

Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:00pm, 19th January 2023 Finham Primary School

Present:

Councillor Ann Bush

Councillor Anthony Dalton

Councillor Paul Davies (Chairman)

Councillor Stan McCarthy

Councillor Angela Fryer

Councillor James Morshead

Councillor Richard Baker

Coventry City Councillors: 3 (part)**Residents:** 5**In Attendance:** Jane Chatterton, Clerk & RFO**229. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor; Councillor Taylor.

229.1 Councillor Resignation

The Chairman updated that Freya Millard had resigned as Councillor due to not wishing to show her residential address in the public domain. It is a requirement on a Councillor's DPI that they show all land and property they own within the Parish. The position had been clarified by the CCC Monitoring Officer.

230. Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

231. Kings Hill Film (presentation)

The Kings Hill Film was shown. The Chairman thanked Fin Gibbs for putting the film together.

232. Chairman's Update

Firstly, I would like to wish everyone a belated Happy New Year in the sincere hope that 2023 is significantly better for all than 2022.

Tonight, I ask the public to refrain from making any comments unless Standing Orders have been suspended.

Public Participation near the end of the meeting is an opportunity for anyone to make any comments, suggestions or to ask questions.

233. Minutes of previous meetings:

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th November 2022 were received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2022 be approved.

234. Matters Arising not listed on the agenda

There were no matters arising.

235. Elections May 2023

The Clerk updated that the next Elections would take place on 4th May 2023. The Clerk had attended the training session which had been run by WALC. Further information on dates and timings would be circulated.

**236. To receive updates from Coventry City Councillors
Councillor Sawdon**

Ward Councillor attendance at meetings - Councillor Sawdon updated that Ward Councillors endeavoured to attend FPC meetings. This was following their non-attendance being raised by a parishioner at November's meeting.

Kings Hill Development - The Ward Councillors had liaised with one of the partners in the consortium for the proposed development on Kings Hill. It had been suggested that before detailed planning was sought that they meet with the Ward and Parish Councillors. It had been agreed that they would contact Councillor Sawdon after Easter and a meeting would be arranged.

Turning right out of the Petrol Station - Reports continued of people coming out of the petrol station and proceeding to turn right. The broken bollard reported previously still remained. Drivers continued to carry out a U-turn into Erithway Road. Request had been made to the traffic engineers to install a "no U-Turn sign".

Brentwood Avenue/ Hadleigh Road speed restriction measures - A meeting had taken place on site to look at the issues. Sadly, the Parish Council had not been invited to attend the meeting.

Councillor Blundell

Pollution tubes – Councillor Blundell had contacted the responsible officer. They confirmed that they have the results now through to November 2022. The figures were very low. Around 10% and the threshold was 40%. (DEFRA guidance applies to pollution tubes). There was therefore no justification for monitoring at these locations anymore. The pollution tubes would be removed shortly.

It was noted that the Parish Council had requested that the pollution tubes be relocated closer to the junctions (Erithway Road/St Martins Road and Green Lane/St Martins Road) as this is one of the most polluting parts of Finham and where many traffic jams occurred.

Councillor Blundell asked why the Parish Council had carried out a Freedom of Information request to CCC in relation to pollution tubes.

237. Planning

Nothing to report.

238. Correspondence**238.1 Letters in relation to Hadleigh Road/Brentwood Avenue traffic calming**

The Parish Council had received letters from residents who lived in Hadleigh Road and Brentwood Avenue in relation to their request to CCC for traffic calming measures to be installed. This was an ongoing issue and a petition had been presented in the Summer of 2022.

Some form of traffic calming would be installed in 2023 and parishioners had been informed that FPC would be making a financial contribution towards the scheme.

The Chairman confirmed that this would be discussed further at February’s Parish Council meeting. This would include whether the Parish Council would contribute financially and if so the level of contribution. It was stated that any contribution would be minimal, CCC would need to bear the large cost of the work for the scheme to take place.

The Clerk had written to Councillor Hetherton requesting an update on various points in relation to the meetings and any proposed schemes. It was noted that no reply had been received.

ACTION: Agenda item for February’s meeting.

239. Finance

239.1 to approve payments

2022-23

DATE	REF	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
22.10.22	E77	Land Registry	Documentation	£7.00
27.10.22	E78	Finham Primary	Grant	£200.00
04.11.22	E79	SPS	Payroll	£18.00
10.11.22	E80	J Chatterton	Clerk Salary	DPA
10.11.12	E81	HMRC	Tax & NI Clerk	DPA
10.11.22	E82	Repair Shop	Grant	£100.00
10.11.22	E83	J Chatterton	Expenses November	£52.60
17.11.22	E84	Kidwells	Kings Hill	£2,400.00
18.11.22	E85	NEST	Pension	DPA
05.12.22	E86	WALC	Good Cllrs Guide	£15.00
05.12.22	E87	WALC	Cllr Fundamentals FM	£36.00
05.12.22	E88	J Chatterton	Poppy Wreath	£25.00
09.12.22	E89	J Chatterton	Clerk Salary December	DPA
09.12.22	E90	HMRC	Tax & NI Clerk	DPA
09.12.22	E91	J Chatterton	Expenses December	£31.00
20.12.22	E92	NEST	Pension	DPA
22.12.22	E93	WALC	Inv 62 Elections Training JC	£36.00

RESOLVED THAT the payments be approved.

