



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Leonard Smith House, West Centre Way
On Tuesday 2nd February 2016

PRESENT:

Cllr. Darren Blackburn, Cllr. Charles Dillon, Cllr. Jayne Greenaway, Cllr. Kevin Guy, Cllr. Rob Parker,

CLERK:

Sharon George

IN ATTENDANCE:

Nicola White (TWC Community Transport Manager)
Cllr John Ashford (Ward Member)

2015/125 CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2015/126 APOLOGIES

Cllr. Gary Duncombe, Cllr. Bill Gilmour, Cllr. Mike Phillips
Cllr J Seymour, Cllr J Francis & Cllr M Boylan (Ward Members)

APOLOGIES received & ACCEPTED

2015/127 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Interest	Declaration	Minute no.
Cllr. Rob Parker	Personal/Neighbour	Stopping up order discussion	2015/134
Cllr Darren Blackburn	Personal	History Group	2015/130

2015/128 MINUTES

The minutes from the **Full Council meeting** held on **12th January 2016** were **APPROVED**. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be signed and **ADOPTED** as a true record. This was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Kevin Guy and **SECONDED** by Cllr. Darren Blackburn.

*****Item 8 of the Agenda moved forward by Chairman with agreement of Members as there was no public present***

2015/129 BUS SERVICES

Nicola Smith attended the meeting to give an overview to Members on community bus provision for a Lawley to Wellington option following our previous meeting.

A summary of the discussions & actions as below:

- A route option for pick up/drop off within Lawley put forward with a timetable for a service on a Friday (Market Day) although Members can consider alternative locations and timings
- A 3 month pilot scheme could be run with a 1 months' notice period to cancel to assess viability before any formal longer term contract was considered
- Disabled access on all buses – wheelchair users would need to be risk assessed prior to initial journey
- Concessionary passes accepted
- All buses would be hail & ride between stops to assist the less mobile
- Suggested costs for non-concessionary users of £1 each way within Lawley or £1.50 return, £2 each way to Wellington or £3.50 return
- TWC would assist with promotion of service and associated promotional materials although we would obtain our own quotes for any materials.
- Need/popularity of potential service to be assessed
- 2 x Council Members & HB to set up working group within the next week to discuss possible survey amongst residents to assess how many people would use the service and consider route options & pick up/drop off points

ACTION: Clerk to set up meeting between Cllr Greenaway, Cllr Gilmour, HB to discuss/promote a survey to establish need and consider route options available.

To be followed up for discussion item in March

- **History Group**

Cllr Blackburn provided an update on the progress made to date in setting up the Group. The inaugural meeting will be Friday 19th February at Lawley Community Centre at 6.30pm and Cllr Blackburn shared the provisional dates for the next 3 meetings with Members. He also handed out flyers for Members to distribute if possible to advertise the event. This has already been posted on social media and our website. The Clerk is to forward booking forms to Cllr Blackburn for completion and return.

ACTION: Clerk is to forward booking forms to Cllr Blackburn for completion and return.

- **Dogs Concerns**

Following on from the complaints/concerns raised with TWC last year regarding dogs on the village green/play area without leads, Members requested that an update on the possibility of a protection order be further investigated as we expect the issue to arise once the lighter nights/better weather commence.

The Clerk advised that no real progress had been made in establishing if a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) would be made via the LA. Members felt that the LA has a responsibility to action the order as other residents were still being intimidated by the dogs off leads with owners not in control of their animals.

Cllr Guy proposed that the Clerk contact Jonathan Eatough and Richard Partington regarding the issue and ask that the LA consider our request that a PSPO be put in place as this has been an issue for almost 12 months and no action has been taken by the LA. This was **seconded by Cllr Greenaway and agreed by all Members**

ACTION: The Clerk will follow up the PSPO and write to LA.

