

**DRAFT: THESE MINUTES REMAIN DRAFT UNTIL AGREED AND SIGNED BY THE COUNCIL.**

## **COLWICH PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2017 AT THE PARISH CENTRE, ST. MARY'S ROAD, LITTLE HAYWOOD COMMENCING AT 7:30PM.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Billingsley (Chair); Cllr Clendon; Cllr Cooper; Cllr Featonby; Cllr Gibson and Cllr Sarjant (deputising for Cllr Birt)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Michael Lennon (Parish Clerk).

**CO-OPTEES PRESENT: Colwich Allotments Association:** S Hobbs; V Powell; C Johnson; B Broome; S Richards; R Hill-Baldwin. **BKV:** T Wain and A Hardwick.

**PUBLIC: Cemetery Development Services:** J Smith; **St Stephens Church:** B Symes;

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** J Smith gave a presentation on the likely cost of developing a new cemetery, from inception to opening. He noted that there is a 3:1 split between cremations and burials. When considering the cost of a burial, allowance needs to be made for the ongoing maintenance of the plot. Mr Smith noted that the purchase price, cost of surveys and planning permission equates, on average, to about £100,000 per acre at agricultural land rates. Development land rates could triple the cost. The Chairman thanked Mr Smith who then left the meeting.

### **MINUTES**

**38/17EL APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR EARLY DEPARTURES** were received from Cllr Birt (Dispensation), Cllr Dunn and Cllr Lyall (Dispensation). J Makin (BKV) also sent apologies.

**RESOLVED** to accept the apologies.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Cooper

**SECONDED** Cllr Gibson.

**39/17EL DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

Cllr Billingsley declared an interest in item 47/17EL.

**40/17EL** There were no **WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS.**

**41/17EL THE MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017.**

Insufficient Cllrs were present who had also attended the meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> September. Consideration of the minutes was deferred to the Full Council meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

**42/17EL THE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION.**

R Hill-Baldwin gave a verbal report on a very successful year for the Association and allotment holders. Two skip loads of rubbish and 1 tonne of scrap metal had been removed from the site. Rob Thompson's allotment was judged the Best Kept Plot. The new drainage system is working well as is the wild garden area. There are currently 7 people on the waiting list.

The Chairman thanked the Allotment Association representatives who then left the meeting.

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**43/17EL A NEW BURIAL SITE/GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE PARISH.**

The Chairman invited B Symes to address the Committee.

B Symes noted that consideration is being given to re-using the graveyard plots at St Stephens. Moreover, under the Open Spaces Act 1906 the Parish Council may maintain a local church burial ground once "...they are authorised so to do by the licence or faculty of the bishop." The Committee asked B Symes to provide further clarification as to whether the new burial ground would be considered municipal (i.e. not purely for Church of England deceased); what would be involved in obtaining the faculty from the Lichfield Diocese to re-use the current burial plots; how long would it take to arrange all the necessary faculties/licences so that the Parish Council may commence managing the "new" burial ground.

The Chairman thanked B Symes who then left the meeting.

**44/17EL TO CO-OPT MEMBERS OF HAYWOOD AND COLWICH IN BLOOM.**

**RESOLVED** to co-opt Angela Hardwick, Jean Makin and Tom Wain onto the Committee.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Billingsley

**SECONDED** Cllr Cooper.

A short discussion took place around how the relationship would work. A Hardwick and T Wain then left the meeting.

**45/17EL THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSAL.**

**RESOLVED** to request the Full Council give consideration to allocating £5,500 to the Green Infrastructure Plan (including support for the Haywood and Colwich in Bloom Committee) in the 2018/19 budget.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Billingsley

**SECONDED** Cllr Cooper.

**RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 1.20 and to continue beyond 2½ hours.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Billingsley

**SECONDED** Cllr Cooper.

**46/17EL TO REPLACE THE FENCE AROUND THE CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA.**

**RESOLVED** to request samples of the fencing together with examples of existing installations from the suppliers.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Billingsley

**SECONDED** Cllr Cooper.

**47/17EL THE LETTER FROM A FALLON REGARDING DOG WALKING.**

As 39/17EL above, Cllr Billingsley took no part in the discussion or voting on this item.

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**RESOLVED** that the Clerk writes to A Fallon explaining that the recent installation of new gates should address the issue.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Featonby

**SECONDED** Cllr Cooper.

**48/17EL REQUEST FROM A REGISTER TO INSTALL A MEMORIAL BENCH.**

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk writes to A Register agreeing that a new bench may be installed at the JPF providing it is gifted to the Council.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Billingsley

**SECONDED** Cllr Gibson.

**49/17EL ROAD SAFETY ACROSS THE PARISH.**

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk writes to County Highways requesting that they consider resident parking bays be installed outside Shugborough Cottages with the “centre line” moved across and double yellow lines installed opposite and between the bays.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk writes to County Highways requesting that they review the safety of the A51 through the Parish, especially, but not limited to, that stretch between the northern boundary and Wolseley Bridge. The Clerk to request that all visibility splays are reassessed and evidence provided that they meet the requirements as set out on the County Council’s webpage:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/transport/staffshighways/licences/Vehicle-access/Requirements-and-conditions/Visibility.aspx>

Namely that a 60mph road requires a visibility splay of 215m to the nearside kerb in both directions and that a 40mph road requires a 120m visibility splay.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk writes to all Councillors asking that they consider other hotspots and bring details to the next available Full Council for onward transmission to County Cllr Francis.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk writes to Staffordshire County Council asking that the yellow lines throughout the parish be repainted and that enforcement officers visit the Parish more often to enforce the double yellow lines – especially outside the Spar shop and on the Mill Lane canal bridge.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Billingsley

**SECONDED** Cllr Featonby.

**50/17EL DATE OF NEXT MEETING** to be 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Meeting closed at 9:56pm

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