

**Minutes of the Tanworth-in-Arden Parish Council  
held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 via Zoom**

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Present: Councillor Burgess (Chair), Councillor Adams, Councillor Brougham, Councillor Chaudry, Councillor Doidge, Councillor Ebbutt, Councillor O'Brien, Councillor Ross, Councillor Saunders and Councillor Willmott

In attendance: Julie White, Parish Clerk

Approximately 12 members of the public joined the meeting.

A resident addressed the Parish Council concerning a licensing application at Hockley House, formerly The Oak, on Stratford Road. The resident who is a neighbour of the premises was very alarmed over the application and listed several concerns and asked the Parish Council to object to the application.

County Councillor John Horner addressed the Parish Council:

- Following the past year of lockdown, there have been reports of several small animals being abandoned as people get tired of them. Cllr Horner warned people not to buy any animal from an unlicensed dealer.
- As Warwickshire County Council (WCC) is rolling into purdah, no material decisions will be taken until after the May elections. Government advice is to use postal votes when possible.
- Business owners around Earlswood Lakes are concerned that the closure is for 6 months.

District Councillor Dixon addressed the Parish Council:

- Stratford District Council (SDC) and Warwick District Council (WDC) have held full council meetings and have both resolved to work together with the aim of replacing the 2 District Councils with one larger South Warwickshire District Council. The target date for this is 2024.
- Councillors have been provided with a brief overview of the South Warwickshire Plan which is in the initial stages but moving at pace. This plan will determine where development will occur. Climate change will be the golden thread which will run throughout all the policies. The plan runs up to 2050 and estimates that 1000+ new houses per annum will be required for the next 30 years.
- Cllr Dixon has made representation under the Site Allocation Plan over the proposed built up area boundary (BUAB). The application for 2 bungalows at Merewood in Malthouse Lane has Cllr Dixon's support as he has not identified any harm and the residents have supported proposal.
- Yesterday the Planning Committee met and approved the application for the post to house the CCTV camera in Malthouse Lane.
- Hockley House Hotel has had noise issues for many years and there have been lots of complaints. Residents are in touch with barristers and noise experts and are presenting a united objection.

The Chairman then closed the Public Forum and opened the meeting at 19.53

**20/21/109 - Apologies for absence** – Councillor Oakley and Councillor Jones

**20/21/110**

- **To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda** - Councillor Ross declared a personal interest in item 9 on the agenda, Cank Farm, as he is the Chair of Tanworth Residents' Association.
- **To receive written request for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)**- None
- **To consider any requests for dispensations as appropriate**- None

**1 - Full Council Minutes (virtual via Zoom due to COVID 19 restrictions) - 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

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## **20/21/111**

### **i) - To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Councillor Chaudry proposed that the minutes were a true and accurate record that could be signed by the Chairman. Councillor Willmott seconded the proposal. All in favour.

## **20/21/112– Any matters arising from the minutes, not otherwise dealt with**

- Payment card has been applied for.
- WCC have been asked to let us know suitable places for grit bins along Malthouse Lane – once we hear back, we will consult to confirm if this is what the residents want.
- The Facebook page has been set up; thanks were extended to the Lil the Deputy Clerk for doing this. The Chairman said that now it is up and running, he would like Councillors Chaudry, Ebbutt and Lil to liaise and formulate a policy about what to put on the page, whether advertising, recommendations etc are permitted and also how the PC responds to comments from the public. Cllr Burgess would like the draft policy to be presented at the next meeting of the Full Council.
- The 1857 Trust has acknowledged that the park in Malthouse Lane will stay in the hands of the Parish Council and the £7,500 will be paid over this month to settle all outstanding matters.
- An information report was previously circulated on security. There has been no luck in finding a security firm that can help with locking the park. The Chairman suggested that a team of volunteers will release cars locked in the car park. Concern was raised over this suggestion due to safety issues.
- Trail cameras – this has not been progressed due to SDC citing legal issues.
- The PSPO is progressing within SDC and should be finalised at the full council meeting in April.

## **20/21/113 – Matters raised in the public forum**

The Parish Council supported the member of the public and agreed that an objection would be lodged with SDC to oppose the licencing application at Hockley House.

