

## Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7:00pm,  
21<sup>st</sup> March 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: 0

**Residents:** 1

In Attendance: Councillor Roger Bailey – Cheylesmore Ward City Councillor (to observe)

**143. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from the Ward Councillors, Councillor Sawdon and Crookes.

**144. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Burns declared an interest in agenda item:

8.2 Application Number: FUL/2019/0382

**145. Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019 were discussed.

**RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019 were approved.

**146. Matters Arising not listed on the agenda****129. Letter to Chief Constable**

Clerk confirmed that she has liaised with Councillor Tim Sawdon and the letter had been sent to the Chief Constable. A response was awaited.

**133.4 Lack of Progress**

Letter to Martin Reeves, Chief Executive, Coventry City Council.

The Chairman read out the prepared letter, updates were identified.

**ACTION:** (i) Amended letter to be sent to Martin Reeves, update once received.  
(ii) Letter to be copied to Keresley and Allesley Parish Councils, Ward Councillors and Jim Cunningham MP.

**147. Councillor Resignation**

The Chairman updated that Robert Aitken had resigned as Parish Councillor on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

**RESOLVED THAT** the resignation be noted.

**148. FLAG**

The Chairman updated that FLAG had held a Volunteer Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> February which was well attended, announcing that Joe Collins had been invited to become a trustee.

The initial six-month Lease was stated at this meeting to be close to signing and was likely to be completed before 1<sup>st</sup> April which had been the anticipated date for some time. However, at the regular monthly Trustee Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March the finalisation of the Lease would be delayed due to Coventry City Council interdepartmental misunderstandings. FLAG were now looking at their options as no one was sure how much of a delay there would be from this latest episode.

Regardless of this Lease finalisation delay, it was realised that the Finham Community Library needed a café which was seen as a potential social hub as well as a good source of funding.

It was recognised at the Trustee Meeting that they needed to appoint a fundraising manager and were looking at ways to achieve this objective.

As reported before, FLAG were working on or considering a number of events and initiatives not only to raise money but to further bring together the Finham community as a whole. The Finham Festival was also seen as a great opportunity to further these aims of community and fund raising. To increase the library's profile further, a new website was to be created.

It was planned that the library would be redecorated, funding being kindly donated by Coventry Building Society to be all done and completed in one day by volunteers, which would mean the library would close for one day. Date to be announced.

The Finham Community Library had agreed to locate two Neighbourhood Plan survey ballot boxes which would be placed at the door to the library, additional to the boxes at the Green Lane Clinic and St.Martins Church.

**RESOLVED THAT** the update be noted.

**149. CORRESPONDENCE****Severn Trent New Training Academy**

A letter had been received from Severn Trent informing that they had plans to build a new training academy. They wished to update the Parish Council ahead of submitting the planning application to build the new training academy at the Finham sewage treatment works.

Their ambition was to ensure the academy was more than just a building. As well as providing innovative new ways to train their existing and future employees they wanted it to be a community hub that would allow them to showcase their activities. They would use the space for events such as graduate and apprentice's assessment centres, and be able to host local schools as part of their Wonderful Water Tour education programme.

The proposed location, on existing land at Avon House (entrance adjacent to the Golf Course entrance), was a brownfield site that was currently vacant but was most recently used as an office space as well as a small laboratory, a post-processing plant and a company library. They intended to demolish all existing buildings to construct the new academy and the associated on-site parking. They said they would work closely with Warwick District Council to ensure robust traffic

management plans were in place to ensure construction traffic and disruption was kept to an absolute minimum.

Issues were discussed. It was agreed that the Parish Council should write to Severn Trent highlighting these.

**ACTION:** Councillors Davies and Mrs Fryer would meet to write a response.

## 150. PLANNING

Planning Applications received since the last meeting

### Weekly list for the period 18 February to 22 February 2019

**150.1 Application Number:** HH/2019/0256  
Application Site: 122A St Martins Road  
Proposal: Erection of a garage

**RESOLVED:** No comment.

### Weekly list for the period 25 February to 1 March 2019

*Councillor Burns left the room and took no part in the discussion of the application below.*

**150.2 Application Number:** FUL/2019/0382  
Application Site: Finham Park School Green Lane  
Proposal: Erection of training lights to junior Rugby pitch

**RESOLVED:** No comment.

### Weekly list for the period 4 March to 8 March 2019

Nothing to report

### Weekly list for the period 11 March to 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Nothing to report.

## 151. PARISH ENHANCEMENTS

### 151.1 Signage for Finham Community Library and St Martins Church

Councillor Cobbett updated on the costs for buying, siting and mounting road signs. Councillor Cobbett was still working on the costings and would report further at April's meeting.