- **Community usage at Lawley Village Academy**

The Clerk reported that no formal SLA has come forward following discussions with the head teacher and TWC legal department but that she will follow them up as a formal agreement was one of the planning conditions that had to be met. Members requested that the agreement be followed up as a matter of high importance as the school was open and functioning and given that whilst they are pleased that there is a good amount of community usage that this was not the basis of a formal agreement and asked the clerk to check if all planning conditions had been met and discharged as if this was the case then no formal agreement meant a breach of planning conditions

ACTION: Clerk to follow up formal SLA with TWC legal department/planning re Community Use.

- **Overdale Pitches**

The Clerk reported that there had been no information available as to the current status of the land designated for the football pitched. Members requested that an update be sought and reported back at the next meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to request an update on the Pitches Scheme and report back in March.

- **Spring/Summer Event**

The Council are keen to put on a fun day type event in addition to the annual Fun Run and Christmas events and would like to work with residents on this. It was suggested that we hold an event as part of the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations and look at Overdale MUGA as one location with a possibility of Lawley VG as another. The Clerk will check the date of the official event and contact residents groups to set up a working group to organise this. Also to contact Shropshire Events to check their availability. Clerk to report back to Members at the next meeting.

ACTION: Check date for official 90th birthday event, contact residents groups and Shropshire Events. Report back at next meeting

- **Grants Invitations/Expenditure**

Members were asked to promote the Grant scheme to residents to allow them to apply for assistance with projects/groups and to bring forward any requests that they feel appropriate for the local area.

2015/131 PET UPDATE

The Clerk gave an update on work recently undertaken and directed Members to the weekly 'blog' on the website regarding works being undertaken. Cllr Parker requested that more specific information was placed on the website and more frequently.

1. Benches

It was agreed in June last year (2015/032) to purchase 2 picnic tables and 2 benches for Lawley Village Green, and an additional 2 benches to be placed in locations at Dawley Bank and The Rock. Following the theft of the

new bench at Old Park Pool this purchase was delayed, however since no further thefts have been reported it is intended to order these items this month and arrange for them to be installed in March. Total cost for this order is £2,044 + vat (£2,452.80). Delivery cost should be approximately £200

Members were asked to:

- Consider installing an additional bench on The Rock. Following the consultation on the Green Guarantee TWC have proposed to merge the areas known as Bellpit Play Area, Captains Meadow and land off Acer Close into one large green space to be known as The Rock Public Open Space. This is quite a large area and would benefit from 2 benches at opposite ends of the open space. The cost of an additional bench, including the extended legs for secure fixing, would be £324 + vat. This was agreed by Members
- Consider specific locations for the bench to be installed on Dawley Bank – agreed to be placed to look towards the Wrekin
- History Trail - asked to consider if they wish to use some of next years' PET materials budget to purchase benches for locations around the History Trail. This was thought to be a good idea but felt that a 'rustic' simple perching bench would be more in keeping. Sources for this will be investigated and Cllr Blackburn will advise of suitable locations to be considered at the next meeting
- **Spring Planting** - asked to consider using some of next years' PET materials budget for planting in flowerbeds on Lawley Village Green and Dawley Bank. If agreed do they want seeds, bulbs or shrubs; or a mix of all three? It was decided that the meadow planting arrangement of wild flowers would be suitable and in addition requested that a feature be made on Lawley Drive and Rock Road to enhance those areas.

The Clerk also advised Members that she had been contacted about the formal PET agreement that we had signed for a 3 year deal and had been requested to ask Members to consider an amendment to make it a 4 year deal to fall in line with the renewal of the local Council contracts. This would extend our contract until 2019.

Cllr Greenaway proposed acceptance of a 4 year deal and this was **seconded by Cllr Guy**. A **VOTE** was taken and 4 members in favour and Cllr Parker abstained. **Motion was carried**. The Clerk will advise TWC accordingly.

ACTION: Clerk to advise TWC re number of benches/picnic tables to order/ investigate suitable benches for History Trail/ Cllr Blackburn to look at suitable locations on the History Trail/ Request permission for wild flower planning at locations Lawley Drive & The Rock/ Advise TWC that we agree to a 4 year agreement.

