

Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7.00pm,
21st July 2016, at Finham Park School, Green Lane Finham

Present:

Councillor Robert Aitken	Councillor Angela Fryer
Councillor Peter Burns (Chair)	Councillor Bob Fryer
Councillor Anthony Dalton (Vice Chair) (part)	Councillor Colin Salt
Councillor Paul Davies	Councillor Tony Swann
	Councillor Katherine Taylor

In Attendance:

Councillor Gary Crookes Coventry City Council
Jane Chatterton Clerk & RFO

47. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ann Bush, Tim Sawdon and John Blundell.

48. Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of interest were received from Councillor Salt in relation to a planning item under agenda item 8.1 Planning - 22 Crossway Road. Declarations of interest were also received from Councillor Taylor in relation to agenda item 6 – as the item related to Coventry Library closures.

49. Minutes of previous meetings:**Minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2016**

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2016 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

50. Public Participation

The Chairman suspended the standing orders.

Kathy Boulton, Secretary, Coventry Tree Warden Network spoke at the meeting and requested that the following be minuted:

“The proposal to plant a Community Orchard in a small area of the field off Howes Lane was intended to enhance the area. The consultation letter was given maximum circulation in the FPC area. We expected some residents to have objections and concerns which we felt would be addressed when we explained the limited extent of the orchard.

However, we did not expect our volunteers to be met with such hostility, lack of respect and animosity from some residents when they made themselves available for consultation and discussion.

It has therefore been decided to abandon this project as we do not wish to expose our volunteer members to such situations.

Our apologies to those residents who welcomed, and could see the benefits of, this project.”

Resident – Mr Crossland spoke at the meeting and raised questions in relation to the planned Library closures.

Councillor Crookes reported that the media report had been published prior to formal discussion. He confirmed that Coventry City Councillors would be investigating all options

It was noted that Finham Library was the only Council funded facility in the Finham Parish.

Peter Barnett, Head of the Library Service spoke briefly at the meeting and would report back to the Parish Council on further developments.

The Chairman reinstated the Standing Orders.

51. **Finham Community Orchard**

It was noted that Coventry City Council’s proposed plan in collaboration with the Coventry Tree Warden Network to plant a community fruit orchard had now been cancelled.

52. **Coventry Libraries**

52.1 Discussion took place on plans by Coventry City Council in relation to the five libraries that have been earmarked for closure. It was noted that workshops had been scheduled the next would take place on Friday 22nd July at the Council House.

This workshop was one of a series of engagement activities over the summer to test the viability of outline proposals and work with local communities who wanted to do more. There would be an opportunity for group discussion and feedback to understand the potential for alternative service models. Councillors from FPC would be attending and would feedback information to the rest of the Councillors.

Recommendation:

- (i) It was decided whilst further information was gathered Councillors could show their support to local groups including Save the Coventry Libraries Group individually.
- (ii) Councillors attending workshops to feedback information for wider circulation to FPC.

52.2 Community Right to Bid, this would enable the residents of Finham to express an interest in the Finham Library building for the Parish if the City Council decided to dispose of it.

Recommendation: To be discussed once further decision on the future of the Library was known.

53. **Training:**

53.1 Councillor Aitken gave feedback on a training day, “Induction Day – Being a Good Councillor and Clerk”. The training was a full day and very informative. Both the Clerk and Councillor Aitken found the course very worthwhile.

53.2 To consider training provided by WALC

Consideration was given to the merits of Councillors attending a training course provided by WALC. The course was entitled "Precept and Budget" the course was aimed at those Clerks and Councillors who would like to find out more about the management of money within their parish council in order to be able to set a fair budget and answer end of year audit questions with confidence and understanding. The course would take place on Saturday 15th October 10am to 1pm at Marston Green Parish Hall at a cost of £30.00.

Resolved: That the Clerk to book two places for Councillor Dalton and the Clerk.

53.3 Dates for Code of Conduct Training offered by Coventry City Council update

It was noted that the Code of Conduct Training would take place on Thursday 28th July at the Council House.

53.4 Support for new clerk:

Support had been provided under the Temporary Clerk contract up until 30th June and then additional training support this was to be reviewed on 21st July.

Resolved: That this be reviewed in Confidential session.

