

Minutes of the ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 19 February 2024 at The Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park.

Present: Cllr Hughes (Chair), Cllr Woollard, Cllr Eggar, Cllr Wild, Cllr Eburne, Cllr Johal and Cllr Finch.

Clerk: J. McDougall.

Apologies: Cllr Campbell, SMBC Cllr Burrow and MP S. Bhatti.

Public Attendees: Ward Cllr Delaney and 6 members of the public.

Min No.	Item	Action
02/24/01 02/24/01.1	Apologies Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Campbell. Apologies had also been received from Ward Cllr Burrow and MP S. Bhatti.	
02/24/02 02/24/02.1	Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interest Cllr Eggar declared an interest in the Sports Park Company.	
02/24/03 02/24/03.1	Public Participation A resident reported a large volume of lorries had been driving along the Fillongley Road; this would be reported to Solihull Council. It was noted that SMBC may have little influence with heavy goods vehicles delivering within the Coventry boundary.	Clerk to action
02/24/03.2	A resident reported speeding on the Fillongley Road and a discussion took place regarding the average speed cameras to be installed within the village. Cllr Delaney confirmed that the location of the cameras was not yet publicly available.	
02/24/03.3	It was reported that the fir trees on Fillongley Road required cutting, and that vehicles had been parking on the yellow lines. The Clerk would report this to Solihull Council.	Clerk to action
02/24/03.4	It was reported that vehicles turning right into Berkswell Lane had been driving over the other side of the carriageway due to a crossing being removed; this matter would be reported to Solihull Council.	Clerk to action
02/24/03.5	A resident reported overgrown trees were damaging a fence. This matter could be reported to Solihull Council and photographs could be submitted.	
02/24/03.6	The number of defibrillators in Meriden was discussed. Cllr Eggar would investigate whether a training session on defibrillator use was available.	Cllr Eggar to action
02/24/04	Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 22 January 2024 and Matters Arising	
02/24/04.1	<u>Resolved.</u> The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 22 January 2024 were agreed as a true and accurate record and signed by Cllr Woollard. Proposed: Cllr Woollard, Seconded: Cllr Finch	
02/24/04.2	Matters Arising 01/24/05.1 - Clerk to investigate the owner of the land by the attenuation pond adjacent to Wyatt Way. 01/24/13.1 - Clerk to progress with contractors on electricity upgrade options.	Clerk to action

<p>02/24/05 02/24/05.1</p> <p>02/24/05.2</p> <p>02/24/05.3</p>	<p>Correspondence and Communication</p> <p>Correspondence had been received from the Scouting Association regarding an annual fee for flag raising duties. Discussion took place on whether the Scouting Association should apply for a grant or whether a contract should be drawn up for the services provided. Councillors voted five to two in favour of arranging a contract with the Scouting Association for the fee of £500.00.</p> <p>An allotment holder had requested a smaller plot following a termination notice; the request would be considered by the Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change Committee.</p> <p>Correspondence objecting to the proposed Ward boundary changes within Solihull had been received; this matter was discussed under item 02/24/13.</p>	<p>Clerk to action</p> <p>PTEC Committee to action</p>
<p>02/24/06 02/24/06.1</p> <p>02/24/06.2</p> <p>02/24/06.3</p>	<p>Ward Councillors Reports</p> <p>Cllr Burrow had sent a report confirming a consultation to change the speed limit to 30mph on Cornets End Lane and Mercote Hall Lane would take place from 8-29 March 2024.</p> <p>Cllr Delaney reported that the Leys Lane closure should be in place by the end of March 2024. The brightness of lamp columns and the road markings between Meriden and Millisons Wood have been reported.</p> <p>Cllr Delaney queried whether that the Parish Council could advertise the grants available from United Charities, and also the on demand bus service. Cllr Eburne would place this information in the newsletter and on social media platforms.</p>	<p>Cllr Eburne to action</p>
<p>02/24/07 02/24/07.1</p> <p>02/24/07.2</p>	<p>Meriden Parish Council Chair Report</p> <p>Cllr Hughes reported that a meeting was held with the Trustees from the Meriden Sports and Recreation Trust to discuss the future transfer of the sports recreation ground and Pavilion.</p> <p>Cllr Hughes confirmed a meeting with SMBC's Head of Highways would take place on 8 March 2024 to discuss strategic highways issues within Meriden; enforcement of parking on The Green would be discussed.</p>	<p>Cllr Hughes to action</p>
<p>02/24/08 02/24/08.1</p> <p>02/24/08.2</p> <p>02/24/08.3</p>	<p>Meriden Parish Council Councillor Reports</p> <p>Cllr Wild reported that the road sweeper on the A45 slip road by the quarry was ineffective with mud being spread across the road; white lining needed refreshing in this area. The Clerk would report these issues to the Head of Highways within SMBC.</p> <p>Cllr Wild raised the narrow width on the pavement on Hampton Lane; the Clerk would report these issues to the Head of Highways within SMBC.</p> <p>Cllr Wild reported a bus shelter near to the A45 required cleansing. Clerk to report this to the relevant local authority.</p>	<p>Clerk to action</p> <p>Clerk to action</p> <p>Clerk to action</p>
<p>02/24/09 02/24/09.1</p> <p>02/24/09.2</p>	<p>Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change Committee Report</p> <p>The Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change Committee (PTEC) met on 1 February 2024. Cllr Woollard provided an update of matters discussed and confirmed Cllr Johal would be elected to the PTEC Committee.</p> <p>All recommendations from the PTEC Committee meeting, as detailed in the minutes, had been accepted by full Council.</p>	<p>PTEC Committee to progress</p>