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

2015/132 MEETINGS SCHEDULE

This item was placed on the agenda as some Members wished to change the dates of the scheduled meetings as published. The Clerk advised Members that the meetings schedule was a legal requirement and that it had been formally agreed at the start of the new Council term to run for 12 months and should not be changed except for exceptional circumstances. WE have changed dates on a couple of occasions and that we should not be changing it to suit the needs of some Members on a month by month basis. It was agreed that the schedule will stand and be an agenda item in May when it is due for review.

2015/133 FINANCE

- All invoices tabled for payment were duly authorised and signed.
- Staffing proposals – staffing rates of pay were discussed but Members felt that as additional hours to meet the needs of the Council had been agreed that it should be left until after the annual performance reviews had been completed before rates of pay were looked at. This will be an agenda item in April/May.
- Lighting agreement update – The Clerk advised Members that the termination of the lighting agreement had been accepted by TWC with effect from 31st March 2016. We have also been asked to draft a statement of our decisions to be agreed by the LA for publication. Cllr Parker requested that we ask for a copy of a statement made by any Parish that has also withdrawn from the agreement for information.
- Accounting Systems – The Clerk informed Members that she had researched other systems used by Parishes and that the most common used was AdvantEdge IT. This was at a cost of £600pa with a 3-5 year contract. A discussion took place and it was decided that the Clerk will explore SAGE further to establish if additional training would give the Council the reports it needs. She will report back at the next meeting on any developments.
- The Precept request form was duly signed for return to TWC. The Clerk will post in time for the deadline of 8th February.

2015/134 STOPPING UP ORDER

The Clerk advised Members that following the discussion to withdraw our formal objection that a formal response, as agreed by Members, had been submitted as follows:

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 – SECTION 247

PROPOSED STOPPING UP OF HIGHWAY AT LAND ADJOINING 58 GLENDALE, LAWLEY VILLAGE, TELFORD TF4 2PJ

OS GRID REFERENCE: E:367050, N:309118

The original comments we made when placing our objection to this stopping up order were as follows:

We strongly objected to the local planning authority regarding this land being purchased by an individual to extend their front garden on safety grounds and that a precedent would be set regarding the purchase of green open space for private use.

The junction itself already has many shortcomings and problems which will be exacerbated by the removal of open space around the junction:

- This is a busy and dangerous junction. People regularly pull out into traffic heading into and out of Glendale Gardens.
- Hundreds of school children use this junction to cross the road and enter the school premises.
- The junction is incredibly busy at school entry and exit times. Buses for example, regularly have to drive on the pavement on their route down Glendale.
- The double yellow lining is routinely ignored and Police have been called to incidents at the junction.
- Visibility will be reduced with planting and fencing that extends into the green space as it stands.
- Potential further development as per the emerging Local Plan in and around this area could require highways to improve the junction at some point in the future to deal with increasing traffic demands

Following further discussions with Council Members and a plethora of working partners and legal advice taken our position has not changed; however, we do not feel it prudent to draw the Parish Council into any protracted legal arguments, which would be met from the public purse.

We have therefore made the decision to withdraw our formal objection in the wider interests of the community we serve but wish our concerns to this proposal to be noted & kept on file.

The Clerk advised Members that the Stopping Up Order has now been sanctioned.

2015/135 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Dog Concerns - PSPO
- Community Use of Lawley Academy – SLA update
- History Group
- Bus Services - update
- PET Team
- Overdale pitches – update
- Spring/summer event
- Accounting Systems

2015/136 CORRESPONDENCE

- The Clerk informed Members that we had received notification from TWC that Cllr Ashford had agreed funding of £500 towards our Parish projects for the Community from their Ward Pride Fund.

2015/137 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was **NOTED** that the next parish council meeting would take place on **TUESDAY 1st MARCH at Leonard Smith House, West Centre Way commencing at 6.00pm (This will be followed by a Planning Committee Meeting at 8pm)**

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed..... Chair

Date.....