

**Minutes of the Tanworth-in-Arden Parish Council Meeting  
held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at Earlswood Village Hall**

**Public Forum**

There were 2 people present in the Public Forum. To keep the numbers down due to the Coronavirus outbreak, County Councillor Horner, District Councillor Dixon and Jenny Buckley, Chair of Earlswood and Forshaw Heath Residents' Association (EFRHA) had been advised not to attend, but to send a written report instead. Councillor Horner referred the Parish Council to his recent monthly report. No report was received from District Councillor Dixon. Jenny Buckley sent in a report on behalf of the Earlswood and Forshaw Heath Residents' Association and this was circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The report is appended to these minutes.

Mr Dick King is a Parish Council Trustee of the Tanworth Educational Foundation (TEF). Mr King's 5 year term has expired and he addressed the Public Forum by saying that he would like to remain on the TEF and had served on there as a Parish Council Trustee since 1999.

Valerie Hake, Chair of TEF said that Dick King is a great asset to the TEF and they would like him to be reappointed.

The Chairman closed the Public Forum

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held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March at Earlswood Village Hall**

Present: Councillor Willmott (Chair), Councillor Adams, Councillor Brougham, Councillor Burgess, Councillor Chaudry, Councillor Jones, Councillor Oakley

In attendance: Julie White, Parish Clerk

Councillor Doidge, **19/20/210 - Apologies for absence** – Councillor Ebbutt, Councillor O'Brien, Councillor Ross, Councillor Saunders and Councillor Doidge

**19/20/211**

- **To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda-** Councillors Burgess and Jones declared an interest as they are Parish Council Trustees on the Tanworth Educational Foundation (TEF)
- **To receive written request for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)-** None
- **To consider any requests for dispensations as appropriate-** None

**19/20/212 - To Confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

Councillor Willmott proposed that these minutes were a true and accurate record. Councillor Jones seconded the proposal. All those present at the meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> February were in favour. The Chairman signed the minutes.

**19/20/213 - Matters arising from the previous meeting, not otherwise dealt with:** none raised

**19/20/214 – Matters raised in the Public Forum –** The only matter raised appears on the agenda

**19/20/215** - The Chairman amended the order of the agenda and brought forward item 16:

**In view of the Coronavirus situation, if meetings are cancelled, to resolve for a period of 6 months: (RW)**

- a) To delegate the power to make routine payments to the Clerk with the authorisation of The Chair
- b) To delegate the power to the Clerk to put in planning comments with the authorisation of The Chair of Planning

The Chairman proposed an amendment to his motion:

- a) To delegate to The Clerk the power to make routine payments with the authorisation of the Chair, or if the Chair is incapacitated to the Vice Chair. Also to give the Clerk delegated powers to make any necessary decisions during the Coronavirus crisis. All Parish Council Members to be consulted prior to any decisions being taken. These delegated powers are to last for a period of 3 months.
- b) To delegate power to the Clerk to put in planning comments with the authorisation of The Chair of Planning for a period of 3 months. All Parish Council Members are to be consulted over each planning comment.

The amendment was proposed by Councillor Willmott and seconded by Councillor Oakley. All in favour. All matters will be circulated to all members for comment if they so wish. It is up to Councillors to check for consultation.

For both a) and b) above - no response will be taken as there are no concerns raised.

**19/20/216 - To note items of correspondence received** - The list of correspondence had been previously circulated. No items were highlighted:

**19/20/217 - Finance**

- i) Report from the Chairman of Finance – no report
- ii) To authorise the signing of orders for payment – due to the delegated powers this item was deferred.

**19/20/218 Planning** – all matters deferred to be dealt with under delegated powers.

**19/20/219 - To consider re-appointing Dick King as a Parish Council representative on the Tanworth Educational Foundation (TEF)**

Councillors Burgess and Jones left the room. Councillor Oakley put in a counter proposal that John Brougham replaces Dick King as a Parish Council representative on the TEF. John Brougham seconded himself. There were 2 votes against this proposal and 1 abstention. The Chairman then returned to the agenda item and proposed that Dick King is reappointed as the PC representative. This was seconded by Councillor Chaudry. 2 votes against and one abstention. Councillor Oakley strongly insisted that his counter-proposal was still on the floor and in this situation the Chairman had to use his casting vote in favour of it. The Clerk did not agree with this. It was agreed that advice needed to be sought from the Monitoring Officer/WALC and the item was deferred.

