

## Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:00pm,  
18<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at The Four Seasons Function Room,  
Kings Hill Nurseries, Kings Hill Lane, Coventry CV3 6PS

**Present:**

Councillor Mrs Angela Fryer  
Councillor Stan McCarthy  
Councillor Paul Davies

Councillor James Morshead  
Councillor Kate Taylor  
Councillor Richard Baker

**Coventry City Councillors:** Councillor John Blundell

**Residents:** 3

**In Attendance:** Jane Chatterton, Clerk & RFO

**84. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors; Councillor Ann Bush, Councillor Anthony Dalton and Councillor Mansoor Ahmad. Coventry City Councillors; Councillor Tim Sawdon and Councillor Mattie Heaven.

**85. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**86. Co-option of Parish Councillor****86.1 Appointment**

Following notification from CCC permitting FPC to fill the vacancy by co-option the vacancy was advertised, and applications were received.

Councillors considered the eligible applications.

*Proposed: Councillor Morshead                      Seconded: Councillor Taylor                      Unanimous*

**RESOLVED THAT:**

- (i) Richard Baker be co-opted onto the Parish Council.
- (ii) Richard Baker signed the Acceptance of Office.
- (iii) Clerk to provide the necessary paperwork.

**86.2 Councillor Resignation**

It was reported that Esther Kinyari had resigned from the parish council. The Clerk would start the process to fill the vacancy.

**87. Chairman's Update**

Welcome to the Finham Parish Council November meeting, the last before the Christmas break.

As usual, I ask everyone to observe Covid 19 rules of wearing a mask when moving around the room and social distancing unless you are with a member of your social group.

The FPC will continue to hold its monthly meetings at the Kings Hill Nursery for the near future on the usual third Thursday of the month and therefore our next meeting will be on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

The reason for using the Kings Hill Nursery venue is to observe the current Covid 19 rules and to keep everyone safe which is not considered possible at the Finham Park School due to the sheer numbers of people using the facilities and therefore the higher the risk. Infection rates will have to fall for the council to move back and as winter draws on these rates are likely to rise.

As per normal, there is a Kings Hill update later in the meeting.

Special thanks go to FPC Councillor James Morshead, with the most able assistance of CCC Councillor Mattie Heaven, for finally managing to persuade Coventry City Council to complete the major pothole repairs in particular on Daleway Road which now looks much better and a lot safer.

This road seems to be one that requires repair annually and it can be seen now just after the larger holes have been filled in, the smaller untreated potholes are becoming bigger and will need repair next year. It might be time for the road to be resurfaced!

Last Sunday, on behalf of the FPC, I laid a wreath at the War Memorial to commemorate the many men, women and children who lost their lives in wars since 1918. It is important we do not forget and hopefully our leaders will learn the lessons of history and not repeat the errors that led to such destruction and dreadful waste.

On a lighter and more positive note. The latest Finham newsletter is due out at the end of this month, beginning of December and will be in paper format, yet another sign of things returning back towards normality.

#### **88. Minutes of previous meetings**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 were received and discussed.

**RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 be approved.

#### **89. Matters Arising not listed on the agenda**

There were no matters arising.

#### **90. To receive updates from Coventry City Councillors**

Councillor John Blundell updated:

Letter to Michael Gove – no response received as yet.

Pollution tubes – these were still in situ for now. No update to note.

Overflowing bins – these were being addressed.

437 Green Lane bollards – these had been inspected by CCC and enforcement action was being considered.

Vehicle Activation Signs – these were being calibrated.

**91. Planning**

To Consider Planning Applications received since the last meeting

**Weekly list for the period 24 October to 30 October 2021**

**91.1 Application Number: NMA/2021/2228**

Application Site: 102 St Martins Road

Proposal: Non-Material Amendment for Reduction in size of extensions on planning permission HH/2020/1782 Erection of two storey side and single storey rear extension granted 18/09/2021

**RESOLVED:** No comment.

**Weekly list for period 31 October to 6 November 2021**

**91.2 Application Number: HH/2021/3217**

Site: 42 Howes Lane

Proposal: Erection of a single storey front extension

**RESOLVED:** No comment.

**92. Correspondence**

**92.1 Queens Platinum Jubilee**

Correspondence had been received from WALC promoting parishes to take up an event to mark the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

The idea was put forward to combine the date with the Finham Festival.

