

***Priors Marston Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 22nd November 2022 at 7.30pm
At The Priors Hall***

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Cllr Laura Lucas (Chair) Cllr. Pete Dunkley, Cllr. John Franklin, Cllr David Evans, Cllr Robyn May, District Cllr Nigel Rock

In Attendance: Emma Hooker (Clerk)
Mr. Mark Hayward, Two members of the public

Meeting was opened by Chair at 7.33pm

- 1. Apologies:** None
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
None Declared
- 3. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting held on 29th September.**
Minutes were approved by all present at the meeting, as a true record. Signed by the Chair.
- 4. Matters Arising / Outstanding Actions**

Playground Maintenance & RoSPA Report

Clerk has met with both Playscapes Designs and Komplan to discuss the playground and future planning. Drawings and ideas will be sent for discussion. RoSPA report required us to replace both the rope climb and monkey bar handles – Action: Playscape designs will order and replace.

It was also recommended that we reduce the height of both of the towers to enable more daylight into the area and reduce the damp conditions which are bad for the timber and flooring. It was agreed that this should be done.

Policies Review

Amendments discussed will be made and re-circulated for agreement

Litter Picking

Clerk reported that the first community litter picking event was a great success with around 25 people turning up to help. We would like this to be a regular event so Clerk will look at procuring our own equipment to save the travel to Stratford to loan their equipment.

Next event will be in January and will also be a general village tidy up event where we can look at cleaning road signs etc.

The Pound

Cllrs discussed the valuations and agreed next step to meet with the owners of the property for further discussion.

6. District Cllr Nigel Rock Update

ACT ON ENERGY STRATFORD ENERGY SUPPORT FUND

I have received notification that this funding is now open and available to residents living within Stratford upon Avon District (subject to eligibility and availability - ends Mar23):

Stratford Energy Support Fund £500 for households with children £300 for households without children

Eligibility criteria

A gross annual household income under £30,000 and no savings and at least one of the following

- A long term diagnosed and treated health condition e.g., COPD
- Self-employed but unable to work/ income impacted by Covid 19
- Households with unmanageable debt
- Recently made redundant
- Pregnant
- In receipt of DLA or PIP
- In receipt of free school meals
- Other vulnerabilities accepted at our discretion – please call Act on Energy to discuss Please see this link [Warwickshire Archives - Act On Energy](#) for more details

Home heating and energy poverty is clearly an issue at present (and has been in this area for some time). At the Council I spoke a word of warning about how the energy price caps are reported in the media and in this report. This can give the wrong impression that your total bill will be capped, whereas in fact it is cost per kWh Unit that is capped. In this area that is between 32p and 35p per unit for electricity and between 9.8p and 10.6p for gas. (It depends how you pay.) The proportion of houses without central heating can be an indicator of adequately heated homes and our area does not score well on that measure with 3-4% of homes not having central heating (although some areas are worse and some better than that).

Local Influence

Many residents will recognise the rather poor figure in that only 31% agree that they can influence decisions that affect their local area. In my speech I pointed this out and I continue to suggest to the council - and colleagues - that they do not place enough weight on local considerations in planning decisions for instance.

BIN COLLECTIONS

Whilst the problems seem to get less as we go on, there are we still some areas affected, often the same ones. Mostly in our part of the district this is because of the transfer of the rounds to Warwick depot. The response I had back to my concerns was that 'Biffa have had driver changes and as they establish a more stable work force, problems will reduce'. That doesn't really explain why the same areas have problems.

It has been said that the app does not allow you to report missed bins after more than 2 days, and with Friday collections that might be an issue.

