

Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7.00pm,
17th November 2016, at Finham Park School, Green Lane Finham

Present:

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

In Attendance:

Jane Chatterton, Clerk & RFO

Residents: 7**98. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Anthony Dalton (Vice Chair) and Coventry City Councillors Tim Sawdon, John Blundell and Gary Crookes.

99. Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

100. Minutes of previous meeting**Minutes of the meeting held on 20th October 2016**

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 20th October 2016 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

101. Public Participation

The Chairman suspended the standing orders.

Mrs Bannister thanked the five Councillors and Stephen Trinder who had attended the Warwick District Council Local Plan examination on 7th November in Leamington Town Hall.

Mr Bannister spoke about the letter from Jim Cunningham and asked about progress. Councillor Swann confirmed that he had emailed Jim Cunningham some time ago, the response had been that he was prepared to chair a meeting.

It was noted that there was a meeting at the Library on 22nd November. All key stakeholders had been invited to the meeting to look at the future of the library. The meeting was open to everyone who wanted to come along and talk about the future of the library

Discussion took place on how to communicate more widely to parishioners.

The Chairman reinstated the standing orders.

102. Finham Library

Discussion had taken place in the Public Session.

Councillor Burns confirmed that as Chairman of the Multi Academy Trust he had spoken to Mark Bailey, Head of the Academy Trust. It had been confirmed that the Multi Academy Trust would be interested in being part of a community solution but would not take on the running of the current Finham Library building. An option to consider could be for the library to be run by librarians from the 2 Finham Park Schools and church volunteers.

The Clerk had contacted Coventry City Council and had asked for a structural survey of the building to ascertain the most up to date condition of the building.

As previously reported, circa £12,000 would be required per year to run the building this was to cover utilities. It was noted that this would be to run the building as a community facility but not to run a library service.

Discussion had also taken place with Kevin Maton, Cabinet Member for Education and Libraries, raising the concern that closure would mean that the only community facility would be lost if the library and building were to close. Mr Maton clarified that he would assist with putting a business plan together if this became an option.

It was noted that the Parish Council had received a substantial payment request from Coventry City Council for election costs. If this amount was to be paid then this would impact on the ability of Parish Council to set aside funds to retain the library building.

Councillor Swann made reference to the meeting at Coventry Council that was attended by four parish councillors in September. At the meeting CCC said they were prepared to provide the building, books, the PCs etc for a library but this had to be run by volunteers. Subsequently it appears that this message had changed.

Resolved that:

- (i) CCC to be approached and asked what they were prepared to offer in order to retain the library/building as a community facility and what they were expecting FPC's input to be.
- (ii) Clerk to contact Kevin Maton Cabinet Member for Education and Libraries and Kirsten Nelson Director of Education and Libraries and request their attendance at a public meeting.
- (iii) Public meeting to be arranged for January 2017.

103. Planning:

To Consider Planning Applications:

103.1 HH/2016/2548 - Pine Bank 122A St Martins Road Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension. Date 02.11.16

Resolved: No comment.

For Information

103.2 PAP/2016/2607 – 43 Finham Green Road – Application under prior approval for rear extension. The extension will be 5.0 metres away from the original rear wall of the building with a height of 3.85 metres at the highest point and 2.4 metres to the eaves. Date: 24/10/16 expired before meeting (notified 31st October)

Resolved: No Comment.

103.3 Delegated Authority re Planning

Discussion took place for the arrangements for dealing with planning applications requiring consideration before the next meeting.

Resolved:

- (i) To delegate authority to a Planning Group. Group to consist of Councillors Aitken (lead), Swann, Salt and Taylor.
- (ii) Clerk to circulate all planning notifications as they were received. All Councillors could comment on the applications.
- (iii) Planning Group to discuss applications in detail. Councillor Aitken (as lead) would notify the Clerk of the decision who would then respond to the Planning Department as necessary.
- (iv) Report to be provided to the full council meeting monthly for information.

104. Finance

104.1 to approve payments: -

Cheque Payments (Current Account)				
Date	Reference	Payee	Details	Value
17.11.16		J Chatterton	Clerks Salary & Overtime	
17.11.16		HMRC	Tax Payment clerk	£75.80
17.11.16		J Chatterton	Office allowance, mileage and expenses	£60.13
17.11.16		P Davies	Expenses	£24.30
				£464.40

105. Councillor Election Expenses

Discussion took place in relation to correspondence received from Coventry City Council in relation to the May 2016 election. A sum of £4,893.17 had been requested.

Further research to be completed.

Resolved:

- (i) Minutes of previous discussion in relation to charges to be reviewed (Councillor Bush to source).
- (ii) Once information had been received Clerk to respond and challenge the amount requested.
- (iii) Clerk to forward the email to Councillor Sawdon re election charges.

106. Draft Budget 2017/18

To give consideration to the draft budget for 2017/18 and precept request

Resolved:

- (i) Clerk to clarify the position in relation to the ability to apply any uplift to the precept.
- (ii) To be reviewed at January's meeting.

107. Policies

To consider and approve the following policies:

107.1 Donations and Grants Policy

The draft Donations and Grants Policy was reviewed.

Resolved: that the policy be approved and be uploaded to the website.

107.2 H&S Policy

The draft Health & Safety Policy was reviewed.

Resolved: that the Health & Safety Policy be approved and be uploaded to the website.

