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 8 May 2025 at The Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park.
Councillors Present: Cllr Eggar (Chair), Cllr Plant and Cllr Hughes
Clerk: J. McDougall
Apologies: Cllr Eburne
Public Attendees: 1 member of the public

Min No.	Item	Action
167/24 167/24.1	**Apologies and Substitutions** Apologies have been received from Cllr Eburne. Cllr Hughes substituted for Cllr Eburne.	
168/24 168/24.1	**Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest** Cllr Eggar declared an interest in Meriden Sports Park.	
169/24 169/24.1	**Public Forum** None.	
170/24 170/24.1 170/24.2	**Minutes of the Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change Committee held on 3 April 2025** The minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate record and signed by Cllr Eggar. **Proposed: Cllr Eggar , Seconded: Cllr Hughes** Cllrs asked for confirmation on the decision to respond to the felling of a tree planning application. Clerk confirmed the Council sent an objection to SMBC for this planning application, further information was requested from Packington Estate and the Village Hall however no response has been received. Cllrs asked if SMBC have been informed of the historical significance of the tree. The Clerk confirmed the specifics were not sent to SMBC however they are aware of the fond memories many elderly residents have of the tree. Cllrs asked if SMBC have been asked whether the works Packington Estate did to the car park and the tree at the time would have breached the TPO and whether planning applications have been submitted for the resurfacing of the car park. The Clerk confirmed these questions will be sent to SMBC.	Clerk to action
171/24 171/24.1	**Planning Applications** PL/2025/00662/TCA — St Laurence Church, Church Lane, Meriden, Solihull — Pollard mature Ash tree in grounds of church by approximately 8m. Tree has previously dropped large — Neutral	

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			limbs and there is concern due to proximity of church.		

171/24.2	Cllrs neither support or object this application. The Church must ensure the wall around the Church is not damaged. Cllrs also requested a sketch plan is provided as this is usually advised when trees are in a conservation area. Workers must also be respectful of the graveyard and surrounding areas.	Clerk to action
172/24	**Leys Lane Allotments**	
172/24.1	i. The Committee to discuss a deposit system for new tenants. The Clerk informed the Cllrs of the recent clearance costs after a previous tenant left and did not clear their plot. A deposit system was discussed to ensure tenants cleared their plots, if they did not, their deposit would not be returned and would be used towards the cost of the clearance. Cllrs agreed to not begin this yet and to firstly see how the inspections go and then look into this next year when the contracts are due to be re-signed. Cllrs asked the Clerk to look into the water supply.	Clerk to action
172/24.2	ii. The Committee to discuss a shed not located on a plot. Cllrs confirmed the shed must be moved within the boundary of a plot. Cllrs suggested the shed should first be requested to move onto the tenants plot who has recently taken over from the owner of the shed. If this tenant does not want the shed, it can be offered to other tenants. If no tenants want the shed, the Cllrs will volunteer to dismantle and remove the shed from the premises.	Clerk to action
172/24.3	iii. The Committee to discuss removal of previous tenants possessions. Discussed above.	
173/24	**Review of Noticeboards**	
173/24.1	A lengthy discussion took place regarding the noticeboards. Cllrs agreed the following: - Library noticeboard should be handed over to the library. - The Doctors Surgery noticeboard should be removed (noticeboards are already in place in both the Village Hall and the Doctors Surgery). - The Millisons Wood noticeboard is to be replaced with a new noticeboard; similar to the Duck Pond noticeboard. - A new noticeboard to be erected in the Sports Park – an electronic noticeboard should be considered.	
173/24.2	Clerk to look into the above suggestions.	Clerk to action