53.5 Filing cabinet report

Clerk updated that a filing cabinet had been sourced from the site of Finham Park 2, free of charge.

54. Planning:**54.1 To consider any response to planning applications**

HH/2016/1487 54 St Martin's Road erection of two storey side and rear extension

HH/2016/1652 66 Daleway Road Erection of single storey rear extension

HH/2016/1698 27 Blandford Drive Erection of a first floor rear extension

HH/2016/1843 1 Erithway Road Roof alterations with hip to gable and rear dormer extension

HH/2016/1728 22 Crossway Road Erection of a single storey rear extension

Resolved: No comment.

54.2 Planning – responses to planning applications

Discussed under agenda item 10 and minuted under minute number 56.

54.3 Neighbourhood Planning – To set up NHP working group to investigate and report back to Council

Resolved: To be discussed at a future meeting.

55. Finance

55.1 to approve payments: -

Cheque Payments (Current Account)				
Date	Reference	Payee	Details	Value
21.07.16	000027	J Chatterton	Clerks Salary	
21.07.16	000028	HMRC	Tax Payment clerk	£69.80
21.07.16	000031	J Chatterton	Office allowance, mileage and expenses	£79.99
21.07.16	000029	S Owen	Temporary Clerks Salary	
21.07.16	000030	HMRC	Tax Payment Temporary Clerk	£114.00
21.07.16	000033	S Owen	Mileage and expenses	£5.40
21.07.16	000034	WALC	Being a Good Councillor and Clerk	£45.00
21.07.16	000032	J Chatterton	Stationery Ink	£59.99
				£1,110.35

55.2 To approve Quarterly Accounts 1st April – 30th June 2016 as attached.

Resolved: That the Quarterly Accounts be approved.

56. Councillors interaction with other bodies

Task Groups to be set up and Councillors volunteered to be the lead contact on behalf of FPC for the identified bodies below:

Public body/group	Leader Councillor
Schools	Angela Fryer
Police	Tony Swann
Highways, roads, pavements, verges, grass cutting and litter	Robert Aitken
Major Planning Issues Kings Hill	Bob Fryer
Neighbourhood Plan	Paul Davis Robert Aitkin

Resolved:

- (i) That the above Councillors to be allocated as a point of contact with chosen bodies.
- (ii) Cllrs Aitken and Davies research details on the NHP and feedback findings to a future meeting.
- (iii) Feedback from Task Groups to be a Standard agenda item for future meetings.

Councillor Dalton left the meeting at 8:10pm

57. Development of a secure play area

Cllr Mrs Fryer appraised the Council on the development of a secure play area. It was reported that Cllrs Mrs Fryer and Bush were Community Governors at Finham Primary School. Work was started in 2014 to identify a play area for children, areas put forward were deemed unsuitable by Coventry City Council.

Further work was carried out and in 2016 Cllrs Fryer and Bush attended a meeting with the Land Agent acting for the Gregory-Hood Estate. Proposals had been sent to the agent. Further feedback would be given once known.

58. Notice Board update

Clerk reported on work carried out in relation to proposed location and purchase of notice boards.

Resolved: That Clerk report back to the September meeting of progress.

59. Correspondence

Clerk reported on correspondence received and actions that had been taken in relation to correspondence received since the last meeting.

60. Councillor's reports and items for future Agenda:

Councillor Swann reported that he had spoken to the Highways Inspector in relation to an issue with the road surface including potholes on Green Lane. The worst of these potholes were due to receive a temporary repair very soon, with a planned full repair carried out approximately 1st September. These repairs would then receive a micro-ashfelt top coating shortly after that (date to be confirmed).

61. Date of Next Meeting:

61.1 Confirm date for August meeting

Resolved: That the date for the next FPC meeting would be Thursday 18th August. The meeting would be for one hour. Agenda items would include any planning matters, finances and feedback from Code of Conduct training.

61.2 Confirm date for September Parish Meeting

Resolved:

- (i) That the date for the Parish Meeting be scheduled for Thursday 29th September at 7:00pm.
- (ii) The Clerk to produce example flyers which can be distributed throughout the Parish.
- (iii) Agreed printing costs up to £300.

62. Confidential items

See confidential minutes.

Signed
SIGNED BY THE CHAIR

18th August 2016