Meriden Parish Council

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

Minutes of the ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 21 September 2026 at The Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park.

Present: Cllr Whitehead (Chair), Cllr Marshall, Cllr McGrath, Cllr Ritchie, Cllr Murphy and Cllr Eburne-Brereton
Apologies: None
Minutes: Deputy Clerk to the Council
Public Attendees: SMBC Ward Cllr Price, 41 members of the public in attendance and 6 members of the public attended remotely.

Min No.	Item	Action
79/2627	**Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies**	
79/2627.1	None.	
79/2627.2	Apologies were received from M.P. Saqib Bhatti, SMBC Ward Cllr Hoey and SMBC Ward Cllr Lamden.	
80/2627	**Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interest**	
80/2627.1	Cllr Murphy declared an interest in Leys Lane Allotments.	
81/2627	**Public Participation**	
81/2627.1	Residents raised issues during the public session, all actions resolved from the formal public session were as follows:	
81/2627.2	The Clerk was requested to contact the management company of Darlaston Court to discuss incidents of residents leaving unwanted items on the grass verge.	Clerk to action
81/2627.3	The Clerk was asked to review the planning application relating to the Indian restaurant on the corner of Fillongley Road and confirm the approved height requirements for the extractor fans. The Clerk will also establish whether any planning conditions were imposed regarding the location or height of the equipment.	Clerk to action
81/2627.4	The Clerk was requested to contact Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council's Highways Team to discuss traffic speeds and vehicle volumes along Birmingham Road, on the approach to the village and away from the village towards the A45. Members noted that there are currently no average speed cameras along this stretch of road.	Clerk to action
81/2627.5	Concerns were raised regarding individuals riding e-bikes through the village whilst wearing balaclavas, together with reports of laughing gas canisters being discarded outside residents' properties. The Council advised residents to report any concerns or incidents directly to the Police via the non-emergency 101 service.	
81/2627.6	The Clerk was requested to contact Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council regarding the cutting and maintenance of the hedge along Leys Lane.	Clerk to action
82/2627	**Land South of Fillongley Road**	
82/2627.1	The Council received and approved the independent transport assessment report. Cllrs confirmed the document could be sent to SMBC and will be made publicly available on the Council's website. **All in favour**	Clerk to action
82/2627.2	The Council received and approved the Parish Council's supplementary response to	

Meriden Parish Council
Meriden Sports Park
10 Main Road
Meriden
CV7 7SP

	the Heritage Assessment to be forwarded to SMBC Planning. **All in favour** The Council thanked the action group for their work.	Clerk to action
82/2627.3	The Clerk provided an update on the outstanding technical reports commissioned: - The Clerk reported that an interim Ecology Report has been received. The final report is expected to be issued within the next two to three weeks. - The Clerk reported that a follow-up email had been sent requesting the Flood Risk Assessment document; however, no response has been received to date. A further reminder will be issued in an attempt to obtain the outstanding document.	Clerk to action
82/2627.4	Members of the public queried whether the Parish Council intended to amend its original objection in light of the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the submission of additional supporting documents. Cllrs confirmed that the objection still had merit. It was agreed that the newly received documents would be submitted in support of the Council's existing objection.	
83/2627 83/2627.1	**Minutes of the ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 20 July 2026** The minutes of the annual Parish Council meeting held on 20 July 2026 were agreed as a true and accurate record and signed by Cllr Whitehead. **Proposed: Cllr Whitehead; Seconded: Cllr Marshall**	
84/2627 84/2627.1	**Correspondence and Communication** Following comments from the public, the Council discussed at length the planning application relating to 8 Daytona Drive, which had been determined by the SMBC Planning Committee on 11 September 2026. Two members of the public had submitted a number of similar questions regarding the Parish Council's decision-making process and how it had reached its position on the planning application. The Parish Council addressed and responded to some of the questions; the residents could contact the Clerk if they had any outstanding questions. Members of the public expressed their disappointment that the Parish Council had not supported the objections raised by residents.	
84/2627.2	Complaints regarding the parking on Whinspear Drive, Maxstoke Lane and The Green were received which focused around the new restaurant opening. Residents were advised to contact Operation Snap to report issues.	
84/2627.3	A resident raised a query regarding Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs). The Clerk advised that information relating to HMOs was available on the SMBC website and suggested that the resident refer to the published guidance for further information.	
84/2627.4	A resident emailed alleging a planning breach had taken place, the Clerk advised the resident to direct the complaint to SMBC Planning Enforcement as the Parish Council has no powers for planning enforcement.	
84/2627.5	A report was received regarding alleged begging outside the Co-op store. The Clerk confirmed that this was a matter for the Police and advised that the incident had been reported.	

