

Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7:00pm,
21st February 2019, at Finham Park School, Green Lane Finham

Present:

Councillor Peter Burns (Vice Chairman)	Councillor Robert Fryer
Councillors Ann Bush	Councillor Angela Fryer
Councillor James Cobbett	Councillor Colin Salt
Councillor Anthony Dalton	Councillor Kate Taylor
Councillor Paul Davies (Chairman)	

Coventry City Councillors: Councillor Tim Sawdon and Councillor Gary Crookes

Residents: 4

127. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Aitken.

128. Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th January 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2019 were discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2019 were approved.

129. Matters Arising not listed on the agendaGating Scheme

The provision of a gating scheme was raised at January's meeting. Councillor Mrs Fryer updated that she had met with Tony Swann and Ruth Khan to look at the possibility of Gating Schemes in the area. CCC had not kept details of the early schemes which were funded but were helping with advice for any future scheme.

The group were looking to set up a pilot scheme organised by Ruth Khan which would provide a plan for any future schemes.

It was noted that all residents in the street would have to agree for the scheme to be viable.

Letter to Chief Constable

Clerk would liaise with Councillor Tim Sawdon.

377 Green Lane

Clerk confirmed that a letter of objection had been sent to CCC.

130. FLAG

The Chairman updated that the Lease for the Library was very likely to be from 1st April 2019 but was still subject to legal and independent scrutiny and this initial Lease would be for a term of 6 months.

A volunteer meeting had been arranged at the Library for 6:00pm on Wednesday 27th February 2019 to update everyone on the Lease situation and review initiatives for the future. Any new volunteers would be welcomed.

FLAG were seeking to appoint two more Trustees to help spread the load and each trustee would have clearly defined areas of responsibility.

FLAG had decided to join Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action Group (CAVA) who offered various training courses and also provided useful resources.

The music licence currently held by the Finham Community Library covered the playing of music as long as it emanated from the library building itself and therefore could be a consideration for the Finham Festival now scheduled for Saturday 29th June 2019. However, it was recognised that the immediate population must be consulted beforehand.

FLAG were now registered for an Amazon Smile account and therefore anyone purchasing items through Amazon could now donate money to the library. Details of how to do this would appear in their newsletter or details could be obtained from any volunteer.

Frequent events were planned from February well into the year and would be subject to additions. Details could be obtained from the Library.

131. CORRESPONDENCE

131.1 Dog Barking

The Clerk updated that she had received complaints from parishioners about dog barking and they had asked if the parish council could assist with resolving the problem.

The Clerk had spoken to Coventry City Council and Warwick District Council. WDC confirmed that the kennels that parishioners had identified as the source, were licenced with WDC. Checks would be undertaken.

If future excessive barking was experienced parishioners were advised to contact Environmental Health on 01926 456741 who would investigate.

RESOLVED THAT the situation be monitored.

131.2 SoC PC Liaison Meeting

A letter had been received from Ragu Sittambalam, WDC. A meeting had been arranged inviting parish councils situated around the Kings Hill development. The intention was to hold quarterly meetings to keep parishes informed of developments in the area and to use the meeting as an opportunity to share information.

The first meeting was being held on 19th March 2019.

RESOLVED THAT Councillors Bob Fryer and Davies would attend. Clerk to confirm their attendance.

132. PLANNING

To Consider Planning Applications received since the last meeting

Weekly list for the period 21 January to 25 January 2019**132.1 Application Number: LDCP/2018/3525**

Application Site: 73 Anchorway Road

Proposal: Lawful development certificate for proposed rear extension

RESOLVED THAT: No comment.

Weekly list for the period 28 January to 1 February 2019**132.2 Application Number: FUL/2019/0046**

Application Site: 72 Howes Lane

Proposal: Outline application for erection of 1 detached dwelling after demolition of existing two storey side extension and conservatory, with all matters reserved except access

RESOLVED THAT: No comment.

132.3 Application Number: HH/2019/0023

Application Site: 20 Jacklin Drive

Application Type: Householder Application

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension to garage and new roof to garage and front canopy

RESOLVED THAT: No comment.