<p>02/24/10 02/24/10.1</p>	<p>Finance, Governance and Personnel Committee The Finance, Governance and Personnel (FGP) Committee met on 12 February 2024. Cllr Eggar provided an update of matters discussed; ordinary meetings would be scheduled every three months.</p>	<p>Clerk to action</p>
<p>02/24/10.2</p>	<p>All recommendations from the FGP Committee meeting, as detailed in the minutes, had been accepted by full Council.</p>	
<p>02/24/10.3</p>	<p>Cllr Hughes reiterated that training was available for Councillors and requested Cllrs undertake training before the end of the financial year.</p>	<p>Cllrs to action</p>
<p>02/24/11 02/24/11.1</p>	<p>2024 – 2025 Budget The Parish Council approved the budget for the 2024 – 2025 financial year, with an amendment to increase the Members’ Allowance overall budget by £500.00. Proposed: Cllr Eggar , Seconded: Cllr Johal</p>	<p>Clerk to action the amendment</p>
<p>02/24/12 02/24/12.1</p>	<p>Meriden Sports Park Land Transfer The Parish Council had received an update from the Solicitor undertaking the transfer of land from SMBC to the Parish Council. The transfer plan required an amendment due to a small section of land owned by Severn Trent and it was not yet known whether this would delay the proposed transfer date of 31 March 2024.</p>	
<p>02/24/12.2</p>	<p>The Parish Council delegated authority to Cllr Hughes and the Clerk to act as signatories on the transfer deed and other legal documentation issued by the Solicitor.</p>	<p>Cllr Hughes and Clerk to action</p>
<p>02/24/13 02/24/13.1</p>	<p>Local Government Boundary Commission Consultation Discussion took place on the proposal to move Meriden into the Bickenhill Ward and rename the Ward to Arden. Balsall Common and Berkswell will form a Ward called Balsall and Berkswell. The proposal to change the Ward boundaries was due to a need to balance the number of electors in a Ward.</p>	
<p>02/24/13.2</p>	<p>The Parish Council discussed the loss of the Meriden Ward name and agreed there were closer ties to Balsall Common and Berkswell rather than Bickenhill. It was agreed that a response would be written detailing the history of Meriden, the geography of the area, socioeconomic issues and the educational links to Balsall Common. The Parish Council would review the response on 18 March 2024 before submission.</p>	<p>Cllrs Hughes, Wild, Finch and Eggar to action</p>
<p>02/24/14 02/24/14.1</p>	<p>Picnic in the Park A discussion took place on which military charity the Party in the Park event would raise funds for, given the theme of the 80th anniversary of D-Day. It was determined that the charity would be SSAFA. Proposed: Cllr Finch , Seconded: Cllr Woollard</p>	<p>Clerk to inform Precious Events</p>
<p>02/24/15 02/24/15.1</p>	<p>Official Photograph of King Charles III It was resolved that the Parish Council would order an official photograph of King Charles III.</p>	<p>Clerk to action</p>
<p>02/24/16 02/24/16.1</p>	<p>Operation Menai Bridge The Parish Council discussed the procedure that would need to be in place and a</p>	