## **20/21/114 To note items of correspondence received:**

- **SDC** – update on temporary camera in Malthouse Lane
- **Police & Crime Commissioner** – the recent grant application was unsuccessful and the Parish Council was not awarded any money towards the CCTV cameras to tackle the Anti-social behaviour.
- **Facebook Page** – comment received asking why small-scale operators cannot use tip free of charge as the removal of fly tipping must cost SDC a lot of money. This was raised with District Councillor Dixon who said that his predecessor had tried to achieve and failed. It was suggested that the perpetrators were probably not from the SDC area. Concern was also raised over whether now that SDC is charging for green waste, would there be an increase in fly tipping of garden waste.

## **20/21/115 – Finance:**

- i) Councillor Willmott, Chair of the Finance Committee, said that there was a large amount being paid out this month due to the payment to the Trust of £7,500 plus 2 grants.
- ii) Councillor Willmott proposed that the payments as previously circulated were approved en bloc. Councillor Saunders seconded the proposal. All in favour.

## **20/21/116 – Planning:**

- i) Report from Chair of Planning – the system for reviewing planning applications is that 4 councillors (Doidge, Brougham, Chaudry and Saunders) review the applications and collectively make recommended comments. These comments are circulated to all other councillors for approval. Cllr Saunders said that he wanted to discuss the application for Merewood Farm at the meeting to ensure that the views of the Parish Council are correctly reflected. The history was outlined by Cllr Saunders. It was agreed that the Parish Council would object. Whilst the PC has no objection in principle to the development of two bungalows, but there is concern that the application goes beyond the BUAB and the objection would be

on this basis. Cllr Saunders proposed that the objection is lodged with SDC. Seconded by Cllr Brougham. All in favour.

Cllr Ross asked that the application for The Old Cottage on Broad Lane is revisited and the submission of no representation is changed to an objection. This will be looked at to see if an incorrect comment has been lodged.

ii) The monthly planning list was received (appended to the minutes)

iii) The monthly decision list was received.

iv) Cllr Saunders updated the Parish Council on the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

The extended consultation period has ended. An objection to designating of the field behind the churchyard as a Local Green Space (LGS) was raised. Cllr Saunders has discussed this with Cllr Ross and they are suggesting that the 'leg' of the L shape is omitted from the designation to make the case stronger. Councillor Saunders proposed this, seconded by Councillor Ross. All in favour.

### **20/21/117 – Cank Farm – Lighting and pedestrian access to the village**

The 2 issues were taken individually.

1) Lighting - Cllr Ross gave a brief outline of the history. Cllr Ross asked the PC to support the Residents' Association in seeking traditional style lanterns and not support the low-level lighting that is being promoted by Spitfire Homes. Cllr Ross left the meeting due to technical issues. It was proposed by Cllr Burgess that the PC supports the Residents' Association and requests for Victorian style lanterns. On the basis that the actual light is an LED ecological light, this proposal was seconded by Cllr Brougham. 8 votes in favour and 1 abstention. The Clerk will speak to WCC to see what the options are. Cllr Ross was not present at the meeting for the vote.

As Cllr Ross had left the meeting due to technical difficulties, The Chairman varied the order of the agenda and went to Item 10 on the agenda – 20/21/118

Cllr Ross rejoined the meeting after item 20/21/118

- 2) Pedestrian Access - Councillor Ross asked that the Parish Council supports the Tanworth Residents' Association (TiARA) with the following recommendations regarding the footpath:
- Accept the offer of Spitfire Homes to upgrade the 2 existing sets of steps to improve accessibility to the village on the condition that the footpath through Summers' land is no longer a consideration.
  - If the proposal is not accepted, object to the development to allow the planning committee to make a decision.

Cllr Saunders expressed his frustration to Cllr Ross' suggestions and said that the Parish Council should not get involved with a dispute between TiARA and the PCC.

The Chairman made the proposal that the Parish Council supports the Residents' Association in promoting the upgrade of the 2 public footpaths adjacent to the churchyard and accepts the offer of upgrading both sets of steps to improve access to the village. Also to reject a footpath through Summers' field. This was seconded by Councillor Brougham. The motion was carried by 5 votes in favour, 2 votes against and 2 abstentions. Councillor Ross did not take part in the vote.

### **20/21/118 To consider a report by the Tanworth in Arden Parish 1857 Inclosure Award Trust concerning an affordable housing scheme on The Common**

Councillor Ross was not present at the meeting for this item. It was reported that the 1857 Trust had met and had written to the Parish Council asking for their support in proposing an affordable housing scheme. The letter and the report from the Trust had been previously circulated to all Members of the Parish Council. The 1857 Trust also asked that the Parish Council to fund a Housing Needs Survey.