Weekly list for the period 4 February to 8 February 2019

Nothing to report

Weekly list for the period 11 February to 15 February 2019

Nothing to report.

133. PARISH ENHANCEMENTS**133.1 Signage for Finham Community Library and St Martins Church**

No further update could be provided.

ACTION: Councillor Cobbett to liaise with Councillor Sawdon.

133.2 Bench

Councillor Mrs Fryer updated that she had been chasing Dave Lewis at the City Council but no further progress had been made.

133.3 Noticeboard

The Clerk updated that she had been in email contact with Dave Lewis who said that the contractor that CCC used to create the bench pad and who will be installing the bench itself would be able to provide a cost for the installation of the adjacent notice board.

Mr Lewis had confirmed that a "Permit-to-dig" would be required [this checks for underground cables etc] and he was unsure how this would be proceeded without his involvement. On 4th February he said he would seek advice and respond.

14th February the Clerk had chased Dave Lewis for a response – no response had been received.

Licence to Occupy

The Licence to Occupy the noticeboard had been received from CCC. The document had been circulated with the papers.

RESOLVED THAT

- (i) the Clerk respond to CCC that the Licence to Occupy had been approved, once the Engrossment Licence was received, arrangements would be made to sign the document.
- (ii) Clerk to chase Dave Lewis for a response.

133.4 Lack of Progress

The lack of progress experienced, and the increase in frustration when dealing with officers at Coventry City Council was discussed. Many projects that the parish council wished to complete were halted when dealing with employees at the City Council.

Over the past 3 years this included, the noticeboard, the bench, a mirror on Howes Lane, various highways and signage initiatives. The cost of the projects would be born by the parish council, so the delays were not due to funding.

It was felt that Coventry City Council as the Principal Authority were not aware of their statutory duty towards the three parish councils in Coventry. The problems were experienced by all 3 parish councils in Coventry.

RESOLVED THAT the parish council write to Martin Reeve to raise concerns and highlight the issues faced. The Ward Councillors to be copied in to the letter.

Creation of a Coventry Local Charter

The Clerk updated that she had attended a meeting on 21st February with Adrian West; Julie Norman, the Monitoring Officer; Barbara Bland, the Acting Clerk from Keresley Parish Council; Rosie Weaver, Chairman of WALC (and Meriden PC) and John Crossling from WALC. Issues were raised and the creation of a Coventry City Council Local Charter was discussed. The document was a framework to support a mutually beneficial working relationship between the tiers of authority in Coventry. Working better in partnership would benefit local people. Warwickshire and Solihull already had a Charter which proved beneficial.

Further meetings would take place and the Charter be progressed.

134. FINANCE

134.1 payments: -

Cheque Payments (Current Account)

Date	Reference	Payee	Details	Value
19.01.19	DD	ICO	Membership	£35.00
21.02.19	BACS	J Chatterton	Clerks Salary February 2018	
21.02.19	BACS	HMRC	Tax & NI Payment clerk (February)	£76.14
21.02.19	BACS	J Chatterton	Office, mileage & stationery Feb 19	£100.89
21.02.19	BACS	Baginton Village Store	Newspapers for Library	£32.00
21.02.19	BACS	Zurich Insurance	Parish Council Insurance	£351.87

RESOLVED THAT the payments be approved.

135. Parish Council Insurance

The Clerk updated that the insurance renewal quotation had been received.

A breakdown had been provided for consideration.

Premium – March 2018 to March 2019	£336.81
Renewal Premium - March 2019 to March 2020	£351.87

Uplift of £15.06

RESOLVED THAT

- (i) The insurance renewal quotation be approved at £351.87
- (ii) Clerk to pay the premium due.

136. Parish Council Newsletter

It was agreed to postpone the creation of the newsletter until July.

137. Installation of CCTV

Councillor Cobbett updated that he had been making the necessary enquiries to gather information on the viability of CCTV installation. Further update once known.

