



Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change

Venue: The Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park – Thursday 6th July at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr Woollard (Chair), Cllr Wild (Vice-Chair) Cllr A Eburne
H Jennings (Parish Clerk; taking minutes)
Observers - (Cllr J Hughes attended virtually)

No residents were present at the venue and 1 attended virtually.

1. Apologies & Substitutions

Apologies received from Councillor Campbell.

2. Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests

None

RESOLVED Minutes of meeting held on 8th June 2023 approved by Members to be a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr Woollard and seconded by Cllr Eburne. All in agreement.

3. Democratic Half Hour

No members of the public were in attendance.

4. Planning Update & Decisions

Ref:	Address	Comment
PL/2023/01237/T PO	6 Grace Road Meriden Solihull CV5 9AT	No Representation
PL/2023/01192/P PFL	Berkswell Quarry Cornets End Lane Meriden Solihull CV7 7LH	At a Zoom meeting with Cemex in June 2021 all the usual concerns were addressed -, HGV numbers & routing, cumulative impact on residents and the environment, inappropriate development in the Green Belt etc. We are aware they have addressed some of these concerns in the application. As the 2 new extraction areas have no planning history and have been used for agriculture, should the land not be subject to a programme of archaeological works prior to commencement of extraction. As was mentioned in condition 1 of the 2007 original approval of the original quarrying operation. Items 1.4.7 & 1.4.8 make reference to the conditions imposed under the 29th Jan 2002 ROMP. These conditions continue to apply to all of the site, old and new extractions. Considering these conditions are 21 years old, are they still adequate considering all the changes to the quarry over these 21 years.

PL/2023/01307/ MINFHO	Keats Grove Fillongley Road Meriden Solihul	More information required, parish council reserve comment.
PL/2023/01376/ MINFHO	High Firs Showell Lane Meriden Solihull	The Parish Council have no objection should the proposed works not exceed the allowed percentage increase of the original building.

The Parish Council were not notified of the Berkswell Quarry application. SMBC planning team were reminded that Meriden PC would be informed by SMBC planning of ALL planning applications involving any part of Meriden & Berkswell Quarry's, as agreed at one of the first Quarry Liaison meetings.

5. Environment

a Meriden Pool Volunteers

Councillors discussed re-establishing the Friends of Meriden Pool Group. The resident who ran the group has since left the village. Cllr Hughes suggested contacting the group that organised the Open Gardens scheme to see if they would be interested in volunteering and also former Councillor Smith was involved in the scheme previously

b Post Office Bench Replacement

Councillors agreed to make a claim on the insurance to replace the broken bench at near the Post Office on Main Rd. The councillors agreed that they would like the bench to be made from recyclable material, in-keeping with the current benches around the village and be durable and sturdy. The Clerk informed the councillors that there was a Street Furniture excess of £250.00 with the current insurance.

RESOLVED *The committee agreed to make a claim on the insurance for the replacement bench . Proposed by Cllr Wild and seconded by Cllr Eburne. All in agreement.*

6. Community Engagement

a Residents Newsletter

Feedback from the Annual Assembly meeting was that residents would like to have more frequent communication from the Parish Council. After discussion members decided that a monthly e-newsletter would be the best option, but residents should be asked after the first edition if they wanted the publication this frequently. It will be a free resource with a possibly to print out for any residents without access. Councillor Eburne suggested a September launch date.

b Website

Cllr Eburne put forward a website proposal to upgrade the service we currently provide. The current website is not user friendly, difficult to navigate and to manage. It is important that the council have the correct accessibility features and that the new website can provide the required elements for a efficient Parish Council website.

Councillor Eburne presented three separate quotes to the committee. (Appendix A)

Cllr Woollard thanked Cllr Eburne for her work. Committee disregarded Company C as they had not worked with Parish Councils previously. Committee agreed that their preferred option was Company A but Councillor Eburne will present to finance committee for consideration due to budget constraints.

c **Community Safety**

The PSCO attended the previous Full Council meeting, he is unable to run a Speedwatch until he has received the relevant training. The committee would like to meet with the PSCO for to discuss the safety village in greater depth.

There is currently not a PC organised Streetwatch group however residents can get involved themselves, the committee to encourage people of the parish via social media to get involved.

7. Allotment Update

The Clerk informed the committee that all allotment rent invoices have now been sent out and only a few remain outstanding. The Clerk has been unsuccessful in speaking with the tenant at Plot 10 after numerous emails and phone calls. Due to breaches of the tenancy agreement the tenant will now be sent a termination notice.

Councillors Woollard and Hughes met with three separate local contractors at the allotment site and requested quotes for the required works (Appendix B) Company 3 were unable to provide a quote to complete work on the project.

After discussion the committee felt that Company B presented as being knowledgeable about the site and providing the fairest quote. Recommendation to be received by finance committee for consideration and approval.

Committee to explore other potential avenues of funding such as HS2 and Airport grant funding.

8. Picnic In The Park Update

Clerk updated committee on progress of Picnic in the Park preparations. All items have been purchased for the 'Small Changes' scheme, Clerk to provide a donation box for residents to put towards future Climate Change initiatives should they wish. Maps and litter-pick equipment ready for 'Adopt a Street' initiative. Chair thanked Clerk for time spent on Party in Park so far.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20.43pm.

Website Quotes

	Details
Company A	£749 +VAT = design, build, migration £21.85 +VAT = monthly website hosting <i>Additional Costs</i> £126 +VAT = registration of .gov.uk domain for first 2 years (£88+VAT after)
Company B	£700 +VAT (includes £100 clerk SLCC discount) = site set up £299 +VAT = annual website access & support <i>Additional Costs</i> £350 +VAT = 14 hours content input incl. transferring documents to new site £100 +VAT = .gov.uk domain renewal Total £999 +VAT in year 1
Company C	Costings: £750 +VAT = site build <i>Additional Costs</i> SEO management/input Domain Hosting

Appendix B

Allotment Quotes

3 contractors conducted site visit, quotes to be considered by finance committee -

Quotes not including VAT

	Details	Quote
Contractor A	Installation of hardcore path 1m x <u>approx</u> 150m, using MOT type 1 with timber edging. Arboriculture works to include the thinning out of spinney area, removal of dead or dying trees, reductions where possible around perimeter to allow more light into allotment. Vegetation works to include cut back to <u>perimetre hedgeline</u> , removal of dumped <u>item's</u> and back fill pond. All vegetation at lower end of allotments to be removed to ground level and <u>arsings</u> removed from site, excluding fruit trees. Area's cleared are to be cultivated and left as new allotment plots, size and number of plots TBC.	£19,152.65
Contractor B	Clear overgrown trees and vegetation around the boundary and reduce height to form a manageable hedge. Price includes clearing all standing visible growth. <u>Also</u> once the boundary in the top corner is confirmed the quote can be adjusted. This price includes clearing all but a boundary hedge. Install a <u>1 metre wide</u> path the length of the allotments down the one side with timber edge boards and type 1 MOT <u>sub base</u> . Install 4 raised beds using softwood sleepers <u>approx</u> 4mx2m and 0.6m high. Install 6 double compost bins using concrete slotted posts and gravel boards.	£16,300.00 Path gravel top layer would be an extra £800.00
Contractor C	-	Unable to provide quote