**ACTION:**

- (i) Further discussion at a future meeting.
- (ii) The Chairman asked Councillor Blundell to keep the Parish Council updated of CCC's plans for the event.

**93. Finance**

93.1 to approve payments: -

**2021-22**

Date	Ref	Payee	Details	Amount
26.10.21	E49	NEST	Pension October	DPA
06.10.21	E50	J Chatterton	Salary October	DPA
06.10.21	E51	HMRC	Tax for Clerk	£103.44
06.10.21	E52	J Chatterton	Ink	£17.02
06.10.21	E53	J Chatterton	Expenses	£38.53
09.11.21	E54	J Chatterton	November Salary	DPA
09.11.21	E55	HMRC	Tax for Clerk	£29.22
09.11.21	E56	J Chatterton	Expenses November	£46.63
09.11.21	E57	Newpath	Meeting venue November	£50.00
11.11.21	E58	SPS	Payroll October	£18.00

**RESOLVED THAT** the payments be approved.

**93.2 Draft Budget 2022-23**

The Draft budget and Precept request for 2022-23 was discussed in detail.

The budget for 2022-23 was approved as £24,322.00.

The grant figure and Tax Base figure were currently unknown, and these would be provided by CCC in January.

The Precept figure would be the approved budget (£23,322.00) minus the grant figure. Clarification would be provided at January's meeting.

The budgeted payment to FLAG was removed and added to the general grant fund.

**ACTION:**

- (i) The Budget for 2022-23 be approved at £24,322.00.
- (ii) Clerk to update the figures once the CCC grant figure was provided.
- (iii) Clerk to write to FLAG and inform them of the opportunity to apply to the Grants and Donations Budget for the library newspapers (£400 per year).
- (iv) Update at January's meeting.

**94. Cycleway**

Nothing new to report.

**95. Pollution Tubes**

Nothing new to report.

**96. Governance**

The Policies below had been received for discussion. The majority of the Policies were an Audit requirement and were reviewed annually.

1. Asset Register 2021 22
2. Internal Financial Control November 2021
3. Donations and Grants Policy November 2021
4. FPC Risk Assessment November 2021
5. Gifts and Hospitality Policy November 2021
6. Health and Safety Policy November 2021
7. Complaints Procedure November 2021
8. Vexatious Complaints Procedure 2021

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

**97. Task groups & Working Parties**

To receive reports.

**• Highways – Councillor Morshead**

St Martins Road / Erithway Road signals and road markings: traffic was building up on Erithway Road in rush hours, waiting to enter St Martin's Road. Residents were increasingly frustrated at the delays, and in some cases felt they can't leave their driveways at certain times.

Traffic lights were installed here around 2018, but the “Keep Clear” markings were removed, so when the lights were on green for Erithway Road, cars often still could not emerge, right or left, into St Martins Road. CCC had been asked to consider:

- Optimising the signals, here and on the A45 roundabout, to give extra time in each cycle to let cars out.
- More importantly to either reinstate the “Keep Clear” markings or add a yellow box to the northbound side. This would enable at least a few cars to emerge each cycle, especially those turning right, with minimal impact on St Martins Road traffic.

Daleway Road potholes - anticipating the imminent resurfacing of this area as a capital project this financial year, but residents here are getting agitated at the potholes there now.

One resident has now measured them and reported this to Councillor Mrs Bush, who has passed this on to me. These are:

- Outside 67 , 2 potholes. 1/ 93 X 46 CMS, 7 cm deep..2/ 61 X 63, 4 CMS deep
- Outside 65...176 X 52 CMS , 30 deep.
- Outside 80.. 2 potholes ..1 72 X 72, 4.5 CMS deep.
- Outside 76 ..2 potholes 1/ 39 X 64, 4 CMS deep. 2/ 79 X 63, 3 CMS deep
- Outside 50.. 142 X 100, 5 CMS deep

The 39 missing bollard tops on Green Lane junctions. – this is being chased for a response from CCC.