ACTION: agenda item for a future meeting.

138. Governance**138.1 Health & Safety Policy**

The Health & Safety Policy had been updated.

RESOLVED THAT the Health & Safety Policy be approved.

138.2 Asset Register

The Asset Register 2018-19 was reviewed.

RESOLVED THAT the Asset Register 2018-19 be approved.

139. May 2019 Election Process

The election process and key dates were discussed. It was noted that:

26th March	Notice of Election by Election Authority Nomination Period Commences – Each nomination must be separate, and hand delivered
3rd April	Poll card despatched from elections authority 4pm Last Date for Receipt of Nominations by elections authority Deadline for withdrawal of form
4th April	FIND OUT IF A POLL OR NOT Publication of persons nominated
12th April	Last date for registering to vote
15th April	Last date for new postal vote applications
24th April	Last day for proxy vote applications
2nd May	Polling Day – all elections - 7am to 10pm 11am - if there are more vacancies than candidates the returning officer will declare them elected
3rd May	Results

The Clerk further updated that she had met with Elections Officer today. In 2016 the Elections Team notified the parish councils that charges would be introduced for running the polls in line with the national best practice. If the election was uncontested there would be a £250 charge for administrative costs in running the election which included notice of the election, nomination papers, checking nominations, statement of persons nominated and publishing uncontested election results.

If the election was to be contested, then the actual costs would be recovered based on current costs for each area. The figure to be used as an estimate only was for Allesley PC - £4,500, Keresley PC - £5,500 and Finham PC £5,500. These figures were if the polls were combined with the City Council elections on 2nd May 2019. If the polls were held on their own; then the costs would be increased by approximately 40%.

RESOLVED THAT the key dates and update be noted.

140. Task groups & Working Parties

- **Highways – Councillor Cobbett**

Nothing major to report.

- **Kings Hill – Councillor Fryer**

Thank you was expressed to all residents who had entered their views on the outline planning submission for Kings Hill by the deadline of 1st February 2019. The Task Group was now looking at the Air Pollution policies for WDC and CCC.

WDC had passed their Air Quality Plan in January 2019. They had stated that Kenilworth was at an acceptable level, but any future development could have an impact on this.

Coventry City Council was yet to pass its Air Quality Plan. The draft Policy lists what needed to be done but did not show how it would be achieved.

The Kings Hill Development would impact on the Air Quality for both Kenilworth and Finham.

Some members of the Kings Hill group had attended meetings of KOGG or Keep Our Greenbelt Green. Other groups across the city would be affected by the housing numbers planned in the Local Plans of WDC and CCC.

Air Pollution and infrastructure were being looked at by all of the groups and the group continued to work with them to see how they could influence both Councils to achieve the best outcome for Finham residents.

• **Schools – Councillor Mrs Bush**

Councillor Mrs Bush updated that the school had held an Internet Security week, the week beginning 8th February and a Spring clean of the area, would take place on 5th April.

• **Police & Crime – Councillor Mrs Fryer**

Councillor Mrs Fryer updated on the most recent crime figures available, these were for December and were as follows:

Reported at January’s meeting		Latest figures available	
All crime	(22)	All crime	(16)
Crime types		Crime types	
Anti-social behaviour	2	Anti-social behaviour	2
Bicycle theft	0	Bicycle theft	1
Burglary	3	Burglary	0
Criminal damage and arson	4	Criminal damage and arson	2
Drugs	0	Drugs	0
Other crime	0	Other crime	0
Other theft	1	Other theft	3
Possession of weapons	0	Possession of weapons	0
Public Order	0	Public Order	0
Robbery	0	Robbery	0
Shoplifting	1	Shoplifting	1
Theft from the person	0	Theft from the person	0
Vehicle crime	1	Vehicle crime	3
Violence and sexual offences	2	Violence and sexual offences	2

6 of the crimes were for the BP garage

Anti-social behaviour	1
Other theft	3
Shoplifting	1
Vehicle crime	1

Councillor Mrs Fryer had attended the policy liaison meeting at Canley Police Station on 6th February. Sgt Amy Wright went through the crime figures for Wainbody for December to January. There were 14 burglaries, 7 criminal damage, 2 robberies and 10 vehicle crimes.

