

**Minutes of the Tanworth-in-Arden Parish Council Meeting
held on Thursday 20th February 2020 at Earlswood Village Hall**

Public Forum

There were 4 people present in the Public Forum including County Council Horner and District Councillor Dixon.

A gentleman addressed the Parish Council (PC) on behalf of some residents of Nuthurst Grange Lane. He has attended previous meetings to try and gain Parish Council support to extinguish a footpath which goes across their land as there is an established alternative route. He again emphasised the safety aspect of the request.

A Planning Consultant representing the owners of the Merewood Farm site in Malthouse Lane addressed the Parish Council. The recent planning application to demolish the existing buildings and to erect 3 detached dwellings has been withdrawn. She apologised and said that they got it wrong and she now hopes to work with everyone including the neighbours. They are now looking to put 2 lower level dwellings on the site with a more barn like style to reflect what's currently there.

Jenny Buckley from the Earlswood and Forshaw Heath Residents' Association (EFHRA) spoke about the following matters:

- Will the PC be following up on its letter to Stratford District Council (SDC) re site allocations? EFHRA also wrote a letter and will follow it up.
- Storm Dennis caused Valley Road to flood which is the first time since the River Blythe was cleared. This was due to the Canal and River Trust (CRT) diverting Spring Brook in to the River Blythe and lowering the water level in Engine Pool to carry out maintenance on the dam.
- The fishing platforms around Earlswood Lakes have mesh on them as a temporary measure as a safety measure.
- There is a Lakes clean up on April 5th. Jenny asked for permission to open the barrier to the park.

County Councillor John Horner gave the following report:

- Warwickshire County Council (WCC) has approved its budget with a 2% general increase and a 2% increase in adult social care.
- The Task and Finish Group for Climate Change has concluded that more studies are required. The UK should be carbon neutral by 2050
- There was an A4189 Action Group Summit chaired by Nadhim Zahawi MP recently but the outcome was that there is little likelihood of any safety measure being taken by WCC. With the Amazon warehouse coming to the Winyates Triangle and also possibly Stobbarts the A4189 will be very busy and possibly this will have a knock on effect on our roads.

District Councillor Tony Dixon gave the following report:

- The Council meets shortly to set the Capital and Revenue budgets for 2020/21. This will follow a motion organised by the opposition to postpone the implementation of a £40 per bin green waste charge. Decisions, once made, cannot normally be reversed so soon but when 10 or more councillors sign a Notice of Motion, the matter can be revisited by the Full Council and debated for a second time. Council tax provides about 40% of Stratford's income and in 2020/21 SDC will receive £5.3m from Central Government via the New Homes Bonus. This bonus will no longer be available in 3 years' time. Even after this contribution SDC will need to use £1.5m of reserves and current projections indicate that reserves will halve over the next 3 years so a new revenue stream is required and the collection of green waste will go some way to closing SDC's revenue deficit. The Government restricts how much councils' may increase Council Tax unless they decide to hold a referendum of the local community.

Warwick District is planning to hold such a referendum to enable them to fund environmental measures to tackle global warming. Many councils are watching to see how Warwick's referendum progresses. SDC has produced a Supplementary Planning Document on climate change which is currently out for consultation ending February 21st.

- Councillor Dixon spoke about the built up area boundary (BUAB). He said that last summer he advised the PC that SDC was proposing to draw the BUAB to include the barns but not the field. The PC decided not to change their proposed BUAB although Cllr Saunders commented that he personally would have no objection to including the barns but not the field. Subsequently, SDC consulted on the BUAB's for all local service villages in the district but did not specifically contact each Parish where changes were being proposed but left it for each Parish to review the consultation. SDC is unable to re-open the consultation period. Cllr Dixon said that he expects that when submitting the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) the PC will be asked to comment on the differences between the two and will be able to either adjust or justify their drawing of the boundary. Neither SDC's nor the PC's boundary is currently fixed, both documents are only in draft form, but the district Officers drew their boundary after visiting sites and reviewing each Local Service Village. With respect to Merewood Farm, Cllr Dixon confirmed that he has been in discussion with the applicants and the application for 3 new houses has been withdrawn. Cllr Dixon said that the applicant would welcome the opportunity to discuss the site with the PC to see if some common ground can be agreed to ensure that this waste land can be secured and not allowed to remain an eyesore waiting for some alternative and perhaps unwelcome development.

