

Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7:00pm,
16th July 2020, held via Zoom

Present:

Councillor Mansoor Ahmed

Councillor Ann Bush

Councillor Paul Davies (Chairman)

Councillor Stan McCarthy

Councillor James Morshead

Councillor Kate Taylor

Coventry City Councillors:

Councillor John Blundell

Councillor Tim Sawdon

Councillor Mattie Heaven

Residents: 2**In Attendance:** Jane Chatterton, Clerk & RFO**29. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Angela Fryer, Anthony Dalton and Colin Salt.

30. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

31. City of Culture

Ellen Booth and James Corry attended the meeting to provide an update.

Updates included:

- What the next few months would look like.
- Due to Covid-19 the programme had been pushed back and would run May 2021 to May 2022.
- A big event was being planned for May 2021.
- Launch of the new brand and website. Events would be advertised on the website. Provide a connection to all events across the City.
- Apprenticeship programme – 21 places for L3 and L4 apprenticeships. Wide range of opportunities. 18 month apprenticeship.
- Early September, small projects grant will be launched.
- Looking for community groups, artists, develop ideas.
- Piloting a training opportunity within the hospitality sector to help to ensure businesses are prepared.
- October – City hosts scheme launched.
- Looking for enthusiastic Coventrians to act as passionate tour guides, “meeters and greeters” etc
- Autumn – big programme announcement (subject to lockdown rules) to lift the veil on events. Good representative of what the year will look like. Show the breath of programme.
- Restarting the warm up programme. Scale to be decided.
- Any questions can be emailed to James Gorry.

Ellen Booth

- Focused on local activities.
- Lots of scope for new ideas, can add in more ideas.
- Represents the South West of the City.
- Working close with the libraries (City Council and Community libraries).
- Focused on young people.
- Working with local radio (community radio).
- Looking at faith hubs.
- Working with family hubs across the City.
- During lockdown working on poetry by postcard. Connecting nursing homes with local poets.
- Grants are available – details to follow.
- Will share links.
- Next phase is between now and March to test ideas.
- Working in schools, trying to get every school in the City signed up.
- Green features – local projects, growing allotments and parks.

- FPC would be asked to help disseminate the information.

- Councillor Kate Taylor is the FPC main contact and information would be passed through Cllr Taylor (and the Clerk).

ACTION:

- (i) City of Culture to have a slot in the Finham Newsletter.
- (ii) City of Culture to be involved in the Finham Festival (funding stream available Clerk to contact Ellen for the details).

32. Councillor Recruitment

It was reported that following being notified by CCC that an election was not required and could proceed via co-option. Two applicants had subsequently withdrawn.

Following a meeting with the Parish Council, Stan McCarthy had been co-opted.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) Stan McCarthy be co-opted on to the Parish Council.
- (ii) Clerk to liaise with Mr McCarthy to complete the necessary forms.

33. Chairman's Update

Welcome to our July Zoom parish monthly meeting which is our last until 17th September 2020 as we will be taking our usual summer break.

After I received a suggestion that our meetings could be more open, something that I have tried to create more and more, in future I will suspend Standing Orders during a meeting if I think a person in the public gallery, who wishes to speak, could provide useful information that will hasten the parish council to reach a speedier conclusion and possibly with a greater degree of knowledge.

34. Minutes of previous meeting held on 18th June 2020

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th June 2020 were discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 18th June 2020 were approved.

35. Matters Arising not listed on the agenda

There were no matters arising.

36. Planning

To Consider Planning Applications received since the last meeting

Weekly list for the period 14 June to 20 June 2020

Nothing to report

Weekly list for the period 21 June to 27 June 2020**36.1 Application Number: PA/2020/1453**

Application Site: 3 Anchorway Road

Proposal: Application under Prior Approval for rear extension. The extension will be 4.0 metres away from the original rear wall of the building with a height of 3.69 metres at the highest point and 2.96 metres to the eaves

RESOLVED THAT: No comment.

Weekly list for the period 28 June to 4 July 2020**36.2 Application Number: PA/2020/1526**

Application Site: 139 Anchorway Road

Proposal: Application under Prior Approval for rear extension. The extension will be 4.5 metres away from the original rear wall of the building with a height of 4.0 metres at the highest point and 2.65 metres to the eaves

RESOLVED THAT: No comment.

