

LUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Hughes, Jones, Nutt and Harriott.

In Attendance: J. Madge (Clerk), County Councillor Horner, District Councillor Barnes and 6 members of the public

Apologies: Cllrs Hegarty and Beeley

1. Public Participation:

- (a) Mrs Lang-Sadler, the owner of Deepfield Luddington, made a short presentation concerning her planning application for the extension of Deepfield. She confirmed she had recently bought Deepfield and the land adjoining and confirmed she had no plans for the adjoining land other than as an orchard. The purpose of the extension was to provide additional bedroom and a better garage.
- (b) Mycroft Perry and Andy Williams, owner of 7 acres of land to north of Manor Farm Cottages Luddington. Land is currently let to Sandfields Farm but they have indicated they wish to end their tenancy and the owner therefore wished to talk to the Council about possible uses and development options. There are barns on the land and opportunities to do things to make better use of them. They were invited to the Council's Meeting on 17th November 2015 for further discussions.
- (c) Mark Hughes raised concerns about the revised proposals for housing development at Long Marston and the proposed new road resulting from it. The route of the proposed road crosses the Avon and passes behind Stannells Close to a junction on the Evesham Road. There is no information about the height of the road, but it will cause noise and be an eyesore, and will be unviable without the remainder of the proposed relief road through the proposed development at Shottery to link to the A46 and A435. The development of the first 400 houses has already started to cause traffic chaos at Honeybourne railway station and additional traffic through other villages and increasing pressure on the Evesham Road.
- (d) Rob Evans of 196 Luddington repeated concerns about the potential for accidents due to the lack of visibility caused by the hedge opposite his property and re-iterated that he and his neighbours wanted the hedge completely removed. There seemed to be doubts about the ownership of the hedge. The Highways Department had been contacted but indicated that they had no responsibility for it. The Clerk confirmed it is not on land owned by the Parish Council and also confirmed if it less than 20 metres in length it is not classed as a hedgerow for which permission would be required for its removal. It was agreed that a working party of volunteers could be organised in order to remove the hedge.
- (e) PCSO Tony Griffin produced information about crimes in the Parish over the past year. There had been 8 incidents reported since January and some further that he was aware of although they had not been directly reported. He confirmed that any suspicious activity could and should be reported using the Police 101 non-emergency telephone number, as all information helps to provide a bigger picture. He was advised of the Crime Prevention Meeting organised for 22nd September 2015, and indicated he would try to attend. He was advised of

advertising notices being placed at the entrance to Luddington Road at Bordon Hill that acted to severely restrict visibility when trying to join Evesham Road, and confirmed these could also be reported using 101.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 25th August 2015 had been circulated and were approved and signed.
3. Matters Arising: None
4. County Councillor's Report: CCllr Horner reported as follows:
 - (a) An additional council meeting was held on September 3 to respond to a consultation document issued by the seven metropolitan unitary councils that made up the old West Midlands County to form a Combined Authority. A combined authority would take over housing strategy, economic development, transport planning, coordination of mental health and public services. Warwickshire and Coventry LEP would continue into the near future.
 - (b) There are proposals for a strategic investment board that would invest in a few large projects using the borrowing capacity of all the members and attracting funds from the private sector. Warwickshire has the lowest levels of debt relative to all the other possible members and would probably see its gearing increased to the same level as all the other councils.
 - (c) The issue that concerned me was that Aston Cantlow Division is a net contributor to all the public bodies that support it; Westminster, Warwickshire and Stratford on Avon District. I analysed the deprivation in Warwickshire from Government statistics and compared what happened to the 10% most deprived and the 20% least deprived if we joined West Midlands. Of the 33 most deprived in Warwickshire only 3 remain in the bottom 10% and the richest 20% would include 160 from Warks rather than 66 if we join. This means Aston Cantlow's transfer payments would go into Birmingham and the north county communities would lose out in funds and more people would make greater contributions.
 - (d) All councillors present voted not to enter into discussions except the Labour Group who voted in a block to join.
 - (e) Public Health has reported that Warwickshire has more than 9,000 Dementia Friends and hopes are high to soon reach 10,000. Trading Standards are urging people to have their electric blankets tested and Fire and Rescue are reminding people to fit smoke alarms and have their chimneys swept.
 - (f) Tourism is getting a boost with grants to the total of £150,000 for development of tourism
5. District Councillor's Report: DCllr Barnes provided a written report which is attached.
6. Finance:
 - (a) The Community Account stood at £6,370.23.
 - (b) Following bills passed for payment:
 - i. £15.00 for Cllr Harriott to re-imburse the cost of obtaining an up to date copy of the Core Strategy from SDC.
 - ii. £516.25 for Clerk's salary for July to September 2015.

- (c) Cllr Hughes had obtained quotations for printing the circular and the existing Parish Plan to be delivered to residents for the consultation concerning a proposed Neighbourhood Plan/Village Design Statement/Up-dated Parish Plan. Printing cost is approximately £500.00 and cost of providing a personalised envelope would be about £250.00. It was agreed to commit £500.00 for the printing costs, and areas for delivering by Cllrs were also agreed.

7. Specific Agenda Items:

- (a) Core Strategy Modifications Consultation – Cllrs agreed to forward comments to the Clerk by 20th September 2015 for them to be collated for a response to the consultation
- (b) Avon Navigation Trust – there had been no response to an invitation to attend a meeting. Cllr Harriott to contact by phone.

