

***Priors Marston Parish Council Meeting
Monday 8th January 2018 at 7.30pm
The Priors Hall, Shuckburgh Road, Priors Marston***

DRAFT MINUTES

In attendance: Cllr John Appleton (Chair) Cllr. John Franklin, Cllr. Nick Fulford, Cllr Viv Nind, Cllr. Bob Stevens, Cllr Chris Williams, Emma Hooker (Clerk), Mr. Brett Smith & Mr. Neil Gilliver (WRCC)

Apologies: Cllr Laura Lucas

1. Declarations of Interest

None Declared

2. Questions from Residents

Mr. Brett Smith was present and spoke about his concerns over speeding vehicles coming into the village from Southam Road.

Cllr Stevens confirmed every village has this concern and villagers are encouraged to have their own speed watch scheme. This would involve 6-8 volunteers hiring or purchasing a speed gun and standing at the side of the road monitoring speed. This information can be sent to the Police for evidence of speeding in the village.

3. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 13th November 2017

Minutes were approved by all present as a true record and signed by Cllr Appleton

4. Matters Arising from previous meeting

1) WRCC Housing Association

Mr. Neil Gilliver from Warwickshire Housing Association presented to the Council on the opportunities for speed calming along Southam Road in regard to the potential development adjacent to Bradshaw Close.

Advice from Highways has been sought and they have confirmed that it is not possible for a new footpath to be put along that stretch of road.

Highways have said they have no concerns over the development and have no reported accidents in that area.

The landowner is not prepared to put any hard surface down on the footpath leading into the village from Bradshaw Close.

Neil stated that the perception of buildings as you drive into the village will slow people down and putting in a village gateway and/or flashing speed signs could be accommodated by WRCC to alleviate the Parish Councils concerns over the road safety aspect of the development. This proposal would be part of the statement to the Parish Council and would be included in any planning application.

Neil explained that WRCC are not prepared to submit a formal planning application to SDC until the Parish Council has approved this development, in principle, in the first instance.

Discussion took place on the benefits of the speeding restriction solutions put forward and the process of an agreement in principle from the Parish Council.

The Parish Council cannot agree to this development before a planning application is made by WRCC, as SDC are the planning authority. WRCC are not prepared to put forward an application until the Parish Council agrees in principle.

Therefore the following actions were agreed before discussing again at the next Parish Council meeting.

1) Parish Council to write to Phillipa Young at SDC with regard to the safety concerns for pedestrians on the Southam Road

2) Neil will liaise with Stratford on the Parish Council's concerns to see if they will comment at this stage or agree in principle to the development.

Comments were made on the number of houses (7) when the housing needs survey highlighted a need for only 5 houses. Neil said the other 2 came from evidence from the SDC waiting list for housing.

Neil will arrange to come back and present to the Parish Council following the above actions.

Neil reiterated again to the Council that a formal planning application cannot go into SDC until the Parish Council have approved this development, in principle, in the first instance.

Cllr also commented on the number of houses (7) when the housing needs survey highlighted a need for 5 houses only, where did the other 2 come from?

Neil seemed to think the other 2 came from evidence from the SDC wait list for housing.

2) Southam Community Car Scheme

Cllrs voted unanimously to take on Southam Town Council's offer of being included in their scheme for £132 a year. Clerk to inform Clerk at Southam Town Council and inform Malcolm Monkhouse.

3) Village Plan Update:

Cllr Fulford gave update to the Council. The Steering group continues to meet regularly and is at the stage of developing the draft questionnaire. February is the target date to get the agreed questionnaires out to the village. After the public information evening we have volunteers from the village who will get involved and help with handing out and collecting the questionnaires.

It was agreed that Parish Councillors would have the opportunity to review and agree questionnaire before distribution

4) Highway Matters

School parking issues – An announcement was included in the last Parish News asking people to park more considerately around the school. This was also sent to other parents who live outside the village via the School. The situation has improved due to the Holly Bush Car Park now being used daily.

Village Greens – Confirmed that Village Greens are registered with SDC although not with the Land registry, but there is no requirement for this to be done. The Village green adjacent to Church Cottage had a vehicle access search through land

registry and we still await further information from them. The right of way map is available at Leamington Spa Library and via Email from Cllr Stevens.

5) ROSPA Report Play Area

Clerk met with John Hutchings from Playscape designs and went through the work highlighted within the ROSPA report in December and is waiting for this quote.