**ACTION:** Agenda item for April's meeting.

### 151.2 Bench

Councillor Mrs Fryer updated that the bench had finally been installed on The Green.

The Parish Council Congratulated Councillor Fryer on her continued persistence to ensure the installation had been completed.

**152. FINANCE**

to approve payments: -

**Cheque Payments (Current Account)**

Date	Reference	Payee	Details	Value
21.03.19	BACS	J Chatterton	Clerks Salary March 2019	
21.03.19	BACS	HMRC	Tax & NI Payment clerk (March)	£150.80
21.03.19	BACS	J Chatterton	Office allowance, mileage March 19	£54.73
21.03.19	BACS	Printworks	NHP Survey printing	£379.99
21.03.19	BACS	J Chatterton	Stationery	£62.89
21.03.19	BACS	P Davies	Mileage	£8.28

**RESOLVED THAT** the above payments be approved.

**153. Internal Auditor**

The accounts for 2018-19 were required to be internally audited. It was recommended that the internal auditor, Louise Best, who had carried out the internal audit in 2016-17 and 2017-18 be appointed as internal auditor.

**RESOLVED THAT** Louise Best be appointed as Internal Auditor for the 2018-19 accounts.

**154. Governance****154.1 Vexatious Complaints Policy**

The draft Vexatious Complaints Policy was discussed.

**RESOLVED THAT** the Vexatious Complaints Policy be approved.

**154.2 Complaints Policy**

The Parish Council's Complaints Policy had been reviewed and updated.

**RESOLVED THAT** the Complaints Policy be approved.

**154.3 Expenditure over £100 Document**

The Expenditure over £100 document was discussed.

**RESOLVED THAT** the Expenditure over £100 document be approved.

**155. Installation of CCTV (Councillor Cobbett)**

Councillor Cobbett had been working on the feasibility of the installation of CCTV. No notable progress had been made, further updates once know.

**156. Task groups & Working Parties**

- **Highways – Councillor Cobbett**

Councillor Cobbett updated that there had been 30 streets lights not working on Howes Lane. These had now been fixed.

• **Kings Hill – Councillor Fryer**

Councillor Fryer updated that the Kings Hill Group had met to discuss ideas to be raised when Councillor Davies attended the meeting with Ragu Sittambalam – Site Delivery Officer for Warwick District Council.

The meeting took place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March and Councillor Davies would report back on that later.

The Group would continue to monitor any plans for Kings Hill but it was very quiet at the moment.

Highways England had delayed a response on the proposed roundabout and access points onto Green Lane.

• **Schools – Councillor Mrs Bush**

Councillor Mrs Bush updated that along with Councillor Mrs Fryer they had spoken with the Head Teacher at the Primary School and arranged to go into School to talk to the children about the Neighbourhood Plan. It was recognised that the views of the children were an important part of the process.

For Comic Relief the children were selling a joke book to raise money.

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

Councillor Mrs Fryer updated on the most recent crime figures available:

Reported at February’s meeting		Latest figures available	
All crime	(16)	All crime	(7)
<b>Crime types</b>		<b>Crime types</b>	
Anti-social behaviour	2	Anti-social behaviour	0
Bicycle theft	1	Bicycle theft	0
Burglary	0	Burglary	1
Criminal damage and arson	2	Criminal damage and arson	1
Drugs	0	Drugs	0
Other crime	0	Other crime	1
Other theft	3	Other theft	1
Possession of weapons	0	Possession of weapons	0
Public Order	0	Public Order	1
Robbery	0	Robbery	0
Shoplifting	1	Shoplifting	2
Theft from the person	0	Theft from the person	0
Vehicle crime	3	Vehicle crime	2
Violence and sexual offences	2	Violence and sexual offences	0

3 of the crimes were for the BP garage

- Other theft 1
- Shoplifting 2

**Wainbody Ward – Year on Year increase of 2%**

<b>All Crime 66</b>	
<b>Crime types</b>	
Anti-social behaviour	3
Bicycle theft	2
Burglary	10
Criminal damage and arson	5
Drugs	0
Other crime	1
Other theft	8
Possession of weapons	2
Public Order	3
Robbery	4
Shoplifting	10
Theft from the person	0
Vehicle crime	8
Violence and sexual offences	10

Sgt Wright would contact Councillor Mrs Fryer when her Officers had been on the training for the new Park Safe Scheme so that this could be discussed with the Mr Machin at the Primary School.

