

## COLWICH PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2018 AT THE PARISH CENTRE, ST. MARYS ROAD, LITTLE HAYWOOD COMMENCING AT 7:30PM.

**PRESENT** (For all or part of the meeting): Cllr Billingsley; Cllr Lyall; Cllr Clendon; Cllr Cooper; Cllr Dunn; Cllr Featonby; Cllr Gibson and Cllr Sarjant.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Anthony Egan (Deputy Parish Clerk).

**CO-OPTEES PRESENT:** C Johnson; V Powell (Allotments Association); A Hardwick and J Makin (Colwich and Haywoods in Bloom).

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There were two members of the public present.

### MINUTES

**The previous Chairman of the committee opened the meeting.**

#### **13/18EL TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR 2018/19**

Cllr Dunn was **NOMINATED** by Cllr Cooper and **SECONDED** by Cllr Lyall.

In the absence of any other nominations, Cllr Dunn was elected as the Chairman of the Committee for 2018/19.

#### **14/18EL TO ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2018/19**

Cllr Gibson was **NOMINATED** by Cllr Billingsley and **SECONDED** by Cllr Sarjant.

In the absence of any other nominations, Cllr Gibson was elected as the Vice Chairman of the Committee for 2018/19.

**In the absence of Cllr Dunn, Cllr Gibson took the Chair.**

**15/18EL APOLOGIES** were received from Cllr Dunn; B Broome; R Hill-Baldwin; S Hobbs and S Richards (Allotments Association); and T Wain (Colwich and Haywoods in Bloom).

**RESOLVED** to accept the apologies.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Billingsley

**SECONDED** Cllr Cooper.

**16/18EL** There were no **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**.

**17/18EL** There were no **WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**.

**18/18EL THE MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2018.**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Billingsley**SECONDED** Cllr Gibson.**19/18EL THE REPORT FROM THE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION ON CURRENT ISSUES.**

V Powell gave a verbal report on the current activity at the site.

**a. Clarification of the budget allocation for the Allotment Committee.**

The Deputy Clerk clarified that the Council has reimbursed the Allotments Association by an amount equivalent to the rents received as in previous years. If any unusual or exceptional funds are expected for next year then this should be advised to the Council in time for the December Finance committee meeting, so that they can be considered and, if approved, included in the Council's budget for the following year.

**b. Maintenance of trees and verges adjacent to the site.**

We have been awaiting receipt of a report from an Arboricultural Surveyor for some time.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk should obtain a report from a different independent Arboricultural Engineer and report to the September Environment & Leisure meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the Allotments Association will write to Stafford Borough Council requesting them to restore the verges to the way they were before being damaged by the recent construction traffic.

**c. Rabbit and pest control.**

The current person authorised to control pests on the allotments site has been ill and the Association has asked the Council if it can help appoint a new pest controller. Cllr Featonby advised that Shugborough may be able to help. The Association will contact Shugborough and report back to the Council in September.

The Association is reviewing data protection regulations and will forward a copy of its privacy policy to the Parish Council office when approved.

The members of the Allotment Association left the meeting.

Item 20/18EL was moved to after 23/18.

**21/18EL UPDATE FROM THE COLWICH AND HAYWOOD IN BLOOM CO-OPTEES.**

A verbal report was given, which included the following points:

- They are working towards the Heart of England in Bloom judging on 12<sup>th</sup> July. They have only entered Great Haywood this year to allow the "River of Flowers" project to settle down in Colwich and Little Haywood.
- They are now employing a gardener to cut the grass at Haywood Abbey.
- Walton Homes have agreed to maintain the planter at the front of the beds at the A51 during the lifetime of the estate.
- The annual visit for "It's Your Neighbourhood" is expected in July.
- They have received a donation from Staffordshire County Council, which along with funds received from other sources should ensure that no finding will be required from the Parish Council for this year.
- Residents' garden competition is to be judged on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

**22/18EL TO CO-OPT REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE "PLASTIC FREE COLWICH" PROJECT ONTO THE COMMITTEE.**

**RESOLVED** to co-opt Sally Collins and Rob Horton onto the Committee.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Billingsley

**SECONDED** Cllr Featonby.

**23/18EL TO CONSIDER AND AGREE THE PROJECT PROPOSAL FROM THE “PLASTIC FREE COLWICH” PROJECT.**

**RESOLVED** to undertake a plastic audit of local businesses, primarily focussing on single use plastics, starting on 6th July 2018.

**RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that an “Annual Sustainability Award” be inaugurated to recognise what businesses are doing to reduce their use of plastic, with the first award being presented at the next Annual Parish Meeting.

**RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council to fund a leaflet.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Featonby

**SECONDED** Cllr Cooper

**20/18EL UPDATE FROM CURB ON THE LATEST POSITION REGARDING GARDENS OF REMEMBRANCE.**

It was reported that the Council is waiting for a price for land before approaching a landowner

**24/18EL VERBAL UPDATE FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN AND CLERK. (Note: no decisions may be taken on this item).**

- The council is contacting builders with the intention of taking over Open Spaces on the various new developments.
  - A new fence for the JPF children’s play area is now on order.
- Report noted

**25/18EL TO CONSIDER AND AGREE A RESPONSE TO THE COUNTY HIGHWAYS A51 PROPOSAL.**

**RESOLVED** to support an extension of the 50mph limit from Hixon to the new proposed 40mph limit at the junction with Gt Haywood and include the clerk’s previous e-mail and copy to the Express & Star.

**PROPOSED** Cllr Billingsley

**SECONDED** Cllr Cooper.

**26/18EL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FOR THE PARISH CENTRE.**

Referred to the recently formed working party, with a report to come to the next Environment & Leisure committee meeting.

**27/18EL THE MILL LANE BENCH.**

**RESOLVED** to repair the Mill Lane bench and, when repaired, then decide whether the bench should be relocated and/or dedicated.

**28/18EL DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018.**

**Meeting closed at 9:41pm.**