adults?" – If the answer to this question is yes then you need to process a DBS certificate, if the answer is no then you do not. This was discussed and it was decided that we will not be pursuing the renewal of this documentation at this time. All of our Members hold a current CRB/DBS certificate in another capacity but as there is no DBS Passport system at present it is one certificate for each role. We will be saving costs of circa £400 by not renewing and will monitor any situation/event.

2014/072 ELECTION POSTERS

Communication was received from Electoral Services regarding the placement of Election Posters and that during the run up to the European elections earlier this year there were a number of problems with election posters on street furniture being damaged and/or defaced, often with offensive symbols or language, in a number of locations around the Borough. This is not a problem that we have faced here in Telford & Wrekin before and it is a great shame that it happened. We have previously had a protocol in place that permitted you to put election posters on council owned assets. This arrangement has always worked well and generally we have had very few issues with election posters being left up for too long after the election.

However, this last election we did receive complaints about the fact that posters were being defaced and how they were being de-faced and, as an authority, incurred time and expense immediately taking down posters that had offensive symbols or language on them.

We also received some complaints about the proliferation of signs and the fact that some were not taken down until long after the 14 day "grace" period post-election. I am concerned that this vandalism might be a precedent for future elections. Accordingly we are being asked to consider the Council withdrawing its consent for political groups/ candidates in an election from using street furniture and other Council owned land to put up posters supporting their candidature.

Members discussed this proposal and it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Hussey and **SECONDED** by Cllr Parker and unanimously agreed that this proposal should go forward to be considered.

ACTION: The Clerk will inform Democratic Services that we agree with the proposal to not allow political parties/candidates to place posters on any council owned assets in any future elections

2014/073 COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - LAWLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

The meeting of the Full Council was held at the Community Centre to give Members the opportunity to have a look around and check that they were happy with the standards of the building. There is still an issue with some groups not leaving the facilities in a clean state and complaints have been received regarding a dirty toilet. The Clerk had checked out the complaint with the cleaner and she had cleaned the facilities at 6.30am prior to any groups starting for the day but it appears that the first group had not monitored the use of the toilets and not checked them prior to their handover to the next group. The particular group is to be contacted and notices are to be placed in the toilets reminding users to ensure that the facilities are left in a clean state (Flushed toilet, Paper towels in bin, taps turned off etc) . It was also recommended that random checks are undertaken by the Clerk during the working day

ACTION: Clerk to ask group to monitor/check toilets before they depart and to place notices in toilets

2014/074 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- COMMUNITY AFFAIRS – LCC
- PET TEAM REPORT
- COMMUNITY PRIDE PROGRAMME

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is requested that the public and press should not be present

2014/075 CORRESPONDENCE/AOB

The Clerk shared correspondence from:

- Thank you letter from Dawley Baptist Church regarding the grant allocation towards grounds maintenance
- Facebook content regarding a planned Christmas event in Lawley Square – The Clerk was not aware of this and due to the complicated issues regarding land ownership/management and permissions required for any event in the Square, she has asked that the organiser get in touch as soon as possible

2014/076 FINANCE

Payments were considered and authorised

2014/077 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was **NOTED** that the next parish council meeting would take place on **TUESDAY 4th November 2014** at **Unit 2 West Centre Way at 6.30pm**

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Signed..... Chair

Date.....