6) BUAB Village boundary consultation

Councillors wish to enter a comment in regard to land that is currently within the build area and believe should be outside. (Land adjacent to The Hermitage) Clerk to send this comment to Mathew Neal at SDC.

This action was completed and Mathew Neal confirmed to Clerk that this has been received and no further action needed currently.

6. District and County Councilors Update

Update District Councilor Chris Williams

The District Council is in the final stages of establishing its Council Tax rise for next year's Budget, which will be set in seven week's time.

At the moment it would appear that an increase of 1% is going to be the recommendation by the Conservative Group for the setting of the budget.

This recommendation is half the 2% allowed by government, less than the rate of inflation, representing an increase of £1.36 per year, less than 3p extra per week for a Band D property, with proportional increases for other Bands.

The District Council is facing inflationary pressures of over 2% for pay and contracts. The Council recognises that family budgets are under significant financial pressures, which is why it is proposing to fund the revenue gap from its reserves to minimise an increase for the 2018/19 financial year. However, it will ultimately be for Elected Members to decide on any increase at the full Council meeting on Monday 26th February 2018.

SDC currently receives approximately 8p for every £ of Council Tax. The County Council receives approximately 80p with the remainder going to the Police.

Update County Council Cllr. Bob Stevens

A special full Council meeting was held to debate the future of Children's services for under 5 year olds as a result of the extensive consultation exercise the final outcome was a compromise in some areas and a delay in closure in others. It is of interest to note that some of the smaller Centres are in Leased premises, which expires in the next 2 years. The lease is unlikely to be renewed

A routine full Council meeting took place in early December although there was nothing significant on the Agenda it was unusually politically charged.

The final Local Government settlement came out 2 days before the Christmas Break. The amount that Warwickshire will receive is only just in line with the predicted (planned) settlement but no allowance was made for additional pressures, which are coming to light as well as the higher than expected staff pay increase.

There is an option of an additional 1% on the Council tax – over and above the 1.99% already allowed. If this is taken it will be swallowed up with increased adult and children's safeguarding costs.

Of course we have also had 2 bouts of extremely snowy and frosty weather over December/January. The county highways have again been able to keep over 40%

of the main roads open and each village should have had at least one route into and out of it gritted. Grit bins have been well used and I am asking highways to ensure they are refilled as requested. We would all like to see more minor roads gritted and especially the footways. But unfortunately this is neither feasible nor affordable

Financial savings will again dominate 2018 as more and more pressures are placed on local Government without the resources to go with them overall council tax will increase with extra Police precept and District precept added to the WCC precept.

7. Planning Matters

NEW Applications

17/03663/TREE – T1 Fell Cherry Tree Court Leet Manor, Keys Lane – NO OBJ

Pending Decisions

17/01373/FUL Cosy Nook, Keys Lane – 2 Storey extension 08/09 NO OBJ

17/03075/FUL – Land School Lane – Erection one dwelling 22/11 NO OBJ subject to conditions

Decisions

17/02563_Old Potash Farm – Swimming Pool and Tennis Court GRANTED 18/10

17/02798/TREE – Church Cottage – Reduction T1, T2 T3 Trees –GRANTED 02/11

16/03154/FUL – Land north of Welsh Road – Construction timber stable and Ménage – GRANTED 02/11

17/03295/TREE – T1 Maple reduction of 40% GRANTED 04/12

17/02825/FUL – Land Shuckburgh Road – Erection one dwelling REFUSED 01/12

17/02831/FUL – demolition of existing stable and construction of indoor ménage GRANTED 21/12

17/03431/TREE - Silver birch Fell , Marston House, Byfield Rd GRANTED 21/12

8. Finance

Bank Balance of 1st January 2018 £22,385.37

Cheque Payments October = £ 2232.20

Direct Debits = £17.96

1&1 Internet - £17.96

Cheque Payments = £910.18

Priors Hardwick Amenity Payment £710.18

Pete Brown Amenity Cleaning £200.00

The Precept 2018/19 was decided. The decision to keep the precept amount unchanged (£17,600) was unanimous.

9. AOB

* The AVC for The Holly Bush Inn – The form has been received by the Clerk who will complete and send off.

* Fly Tipping (Byfield Road) has been reported to SDC.

The Meeting Closed at 9.00pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council is as follows:

Monday 12th March 2018 at The Priors Hall – 7.30pm