Signed: Cllr Hughes

Dated: 18 March 2024

	link would be placed on the website.																																																																							
02/24/17 02/24/17.1	Eaves Green Noticeboard It was resolved that the noticeboard on Eaves Green Lane would be removed as it was rotten. Clerk to arrange removal and disposal, and discuss with Eaves Green Park whether Parish Council notices could be placed in their noticeboard.	Clerk to action																																																																						
02/24/18 02/24/18.1	Allotments A new allotment contract was approved with smaller plot sizes. The fee would be increased for new tenants on 1 April 2024 from £40.00 to £55.00 for the new sized plots and on 1 April 2025 for the existing tenants. Proposed: Cllr Woollard, Seconded: Cllr Eburne	Clerk to action																																																																						
02/24/19 02/24/19.1	Service Contracts Discussion took place on whether to extend the existing service contracts from 1 April 2024 for twelve months, as permitted when the suppliers and fees were approved in 2021. The Parish Council voted four in favour of not automatically extending the contracts for a period of one year. The Finance, Governance and Personnel Committee to review the schedule of works and obtain quotations.	Clerk and FGP Committee to action																																																																						
02/24/20 02/24/20.1	Monthly Finance Report The bank reconciliation to 31 January 2024 was received and approved by full Council.																																																																							
02/24/21 02/24/21.1	Finance The following payments were agreed and approved. <table border="1" data-bbox="255 1137 1348 2060"> <thead> <tr> <th>Main Account</th> <th>Net</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Total</th> <th>Payment Method</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>WALC training courses</td> <td>£60.00</td> <td>£12.00</td> <td>£72.00</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Edge IT finance support</td> <td>£246.00</td> <td>£49.20</td> <td>£295.20</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dovetail Group village maintenance Jan. 2024</td> <td>£172.08</td> <td>£34.42</td> <td>£206.50</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr. B. Ball winter planting</td> <td>£771.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£771.00</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BT Mobile Deputy Clerk</td> <td>£6.44</td> <td>£1.29</td> <td>£7.73</td> <td>Direct debit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rachel's Café Warm Hub meals 23/01/24</td> <td>£40.90</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£40.90</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rachel's Café Warm Hub meals 01/02/24</td> <td>£53.20</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£53.20</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SLCC training course</td> <td>£35.00</td> <td>£7.00</td> <td>£42.00</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SLCC training course</td> <td>£35.00</td> <td>£7.00</td> <td>£42.00</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R. Weaver training course warm hub</td> <td>£24.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£24.00</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BT Mobile Clerk</td> <td>£8.72</td> <td>£1.74</td> <td>£10.46</td> <td>Direct debit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rachel's Café Warm Hub meals 06/02/24</td> <td>£20.60</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£20.60</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dovetail Group street furniture Feb. 2024</td> <td>£172.08</td> <td>£34.42</td> <td>£206.50</td> <td>Bank transfer</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Main Account	Net	VAT	Total	Payment Method	WALC training courses	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00	Bank transfer	Edge IT finance support	£246.00	£49.20	£295.20	Bank transfer	Dovetail Group village maintenance Jan. 2024	£172.08	£34.42	£206.50	Bank transfer	Mr. B. Ball winter planting	£771.00	£0.00	£771.00	Bank transfer	BT Mobile Deputy Clerk	£6.44	£1.29	£7.73	Direct debit	Rachel's Café Warm Hub meals 23/01/24	£40.90	£0.00	£40.90	Bank transfer	Rachel's Café Warm Hub meals 01/02/24	£53.20	£0.00	£53.20	Bank transfer	SLCC training course	£35.00	£7.00	£42.00	Bank transfer	SLCC training course	£35.00	£7.00	£42.00	Bank transfer	R. Weaver training course warm hub	£24.00	£0.00	£24.00	Bank transfer	BT Mobile Clerk	£8.72	£1.74	£10.46	Direct debit	Rachel's Café Warm Hub meals 06/02/24	£20.60	£0.00	£20.60	Bank transfer	Dovetail Group street furniture Feb. 2024	£172.08	£34.42	£206.50	Bank transfer	
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R. Weaver warm hub meals 13/2/24	£17.80	£0.00	£17.80	Bank transfer

* Please note that additional payments may be authorised on the evening following councillors' decisions

The following bank charges apply monthly:

Unity Trust current account monthly bank fee (paid quarterly)	£6.00
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The following February 2024 payments were confidential to the Parish Council and not published in the agenda or minutes:

Clerk's February 2024 salary payment
Deputy Clerk's February 2024 salary payment
WMPF February 2024 pension contributions employer and employee Clerk
WMPF February 2024 pension contributions employer employee Deputy Clerk
HMRC January 2024 payments
HMRC February 2024 payments

All the above payments were approved; Proposed: Cllr Woollard, Seconded: Cllr Hughes

02/24/22	Clerk's Report	
02/24/22.1	The Clerk requested the Parish Council consider dates for the annual Assembly meeting.	
02/24/22.2	A complaint had been received regarding the content of an alleged email from a Councillor. No documentation/evidence had been presented by the complainant and the complaint was dismissed.	
02/24/22.3	SMBC's Community Development team was holding an event in Meriden on 28 February 2024. A number of Cllrs requested to attend.	Clerk to action
02/24/22.4	The Meriden Rotary Club had offered to donate a tree to the Parish Council. SMBC would not permit a tree to be planted on the preferred location of Strawberry Fields, the allotments was suggested as an alternative, to be discussed with the Rotary Club.	Clerk to action
02/24/22.5	The installation of a Hearing Loop in the Pavilion was being investigated by Meriden Sports Park Company.	
02/24/22.6	A request to provide the warm hub with Easter eggs was discussed, all Cllrs were in favour. The Chair would purchase and distribute the Easter eggs.	Cllr Hughes to action
02/24/23	Next Meeting	
02/24/23.1	The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 18 March 2024, 7.30pm.	

The meeting ended at 9.25 pm.