Weekly list for the period 5 July to 11 July 2020

Nothing to discuss.

37. Correspondence

It was reported at June's meeting Councillor Sawdon referenced a letter that had been received from Andy Street. This had been circulated to members since June's meeting and was discussed. Andy Street referenced the Ward Councillors.

"Your three local Councillors John Blundell, Mattie Heaven and Tim Sawdon have been in regular touch with me on this and I know are vigorously campaigning alongside the community against the development."

The letter was discussed and it was noted that, "In my view the Kings Hill development is being driven by a Local Plan which is based on fundamentally flawed population growth projections from

the Office of National Statistics (ONS). The ONS figures assume a rate of growth for the City which is completely out of kilter with reality and the rest of the region.”

The Chairman thanked the three Ward Councillors for their hard work and persistence.

RESOLVED THAT the update be noted.

38. Finance

38.1 to approve payments: -

DATE	Ref		PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
21.06.20	E20		L Best	Internal audit	£130.00
16.07.20	E21		J Chatterton	July Salary DPA	
16.07.20	E22		HMRC	Tax for Clerk DPA	
16.07.20	E23		J Chatterton	Expenses	£60.86

RESOLVED THAT the payments be approved.

38.2 Bank Reconciliation up to 30th June 2020

The Bank Reconciliation up to 30th June 2020 was received and discussed.

Balance per bank statements as at 30 th June 2020:	£	£
	£50,099.41	
		£50,099.41
Petty cash float (if applicable)	£0.00	£0.00
Less: any un-presented cheques at 30 th June 2020		
	£0.00	
	£0.00	
		£0.00
Add: any un-banked cash at 30 th June 2020	£0.00	
Net balances as at 30 th June 2020		£50,099.41

The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows:

CASH BOOK

Opening Balance 1 st April 2020	£28,532.48
Add Receipts up to 30 th June 2020	£24,326.00
Less: Payments up to 30 th June 2020	(£4,242.53)
Closing balance per cash book as at 30 th June 2020	£50,099.41

RESOLVED THAT the Bank Reconciliation up to the 30th June 2020 be approved.

38.3 Quarterly Report up to 30th June 2020

The Quarterly Report up to 30th June 2020 was received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the Quarterly Report up to the 30th June 2020 be approved.

38.4 Pension Auto-Enrolment (Clerk)

The Staffing Committee had met to discuss the pension auto enrolment for the Clerk.

The Pensions Act 2008 (“the 2008 Act”) requires all local councils to enrol “eligible jobholders” automatically into a qualifying pension scheme.

Guidance had been provided from WALC and they recommend two pension schemes the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and National Employment Savings Trust (NEST). Both schemes had been reviewed.

RESOLVED THAT

- (i) The Clerk be enrolled into NEST.
- (ii) progress update once known.

39. Website

It was noted that work continued on making the Parish Council website compliant.

RESOLVED THAT update at September’s meeting.

40. Cycleway

Councillor Morshead updated that he was looking into whether funds were available via S106 or CIL funding.

RESOLVED THAT: further update at September’s meeting.

41. Task groups & Working Parties

To receive reports from Task Group and Working Party leads

- **Highways – Councillor Morshead**

It was reported that the 2 large potholes on Droylsdone Park Road were being fixed under CCC “Priority 1”. The ones on Erithway Road and Daleway Road were a “priority 2”. The question was raised as why the whole road wasn’t resurfaced but CCC had confirmed there were no plans to do this currently.

There was an issue with the poor condition of the pavements, and some were trip hazards. At some point they had been marked as requiring repair/maintenance by CCC but the red markings had been worn away.

ACTION: Councillor Morshead to forward details to Cllr Tim Sawdon and he would assist.

- **Kings Hill – Councillor Davies**

There has been a response to the Finham Parish Council (FPC) from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG). In this email it clearly states the “MHCLG has received a high volume of representations concerning these applications” (Warwick District Council and Coventry City Council applications for development on Kings Hill).

It goes on to state “Coventry City Council and Warwick District Council have provided written confirmations that they are happy to hold off issuing a decision to allow the Secretary of State” (The

Rt. Hon. Robert Jenrick MP) “to consider whether the applications should be called in for his consideration”.

The email goes on to say that the MHCLG will advise the two councils of a decision in due course.

We will have to wait and see what transpires.