I am now told it counts working days so that should be ok at the beginning of the following week. There are still plenty of food waste caddies available if residents haven't had one - to be requested from 123collections@stratford-dc.gov.uk

7. Highways

- WCC Road Safety Audit (Southam Rd) – Date TBC
- Community Speeding Survey – No further update
- Road Closures: The Holloway 19-23rd December (BT)
- Blue Path maintenance – Path has started to be cleared on The Green and School Lane however the repairs outside The Homestead are still pending

8. Planning (Agenda item moved to Item 1)

The following applications were discussed:-

New and Pending Decisions

22/03132/FUL – Land Adj. Keys House, Keys Lane Erection of single self-build dwelling and garage (5 bed) **OBJECT**

22/02120/VARY – Ambercote, School Lane- Variation to design to a 3 bed two storey dwelling - **OBJECT**

22/03389/TREE – Yew Tree Cottage, Keys Lane – T1 Beech tree crown **NO REP**

22/00451/OUT – Chestnut Bank Field – Demolition of all buildings one new dwelling with detached garage change of use from Agricultural to residential **OBJECT**

22/02050/FUL – Land behind Japonica – Conversion of existing barn to a dwelling

22/02051/FUL – Land behind Japonica – new visitor car park space **OBJECT**

22/02729/TREE – Chapel Cottage, Hellidon Hill – Hawthorn prune – **NO REP**

22/0417/LBC and **22/02959/FUL** – The Low House Demolish and rebuild wall and create new parking space **OBJECT**

The parking on the pavement adjacent the junction at Low House was discussed and PC would like the PCSCO to talk to residents regarding this.

Decisions

22/01791/FUL – The Old Vicarage – Conversion of outbuilding to 1 bed dwelling **GRANTED** 16/11/2022

22/01904/FUL – Winterberry Cottage, School Lane – Erection of lean to greenhouse – **GRANTED** 12/09

22/02425/TREE – Trafalgar Cottage, Hardwick rd – Fell pine- No rep **GRANTED** 13/09

22/02397/TREE – Driftwood, School Lane, -Cypress fell – No rep **GRANTED** 20/09

22/02328/FUL – Mulberry House, Shuckburgh Rd – Retrospective planning for wall and fence- No rep **GRANTED** 23/09

TPO/076/001 – Beechcroft, Shuckburgh Rd – Thin Oak crown - **GRANTED**

22/02415/TREE – The Low House, Byfield Rd – Holly pruning – No rep **GRANTED**

22/02453/TREE – Woodcote, The Holloway – Dead Tree removal – No Rep **GRANTED**

22/02729/TREE – Chapel Cottage, Hellidon Hill – Hawthorn prune – No Rep **GRANTED**

Mr. Hayward was invited to talk for 3 minutes regarding the application 22/03132/FUL

Where he set out the plans for the new dwelling (Self-build for him to reside in) and changes made to the previous application which was withdrawn post a judicial review finding.

The Council thanked Mr. Hayward for the information and no further questions were asked. Mr. Hayward left the meeting after the presentation at 7.40pm along with the two members of the public.

Cllr Rock stated he had spoken to the legal dept. at SDC regarding the judicial review as Clerk had requested to see this and was told it was not in the public domain and would need to be requested through a FOI request. The Council feel it pertinent to this application so therefore will request this information and an extension to the deadline if necessary.

9. Finances September/October 2022

Bank Balance as of 1st November £30,507.66

Receipts- £9326.03

Eon credit £46.03

Precept SDC £9280.00

DD = £ 50.53

1&1 Internet £50.52

Payments = £4860.03

Nigel Whitehead Tree works/playground maintenance £900.00

Pete Brown Mowing £400.00 (Aug/Sept)

Playscapes Design £1591.20 rubber resurfacing of playground

RoSPA annual check £84.00

WALC training (Chairmanship/policies) £108.00

Staff salaries and expenses £999.38 (Sept / October)

HSBC bank charges £16.50 (Sept/Oct)

Npower £205.98

Priors Hall hire £60.00

Mr. Ducker new Xmas tree Lights for memorial tree £129.57

MCI Electrical – remove old lights £243.00

Defibrillator new pads £122.40

It was agreed a new laptop for use by the clerk is required to replace the 12 year old current not fit for purpose device with a budget of £1200.00 Inc. VAT to spend.

The Budget for 2023/24 disseminated prior to the meeting was discussed and agreed. The Precept will remain the same for the following year at £18,560.00

The meeting concluded at 8.40pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council is as follows:

**Tuesday 10th January 2022
At The Priors Village Hall
7.30pm All Welcome**