

Cubbington Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:00pm 23rd November 2023 the meeting was held at the Village Hall

Present:

Councillor Ian Hodges (Chairman)	Councillor Gary Willoughby
Councillor David Saul (Vice Chairman)	Councillor Daniel Meggitt
Councillor Colin Marrow	Councillor Val Roberts
Councillor John Roberts	Councillor Martin Key

Warwick District Councillors: Councillor Pam Redford, Councillor Josh Payne

Warwickshire County Council: Councillor Wallace Redford, Councillor Sarah Boad (part)

Members of the public: 1

In Attendance: Jane Chatterton, Clerk & RFO

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Councillor Hodges was in the Chair.

692. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors McCarthy, Watkins and Smith. WDC Councillors Russell, Boad and Kohler.

693. Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of Interest were received from:

Councillor David Saul	-	Pavilion Committee & VHTC
Councillor Ian Hodges	-	VHTC
Councillor Gary Willoughby	-	VHTC

694. Councillor Co-option

Two eligible candidates had been interviewed for consideration to be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) John Roberts and Martin Key be co-opted on to the Parish Council.
- (ii) John Roberts and Martin Key signed their Acceptance of Office.
- (iii) Clerk to work with John and Martin to complete the necessary forms.

695. Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th October 2023 were received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th October 2023 be approved.

696. Matters Arising not listed on the agenda

Nothing to report.

697. Public participation

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

698. Correspondence**Reduction of harmful weedkillers across Warwick District**

Councillor Pam Redford had circulated information in relation to an initiative by WDC to reduce their use of harmful weedkillers across Warwick District. Currently the street cleansing contract asks for 2 sprays per year to keep the streets weed free, this includes spraying around trees.

WDC were seeking to trial a reduction from two sprays per year to one with no spraying around tree bases. Ideally the trial would represent different areas of the district, WDC were seeking Wards who would be happy to take part in this trial running throughout 2024. The goal of this trial is to understand the impact of just spraying once per year.

As District Councillor, Councillor Pam Redford was seeking the opinion of the Parish Councils within her Ward.

Points noted:

- (i) Members were unhappy that the information had been sent out with very limited time to respond (response required by 26th November)
- (ii) No evidence or no information for consideration had been included.
- (iii) Concern was highlighted that the impact this would have coupled with “no mow May”.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The Parish Council were not in agreement to take part in the trial due to the lack of information and time to consider the proposal properly.
- (ii) Councillors were against the reduction in spraying by 7:1.

699. Chairman's Report

I attended the Memorial Service at St Mary's church on the 12th November representing the Parish Council. I took part in the service by laying a wreath and also reading the Lesson.

I have also investigated the feasibility of starting a Men's shed in the Community.

700. Councillors Reports in brief**• Cllr Saul - Community services**

Police Liaison Meeting – Councillor Saul had attended the Police meeting at Police Headquarters. The information has been circulated to members of the Parish Council.

Litter bins – Cubbington has had a reduction in the frequency of bin emptying in the Parish. Although this is continuously refuted by WDC.

ACTION:

- (i) write to Contract Services informing them that the bin collection is inadequate and to be told officially that we have been reduced to once a week. Councillors are having to put out additional bin bags to cope with the overflowing bins.
- (ii) The Rugby Road bin is broken and requires replacing.
- (iii) New bin required outside the Pavilion – request has been sent to Katy Wild.

Councillor Pam Redford will contact Contract Services and find out what is happening.

Initialed

New Vicar for the Church – Chairman and Vice-Chairman attended a meeting at the Church to meet the candidates. We await to hear who has been appointed.

OAP Christmas Fair – This would take place on Saturday at 2pm at the Village Hall.

Christmas light switch on – 3rd December at 5pm. The Pavilion and the Village Hall had been decorated. The large Christmas tree will be put up in the Village next Tuesday, school children have been making decorations. The tree on Windmill Hill is decorated by a professional company this will be completed next week.

Christmas event – thanks go to the regular volunteers who have given their time again. A Land train will deliver Santa at the Queens Head and will then run up and down Queens Street for rides. Live singers, entertainment, food is available.

Panto – Little Red Riding Hood on 18th December at the Village Hall, two shows. Can be booked on line. Hollies are providing the food.

Pavilion

Pavilion Committee - Councillor Meggitt updated that the last meeting took place on 20th November. The Business Plan is progressing well. The Budget will be set by the next meeting and the long term maintenance plan.

HS2 Grant - Sad news that the HS2 Grant was refused, the grant included money to install solar panels and install a new kitchen, install new junior goals and safety fencing.

Councillor Sarah Boad joined the meeting.

• **Cllr Willoughby – Flood Prevention & Maintenance Working Group**

Councillor Willoughby updated on progress as follows:

- A 3rd meeting of the Working Group was held 19th October 2023
- Excellent support and feedback continues from Severn Trent Water, WCC Highways, WCC Flood Risk Team and the Environment Agency.
- Warwick District Council have confirmed ownership of the £1M 2013 Mill Lane flood alleviation scheme c/o WDC Cllr Pam Redford and Scarlett Robertson WCC Flood Risk Team. WDC confirm that inspection and maintenance plans do exist but that they have never been implemented – WDC to address as a priority and the Group has requested details of this programme.
- The Guidance for Residents in Times of Flood leaflet and Covering Letter has been circulated to the 5 historic high risk streets courtesy of the Flood Street Wardens, Paul, David and Martin. Thanks to Severn Trent Water for printing 200 copies.
- The Leaflet, Covering Letter and Ongoing Action Points have now been placed on the parish council website under the Flood Prevention tab c/o Paul Watkins
- <https://cubbingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/v2-demo-2/flood-prevention-and-maintenance-working-group/>
- Next and final meeting of Working Group 30th November, future convening of the group will then be subject to any related matters raised at future parish council meetings.
- As Chair, my personal thanks to all Working Group members, agencies and utilities and the newly formed Flood Street Wardens for their ongoing vigilance.

