



Coughton Parish Council

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held in
The Nursery School, Sambourne Lane, Coughton on Tuesday the 26th of May 2015
commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillor John Gittins (in the Chair)
Councillors Sophie Bayliss and Maureen McTavish

Clerk: Karen Parnell

In attendance: County Councillor Clive Rickhards

Plus two members of the public

Apologies: Cllrs Len Carter and Roy Piddington and District Councillor Mike Gittus

**Declarations of acceptance of Office and notifications of financial interests from the
7th May Parish Council election**

All Councillors accepted office and declared their financial interests.

1. To Elect a Chairman for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Cllr John Gittins was elected as Chairman for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Proposed: Cllr McTavish Seconded: Cllr Bayliss

2. To Elect a Vice-Chairman for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Cllr Sophie Bayliss was elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Proposed: Cllr Gittins Seconded: Cllr McTavish

3. Disclosure of Interests. Councillors are asked to declare personal interests in any items on the agenda. Councillors are reminded that the Code of Conduct that takes effect from September 2012 provides that should they have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion they should withdraw from the room and not seek to influence a decision about the matter.

There were no disclosures of interests.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th March 2014 and Parish Assembly of 17th March 2014 were agreed by the Council to be an accurate record of the meetings, and were duly signed off by the Chairman as such.

5. Matters arising therefrom:

Flooding

A blockage in the sewer on the main road was caused by the resurfacing of the road and resulted in the flooding of three properties. WCC and County Highways are to liaise with Severn Trent regarding the condition of sewers on the Birmingham Road by means of a survey. Subsidence is thought to be an issue.

WCC will write to two new landowners with regard to a silted ditch.

A culvert is in need of repair.

Jetting will be enabled in Coughton Lane.

Cllr Rickhards will liaise with WCC regarding the noise caused by cats eyes and the clearing of gulleys.

Dog Fouling

Cllrs McTavish, Carter and Gittins walked around Coughton to identify problem areas. The school and the nursery are experiencing fouling early in the mornings. SDC's Dog Warden and WCC are liaising with the PC regarding increased signage. It was noted fines can be issued and the public need to be vigilant and pro-active.

Village Group Reports:

Traffic and Transport Group

The railway bridge in Coughton Lane will be demolished during the six week school holiday and the lane will be closed during this time. Works to services will be done beforehand. Drawings of proposals were produced and explained. A wildlife corridor will be incorporated.

Retaining the brick parapet walls was considered but poses an unnecessary risk to safety. Using the bricks therein to create planters is a possibility and costs will be looked into.

Car Park

A School Governors meeting took place last week: Results of the feasibility study are currently unknown. Pupil numbers are likely to increase at the school requiring extra parking at the school.

A price for the land would then have to be agreed with the Thomas White Charity. Cllr Rickhards will look into progress with WCC.

Friends of the ford

The area has been cleaned up successfully. Bob Turner was thanked for his work and a gift will be facilitated before the next PC meeting.

Community group

A meeting took place on 19th March and a further meeting will take place on 8th June.

The Village Fete will take place on 18th July and volunteers are sought.

Nineteen people helped with the recent cemetery tidy up: The next one will be in October.

Neighbourhood Watch: A weekly update is produced and distributed.

Police responded to a suspicious incident in Coughton.

Two village walks (August and Christmas) will be enabled. These are proving successful and volunteers have been found to help with running them.

A Hog Roast will take place in September. Mulled Wine and Skittles are possible events.

VILLAGE ACTION PLAN

The action plan has been updated and will now be published.

6. Comments from the public relating to items on this Agenda.
A WCC grant for cemetery works will be pursued when available.

7. Finance:

The internal audit was completed by Kenneth Dunn on the 9th of April 2015 with no highlighted issues.

To complete the Annual Financial Return for the year ending 31st March, 2015:-

a) Chairman to sign The Statement of Accounts;

This was done and the RFO countersigned.

b) Councillors to complete the Statement of Assurance;
This was universally agreed by the Council.

c) Chairman to sign the Bank Reconciliation as at 31st March, 2015.
This was done by both Chairman and RFO with the consent of the Council.

8. Planning:

Application(s) reference: 15/00772/FUL

Proposed : Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling and detached double garage along with alterations to driveway.

At : Cedarwood , Sambourne Lane, Coughton, Warwickshire B49 5HT

For : Mr K Morel Support Amended

The planning appeal for 38 Coughton Lane is ongoing.

9. School Report:

Not present

It was noted Adam Walsh could become Executive Head of another school whilst still continuing in his role as Head at Coughton School with his good work being unaffected.

10. Accounts for payment.

Cheque No 292 Clerks Salary/Expenses £ 285.00

Cheque No 293 Kenneth Dunn (Internal Audit) £ 20.00

Cheque No 294 WALC £ 94.00

Cheque No 295 Aon UK Limited (Insurance) £ 327.46

Receipt: SDC 50% Precept £ 2250.00

Signed: Cllr Gittins – Cllr McTavish

11. To deal with any correspondence.

12. County Councillor's report:

Cllr Rickhards WCC

Toucan signals will be upgraded at Coughton Court.

The Globe House project in Alcester will incorporate a library.

WCC Task and Finish Group are looking to introduce 20mph speed limits by schools.

Studley Centre is likely to be taken on by a church group and would continue to be involved with community groups and projects.

Warwickshire 'Early Years' has a 92% take up which is impressive.

Air quality will receive greater consideration as part of the planning process.

The bus service will now be run by Diamond and some changes will be made to the timetable in the early evening. A Sunday service to Stratford will be introduced.

13. Questions from the public:

None

Meeting closed: 8.50 pm

.....Chairman 6th July 2015