Last week there had been a burglary in Anchorway Road when two masked men had taken house keys via the cat flap and let themselves in to the house. This showed how determined these people can be and the importance of keeping keys away from any areas that could be easily reached.

Ruth Khan who organised Street Watch in Finham, reported that she now had full capacity of volunteers and the work was going well. They now had neighbouring schemes in Canley, Westwood and Tile Hill. This success was due to the hard work Ruth had put into organising the scheme and the Parish Council thanked the volunteers who were working to make the area safer.

Ruth had encountered problems with setting up a new Gating Scheme. Not all residents in the block were willing to take part and any scheme required 100% agreement. She would continue to talk to her neighbours.

- **NHP - Councillor Davies**

Councillor Davies updated that the NHP Survey had begun officially on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and therefore it was currently under way. Hopefully by now everyone would have seen the questionnaire that had been delivered to all houses and shops in Finham.

The ballot boxes were positioned in the Finham Community Library, Green Lane Clinic and St. Martins Church.

Initial responses had been very good, and it was hoped to receive them from all ages and points of view in as large a quantity as possible.

The survey ends on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at which time they would be collected and then added to the responses already received on line to help paint a better picture of what it was about Finham the majority would like to change.

Councillor Davies added the caveat that we may not be able to carry out all the wishes which may depend on cost and regulatory challenges, but we would try.

### **Kings Hill Meeting Update**

Councillor Davies reported that he had attended a meeting on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March chaired by Ragu Sittambalam – Warwick District Council - Site Delivery Officer. Ragu addressed the Parish Council last month and made the invitation to the FPC at the time and today, as we had seen already, he has returned to talk to the residents of Finham tonight.

The meeting was attended by representatives from Baginton, Bubbenhall, Burton Green, Stoneleigh and three WDC Councillors.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide a mechanism for those areas on the southside of Coventry, affected by greenfield sites scheduled to be developed into housing and industrial estates, to have an opportunity to air their concerns and make suggestions directly to WDC.

It was intended that these meetings should be held quarterly and hopefully would provide a route for Finham residents to have their voices heard and their suggestions acted upon.

One of the main requests from the villages in Warwickshire was to have an input into any plans to change the roads in their areas. Something that had featured a lot in the Kings Hill discussions, but we have the added complication of having to monitor and communicate with two councils, WDC and CCC.

Under some questioning it was admitted by Ragu that WDC monitoring of how the builders progressed with the various projects, would be done essentially by responses to complaints from people in the affected local areas.

At the moment Ragu was working on a time plan to show how the many construction projects in the close proximity of Finham were supposed to pan out. These projects included:-

- 1) A46-Stoneleigh Road junction
- 2) Stoneleigh Road widening
- 3) Solihull relief road
- 4) Severn Trent Academy at the Finham Works
- 5) HS2
- 6) and finally, but by no means least Kings Hill (Park)

Councillor Davies would update everyone as and when the meetings were held. The next one should be in June.

- **FEWP – Councillor Cobbett**

Councillor Cobbett updated that the application was ready to be sent to the Events Department at the City Council for approval. Documents updating on the progress of organising the event were shared at the meeting.

It was noted that Andy Street would be opening the event this year.

Further updates would be made at April's meeting.

**157. Councillor's reports and items for future Agenda:**

None.

**158. Public participation:** To adjourn to allow public participation.

**Crime Prevention Event**

Tony Swann updated the Parish Council on an event that had taken place at the Library. Various companies had attended the event and provided advice on alarm systems, CCTV and driveway bollards.

Further information was available on the Neighbourhood Watch Website and could be found by visiting:

<http://www.finhamnw.org.uk/>

The Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators had a new alert system. Concerns could be emailed to [alert@finhamnw.org.uk](mailto:alert@finhamnw.org.uk) this automatically sent an email to the co-ordinators who could take the appropriate action.

**159. Date of the Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

Meeting closed at 8:55pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN  
COUNCILLOR PAUL DAVIES

18<sup>th</sup> April 2019