107.3 Data Protection Policy

The draft Data Protection Policy was reviewed.

Resolved:

- (i) that subject to an update the Data Protection Policy be approved and be uploaded to the website.
- (ii) Clerk to check FPC registration with the Information Commissions Office (ICO).

107.4 Community Engagement Policy

The draft Community Engagement Policy was reviewed.

Resolved: that subject to an update the Community Engagement Policy be approved and be uploaded to the website.

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

Councillors are requested to use this opportunity to report minor matters of information (this is for matters which come up after the agenda is published) or action, not included elsewhere on the Agenda, and to raise items for future Agendas. Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.

Task groups**Police**

Councillor Swann reported that he was still unable to get the neighbourhood police officers to attend the Parish Meetings.

There had been 3 burglaries reported in Finham recently and a further 2 within the Wainbody Ward, these had been vehicle thefts whereby the offenders had obtained the owners' car keys. The importance of keeping car keys safe was made.

A suspicious vehicle had been seen in the area on 12th November. The registration number had been passed onto the police.

Disappointment was expressed as Councillor Swann had tried to contact the neighbourhood Sergeant only to be informed that they were on rest days. This was a regular occurrence.

Resolved: Clerk to write to the Chief Constable and express concern with the lack of police cover.

Highways etc

Councillor Aitken reported that he had contacted CCC in relation to the double yellow lines on Green Lane and Daleway Road. A request had been made to restore the lines following resurfacing to how they were painted previously. Councillor Aitken would feedback their response at the next meeting.

Concern had been expressed with speeding on Green Lane. The option of installing flashing speed signs was discussed. Councillor Aitken would email the 3 ward Councillors to find out who would install these and who had the responsibility to finance them.

Schools

Councillors Mrs Fryer and Bush were still waiting to hear from the developers about the piece of land they had requested to use for a play area on a temporary basis. They had had a brief conversation with Mr Davies from Savills who confirmed that he was involved with the land owned by Gregory Hood.

On Friday 18th November the Year 6 children at Finham Primary School would be taking over the school. They would take on the roles of every adult in school. There would be a new Head teacher, senior management team and teachers. Also the children would become catering staff and caretakers, office staff and cleaners.

There would be a Governing Body made up of children from Year 6 and Councillors Mrs Fryer and Bush had met with them to explain their roles. On Friday they would be attending their Governors' meeting.

Kings Hill

Councillor Fryer reported that on November 7th the Group had attended the WDC Local Plan enquiry to discuss the land on Kings Hill. Also there had been support from a number of local residents.

Councillor Davies had led the discussion for the group backed up by Councillor Fryer. Mr Stephen Trinder had also represented himself as a local resident. Councillors Bush, Salt and Mrs Fryer provided backup and checked information which they passed on via sticky notes.

There was a full day of discussion and the proposals were scrutinised in detail. Councillors from Ashow and Bubbenhall were also opposing development of the site. CPRE were very clear in their opposition to the land being removed from Greenbelt which was Kings Hill.

A very good case was put forward by all that there were no special circumstances shown that would allow the Warwick District Council to remove Kings Hill from the Greenbelt. However, the intention of WDC and CCC and the Developers was to develop the Kings Hill (H43) site. It would now be up to the Inspector to make his decision.

Areas also questioned were the:

- Infrastructure
- Bio –diversity
- the listed buildings
- Grade II buildings
- Saxon village remains

- Extra risks of flooding
- Large increase in traffic
- The capacity of the Finham site to deal with additional sewerage and water supply.

Thanks was given to the entire Group for their hard work as well as Coventry City Councillors John Blundell and Tim Sawdon and in particular Councillor Davies for his representations on behalf of residents.

Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Davies reported that in order to proceed in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, a letter had been sent to Coventry City Council to begin the formal consultation and consideration processes to allow the Finham Parish Council to be designated as the recognised body to represent the Finham area for the purposes of a Neighbourhood Plan.

A response had not been received, it was agreed that the Clerk would follow up the letter for a response.

There was funding available to support the creation of the Neighbourhood Plan, the Parish Council would apply to the Community Infrastructure Levy and Technical Support fund once permission had been granted.

Facebook

Councillor Davies had been approached by a resident asking about the Parish Council setting up a Facebook page.

It was agreed that the Clerk would set up a Finham Parish Council Facebook page.

Noticeboard

Discussion took place in relation to the difficulties of obtaining agreement for the positioning of two noticeboards. The Clerk confirmed that she had met with the Highways Department at the various sites identified but permission would not be granted to sight anywhere which meant "opening the highway".

The Clerk had tried to contact the landowner (Midland Heart) of the grassed area outside the sheltered housing at Brentwood Gardens, Brentwood Avenue, by telephone, letters and visiting in person. All of which had been ignored.

Further to June's minutes:

33.2 Notice Board in Droylsden Park Road

Consideration was given to ask Coventry City Council to vest the notice board situated in Droylsden Park Road to Finham Parish Council.

Resolved: Agreement not to pursue requesting vestment.

Due to difficulties with the new noticeboards it was agreed to now ask Coventry City Council to vest the notice board to the Parish Council.

Resolved:

- (i) Councillor Fryer to try and contact the Centre Manager and pass on the Clerk's details.
- (ii) Clerk to contact Coventry City Council and pursue requesting vestment.

109. Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 19th January 2017.

Signed
BY THE CHAIRMAN

19th January 2017