Yesterday, Wednesday 15th July, the FPC held a Zoom Meeting which was attended by a number of residents, our three Coventry City Wainbody Councillors, Tim Sawdon, John Blundell and Mattie Heaven as well as representatives of the WDC and CCC Planning Depts. to allow Finham concerns to be aired with both concerned councils at one meeting for the very first time – ever.

Many questions were put to these representatives, but I feel it fair to say that none of us came away less worried than we were before the meeting. Nevertheless, it was a worthwhile meeting if for only one reason, these two councils know that the fears of Finham residents is still raw and all the more made worse because this development might happen because of an unbelievable forecast of a 32% population increase for Coventry between the years 2014 and 2031 from the Office for National Statistics. Interesting to note that the population increase for Coventry since 2014 up to 2020 is a little over 6%!

The FPC will continue to monitor the situation and advise all concerned at the appropriate times in the future.

ACTION: Letter to be sent for the 3 Ward Councillors.

- **Schools – Councillor Mrs Bush**

It was reported that Councillors Mrs Bush and Fryer had attended a virtual Governors’ meeting last week. Head Teacher, Sarah Bracken had reported that the plans for welcoming children back to the school safely had been updated.

Each class would be in their own “bubble”. A separate entrance for each class. The School were working had to ensure that they fully comply with the guidelines and are fit for purpose. If one child becomes ill then the whole class and teacher would be sent home.

- **Coventry City of Culture – Councillor Ms Taylor**

Nothing further to add.

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

Nothing to report.

- **NHP - Councillor Davies**

Still ongoing. Nothing new to report.

42. Councillor’s reports and items for future Agenda:

- Finham Festival
- Poppy wreath purchase

43. Public participation:

The Chairman suspended the Standing Orders.

Bob Fryer

A parishioner asked if there were arrangements in place for acknowledging the service that Bob Fryer had provided to the community in Finham.

Ideas suggested:

- Having Bob's name on a bus
- A plaque be placed on the bench on The Green
- A tree be planted on The Green

ACTION: Discuss further with Councillor Mrs Fryer and obtain relevant permissions.

Councillor Sawdon

Kings Hill Meeting - It was noted that Councillor Sawdon had found yesterday's meeting with WDC and CCC very helpful and felt that it was well run. Unfortunately, CCC representatives were not knowledgeable and were unable to provide the answers to several questions. WDC representatives were more helpful in their responses.

The answers provided in relation to reducing the impact of the number of cars leaving the development lacked rationale. The idea that residents would "car share" was wishful thinking and nonsense.

It was noted that the lion share of the S106 and CIL monies would go to WDC, yet the impact would be felt by Finham. This needed challenging and pursuing further.

Meetings - it was welcomed that the Ward Councillors would be able to share information during the main session.

Sharing correspondence – it was agreed that correspondence would be shared between the PC and Ward Councillors to enable a more joined up way of working.

Councillor John Blundell

Councillor Blundell endorsed what Councillor Sawdon had said.

Pollution tubes – it was acknowledged that there was no evidence that pollution tubes had been deployed in the main routes through Finham. These had been used elsewhere in the City.

Resilience Team – Hannah Grey had led the Resilience Team during lockdown for Wainbody. She had now returned to the Emergency Team. Stefan Overson was now looking after four wards throughout the City.

Education – it was confirmed that there was no dialogue currently between the Education Department and the Kings Hill Developers. The plan was to build new schools on the development site. This would cause issue for families moving into the area prior to the 1,000 home occupation point, when the school would be built. What happened between 0 and 1,000 was currently unknown.

Councillor Mattie Heaven

Kings Hill meeting – it was agreed that the meeting had gone well, but no conclusion and answers to the questions was not helpful. CCC and WDC still do not have the answers to many of the questions and they need to be reminded that they have to deal with the issues.

ONS – there was a definite need for the numbers to be reviewed.

Pollution – a requirement to highlight the issue of current pollution levels and a more informed calculation of the impact of the development.

ACTION: Request a pollution check be carried out on St Martins Road and Green Lane. Councillor Blundell to request.

Mr Bannister

Request to have a copy of the letter from Andy Street.

ACTION: Clerk to send the letter.

44. Date for the next meeting

The date for the next meeting was confirmed as 17th September 2020 (format to be decided).

Meeting closed at 8:35pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN
Councillor Paul Davies

17th September 2020