8. Correspondence:

- (a) WCC – Transport and Highways Update
- (b) SDC – Designation of a Neighbourhood Area by Clifford Chambers & Milcote Parish Council
- (c) WCC – Survey re engagement with Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner. Passed to Cllr Nutt
- (d) Resignation of Cllr Gist. Cllrs expressed regret at Cllr Gist's decision to resign and expressed gratitude for his past service. It was agreed to advertise the vacancy
- (e) WALC – funding for compliance with Transparency Code Regulations.
- (f) SDC – Notice of Welford on Avon Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- (g) WALC – Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 4th November 2015 at 7.30pm at Shire Hall Warwick
- (h) VASA – Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 4th November 2015 at on Wednesday 4th November 2015 at 10.30am at St Andrews Parish Centre Shuttery

9. Planning:

- (a) Gosbell (15/02914/FUL) Court House Luddington – single storey oak framed garden room and porch, removal of existing porch, enlarged dormer window to front, conversion of existing garage to ancillary residential accommodation with linking roof and construction of new double car port garage. Comments – proposed garage to remain a single storey structure and its use to be ancillary to the house. Car port in front of the building line is only acceptable if it is not visible from the road.
- (b) Jack (15/02185/FUL) Brookhouse 109 Luddington Road – amendment to application removing the proposed detached garage to the front of the site. No objection providing there is adequate and permanent screening around the parking area.
- (c) Parnell and Lang Sadler (15/03140/FUL) Deepfield Luddington – creation of first floor accommodation, 2 storey front extension, first floor front extension, linked garage extension to front, first floor side extension, pitched roof to existing side extension new dormers to front and rear, single storey rear extension. Comments - The property occupies a very visible and important aspect within the Conservation Area in the centre of the Village, and very

visible from both the Village Green and the Church, and therefore the visible aspects of the extended building need to form a cohesive discrete and sympathetic design to fit in with the rural aspects of the Village. The proposed design does not meet these criteria in the Council's view. The proposed peaks on the front elevation appear incohesive, the proposed slate roof does not match the tile rooves in the vicinity, there is potential for considerable light pollution from the large glazed panels to the front and the side passage unless they are going to be suitably shielded by blinds or curtains and the removal of the proposed garage in front of the existing building line is not approved.

- (d) Gladman Developments (14/01715/OUT) Land north of Evesham Road Shottery – outline permission for residential development of up to 155 dwellings including means of access from Evesham Road infrastructure and public open space – Notice of Appeal to be dealt with by way of written representations.

10. Business for Future Consideration:

Next Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 20th October 2015 at 6.30pm in advance of the public meeting at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 10.20pm

Councillor Peter Barnes report

We are expecting the 400 homes on Long Marston Airfield to be approved. With this in mind I have asked for £700,000 for a roundabout on the B4632 at Clifford Chambers so that villagers can get out of the village and to include the very busy Milcote Road. Also, I have asked for flashing warning signs on the approach to the Greenway at Milcote as this crossing is used a lot at the Greenway. I have also asked Cllr. Brain and Cllr. Secombe for a timetable for reparation of the path from Milcote passed Long Marston .

Discussions are still taking place between Anesco (Solar Farm at Drayton Manor) and specialists at the NHS regarding electrical power for Stratford's new hospital. I hope to have more news very soon.

Extract from the weekly newsletter of **Ron Ball, Warwickshire's Police and Crime Commissioner**. This week has been rather dominated by talk of devolution within local government, with today (4th Sept) being a deadline set by the Chancellor for authorities to submit proposals to create 'combined authorities' - groupings of councils who work together to deliver services. Areas that opt to do this will be given greater powers over (among other things) housing, transport and planning from central government. Local authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships in the West Midlands have been enthusiastic for such proposals, **while county and district councils in Warwickshire have been considering whether they too should be partners in such a venture.**

What has this got to do with policing, I hear you ask? Well, potentially, quite a lot. One of the pre-conditions George Osborne has set for regions being given devolved powers is the creation of 'Metro Mayors' - elected officials who would run the Combined Authority and also assume the powers of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Unfortunately, there is little detail of how this would work in practice and what the implications for oversight and governance of police forces might be, which for such a large change in the democratic process is surprising to say the least. Equally, it's not clear what the impact would be on criminal justice locally.....

..... With an inevitable metropolitan bias, how could the residents of Warwickshire - especially in rural areas - be assured of their fair share of resources and democratic say? Answers have not been forthcoming on this - but then again, there has been absolutely no consultation with PCCs over the proposals, which have gathered a head of steam at an alarming rate.

On Tuesday Stratford District Council voted to take 'observer status' on the West Midlands Combined Authority, while continuing to consider other options. Yesterday, Warwickshire County Council voted at the Shire Hall against joining, instead seeking to pursue a closer relationship with Coventry City Council. I certainly think Warwickshire with Coventry makes for a 'better fit' and indeed we already have many partnerships and close working relationships. It remains to be seen what impact overall these decisions will have but I do strongly feel there should be much more dialogue and consultation with partners - and most importantly of all - you the public.

Working together to deliver improved and more cost-effective services is a laudable aim, as is having more local control over decision making. Whether a regional approach like this can deliver on those ambitions is unclear and in the rush to meet the Chancellor's deadline, I fear many important issues have been ignored. These are big decisions with big consequences and the public must be given a voice and offered meaningful information about the full implications before change is imposed.

MY thoughts as well fully agreed that WCC are doing the wrong thing ,we have got very little out of the county and in the case of transport a wider approach will be better. All the money goes to the

north Rugby area and not here . Stratford Council will have to vote again, I will not support Warwickshire and Coventry . The West midlands or our neighbours Worcs or Gloucester

As you can see Bloor homes have started and there is ongoing talk about the inclusion of the site next door. Times of work has concerned a number of people 8 til 5 and 8 to 12 on Saturday ,hope that is helpful