

LUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Hegarty, Hughes, Jones, Harriott and Nutt.

In Attendance: J. Madge (Clerk) County Councillor Horner and District Councillor Barnes

Apologies: Councillors Harriott and Beeley

1. Public Participation: None
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 20th October 2015 had been circulated and were approved and signed.
3. Matters Arising:
Crime Prevention – there had been no volunteers to co-ordinate Neighbourhood Watch from the east end of Luddington Road so far. Clerk to request the Alcester Neighbourhood newsletter to be emailed again. It was also agreed to contact David Heyworth to improve the functionality of the website if possible.
4. County Councillor's Report: CCllr Horner sent a written report as follows:
 - (a) This is the first month this year I do not have to report something about public sector reorganisation. A few matters of interest involving various services provided by the County are:
 - (b) There is a new Consumer Rights Act that applies to purchases of goods and services made on or after 1st October 2015. It simplifies, strengthens and modernises consumer law, giving consumers clearer rights and remedies. In addition the law now gives consumers specific rights when they download digital content, which they did not have before. Consumers' rights include:
 - A 30-day time period to return most faulty goods and get a full refund
 - A 'tiered' remedy system, clearly setting out consumers' rights to a refund, repair or replacement depending on how long the consumer has had the goods.
 - The right to a repair or a replacement for faulty digital content such as music downloads and e-books, and additional rights if they cause damage to the consumer's equipment
 - A right to their money back after one failed repair (or one failed replacement), rather than having to accept numerous attempts to get it fixed. No deduction can be made from the refund in the first six months (with the exception of motor vehicles)
 - The right to challenge terms and conditions which are not fair or are hidden in the small print
 - The right to have a service redone if it has not been done with reasonable care and skill
 - (c) Support for small businesses: Warwickshire County Council has announced new funding worth £1 million to support small businesses in the county. Small and micro firms across Warwickshire will be able to apply for grants worth £5,000 to £35,000. Please contact me for more information.
 - (d) CONNECTing Business and Education is a web portal that enables businesses and education providers to search for specific activity in a defined geographic

area. It will mirror the Skills for Employment programme and seek to facilitate higher levels of work experience and get teachers, as well as students, short term placements in businesses. There is also a drive to encourage business leaders to go into schools and deliver motivational speeches.

- (e) Mental health support has been improved by a new initiative has launched in Warwickshire to try and help the thousands of people in the county who might be anxious, down, or not coping well with everyday life. The county council is working with Big White Wall, an organisation heralded nationally in championing mental health, in helping people to take control back of their lives. Anyone wanting to register should go to www.bigwhitewall.com and go to the 'Join Now' button on the top right of the screen, and enter their post-code in the United Kingdom section.

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

- (a) The regional areas promoted by the Government has seen WCC enter into cooperation with Coventry. SDC had meetings with Sandwell and Birmingham City Council among others. DCllr Barnes supported cooperation with them for the area to benefit from £4.5 billion funding to be spent on transport and business links for the area but SDC voted against this. The Business Portfolio Holder Cllr Maurice Howe has resigned over the decision.
- (b) The Government has reduced the amount of money available for new housing for rented social accommodation which will lead to less provision.
- (c) The decision on the application for 400 houses at Long Marston is due to be made next week with the planning officer's recommendation for approval.
- (d) Inspector is reviewing consultation responses regarding the Core Strategy and will be listening to verbal evidence for a fortnight from 15th January 2016.

6. Finance:

- (a) The Community Account stood at £7,589.92.
- (b) The following bill was passed for payment: £401.00 for P. Rudge for work 24th August to 12th October 2015.

7. Specific Agenda Items:

- (a) Outcome of the Public Meeting regarding consultation on Neighbourhood Plan/Up-dated Parish Plan/Village Design Statement: The discussions and comments from those attending the Public Meeting on 20th October 2015 were reviewed and discussed and it was agreed to proceed with up-dating the 2006 Parish Plan and to create a Village Design Statement within the review. It was agreed to hold a further Meeting on 15th December 2015 at the Village Hall with a view to seeking volunteers to assist with the work that will be required.
- (b) Public footpath along River Avon bank: agreed to postpone discussion to the next Meeting.
- (c) Future Meeting days arising from Village Hall bookings: Village Hall Committee had requested that the Council and Womens' Institute consider co-ordinating their Meetings on the same day of the week, on either a Tuesday or Wednesday, to assist the Village Hall to take further regular bookings. It was agreed to change the Council's Meeting days to the third Wednesday of each month with effect from the Meeting in January 2016. Clerk to notify the Village Hall booking officer.

8. Correspondence:

- (a) WCC – Healthwatch Warwickshire local Meeting 10th December 2015
- (b) WCC – Warwickshire Race Equality Partnership workshop – 10th March 2016
- (c) WCC – Primary Gritting Routes 2015-16.

9. Planning:

- (a) Parnell and Lang Sadler (15/03973/FUL) Deepfield Luddington – creation of first floor accommodation, 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 and single storey rear extension. It was agreed to comment as follows: The revisions to the original withdrawn application that reduce the ridge level of the proposed garage and reduce the dormers are appreciated, and the intention to add to the screening by additional tree planting is welcomed. However in this important location within and Affecting the Conservation Area at the heart of the Village the Council would prefer warmer colours to be provided by the materials proposed for the roofing window framing materials timber cladding and render finish and feels strongly that warmer muted colours would assist in the building merging better within the landscape. The Council also remains concerned about the effect of external lighting, which should be limited to sensor-operated lights, and the visibility of internal lighting through the central hall windows, which should be curtained or screened.
- (b) Kristunas (15/04025/TPO) All Saints Church Luddington – proposed work to various trees. It was agreed to support the proposed work to improve the health and safety of the important trees in the churchyard

10. Business for Future Consideration:

Next Meeting scheduled for Wednesday 20th January 2016 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.23pm.