Initialled

Thanks was given to the all the volunteers, agencies involved and the Street Wardens for their ongoing commitment.

701. District and County Councillors Reports for information

WCC Update - Councillor Wallace Redford

All updates received via email had been circulated.

Pedestrian Crossing Rugby Road – a meeting had taken place earlier today when it was realised that WCC Officers were looking at the wrong site, this has been rectified. Updates are awaited from a meeting early next week. The minimum installation hoped for is dropped kerbs and safe refuge.

The petition was successfully lodged. Apology that the Chairman was refused.

Bus stop Rugby Road – has been reported for action.

WCC - Councillor Sarah Boad

Letter about Kelvin Road Shops – letter has been sent out including information to residents about the installation of bollards. Updates will be shared when known.

Safety meeting on Kenilworth Road – Councillors Willoughby, Boad and Kohler had a meeting with the Police in attendance.

WALC – Councillor Sarah Boad has just been re-elected as a WALC Director.

WDC Updates

Councillor Josh Payne

Police liaison meeting – Councillor Payne had attended the meeting, pressing for more of a police presence in the Parish.

Youth Club – keen to help with any set up of a Youth Club.

702. Highways

Welcome to Cubbington Sign replacement - Kenilworth Road

ACTION: Councillor Sarah Boad to look at the replacement.

703. Police

Nothing further to discuss.

704. Finance

704.1 payments PAID since the last meeting:- 2023-24

DATE	REF	DETAILS	EXPENDITURE
20.10.23	E96	Moore - External Auditor	£504.00*
20.10.23	E97	Mr Hodges poppy wreaths & bank travel	£94.00
20.10.23	E98	J Chatterton - Expenses October	£95.99*
02.11.23	E99	DS Wagstaff Invoice 4838	£540.00
02.11.23	E100	Mr G Willoughby inv 00062	£60.00
02.11.23	E101	ROSPA Play inspections	£226.20*
07.11.23	E102	J Chatterton Clerk Salary Nov 2023	DPA
07.11.23	E103	HMRC Tax & NI Employer & Employee Nov	DPA

Initialled

07.11.23	E104	WCC Clerk Pension Employer & Employee	DPA
07.11.23	E105	Top source invoice 006699	£12.94*
15.11.23	E106	Cubbington OAP Association	£200.00
15.11.23	E107	Netwise Premium Package Hosting	£468.00*

*including VAT

**Income
2023-24**

DATE	REF	DETAILS	INCOME
20.10.23		Groundworks NHP Grant	£4,216.00

RESOLVED THAT the payments be approved, and the income noted.

705. Planning Matters

Nothing further to discuss.

706. Project Men Shed

The Chairman had circulated a detailed report ahead of the meeting setting out the reasons behind the idea of creating a Men's Shed. Parishioner views had also been gathered via Councillors and Associations. The response had been very positive. Interests in the facilities have said that they would like wood working including a small lathe, others have expressed an interest in building a model railway, others have said it would be a great place to just meet and chinwag.

Although classed as a men's shed the location would be open to everybody to follow their hobbies and also become a social hub for the older members of our community. It was suggested we call it **CUBBINGTON HOBBY CENTRE**.

Cubbington has a larger than normal older population and it is believed that the formation of such a place would encourage people to venture out and become more mobile, have a greater interest, meet more people and also enable them to enhance their skills. These skills could also be passed on to other members of our community.

The facilities would have to include basic facilities such as toilet, washing facilities, social areas and a tea or coffee making area.

The idea would be to purchase two shipping containers and mount them back-to-back cut a walkway between the two and build the facilities in there. The facilities would include a disabled toilet, a kitchen area a general social area and also a small workshop.

The Pavilion car park can be used and also it would be central to the community with walking.

The way the Men's Shed Association work is that it can be a charity or not, but they recommend it as a charity for tax reason and also it is easier to obtain grants.

It will be minimal costs to create and run and as such should be popular.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The Men's Shed project be approved.
- (ii) Chairman to put together the details.
- (iii) Chairman and Clerk to apply for Planning Permission.
- (iv) Further update at January's meeting.

707. Neighbourhood Plan

The NHP would like to give thanks to Councillor Pam Redford as they had now received a reply from WDC saying they had screened the Plan and had no environmental concerns, this has now been sent to Historic England, Natural England and the EA for comments.

Kirkwell's are finalising the draft Plan accordingly with a view to the Reg 14 (6-week public consultation) commencing after Christmas.

708. HS2 Update

Councillors Meggitt, Marrow, Watkins and Willoughby took part in a tour of the Cubbington Cutting on 20th November. They reported that they found the tour informative. Further dates would be circulated in the Spring/Summer.

709. Councillor's reports and items for future Agenda:

- 80th Anniversary of D-Day (6th June)
- Discussion to purchase a beacon and to organise an event

710. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 25th January 2024.

Meeting closed at 8:00pm