Meriden Parish Council

The Pavilion
Meriden Sports Park
10 Main Road
Meriden
CV7 7SP

Minutes of the Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change Committee held at 7.30pm on Thursday 6 March 2025 at The Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park.
Councillors Present: Cllr Eggar (Chair), Cllr Eburne and Cllr Plant
Clerk: J. McDougall
Deputy Clerk: C. Cooper (minutes)
Apologies: None
Public Attendees: 6 members of the public and 1 member of the public joined remotely

Min No.	Item	Action
136/24 136.1/24	**Apologies and Substitutions** None	
137/24 137.1/24	**Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest** Cllr Eggar declared an interest in the Meriden Sports Park Company.	
138/24 138.1/24 138.2/24 138.3/24 138.4/24 138.5/24	**Public Forum** The Clerk confirmed Solihull Council's Local Plan was not an agenda item for this meeting. A meeting was taking place on Monday 10 March 2025 between the Parish Council and the Head of Strategic Development at SMBC and the Head of Planning at SMBC. Items to be discussed at this meeting would include: - Progress on Solihull Councils Local Plan - An understanding of how many more dwellings SMBC need across the borough; 8,000 was believed to be an approximate figure - Consultation with residents and Parishes along with timescales - A review of Meriden's Neighbourhood Development Plan and how this would fall in line with Solihull Councils Local Plan policies. An agenda item will be added to the Full Council meeting scheduled for Monday 17 March 2025 to update the public and Cllrs on this meeting. The public asked if the dwellings due to be built on Maxstoke Lane contributed to the extra housing allocation required. Cllrs confirmed these dwellings were part of a previous emerging SMBC Local Plan so do not contribute to the additional dwellings now required across the borough. The Clerk confirmed the Parish Council required information on whether additional dwellings would be built in the Meriden Parish and the infrastructure improvements required to support additional development, but it would be some time before SMBC had assessed the call for site submissions. The Parish Council had taken advice from a Planning Consultant. The new categorisation of grey belt in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was going to allow developers more opportunity for obtaining planning permission on previous green belt sites that could now be argued comprised grey belt. This was more concerning due to Solihull Council not having a recent	

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	Local Plan, following withdrawal of the Emerging Plan in 2024, and not having a sufficient long-term housing supply.	
138.6/24	The Parish Council were aware of discussion taking place regarding the land behind the Primary School. The site was included within the recent call for sites exercise with part of the proposal to expand the school into a two form entry.	
138.7/24	The Parish Council had discussed a review of the Meriden Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) to ensure the required infrastructure (schools, medical facilities, etc) improvements are considered should additional development be identified within Meriden and the village has a say in any new developments. An NDP cannot stop development but can help shape what developments look like. Within the NDP we can identify sites that the community feel could be appropriate for development.	
138.8/24	The Clerk confirmed in the last call for sites exercise, numerous sies were put forward within Meriden and only one was chosen which is now being built; the call for sites is a land availability exercise and sites must be assessed across the whole borough.	
138.9/24	Discussion took place on land put forward with TPO's and reference to some large sites only have a small number of TPO's. A member of the public offered to look into obtaining more TPOs on trees within the area. The Clerk confirmed SMBC have an online map which shows the location of all trees with TPOs.	
139/24	**Minutes of the Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change Committee held on 6 February 2025**	
139.1/24	The minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate record and signed by Cllr Eggar. **Proposed: Cllr Eggar , Seconded: Cllr Plant**	
140/24	**Planning Applications**	
140.1/24	<table><tr><td>Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Revision</td><td>Fillongley Parish Council</td><td>Consultation on the proposed revisions to the NDP</td><td>No comments</td></tr></table>	
140.2/24	Cllrs requested the Clerk write to Fillongley Parish Council and thank them for providing a copy of a reviewed NDP.	Clerk to action
141/24	**Leys Lane Allotments**	
141.1/24	The replacement allotment path has now been completed and the vegetation adjacent to the path has been cut and added to the maintenance contract from April 2025.	

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141.2/24	The fallen tree within the boundary of Trintiy Estates has not been cleared. Both Trinity Estates and the sub-contractors have been contacted.	
141.3/24	The hedge saplings planted by the Parish Council's contractor have been trampled on in some areas when gaining access into the allotments through a gap in the hedging which the saplings had attempted to close.	
141.4/24	Termination of an allotment plot would be discussed in a confidential session after the meeting.	
141.5/24	A allotment holder queried whether a shed not located on a plot, but adjacent to the plot, could be transferred to a new tenant upon termination. Cllrs confirmed the shed will be required to move onto the allotment plot as set out in the tenancy conditions for the new owner as any previous historic agreement would terminate with the current plot holders end of lease agreement.	
141.6/24	The old allotment sign needs to be removed from the site.	Clerk to action
141.7/24	Two allotment plots were currently vacant and a two further plots had been terminated. There were currently 6 people on the waiting list so the Council should be able to fill the vacant plots. One tenant had informed the Clerk that if the hire fee increased they would give notice of termination.	Clerk to progress
142/24	**Parking and Traffic Outside the Primary School**	
142.1/24	Cllr Plant and the Clerk attended a meeting with the Primary School to discuss parking issues and any potential improvements. The bus from Millisons Wood to the school was removed by SMBC as it was deemed the distance was walkable. The School confirmed there was a small number of pupils who live in Millisons Wood and it was unlikely SMBC would deem the bus necessary.	
142.2/24	Clerk to request information from enforcement officers for fines given for parking violations at the School.	Clerk to action
142.3/24	The School highlighted other areas for parents to park, i.e. The Bulls Head and the Sports Park car parks, however this could be time consuming for the parents, who are usually on their way to work.	
142.4/24	A suggestion was made for a walking bus. Parents drop their children to a specified location e.g. the Sports Park car park. Members of School staff walk the children to school. Unfortunately the School do not have a budget to do this; a grant could be an option to fund this if a suitable one can be found. The School confirmed they would not reach out to parents regarding a walking bus as they do not want to create an expectation until there was confirmation that costs could be met.	