Councillor Ross referred to an email that the PC received from John Careford, Policy Manager at SDC. Cllr Ross highlighted the following sentences which said "... *Notwithstanding this, for other reasons, it is likely that further consultation will be undertaken on the SAP which will enable you to submit further comments*" and "*However, I do concede that there is room for improvement regarding the communication around plan consultations and we will seek to improve moving forwards*" which appears to contradict what Councillor Dixon said in his report.

Councillor Saunders commented that SDC should have put a sentence in the letter re the Site Allocation Plan (SAP) stating that some of the BUAB's have been changed. Changes were made to the BUABS but the PC was not told.

Jenny Buckley said that the SAP consultation statement says that certain LSV's were not considered necessary to consult with directly.

The Public Forum closed at 20.16

**Minutes of the Tanworth-in-Arden Parish Council Meeting
held on Thursday 20th February at Earlswood Village Hall**

Present: Councillor Willmott (Chair), Councillor Adams, Councillor Brougham, Councillor Burgess, Councillor Chaudry, Councillor Doidge, Councillor Jones, Councillor Ross, Councillor Saunders

In attendance: Julie White, Parish Clerk

19/20/193 - Apologies for absence – Councillor Ebbutt, Councillor O'Brien and Councillor Oakley

19/20/194

- **To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda**- none
- **To receive written request for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)**- None
- **To consider any requests for dispensations as appropriate**- None

19/20/195 - To Confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 16th January 2020

Councillor Ross proposed that these minutes were a true and accurate record. Councillor Burgess seconded the proposal. All those present at the meeting of 16th January were in favour. The Chairman signed the minutes.

19/20/196 - Matters arising from the previous meeting, not otherwise dealt with:

The following was reported.

- There has been no response to date from the Co-op confirming the current situation, although it is understood to be up for sale for £525,000. The new Co-op in Hockley Heath is at Heart of England Co-op and the Co-op in Earlswood is a Mid Counties Co-op so it is unlikely that the sale of the shop in Earlswood is connected to the new shop in Hockley Heath. The Post Office responded by saying that they have no information on file, however if this was to happen any ongoing proposals and applications must be kept confidential at all times.
- Re CCTV in Earlswood. The situation is pretty much the same as before and the Earlswood camera is proving to be very challenging. SDC has now engaged a consultant to look in to the options. Once the findings of the consultant have been received they will hopefully be in a position to consult with the residents.
- Baz Baines has agreed to attend the Parish Assembly to speak about SmartWater. The Clerk asked Sgt Eagles re SmartWater and asked the following questions:
 - 1) What's the Police opinion on adopting the scheme?
 - 2) How many items have been recovered through Smart Water in the last few years?
 - 3) Will people who invested in Smart Water a while ago be credited or will they need to sign up again?
 - 4) How long does Smart Water last for?Sgt Eagles passed on these queries to Baz Baines as he did not have the answers. Mr Baines said that he will have the answers to present at the Parish Assembly.
- The Clerk was asked to apply for the Severn Trent Grant.

19/20/197 – Matters raised in the Public Forum

- Footpath SD260 is on the agenda
- Permission to open the barrier on April 5th was granted for the Lakes clean up
- Merewood – comments from the Planning Consultant were noted

Councillor Saunders commented that whilst the District Councillor sticks to his 5 minute time slot the County Councillor speaks for over 15 minutes often on matters not relating to our Parish. The Clerk was asked to remind him of the 5 minute time limit and ask him to keep to matters relating to our Parish.

19/20/198 - To note items of correspondence received - The list of correspondence was noted with the following items being highlighted:

6.61 – SLCC – Branch Meeting March 25th – Presentation by Clare Eynon SDC. The Clerk was asked to attend.

6.56 – Mr & Mrs Moore – flooding in the keyhole. Clerk to write to SDC asking them to take action as it is their responsibility and it impacting on our Right of Access to the park.

19/20/199 – Finance:

i) Report from Chair of Finance – no report

ii) To authorise the signing of orders for payment

Councillor Jones proposed that the payments were accepted en bloc and £4,500 is transferred from the Deposit Account to the Current Account. Seconded by Councillor Adams. All in favour. The Clerk was asked to investigate acquiring a payment card as she had to spend a lot of her own money for reimbursement this month.

iii) To receive the third quarter monitoring report - The monitoring report and bank reconciliation for December had been previously circulated. It was proposed by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Adams that the monitoring report and bank reconciliation up to 31st December 2019 were accepted. All in favour.