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174/24 174/24.1	**Broken Planter** The Committee discussed a quotation received to replace a broken planter on the Green. The condition of planters was discussed in the FGP Committee as it was noted that there are several planters in poor condition. Cllr Murphy will be completing an audit of all planters around the village to determine which ones should be removed or replaced. Cllrs decided to wait until Cllr Murphy had completed this audit before ordering any new planters.	Cllr Murphy & Deputy Clerk to action
175/24 175/24.1	**Broken Bench** The Clerk updated the Committee on the replacement bench for the village Green. The company providing the bench cannot install, therefore Hollywood Home Improvements will be instructed to do this.	Clerk to action
176/24 176/24.1	**Review Flower Planters** This was discussed in agenda item 174/24.	
177/24 177/24.1 177/24.2 177/24.3	**Cyclists Memorial** The Committee discussed the final arrangements for the Cyclists Memorial held on Sunday 18 May 2025. Cllr Eggar may no longer be able to attend, therefore Cllr Hughes will step in. The Clerk confirmed the bikes are usually stored on the tennis courts with the gate being locked during the memorial. The Pavilion should be open before and after the memorial take place for use of toilets. The flag will also be raised.	
178/24 178/24.1 178/24.2	**Highways Meeting** In the absence of the Chair, the Clerk provided an update on the meeting held with the Head of Highways at Solihull Council. Correspondence received from a resident has been shared with Cllrs, this was discussed in the meeting with the Head of Highways as the email was directed to SMBC and MPC were cc'd into the email; SMBC are dealing with this email and will respond to the resident accordingly. The exact number of speeding tickets is yet to be confirmed (this information should be available from mid-May) however they are aware that Meriden are the highest ticketed village between Meriden, Balsall Common, Berkswell and Hampton-in-Arden. SMBC only receive a small portion of money from the speeding fines; West Midlands Police give SMBC a set amount of money however this does not cover the cost of installing and maintaining the speed cameras. It was confirmed West Midlands Police do not retain all of the money from the speeding fines, the treasury also receive a portion of each ticket. Parking around the village was also discussed including the possible removal of the single yellow line after the service road next to the Green. Cottages have a real problem with parking. Cllrs asked for SMBC to be contacted to request data on accidents around the Green.	

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178/24.3	The Leys Lane road closure will be made permanent however SMBC will not be using planters as a method to block the road; they therefore need to determine how this will be closed. Cllrs suggested that SMBC purchase and install the planters and fill them with soil and MPC will then maintain them.	
178/24.4	The zebra crossing on the Fillongley Road will be made into a speed bump; this should be completed during either the summer holidays or October half term. A new crossing will also be installed on the Fillongley Road near to the shops. Zebra crossing is going to be humped and in the Summer hopefully or maybe October half term. A new crossing across Fillongley Road, next to the shops, to be installed this financial year.	
178/24.5	There is an unofficial path that has been made near to the primary school; this will be paved at some point in the future. Cllrs asked if alternatives to the traffic calming measures on the Fillongley Road could be looked into.	
178/24.6	SMBC will be looking at the pavement by the duck pond.	
179/24 179/24.1	**Village Green Parking** The Committee discussed this in agenda item 178/24.	
180/24 180/24.1	**Correspondence** Email received regarding damage to a grass verge – forwarded to SMBC.	
180/24.2	Email received from a resident regarding Old Road and the concrete blocks that have been placed as a retaining wall. Clerk has contacted SMBC about this and whether this is a permanent structure.	
181/24 181/24.1	**Councillor Reports** Cllr Plant confirmed SMBC Ward Cllr Burrow has met with the Headteacher of Meriden Primary School and has asked for a list of the top 10 issues; hopefully he will report back on this during the next full Council meeting. The floor has now been replaced that the CIL money paid for.	
181/24.2	The Clerk spoke to the Chair of Governors as they were concerned they were not receiving the require Pupil Premium money however this has now been resolved.	
181/24.3	Cllrs would like to meet with the Headteacher and look around the school.	
181/24.4	The Headteacher confirmed she would consider approaching the Trust to obtain a grant to help fund a trial walking bus in the summer.	
181/24.5	Cllr Plant spoke to employees of the Priory Hospital and they asked whether there were any volunteering opportunities within the village for their patients	

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	to participate in. Priory Hospital are welcome to contact the Clerk to discuss this further.	
181/24.6	Cllr Eggar received a message from a residents who forms a group of people that help maintain Millisons Wood. SMBC have now informed this group that they will no longer pay for materials etc. The group have asked whether MPC can assist with funding. Cllrs suggested contacting the Trust and obtaining a grant through recreation. The group state they require 2-3 tonne of gravel; Cllr Eggar to ask the group to contact the Clerk as the quarries may be able to assist with this. The Clerk advised that the group must still liaise with SMBC as they own this land and we believe it is a Site of Special Interest.	
182/24	**Clerk's Report**	
182/24.1	Clerk confirmed the primary school are happy for the Cllrs to volunteer at the school fete and to have a stall. Cllr Plant confirmed the school fete is on Friday 11 July 2025. The school will be in touch with further details.	
182/24.2	Meeting dates have been sent to Avon Planning. A grant will be applied for to fund these meetings.	
182/24.3	The Clerk has written to Stonewater regarding the local lettings plan as there is no mention of a priority being given to Meriden residents. An email has been sent to contacts at SMBC to ask what was agreed regarding priority for residents when the NDP was first written.	
182/24.4	The Clerk is on annual leave from the middle of May for 3 weeks.	
183/24	**Date and Time of the next Planning, Transport, Environment and Climate Change Committee Meeting**	
183/24.1	It was resolved that no formal meeting would take place in June. All in favour to delegate responsibility to the Deputy Clerk to respond to planning applications.	

Meeting closed at 21:11pm.

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