84/2627.6	Reports of lorries in the village. Clerk sent two photographs of lorries to NRS.	
84/2627.7	The Clerk confirmed a supplementary draft response from a member of the public relating to the proposed development at Land South of Fillongley Road had been circulated to all Cllrs in August for consideration. Cllrs were invited to review the document and provide any comments or suggested amendments.	
84/2627.8	A representative of the local action group opposing the planning application for Land South of Fillongley Road attended the meeting having submitted four statements and requests to the Council prior to the meeting. The Clerk advised that, whilst Cllrs were permitted to discuss the matter, no formal decisions could be made as the item had not been included on the meeting agenda. Following discussion, the Council resolved to include two separate agenda items relating to this matter for the Full Council meeting scheduled for October 2026, enabling the Council to consider and determine the issues formally. The two agenda items would include: • consideration and determination of whether to establish a working group to support the action group opposing the planning application; and • consideration and determination of the Council's position regarding further financial support of approximately £25,000.00 for legal fees to oppose the planning application at an appeal hearing.	Clerk to action
85/2627 85/2627.1	**Ward Councillor Reports** SMBC Ward Cllr Price noted two planning applications have been submitted for a property on Fillongley Road.	
85/2627.2	SMBC Ward Cllr Price congratulated residents on their work towards the land south of Fillongley Road planning application and expressed disappointment towards Meriden Parish Council's support. Cllrs confirmed they had spent almost £10,000.00 on the planning application so far and felt this demonstrated their support.	
86/2627 86/2627.1	**Meriden Parish Council Chair Report** The Chair confirmed the following meetings have taken place: - Transport meeting - Sports park meeting - NDP working party meeting	
87/2627 87/2627.1	**Meriden Parish Council Councillor Reports** Cllrs reported that a sofa had been left outside Darlaston Court and requested that the matter be reported to SMBC.	Clerk to action
87/2627.2	Concern was raised regarding the condition of the wooden rails at the duck pond, which were reported to have significantly deteriorated and required attention.	Clerk to action
87/2627.3	A member of the public enquired about litter-picking activities within the village. Residents may be able to obtain support through the Love Solihull initiative.	Clerk to action
88/2627 88/2627.1	**Meriden Sports Park Committee (MSP)** The draft minutes from the MSP committee meeting held on 7 September 2026 were received and all recommendations accepted. **All in favour**	
89/2627 89/2627.1	**Neighbourhood Development Plan Review Committee (NDP)** The next NDP committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday 15 October 2026 at	

	6.30pm.	
89/2627.2	Cllr Ritchie provided an update on the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Review Working Group. The draft document had been divided into sections and allocated to individual members of the working group for review and amendment. A framework had been established to identify the changes required, allocate responsibilities, and enable collaborative online editing.	
89/2627.3	The NDP committee had initially asked the Clerk to contact local universities to explore potential opportunities for student involvement in the Neighbourhood Development Plan review. Contact had since been made with the University of Birmingham, which had responded positively to the project and identified potential opportunities for student participation. Further discussions would be undertaken to explore and develop this opportunity.	NDP committee to progress
90/2627 90/2627.1	**Transport, Environment and Climate Committee (TEC)** The draft minutes from the TEC committee meeting held on 3 August 2026 were received and all recommendations accepted. **All in favour**	
91/2627 91/2627.1	**Flower Planters on The Green** The Council were in favour of removing, replacing and replanting the planters on The Green, as recommended by the TEC committee. Nine planters at a fee of £320 plus VAT each would be purchased. Additional costs would be incurred through planter removal and replanting. Delegated authority to the Clerk was given to progress this matter and costs. **All in favour**	
92/2627 92/2627.1	**Planning Applications**	

PL/2026/01602/TPO	Darlaston Court 123 Main Road Meriden Solihull	Reduce the whole crown of London plane tree T1 – in front of Flats 40-42 overhanging carriageway – by 3 metres, prune back from property to provide a 2 metre clearance, remove major deadwood and crown thin 10% of the volume.	No objection
PL/2026/01561/PIP	Broadwell 3 Berkswell Road Meriden Solihull	Permission in Principle for the erection of up to 7 dwellings (minimum of 5, maximum of 7).	Objection – see comments below
PL/2026/01542/PPFL	Berryfields Farm Berkswell Road Meriden Solihull	Change of use and conversion of part of part of existing agricultural building to Children's Day Nursery with	Neutral – see comments below

			associated ancillary development (including demolition of existing buildings, landscaping and parking).	
PL/2026/01465/PN	Telecommunications Mast WMD7123A Main Road Meriden Solihull		Prior notification for removal and replacement of existing monopole and equipment cabinets with upgraded monopole and equipment cabinets.	No comment

