

LUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16th JUNE 2015 AT 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Hegarty, Hughes, Gist, Jones, Harriott and Beeley.

In Attendance: J. Madge (Clerk), County Councillor Horner, District Councillor Barnes and 4 members of the public

Apologies: None

1. Public Participation: The owners of Clover Cottage Luddington wished to draw the Council's attention to problems with surface water drainage outside their property caused by blockages to the drains in the road and at the corner outside 204/5 Luddington, which had caused flooding on 13th June during heavy rainfall. They have reported the problem to both WCC Highways Department and to Severn Trent, as it appears there is blockage to the sewer and the manholes.
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 19th May 2015 had been circulated. The date at paragraph 19(a) was amended to 16th June (not 18th June). Subject to this amendment the Minutes were approved and signed.
3. Matters Arising: Village Green: Ragley Estate Manager has received a valuation of the site at £5,000.00 but had not yet spoken with Lord Hertford about any proposals.
4. County Councillor's Report: CCllr Horner sent a written report as follows:
 - (a) Warwickshire's early learning take-up is the best in the country. WCC's Early Years team has had a government seal of approval having achieved the country's highest take up rates of early years learning.
 - (b) Cyber crime is a very real threat to small businesses. WCC Trading Standards recently held a seminar where a hacker showed in front of the audience how easy it was to break into business computer systems using a web site and an email address given by a member of the audience.. Cyber crime must be taken seriously by everyone.
 - (c) Work on the development of the multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) continues. In the MASH practitioners and managers of agencies working with children and adults will be co-located and provide efficiencies in service delivery and improve outcomes for Warwickshire residents. This method of working has been successfully demonstrated by the Youth Justice Centre in Leamington.
 - (d) The success of the Council's Priority Families initiative has been recognised and WCC has been asked to join a small group of Local Authorities to design the new National Evaluation Programme for Phase 2. Phase 2 widens the criteria for inclusion on the programme and so more families will be helped.
 - (e) Trading Standards went undercover to inspect Warwickshire's car dealers and servicing technicians last month following complaints about service quality.
 - (f) Trading Standards also seized illegal and illicit tobacco from individuals, homes and businesses around Warwickshire in the last 12 months. Over this period, 8 businesses in Nuneaton were found to be selling illegal and illicit tobacco. The tobacco was often found to be contaminated with a number of dangerous drugs and trace elements

- (g) On a personal note I have been taken on responsibility for Community Safety. This portfolio includes flood risk coordination, fire and rescue, and crime prevention.

5. District Councillor's Report: DCllr Barnes reported as follows:

- (a) Application for solar panels at Drayton Manor Farm had been approved. SDC looking to see if there can be a direct connection to power the hospital as a community benefit.
- (b) Application for 176 houses on Bordon Hill had been refused on the grounds of highway safety and light pollution. He considered that any future application or appeal could be an opportunity to extend the speed limits further towards Dodwell Park, as the application included the requirement for a roundabout on Bordon Hill itself. Concern was expressed that the Council had not received any notification of the application as a neighbouring parish given the proximity of the proposed site to the parish boundaries and the effect it would have had on the parish.
- (c) There could be changes to the days of refuse and recycling collections at the end of July 2015. There is no change to the frequency of collections.
- (d) He is willing to help putting a case to the planning strategy team to assist in extending the Luddington Conservation Area.

6. Finance:

- (a) The Community Account stood at £8,102.48.
- (b) The Pensions Regulator requires appoint of contact to be nominated by 30th June 2015 to receive information regarding the duties of the Council as an employer to commence on 1st May 2017. It was agreed to appoint the Clerk as the nominated point of contact.
- (c) Following bill passed for payment: £516.25 for Clerk's salary for April to June 2015

7. Specific Agenda Items:

- (a) Co-option to fill remaining vacancy: It was agreed to co-opt David Nutt to fill the remaining vacancy in the East Ward.
- (b) Possible replacement of benches: Cllr Hughes had inspected the existing benches and considered that the bench on the Village Green would benefit from being tidied up and re-painted, the bench outside the Church needs to be replaced and questioned the need for a bench opposite the entrance to Manor Farm. It was agreed to obtain quotations for a new bench and for the restoration of the bench on Village Green.
- (c) Meeting with Montagu Evans: Arranged for 22nd June 2015 to be attended by Cllrs Hegarty Hughes and Harriott.
- (d) Neighbourhood Plan, revision of the Parish Plan or a Village Design Statement: It was agreed to arrange a Meeting with Matthew Neal.
- (e) Luddington East Noticeboard: Cllr Harriot in contact with WCC Highways department to agree location and requirements for re-siting the noticeboard.

8. Correspondence:

- (a) CPRE community energy workshop

- (b) David Heyworth – copy reply of BT Openreach Complaints Manager to MP Zahawi concerning lack of broadband speed, suggesting registration with CSW and contact with service providers!
- (c) Ministry of Defence – Armed Forces Day 27th June 2015.
- (d) WCC – Alcester and Bidford Community Forum has been cancelled for 16th June due to lack of items to discuss. Next Forum due on 8th September 2015.
- (e) David and Alison Higgins concerning abuse of their private garden through which footpath to lock runs by some dog owners and request for signs. Referred to Footpath officer.
- (f) Clerk to circulate further relevant correspondence

9. Planning:

- (a) Sandfields Farm Ltd (15/01744/FUL) Manor Farm Luddington – Continuation of use of land for the siting of up to 100 caravans and dormitory units together with ancillary facilities to be occupied by seasonal farm workers employed by Sandfields Farm Ltd (permitted development) but retention of the caravans dormitory units and ancillary facilities on site throughout the year when not occupied by seasonal farm workers. By a majority (4 for 1 against and 2 abstentions) it was agreed to object on the grounds that the change and the groundworks required to implement it significantly and irreversibly changes the use of the site from agricultural use, and that it is not a suitable location for 100 additional permanent residential units.
- (b) Knights (15/01823/FUL) The Rushes Luddington – Proposed replacement dwelling with associated garaging indoor swimming pool and entrance gates/wall: it was agreed to support the application, but subject to the a number of consideration it is suggested could be dealt with by suitable conditions:
 - i. The replacement of mixed indigenous tree screening along the churchyard boundary
 - ii. The front boundary wall not to exceed 1.2 metres in height
 - iii. Any external lighting to be time-limited sensor-operated lighting to restrict its effect on the neighbourhood
 - iv. There was a minority view that the traditional design to the frontage should be continued to the rear.

10. Business for Future Consideration:

- (a) Communication by the Council
- (b) Crime risks – there had been 2 van hi-jacks in Luddington Road recently and reports of women being approached by the driver of a grey Mercedes.

Next Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 21st July 2015 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.35pm