19/20/200 – Planning -

i) To adopt the Minutes of the Planning Committee of 5th December 2019

It was proposed by Councillor Saunders and seconded by Councillor Willmott that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 5th December are adopted by the Parish Council. All in favour.

ii) Report from the Chair of Planning - none

iii) Update on the NDP – The consultation is 2 weeks in. After the consultation finishes each objection will have to be considered and a response sent to SDC.

iii) To note decision notices:

Application	Address	Proposal	Decision
19/02981/FUL	Merewood farm, Malthouse lane	Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 3 detached dwellings	Withdrawn

iv) To consider planning applications:

Application	Address	Proposal	Comment
19/03621/VARY	169 Earlswood Common	Vary condition 2 of application 19/02574/FUL	No representation
19/03522/FUL Information only	Ramynivas 45 The Common	Amended plan submitted making small changes to the proposed elevations	No representation
19/03488/FUL	Fairways, Penn Lane	Proposed conservatory/sun lounge extension to front of bungalow	No representation
20/00261/FUL	2 New Cottage, Nuthurst Lane	Demolition of rear wing and construction of two storey side extension	No representation

It was noted that application 19/02851/FUL for Dinmor is going to SDC's Committee on March 4th. Councillor Brougham agreed to attend to represent the Parish Council.

19/20/201 - To consider a request to extinguish part of footpath SD260 (200m) from where it crosses path SD259 travelling East to the A3400.

Councillors Burgess, Adams and Ross has individually visited the site and walked on the footpath. After discussion a vote was taken on whether to support extinguishing part of the footpath. There were 2 votes in favour, 3 votes against and 4 abstentions. Therefore, the Parish Council will not be supporting any application to extinguish the footpath.

19/20/202 - To approve the instigation of Parish Council Awards to recognise Community Service in the parish

It was proposed by Councillor Willmott and seconded by Councillor Jones that the awards are implemented as per the paperwork previously circulated. All in favour.

19/20/203- To consider issuing a questionnaire to Bell Field residents to establish what the majority view is regarding trying to alleviate the parking issues.

A draft of a questionnaire had been circulated. A couple of amendments were suggested. With these amendments Councillor Willmott proposed that this is printed off and circulated to all residents of Bellfield. Seconded by Councillor Saunders. All in favour. Councillor Ross was thanked as he offered to deliver each questionnaire by hand.

19/20/204 – To discuss if the Parish Council would be prepared to underwrite the installation and install average speed cameras, if Warwickshire County Council permits parish councils to have them.

After discussion it was proposed by Councillor Willmott and seconded by Councillor Ross that the PC agrees in principle to the idea of underwriting the installation of average speed cameras. This would be subject to agreeing the location of the cameras and finding out other finer details. All in favour. The Clerk to advise County Councillor Horner.

19/20/205 - To consider purchasing a new computer and screen for the Parish Office

Councillor Willmott proposed that the Deputy Clerk's computer and screen is replaced and a quote obtained for £505 for the computer and £155 for the monitor is accepted. Set up fee will be extra. Also both the Clerk and Deputy will be upgraded to Business Premium Office 365 at an extra £9.40 per month. Seconded by Councillor Jones. All in favour.

19/20/206 - To approve the disposal of the Canon printer

It was proposed by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Doidge that the Canon printer is disposed of and removed from the asset register. All in favour.

19/20/207 - Work around the Parish:

- Streetname signs in Blind Lane down
- Blind Lane direction signs damaged
- Road safety improvements on The Common are supposed to be carried out before the end of the financial year but nothing has happened yet. The Clerk to chase.
- **Potholes:** Vicarage Hill – half way down
The Common – opposite The Reservoir
Penn Lane

Broad Lane – near junction of Penn Lane

19/20/208 - Items for future agenda/any other business –

- Update on the situation regarding the 1857 Trust administered by the Parish Council. The Chairman said that he would liaise with The Clerk.

19/20/209 – To note date, place and time of next meeting:

19th March at Tanworth Village Hall, 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 21.29

Signed _____

Chairman of Meeting _____ Date