92/2627.2 PL/2026/01561/PIP – objection – comments as follows:

- Lack of a footpath to the proposed access location on Berkswell Road which encourages a car dependent development;
- Close proximity to a bend which could decrease road safety;
- Lack of street lighting in the area which could decrease road safety and general safety;
- Historic views from the proposed area across to St. Laurence Church and Meriden Hill will be impacted;
- The Council views this area as green belt and it has been used as agricultural land previously
- Highways concerns due to the frequent traffic on the road.

92/2627.3 PL/2026/01542/PPFL – neutral with comments as follows:

- Lack of footpath to the location on Berkswell Road;
- Highways concern for vehicular access on to Berkswell Road and frequent traffic on the road.

92/2627.4

PL/2026/01423/MINFHO	Approved by SMBC Planning officer on 07/09/26 **MPC response – no comment.**	29 Bonneville Close Millisons Wood Solihull CV5 9QG	Retrospective installation of solar panels to the roof of the residential building.
PL/2026/01232/PPFL	Approved by SMBC Planning Committee on 09/09/26. **MPC response – no objection.**	8 Daytona Drive Millisons Wood Solihull	Change of use of a house (Class C3a) to a children's home for a single child, with a manager and up to two carers, working on a rota basis (C2).

93/2627 **External Audit Report**

93/2627.1 The Council received and accepted the external audit report from Moore for the financial period 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026.

	All in favour	
94/2627 94/2627.1	**Pay Scales** The committee to discuss and agree the inflationary pay amount agreed by the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services, to be paid to staff from 1 April 2026 in line with contractual employment obligations. Members of the public and press were excluded from the meeting as per the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to allow confidential staffing matters to be discussed. **Proposed: Cllr Whitehead; Seconded: Cllr Marshall**	
95/2627 95/2627.1	**Monthly Finance Report** The bank reconciliation to 31 August 2026 was received and approved by Full Council. **All in favour**	
96/2627 96/2627.1	**Finance** To receive the following payments that were paid in August 2026 outside of a Parish Council meeting (as per resolution 71/2627.1 20 July 2026):	

Main Account	**Net**	**VAT**	**Total**	**Payment Method**
Parkway grounds maintenance July 2026	£1,534.17	£306.83	£1,841.00	Bank transfer
Clerk Q1 and Q2 working allowance and other expenses	£160.59	£0.00	£160.59	Bank transfer
Meriden Mag	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00	Bank transfer
Moore external audit 2025-2026	£420.00	£84.00	£504.00	Bank transfer
Solihull MBC Christmas lighting 2026	£3144.00	£628.00	£3772.80	Bank transfer
WALC training course	£40.00	£8.00	£48.00	Bank transfer
WALC training course	£40.00	£8.00	£48.00	Bank transfer
I Care community warm hub meals 13.07.26 to 09.08.26	£117.00	£23.40	£140.40	Bank transfer
Lloyds credit card July 2026	£16.62	£0.00	£16.62	Direct debit
Information Commissioner's Office data protection fee	£47.00	£0.00	£47.00	Direct Debit
Deputy Clerk's August 2026 Salary				Bank transfer
Clerk's August salary 2026 and overtime				Bank transfer
HMRC August 2026				Bank transfer
West Midlands Pension Fund August 2026				Bank transfer
Unity Trust monthly bank	£7.00	£0.00	£7.00	Direct

	account fee				Debit
	The following payments were associated with the maintenance of the Sports Park and paid in August 2026, outside of a public meeting:				
	DB Cleaning Services August 2026 Pavilion cleaning	£241.50	£0.00	£241.50	Bank transfer
	Eon electricity 1 July 2026 – 31 July 2026 – direct debit payment	£197.27	£9.86	£207.13	Direct debit
	Fairways grounds maintenance August 2026	£3012.50	£602.50	£3615.00	Bank transfer
	Fortress Recycling bin emptying August 2026	£54.44	£10.89	£65.33	Direct debit
	G. Collins security services August 2026	£700.00	£0.00	£700.00	Bank transfer
	Glacier Window Cleaning July 2026	£28.00	£0.00	£28.00	Bank transfer
	Hollywood Home Improvements washroom repair	£110.00	£0.00	£110.00	Bank transfer
	Patrol Alarm Systems CCTV annual maintenance 12/09/26 – 13/09/27	£415.00	£83.00	£498.00	Bank transfer
	Patrol Alarm Systems supply and programming of alarm key fobs	£160.00	£32.00	£192.00	Bank transfer
	WaterPlus 01/05/26 – 31/07/26	£522.80	£0.00	£522.80	Direct debit
	V-lectric Ltd lighting repairs	£1310.00	£262.00	£1572.00	Bank transfer

