

Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** held at 6:45pm
16th May 2019, at Finham Park School, Green Lane Finham

Present:

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| Councillor Ann Bush | Councillor Robert Fryer |
| Councillor James Cobbett | Councillor Angela Fryer |
| Councillor Anthony Dalton (Vice Chairman) | Councillor Colin Salt |
| Councillor Paul Davies (Chairman) | |

Coventry City Councillors: Councillors Tim Sawdon and Gary Crookes

Residents: 3

In Attendance:

Jane Chatterton, Clerk & RFO

1. Chairman's Welcome – Cllr Paul Davies

Welcome to the Finham Parish Council Annual Parish Council Meeting on the completion of its first term albeit only three years instead of the usual four years.

Our congratulations go to Councillor Tim Sawdon on his recent re-election to Coventry City Council and we look forward to his continued support.

If anyone is wondering how Finham Parish Councillors were all re-elected in this May's elections. As there were eight nominations for ten positions, we were all elected without contest. My thanks go to them for volunteering to serve for another term, which is completely unpaid.

I should say at this point, the reason we are in the library tonight and not in the theatre as per the last two years, is due to examinations but I am sure we will cope.

Tonight, there will be contributions from the Parish Councillors about the progress made by our various task groups which are beginning to show more fruit after a period of bedding in and overcoming delays and obstacles which we became aware of during the time. Again, my thanks go to all our councillors who have put in such a lot of time and effort during the last twelve months.

The finances continue to be in good shape due to careful expenditure and therefore the Parish Council did not request a rate increase this year although due to calculations in rates changes made by Coventry City Council there has been a very small increase to parishioners, which can be explained if necessary.

This year will see the start of the Finham Newsletter, an initiative sponsored by the Finham Parish Council and including contributions from the Finham Residents Association and Finham Library Action Group. All three organisations feel that co-operation for such a publication will have a much better chance of success than if we go it alone. This initiative is partly due to the desire for such a newsletter and partly due to comments made to me and to councillors about the need to sell ourselves. In other words, tell Finham residents what we were doing and what is happening on a regular basis that could or will affect their lives.

Additionally, it will give an outlet to the library to advertise future events and their achievements over the previous period which should be known more widely. What the trustees and volunteers have achieved since their inception has been very impressive.

Each organisation will have a free hand to say whatever they deem appropriate and will not be censored unless a submission breaches the boundaries of legality or decency which I must say is unlikely.

It is intended that our first publication will be in June and each organisation will have two pages to fill. We intend for the newsletter to be produced and delivered to all dwellings in the Finham area quarterly. To achieve this end, we have the full support of all three organisations.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 17th May 2018

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 17th May 2018 were discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 17th May 2018 were approved.

3. Reports from Coventry City Councillors Newsletter

Councillor Sawdon asked if it would be appropriate for the Ward Councillors to submit an article for inclusion in the Newsletter. It was agreed that the three Ward Councillors could submit a joint update.

7:10pm Councillor Taylor joined the meeting

Kings Hill

Councillor Crookes updated that the developers for Kings Hill were becoming agitated due to the lack of response from WDC/CCC/Highways England in relation to the permissions and agreement. There was a suggestion that the developers could go to the Secretary of State due to non determination to force the project to progress.

Highways England were holding up progress on the development because they were not happy with certain parts of the proposals mainly with the new traffic island and area around the bridge.

Discussion had taken place in relation to an interim access point off St Martins Road, which would allow the construction of 200 houses. This would involve WDC and WCC collectively agreeing to 200 houses, 100 from each access point. It was thought that there was a need to build and sell the 200 houses to pay for the access road.

The Parish Council questioned Councillor Crookes on where he had received the information from and why this had not been shared with the Parish Council or the FRA. Councillor Crookes confirmed that the CCC Director of Transport provided a monthly bulletin.

The Parish Council asked why the information contained in the bulletin was not passed on. Councillor Crookes updated that this was a verbal "briefing" and not a bulletin.

Clean Air Zone

The Government had signed papers stating that Coventry would have a Clean Air Zone. This would mean that there would be a charge to enter the City Centre. Despite the City Council's thoughts on this, the directive had come from the Government, so CCC must comply.

CCC must set up initiatives to reduce air pollution in parts of the City. New cars would be ok, but the charges would be imposed on buses, taxis, HGVs and older cars. Motorists would be charged to drive into the City Centre.

It was reported that it was likely that Network Rail would be permanently closing the Coundon Crossing.

Pollution levels were high in Ball Hill so there would be plans to re-route traffic along the Binley Road.

CCC had stated that pollution levels on St Martins Road were within the limits. This was questioned as frequently the traffic on St Martins Road was heavy and often stationary. It had been reported previously that CCC had stated they had installed air pollution meters to determine levels in various points in the Finham Parish, but when the PC had checked, this could not be substantiated.

ACTION: The Parish Council to make a Freedom of Information Request to CCC asking the following:

- (i) When were the tests carried out to measure the pollution levels?
- (ii) What were the readings/levels?
- (iii) How long was the test period?
- (iv) What are CCC's upper tolerance levels?

Meeting closed at 7:35pm