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142.5/24 142.6/24	If a grant could be obtained it would be beneficial for a trial to take place for one week during the summer to determine the need for this. The school would be required to organise this and the Council can look at funding. Parking at the Primary School to be added to the Full Council agenda for meeting scheduled for Monday 17 March 2025. Cllrs suggested whether a School minibus could be utilised with the same process as above, parents drop off at a location and a mini bus brings them to school rather than a teacher walking them.	Clerk to action
143/24 143.1/24	**Christmas Light Features** The Committee discussed the designs, costs and locations of four Christmas light features. The new Christmas lights will be based within the centre of the Village, with four locations to be recommended to full Council. Cllrs confirmed they would like to put forward to Full Council purchasing: - 2 x thick snowflake 22403 £506.00 plus VAT each - 2 x bauble with bow 22390 £562.00 plus VAT each The Clerk confirmed the switching gear and installation was £703.00 plus VAT per light, which was a one off cost. The above four new light features would cost £4,948.00 plus VAT. There would be additional costs, to be confirmed by Solihull Council, for erecting and removing all existing and new light features, electricity, storage and the switch on ceremony.	Clerk to progress
144/24 144.1/24	**Broken Planter** A planter on The Green has broken. Parkways have asked their supplier for a quotation for a replacement planter. The Committee discussed wood and recycled plastic planters and requested the Clerk obtain quotations for both a wooden planter and a recycled plastic planter.	Clerk to action
145/24 145.1/24 145.2/24	**Community Events** The Committee reviewed and discussed information provided by the Clerk regarding a potential outdoor cinema event. Cllrs determined due to the complexity and cost, the Council would not be able to host an outdoor cinema event. Cllr Eggar offered to look into holding a Sports Day and how the logistics of this would work. Report to Full Council that an event has not yet been determined however this matter was being investigated.	Cllr Eggar to action
146/24 146.1/24	**Correspondence** Several reports of parking on double yellow lines on Main Road adjacent to The Green had been received. A car was damaged as a result of inappropriate parking. On separate incidents, the Clerk had taken photographs of commercial vehicle parked on double yellow lines and contacted the relevant companies.	

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146.2/24	Tree debris on Main Road near the bus stop close to Berkswell Road had been reported; Cllr Plant confirmed this area has been cleared.	
146.3/24	A complaint had been received regarding City Fibre and the drains being filled with tarmac following recent works. SMBC was investigating and suggested City Fibre would be made to rectify the damage..	
146.4/24	A resident queried which speed cameras capture speed as it was thought traffic using Fillongley Road, Alspath Road and then Main Road would avoid the speed capture cameras. This issue would be discussed with SMBC highways at the next meeting.	Cllr Eburne and Clerk to action
146.5/24	Discarded screws in Main Road by Fairfield Rise had been reported; SMBC would cleanse the area.	
146.6/24	A resident on Main Road and queried whether dust was originating from the quarry. SMBC Ward Cllr Burrow was looking into this matter.	
147/24	**Councillor Reports**	
147.1/24	None	
148/24	**Clerk's Report**	
148.1/24	The school has collected the allotment shed on 1 March 2025 and the key to the shed was delivered to the school on 3 March 2025.	
148.2/24	Trinity Estates that manage the area adjacent to the allotments had asked for pictures of the dead trees and the tree that has fallen. The Clerk had also asked for their team to correctly maintain the boundary.	
148.3/24	Reports were made of the concerns regarding the two dogs, no update as yet.	
148.4/24	The cyclist memorial event would take place on 18 May 2025. A Cllr would need to arrive earlier to allow cyclists use of the Pavillion toilets. It was agreed The Chair usually lays the wreath.	Cllr Eburne to action
148.5/24	The Clerk has been to the Social Club and seen the large painting of Meriden Heath. This will be collected ASAP.	Clerk to action
148.6/24	A bench had broken on The Green and collapsed as a member of the public sat on it. The resident confirmed they were shaken up but not seriously injured. The resident had the Clerks contact details if needed. The bench was removed and quotations would be obtained for a replacement bench.	Clerk to action

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149/24 149.1/24	**Date and Time of the next Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change Committee Meeting** It was resolved that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 3 April 2025 at 7:30pm.	
150/24 150.1/24	**Confidential Session to Discuss Termination of an Allotment Tenancy** A resolution was passed to exclude members of the public and press from the meeting due to the confidential business to be discussed (Public Bodies [Admission to Meetings] Act 1960) This was proposed by Cllr Eggar and Cllr Plant; all in agreement. Confidential minutes are not published on the website or noticeboards; Cllrs receive a separate copy of confidential minutes for approval.	

Meeting closed at 21:23pm.

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