97/2627
97/2627.1

Finance
The following payments were presented:

Main Account	**Net**	**VAT**	**Total**	**Payment Method**
Parkway grounds maintenance August 2026	£1784.17	£356.83	£2141.00	Bank transfer
SYSTRA Ltd consultancy works	£5100.00	£1020.00	£6120.00	Bank transfer
WALC training course	£40.00	£8.00	£48.00	Bank transfer
WALC training course	£40.00	£8.00	£48.00	Bank transfer
WALC training course	£40.00	£8.00	£48.00	Bank transfer
I Care community warm hub meals 10.08.26-06.09.26	£123.50	£24.70	£148.20	Bank transfer
Lloyds credit card July 2026	£289.80	£0.00	£289.80	Direct Debit
Unity Trust monthly bank account	£7.00	£0.00	£7.00	Direct Debit

98/2627
98/2627.1

Finance
The following September 2026 payments were confidential to the Parish Council and not published in the agenda or minutes:

	Clerk's September 2026 salary
	Deputy Clerk's September 2026 salary
	WMPF September 2026 pension contributions employer and employees
	HMRC September 2026 payments

99/2627

99/2627.1 **Sports Park Finance**: the following payments were presented (payments for the sports park maintenance are funded through a grant):

Main Account	Net	VAT	Total	Payment Method
Fairways grounds maintenance September 2026	£3,012.50	£602.50	£3,615.00	Bank transfer
Glacier Window Cleaning August 2026	£12.00	£0.00	£12.00	Bank transfer
G. Collins security services September 2026	£700.00	£0.00	£700.00	Bank transfer
DB Cleaning Services September 2026	£210.00	£0.00	£210.00	Bank transfer
Eon electricity 1 August 2026 – 31 August 2026	£195.08	£9.75	£204.83	Direct Debit
Fortress Recycling bin emptying September 2026	£68.05	£13.61	£81.66	Direct Debit

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

99/2627.2 The following invoices were received after publication of the agenda and were awaiting payment:

- WALC training – invoice 2043 – £48.00 (inc VAT) – MPC invoice
- Glacier Window Cleaning – invoice 10073 - £28.00 (no VAT) – MSP invoice

All of the above payments were approved; Cllr Whitehead and Cllr Marshall would authorise the pending payments via online banking.

All in favour

100/2627 **Clerk's Report**

100/2627.1 The Clerk shared information received from the Chair of the Solihull Area Meeting and asked for any comments to be shared directly back to the Chair.

100/2627.2 Broken planter on The Green – Parkway has removed it and the cost was £60.00 for a small planter.

100/2627.3 Manhole cover was broken on The Green, this has been replaced and fitted properly as the broken cover was not correctly fitted. The cost will be £335.00.

100/2627.4 Toilet repaired in the Sports Pavilion at a cost £190.00.

100/2627.5 JLR will paint the Sports Pavilion on Wednesday 30 September 2026, paint needs to be supplied.

100/2627.6 Quarterly meeting with Highways that was due to take place on 18 September 2026 was cancelled; new date to be confirmed.

100/2627.7 A meeting with MS&RT was scheduled for Monday 12 October 2026 at 7pm.

100/2627.8 Quarterly quarry meeting was scheduled to take place on Monday 12 October 2026,

	2pm.	
100/2627.9	SAM scheduled for Thursday 15 October 2026 at 7:15pm; Cllr Murphy to attend.	
100/2627.10	Budget planning for 2027-2028 to commence in October 2026.	
100/2627.11	All information had been submitted to SMBC for the Remembrance service.	
101/2627 101/2627.1	**Date and Time of the Next Full Ordinary Council Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting** The next ordinary Parish Council meeting was scheduled for Monday 19 October 2026, to commence at 7:30pm at Meriden Sports Park.	

Public meeting ended at 21.23pm.

Confidential session:

94/2627	Minutes from the confidential session regarding employment matters are not published.

Confidential session closed: 21:31pm

Signed: Cllr Whitehead
Dated: 19 October 2026