

LUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18th NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Gist, Hegarty, Heyworth and Jones.

In Attendance: J. Madge (Clerk), County Councillor Horner and District Councillor Vaudry and 1 member of the public

Apologies: None

1. Public Participation: None.
2. Declarations of any Personal or Prejudicial Interests by Members including consideration and decisions upon written requests for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any): None
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 20th October 2014 had been circulated and were approved and signed.
4. Matters Arising:
 - (a) Village Green: Still no response from Ragley Estate.
 - (b) Lock: No work has started yet. Re-visit in the spring.
 - (c) Joint working for road maintenance: Contact to be made with surrounding Councils to see if there is interest in co-operating.
5. County Councillor's Report: CCllr Horner reported as follows:
 - (a) WCC has had an inspection from Local Government Association, the result of which was reasonably good. They reported a positive working relationship across the political groups.
 - (b) There is a considerable shortage of foster carers in the county, and new applicants are desperately required.
 - (c) There have been consultations regarding reducing the funding provided by WCC to parish councils and the third sector such as charities due to the pressure on WCC's funding caused by such factors as the continuing increasing costs of providing school and special educational needs transportation, the implementation of the Care Act from 1st April 2015 and the fact that public health duties transferred to WCC from the government last year but the funding has not been transferred by the Health Ministry.
 - (d) Last week was designated as Restorative Justice Week, which is an area in which WCC has a very high performing service
 - (e) There is a competition for school children to find a name for a gritting truck to raise awareness of winter services.
 - (f) There is concern over the number of over 60s with serious drinking problems
 - (g) SpeedAware signs – the one outside Glen Yeat is frozen on a meaningless display and the one near Dodwell Park is broken again.
6. District Councillor's Report: DCllr Vaudry reported as follows:
 - (a) Core Strategy is still dominating Council business. It is still with the Planning Inspector, who has questioned the amount of land classified as business land. Matters in the Core Strategy which have not been contested can now be viewed

as having serious weight in planning decisions, but anything that is being contested, including the figures for the 5 year housing supply, do not have any such weight. Revision to code of conduct proposed to ensure that political parties will be unable to “whip” Councillors to vote in a particular way when making planning decisions, arising from the fact that the Conservative Councillors were “whipped” to vote for the Gaydon/Lighthorne proposal in the Core Strategy. There continues to be pressure for the housing numbers in the District to increase from Birmingham and other neighbouring areas. The Long Marston proposal could still be a possibility and efforts are being made to ensure that the infrastructure benefits promised by Cala Homes are kept on the table, particular the funding of a ring road

- (b) An application has been made for housing on the Calor Gas site on the Evesham Road on the Bidford side of the turning to Welford on Avon
- (c) There could be finance available for defibrillators.

7. Finance:

- (a) The Community Account stood at £7,293.84.
- (b) Wayleave payment of £10.00 from D Higgins had been received
- (c) Bill of £30.00 for Grant Thornton (external Auditor) passed for payment.

8. Specific Agenda Items:

- (a) Possible acquisition and location of a defibrillator. Cllr Heyworth has discovered that the telephone box in Luddington Village may be available for adoption by the Council for £1.00, but questions arise as to whether locating the defibrillator within it would necessitate losing the use of the telephone. It was agreed to investigate the level of usage of the public telephone, as accepted that mobile phone signals are not good in the vicinity. British Heart Foundation charge £400.00 for supply of defibrillator kit and relevant training. It was suggested that the Village Fund be approached to adopt the provision of a defibrillator as one of its designated charitable objectives for 2015. It was suggested that a suitable location within Dodwell Park would be either at the shop or at the rear of the shower block. It is likely that funds for a defibrillator to be obtained would be available from the site.
- (b) Graffiti on Road Sign and Blocked Road Drain outside 205/205 Luddington: Both matters had been reported, and the drain had been cleared. The sign had not yet been cleaned.

9. Correspondence:

- (a) SDC – Parish and Partners Briefing
- (b) Fields in Trust – Centenary Fields programme
- (c) The Norton Foundation – Grant to help Young People
- (d) WCC – Winter Service 2014/15 and Primary Gritting Routes
- (e) WCC – Meet the Leaders Partnership Conference – 4th December 2014 at Stratford Racecourse
- (f) CSW Broadband Project Update October 2014.
- (g) WALC – Briefing Notes re changes to external audit from 2017/18 and Transparency Code
- (h) WALC Parish and Town Council Liaison Meeting 26th February 2015.

- (i) WALC – Election of 3 members of NALC’s Smaller Councils’ Committee 2015.
- (j) WALC – Government consultation on Planning and Travellers requiring response by 26th November 2014. Clerk to circulate.
- (k) WALC – Government consultation on talking “Partial Not-Spots in Mobile Phone Coverage” requiring response by 23rd November 2014. Clerk to circulate.
- (l) WALC – WCC consultation on budget cuts to Parish and Town Councils and Third Sector. Clerk to circulate.
- (m) CSW Broadband – confirmation that survey results will be used.
- (n) Clerk to circulate further relevant correspondence

10. Planning: None

11. Business for Future Consideration: Letter of thanks to Western Power Distribution for the additional work they included into the original undergrounding cable scheme at the Village Green, especially to the Wayleave Officer Helen Alcock. Thanks also expressed to the Chairman for his input into the project and oversight of the work.

Next Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 20th January 2015 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm