

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Meriden Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 20 May 2024 at The Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park.**

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

**Clerk:** J. McDougall.

**Apologies:** Cllr Wild, SMBC Ward Cllr Delaney, M.P. Saqib Bhatti.

**Public Attendees:** SMBC Ward Cllr Burrow, representatives from Precious Events, PCSO Ryder and five members of the public.

Min No.	Item	Action
<b>01/24 (AM)</b> 01/24.1 (AM)	<b>Election of a Chair to Meriden Parish Council</b> Following a tied vote, Cllr Hughes used his casting vote and Cllr Eburne was elected as Chair of Meriden Parish Council. Cllr Eburne signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.  <b>Proposed: Cllr Hughes, Seconded: Cllr Woollard</b>	
<b>02/24 (AM)</b> 02/24.1 (AM)	<b>Election of a Vice Chair to Meriden Parish Council</b> Cllr Woollard was elected unopposed as Vice Chair of Meriden Parish Council and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.  <b>Proposed: Cllr Woollard, Seconded: Cllr Hughes</b>	
<b>03/24 (AM)</b> 03/24.1 (AM)	<b>Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies</b> Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Wild, Ward Cllr Delaney and M.P. Saqib Bhatti.	
<b>04/24 (AM)</b> 04/24.1 (AM)	<b>Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interest</b> None declared.	
<b>05/24 (AM)</b> 05/24.1 (AM)	<b>Solihull Rural Policing Team</b> PCSO Ryder confirmed the community speed watch initiatives were temporarily on hold due to staffing shortages; officers were being recruited.	
05/24.2 (AM)	The issue of three bus stops being recently used as a toilet was discussed. The police would be carrying out late night patrols throughout the village on Main Road/Birmingham Road in both marked and unmarked cars to combat vehicle crime but would also be vigilant around the bus stops.	
05/24.3 (AM)	A recent report of aggressive begging was raised; the Clerk confirmed a similar incident had been reported to the police some months ago.	
05/24.4 (AM)	The police confirmed they had been involved in a recent incident concerning a member of the public and a children's slide in a Meriden park.	
05/24.5 (AM)	Rural police would be on a rest day on 8 June 2024; any police requirement at Picnic in the Park would be dealt with by the Response team.	
<b>06/24 (AM)</b> 06/24.1 (AM)	<b>Precious Events and Picnic in the Park</b> Representatives from Precious Events provided an update on the schedule of events for Picnic in the Park on 8 June 2024 and the running order of events. A fee of £25.00 per stall, along with 15% of vendors food and drink sales, would be donated to SSAFA.	

Signed: Cllr Eburne  
Dated: 10 June 2024

06/24.2 (AM)	<p>The Parish Council discussed entering into a three year agreement for the supply of a stage to achieve a reduction on cost. Precious Events confirmed there would be no early exit penalties and the Parish Council agreed to enter into a three year agreement at a fee of £4,900.00 each year for a large stage.</p> <p><b>Proposed: Cllr Hughes, Seconded: Cllr Woollard</b></p>	
06/24.3 (AM)	<p>The total anticipated cost for the Picnic in the Park event was discussed. Precious Events gave an overview of costs for additional items, such as public liability insurance, extra bins and Portaloos. Final costs were not yet available but it was predicted this would be just under £15,000.00 net. The Parish Council approved a maximum expenditure with Precious Events of £15,000.00 net, with agreement to pay the remainder of the invoice outside of a Parish Council meeting, if required.</p> <p><b>Proposed: Cllr Hughes , Seconded: Cllr Finch</b></p>	Clerk to progress
06/24.4 (AM)	<p>It was resolved that a banner advertising Picnic in the Park could be placed on The Green, but it was recommended that a banner also be placed outside the Sports Park.</p>	
06/24.5 (AM)	<p>A discussion took place on items that the Parish Council would purchase for its stall at Picnic in the Park. Wildflowers, fruit seeds, beanbags, pencils, a water cooler, branded caps and branded water bottles were suggested. It was resolved that the Clerk would purchase a number of suitable items up to a value of £200.00 net.</p> <p><b>Proposed: Cllr Hughes, Seconded: Cllr Johal</b></p>	Clerk to action
07/24 (AM)	<p><b>Nominations and Election to the Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change Committee</b></p>	
07/24.1 (AM)	<p>Cllr Finch was elected unopposed as Chair of the Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change (PTEC) Committee.</p> <p><b>Proposed: Cllr Woollard, Seconded: Cllr Eburne</b></p>	
07/24.2 (AM)	<p>A Vice-Chair to the PTEC Committee would be elected at a later date during a PTEC meeting. Cllr Finch, Cllr Eburne, Cllr Woollard, Cllr Johal and Cllr Wild were confirmed as members of the PTEC Committee.</p>	PTEC Committee to action
08/24 (AM)	<p><b>Nominations and Election to the Finance, Governance and Personnel Committee</b></p>	
08/24.1 (AM)	<p>Cllr Hughes was elected unopposed as Chair of the Finance, Governance and Personnel Committee.</p> <p><b>Proposed: Cllr Hughes, Seconded: Cllr Woollard</b></p>	
08/24.2 (AM)	<p>Cllr Woollard was elected unopposed as Vice Chair of the Finance, Governance and Personnel (FGP) Committee.</p> <p><b>Proposed: Cllr Hughes, Seconded: Cllr Eburne</b></p>	
08/24.3 (AM)	<p>Cllr Hughes, Cllr Eggar and Cllr Woollard were confirmed as members of the FGP Committee.</p>	

<p><b>09/24 (AM)</b> 09/24.1 (AM)</p>	<p><b>Members' Allowances</b> The Parish Council resolved to defer Members' Allowances to the June 2024 ordinary Parish Council meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk to place on June 2024 agenda</p>
<p><b>10/24 (AM)</b> 10/24.1 (AM)</p>	<p><b>Standing Orders</b> The Parish Council adopted the updated Standing Orders policy with immediate effect.  <b>Proposed: Cllr Hughes, Seconded: Cllr Finch</b></p>	<p>Clerk to place on the website</p>
<p><b>11/24 (AM)</b> 11/24.1 (AM)</p>	<p><b>Financial Regulations</b> The Parish Council adopted the updated Financial Regulations policy with immediate effect.  <b>Proposed: Cllr Hughes, Seconded: Cllr Woollard</b></p>	<p>Clerk to place on the website</p>
<p><b>12/24 (AM)</b> 12/24.1 (AM)</p>	<p><b>Scheme of Delegation</b> The Parish Council adopted the updated Scheme of Delegation with immediate effect.  <b>Proposed: Cllr Hughes, Seconded: Cllr Johal</b></p>	<p>Clerk to place on the website</p>
<p><b>13/24 (AM)</b> 13/24.1 (AM)</p>	<p><b>Terms of Reference and Delegated Powers for all Committees</b> The Parish Council approved the Terms of Reference for the Finance, Governance and Personnel committee.  <b>Proposed: Cllr Hughes, Seconded: Cllr Eburne</b></p>	<p>Clerk to place on the website</p>
<p><b>14/24 (AM)</b> 14/24.1</p>	<p><b>Date and Time of the Next Annual Meeting of Meriden Parish Council</b> The next meeting will be held in May 2025, date to be confirmed.</p>	<p>Clerk to place on the website</p>

The meeting closed at 20.35pm.