- **Kings Hill – Councillor Davies**

The Section 106 discussions between Warwick District Council (WDC) and the developers still rumbles on with the usual silence about progress and the usual vague statement that agreement is imminent.

Through a Freedom of Information request, WDC has stated in writing recently that they owe no duty of consideration to the residents of Finham as we live in the West Midlands and therefore no Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies will be coming our way should this huge housing estate proceed even though we are the main victims of this injustice.

According to WDC, it is up to Coventry City Council (CCC) to negotiate their own deal with the developers which we understand is happening behind the scenes, but no one is telling us anything and the rumour is that any monies that may be coming the way of the CCC from this development will be spent anywhere in the Coventry other than in Finham.

We also understand that if the developers gain full planning permission, they do not have to begin building for 15 years which raises the question why Kings Hill has been considered at all.

Unfortunately, Rob Back of CCC Planning Department who had accepted an invitation from the Finham Parish Council to come and speak at our earlier meeting tonight has been unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances. However, he is intending to have a meeting with us in the not-too-distant future.

The planning department at WDC has become very quiet and unresponsive to the point the FPC made a formal complaint to the legal department of WDC requesting a response to its letter sent

some months ago about concerns of how a vote was conducted at a Planning Committee meeting held on the night of 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

The WDC legal department has now responded stating that our complaint about their Planning Committee not being given sight of a letter from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) prior to a vote on further modifications to the S106 Agreement under discussion, which failed to follow process and therefore the committee was voting without all facts and information available, was not the case. The legal department has stated that this letter was circulated to all members of the committee prior to the vote even though it was not discussed at all in committee prior to the vote and the letter was received only the day before that meeting.

The FPC has sent a letter very recently to Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities who is a man who has a reputation for getting things done, not always to everyone's liking but who knows, he may turn out to be more reasonable, more logical and more fairhanded than his predecessor.

We can only hope that he will react positively to the letter and also to the letter from the CPRE as well as living up to his recent statement of encouraging development on brownfield sites.

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

Councillor Ms Taylor updated on the all the activities that were taking place currently.

Many events had been planned for the coming months, all details of which were on the CCC website.

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

There was still no news on the new IT systems to give us the crime statistics. This means that we have had no statistics to give you since March.

All I can advise is that most crime in our area is connected to vehicles. Please remember to leave nothing of value visible or in the glove compartment of your car. The best deterrent to stealing the car is still a very sturdy steering wheel lock.

A new Police drop-in session had been arranged by the Local Policy Team for Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November, starting at 6:30pm at St Martins in the Field Church. Sergeant Betts would like to see as many residents as possible as the team can introduce themselves and give advice.

We continue to urge everyone in Finham to report all crimes to the police so that an accurate picture develops of what is happening in our area.

- **NHP - Councillor Davies**

Nothing to report.

**98. Meeting dates 2022**

The meeting dates for 2022 were discussed.

January	20 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday
February	17 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday
March	17 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday
April	21 <sup>st</sup>	Thursday
May & Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting	19 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday
June	16 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday
July	21 <sup>st</sup>	Thursday
August	No meeting	
September	15 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday
October	20 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday
November	17 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday
December	No meeting	Thursday

**RESOLVED THAT** the meeting dates be approved as above.

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

- Queens Platinum Jubilee
- Hearing loop
- No 9 and 9a bus service

**No 9 and 9a Bus**

It was reported that the No 9 and 9a bus service was deteriorating.

**ACTION:** Councillor Mrs Fryer to investigate. Update at January's meeting.

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

Speeding on Hadleigh Road – **ACTION:** Councillor Morshead to investigate.

Publicity Officer – the Council spoke with Fin, who had volunteered to become the FPC Publicity Officer. FPC were impressed with Fin's ideas and enthusiasm and looked forward to working with him.

**ACTION:** Separate zoom meeting to be arranged with FPC liaison and Fin to decide a way forward.

**101. Date for the next meeting**

It was confirmed that the date for the next meeting was Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7:00pm at Kings Hill Nurseries.

The Chairman wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Meeting closed at 8:45pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN  
Councillor Paul Davies

20<sup>th</sup> January 2022