**19/20/220 - To appoint a Working Party of 3 Parish Councillors and the Deputy Clerk with delegated powers to approve the recipients of the Parish Council Awards.** - item deferred.

**19/20/221 – To consider approving a replacement streetlight outside 89 The Common, Earlswood**

It was proposed by Councillor Willmott and seconded by Councillor Jones that the streetlight on The Common is replaced. The estimated cost quoted by WCC is £1400 plus VAT. All in favour.

**19/20/222 - To consider Warwickshire County Council's annual footway lighting maintenance and structural testing quote**

It was proposed by Councillor Willmott that the annual lighting maintenance quotation is accepted. The structural testing would not be acted upon at the present time. Seconded by Councillor Jones. All in favour.

**19/20/223 - To look at how the Parish Council can help where excessive high speed causes danger to life outside the built up area (PO) – Item deferred.**

**19/20/224-To consider a request to erect a temporary wooden cross on the Village Green from April 1– 15**

It was proposed by Councillor Willmott and seconded by Councillor Oakley that permission is granted for the erection of the wooden cross during the Easter period. All in favour.

**19/20/225 - To consider supporting the Local Electricity Bill, supported by NALC, to empower local communities to sell locally generated clean energy directly to local customers by establishing a statutory Right to Local Supply – item deferred**

**19/20/226 - Work around the Parish – Any items to be reported to the office**

**19/20/227 - Items for future agenda/any other business – none**

**19/20/228 – To note date, place and time of next meeting:**

**All meetings are cancelled for the foreseeable future due to the Coronavirus crisis.**

The meeting closed at 19.58

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman of Meeting \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
**Report from Earlswood and Forshaw Heath Residents' Association**

*There is ongoing activity organising help for those vulnerable residents in the community.*

*I have copied the Office in as a means of co-ordinating. Fantastic offer of free meals from a resident in Broad Lane.*

*I imagine Speed Watch will be on the back burner – again, just when we were getting organised.*

*Uncertainty around our next clean up, more to do with availability of CRT personnel than a problem with volunteers, there are plenty of them signed up.*

*We would like to thank the PC for their assistance in getting the funding for flood alleviation, £2000 for Valley road. We'd like to thank Cllr. Horner for his assistance in this matter also.*

*We intend fully supporting the NDP.*

*We have spoken to residents in Malthouse Lane and Merewood Farm and have listened to their concerns. Still more to be done on this. Disappointing to hear that one resident contacted a Parish councillor on this but received no response. There are elderly people here who have been frightened by talk of illegal use of the field behind and they have felt harassed by the developer. It's a most unfortunate business.*

*We are pleased to hear that we have assurances from SDC Planning that the SAP Consultation will be re-opened and we will be given the chance to respond. It was said this would happen towards the end of the year. Pressure needs to be maintained just to be sure that assurance doesn't slip under something.*

*Due to the demanding issues currently, I haven't had time to read some paperwork but will do my best to do this in the next day or so.*

*Lunch club has closed down until further notice.*

*The meeting next week, Arden Chairs, has, as you know, been cancelled, we have asked for links to updated information on the Covid-19 and associated. There is talk of doing something on Skype next week in place of the meeting.*

*In these extreme circumstances we would appreciate good communications, that works both ways of course and we will do our best.*

*For now the main concern is identifying those most in need. Outlying residents are difficult in this respect so any help with this would be appreciated.*

*The ditches in Tithe Barn Lane are still blocked and the road continually wet or flooded. Does the PC know who owns this land, the fields alongside?*

*I met with SMBC highways and hopefully the drains at the crossroads of Lady Lane and Norton Lane will be cleared soon. The water was gushing out of them and it was running down into Valley road, we don't need extra water there. I have also asked WSMBC highways about weight limits on the bridges, top of Valley road and middle of Lady Lane. There isn't signage on either of these so this needs to be addressed. Both aging and never meant to take the traffic they are now experiencing.*

*I'll let you know how that goes.*

*Enough from me but I wish everyone well and hope to see you all out the other side.*