Councillor Burgess proposed that the Parish Council supports the 1857 Trust in promoting an affordable housing scheme on The Common and also that the Parish Council commissions a Housing Needs Survey. Seconded by John Doidge. All in favour.

The Chairman then returned to item 20/21/117 (2)

**20/21/119 To discuss meeting dates and to approve dates to hold the Annual Parish Assembly and the Annual Parish Council Meeting**

The regulations that allow local authorities to hold meetings remotely apply to local authority meetings that are held before 7 May 2021.

This means that, without any further action from the government, all local authorities including local councils must return to face to face meetings from 7 May. NALC is working with a number of national bodies to press the government to extend these regulations beyond this date and will continue to stress the urgency and importance of this issue. However, at this time government has no plans to extend these regulations and so councils should start preparing for the real possibility of no more virtual meetings from May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Legislation states that the Annual Parish Council Meeting (AGM) must be held on any day in May. The Annual Parish Assembly must be held on a day between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> June inclusive.

Therefore, as things stand, we cannot have any form of meeting between May 7<sup>th</sup> & May 16<sup>th</sup>. Between May 17<sup>th</sup> & June 21<sup>st</sup> meetings would have to be held outdoors.

The Chairman proposed that the Annual Parish Assembly is held via Zoom on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April**. On **May 6<sup>th</sup>** – virtual Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (AGM) and meeting of the Full Council via Zoom.

There will be no meeting in June with a return to normal face to face meetings from **July 15<sup>th</sup>**. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Chaudry. All in favour. If legislation changes the Parish Council may wish to revisit.

Councillor Saunders left the meeting.

**20/21/120 - To consider Warwickshire County Council's Footway Lighting Maintenance & Structural Testing quotation**

It was proposed by Councillor Burgess and seconded by Councillor Willmott that we accept WCC's quotation for the annual footway lighting maintenance. All in favour.

Councillor Burgess proposed that the structural testing on the steel posts is not accepted. Seconded by Councillor Willmott. All in favour.

**20/21/121** – Updates from Earlswood ASB and Traffic Issues and Crime Prevention Working Party had been previously circulated.

**20/21/122 - Any Other Business/matters for future agenda**

Councillor Chaudry would like the Parish Council to consider adopting the telephone kiosk on The Green in Tanworth in Arden.

The meeting closed at 21.14pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Planning List for Period – 19<sup>th</sup> February – 18<sup>th</sup> March

Application No	Address	Proposal	Comment
20/03690/FUL	15 Malthouse Lane, Earlswood	Proposed two storey side extension and part single/two storey extension to the rear	<b>No Representation</b> but make the following comment: The PC endorses Cllr Dixon's comments regarding the proposal to build up to the boundary and recommend that the width of the utility/store is reduced to enable access to the rear garden without the need to pass through the house. The PC is also concerned about the trend for enlarging smaller houses. The application is substantially extending a semi-detached house in a row of semis. There is an identified need in our parish for more affordable homes.
20/01869	Beoley Lodge, Alcester Road	Amended application - Proposed Building for Agriculture and Forestry Use	Objection. We support the concerns raised by the ward councillor and it is becoming clear that there is no agricultural need for the size of the proposed building in the Green Belt.
21/00093/FUL	Grange Bungalow, Forde Hall Lane	Single Storey rear extension and garage first floor conversion	No Representation
21/00502/FUL	Westbrook, Valley Road	New gate to access road	No Representation
21/00263/FUL	The Old Cottage, Broad Lane	New build dwelling & related access	Objection Overdevelopment of a tiny site building very close to the front boundary and unknown parking provision. Plans very unclear but no acceptable vehicle access on to the application site to park a vehicle and leave the land without reversing on to a public right of way.
21/00608/TREE	St Mary Magdalene Church	T1 – sycamore – Fell. T2 – English Oak – Reduce height from 18m to 12m and spread from 8m to 5.5m. T3 – horse chestnut – Fell.	No Representation
21/00661/AAPA	Brock cottage, Poolhead Lane.	Notification for prior approval, not a formal planning application: 2.17m extension above the original dwelling house to facilitate one additional storey to an existing detached dwelling house	No Representation