Sgt Wright clarified that a robbery was when violence or threat of violence takes place.

Live chat was proving very useful as a means of reporting crime and easing the pressure on the 101 service.

Parking issues and speed in the area were also discussed.

PCSO Donna was looking at a Speed Watch for the area.

Sgt Wright explained that enforcement for parking on double yellow lines was the responsibility of the Coventry City Council.

Councillor Mrs Fryer would be talking to Mr Machin the Head of Finham Primary School about the use of cones to prevent parking and a new Park Safe Scheme.

Jim Cunningham MP had met with the Minister for policing, Nick Hurd MP on 13th February. He raised the issues put to him by Tony Swann and Councillor Fryer when they had met with him. The Minister's response was that the Government had put a total of £34m into policing. However, only £9m of this would go to the police grant which would only cover the cost of inflation. Much of the extra funding would be taken up in pensions and redundancy paid to officers leaving the service.

- **NHP - Councillor Davies**

Councillor Davies updated the NHP team had held a bundling meeting to sort into delivery routes the questionnaires that would be delivered to all residents, businesses and schools in the area in preparation for the survey scheduled for Monday 11th March until Friday 19th April 2019.

Additionally, A4 and/or A3 posters would be deployed in strategic places such as shop windows and public places to make everyone aware of what was happening, why this was being carried out and asked everyone to take part.

The locations where the posters and ballot boxes would be placed were the Finham Community Library, Green Lane Clinic and St Martins Church for those choosing to respond by paper.

There was an opportunity to fill in the questionnaire on line for those who chose to complete it electronically.

Distribution would start on 28th February. If anyone was available to help with the deliveries, their help would be welcome.

To remind everyone the Neighbourhood Plan had been designed by central government for local people to produce a document that would help form or change an existing Local Plan. It was unclear how the Finham NHP might affect Warwick District Council's Local Plan which was the authority orchestrating the changes on Kings Hill.

Once the group were aware of the priorities and the wants and wishes for Finham, a report would be produced which would have more authority as it represented Finham and not just a few voices. The plan was then to influence the changes and shape for the area with CCC in the immediate and medium term.

- **Coventry City of Culture – Councillor Burns**

Councillor Burns updated that representatives from the City of Culture team would be attending March's parish council meeting.

- **FEWP – Councillor Cobbett**

Councillor Cobbett reported that a meeting of representatives was being arranged. There had been a good take up of stalls including city wide groups, sports groups and large organisations.

FEWP required someone to take on the role of Safety Officer.

141. Public participation: To adjourn to allow public participation.

The Chairman suspended the Standing Orders

Air Pollution

Councillor Sawdon had asked CCC to undertake an air pollution survey.

Crime

The Ward Councillors had received a letter informing them that a meeting was taking place on 22nd February in relation to increases in violent crime. The letter stated that the meeting had been arranged by a local resident. Tony Swann would be attending the meeting as NHW Lead.

Green Lane – Bus Gate

Councillor Crookes updated that Highways England's response had been received. There would be no general access onto Green Lane. It was felt that Coventry would have a defensible position if they agreed to there being one bus gate from the development onto Green Lane.

Resident Concern

Concern expressed over the rise in crime in Finham. Serious issues with drug related crime had been reported to the police by residents in the area. There was also issues with cars travelling at high speed through the road in question. The resident queried the reported crime figures as it was felt they were not reflective of what was happening in the area.

Councillor Sawdon added that the installation of speed humps on Gretna Road was being discussed at a meeting on Monday.

Coventry City Council

Mr Bannister added that the frustration the parish council experienced with officers at the City Council were unacceptable and the reiterated the fact that the parish council should speak to more senior officers/managers/directors to get results.

142. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for 21st March 2019. (Representatives from City of Culture in attendance).

Meeting closed at 8:55pm