239.2 Bank Reconciliation 31st December 2022

The Bank Reconciliation 31st December 2022 was received and discussed.

Balance per bank statements as at 31 st December 2022:	£	£
	£60,150.57	
	<hr/>	£60,150.57
Petty cash float (if applicable)	£0.00	£0.00
Less: any un-presented cheques at 31 st December 2022		
	£0.00	
	<hr/>	
	£0.00	£0.00
Add: any un-banked cash at 31 st December 2022	£0.00	
	<hr/>	£60,150.57

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

CASH BOOK

Opening Balance 1 st April 2022 (Prior year Box 8)	£53,093.58
Add Receipts up to 31 st December 2022	£26,147.00
Less: Payments up to 31 st December 2022	(£19,090.01)
Closing balance per cash book as at 31 st December 2022	<hr/> £60,150.57 <hr/>

RESOLVED THAT the Bank Reconciliation 31st December 2022 be approved.

239.3 Quarterly Report 31st December 2022

The Quarterly Report 31st December 2022 was received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the Quarterly Report 31st December 2022 be approved.

240. Budget and Precept Request 2023-24

The Clerk updated that the grant figure and Tax Base Figures had now been confirmed by CCC Finance Team.

The budget was agreed as	£24,438.00
The Grant figure was confirmed as	£3,114.00
The Tax Base was confirmed as	1,549.40
Precept for 2023-24	£21,324.00
Band D	£13.76 (reduced from £13.95 from 2022-23)

RESOLVED THAT the budget (£24,438.00) and precept (£21,324.00) request for 2023-24 be approved.

241. Defibrillators

Further discussion at February’s meeting.

242. Cycleway

Nothing to report.

243. Task groups & Working Parties**• Highways – Councillor Morshead**

Junction at the BP garage, Erithway Road – a site meeting to be arranged to go through the issues.

Installation of larger waste bin – CCC had responded saying that further investigation was needed to scan for utilities before any groundwork could be carried out.

ACTION:

- (i) Councillor Davies to update the resident who had requested the replacement bin.
 - (ii) Councillor Morshead to ask if a second bin could be added to the railings instead of a ground installed bin.
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- **Kings Hill – Councillor Davies**

It is with some predictability that I have to report that the letters sent to The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities requesting a ‘call in’ for Kings Hill and the letters to Warwick District Council and to Coventry City Council seeking clarity over what monies might be awarded to Finham as a result of the development proceeding, albeit on the assumption of Coventry’s population will have exploded 32% by the year 2031, have not been responded to which has now become the norm.

It is all the more galling that it is we the taxpayers who pay them to do nothing.

As we all know, it is the Office for National Statistics that produced the utterly unbelievable population projections that have resulted in Kings Hill being removed from the Greenbelt and becoming involved in new housing. This same ONS has repeatedly boasted that local groups were consulted in all parts of England at the time the projections were produced.

I have written to the ONS as a private citizen in the hope it might produce some sort of reply. The question I have put to the ONS is who was consulted when producing a 32% projection. To date I have received an acknowledgement. I am not holding out any hope for much more

Just to fill us with the levels of anxiety experienced in 2022 over the future of Kings Hill, the FPC Task Group had its latest meeting scheduled for 4th January with Warwick District Council cancelled as there was nothing further to tell us over and above what was discussed at the previous meeting about its Masterplan.

This Masterplan, the North of Kenilworth/South of Coventry Masterplan Framework which includes Kings Hill and many other areas is a good attempt by WDC to explain and take on board opinions and suggestions from affected parish councils.

The South Warwickshire Local Plan “Issues and Options” public consultation is now open to all who wish to be involved. This period started on 9th January 2023 and is planned to finish on Monday 6th March 2023.

Let us hope that by the word consultation, it is far more consultative and genuine than the consultation we saw from Coventry City Council via the developers some few years ago.

It is important that the FPC takes some active part in this process.

The first opportunity is on Saturday 21st January at the Royal Priors Shopping Centre, Leamington Spa 10.00am to 4.00pm.

The second opportunity is the following Saturday 28th January, this time at Warwick Library, again between the hours of 10.00am and 4.00pm.

WDC Cllr Pam Redford is very sympathetic to our cause. She would like to see WDC revert to its previous Local Plan and is keeping us abreast of developments.

If building goes ahead in the near future, we need to try and influence what happens to make this massive housing estate as palatable as possible.

- **Schools – Councillor Mrs Bush**

Governors meeting had taken place last week. Mrs Bracken updated that the children had settled quickly after the Christmas break and were working very hard. They were enjoying themselves.

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

The Crime Figures for Green Lane/Finham for October 2022 are...

Burglary including car key	3
Other theft	1
Public Order	2
Shoplifting	1
Vehicle crime	3
Violence/sexual	5
TOTAL	15

The Crime Figures for Green Lane/Finham for November 2022 are:

Anti Social Behaviour	1
Burglary including car key	1
Other crime	2
Public Order	9
Shoplifting	2
Vehicle crime	1
Violence/sexual	14
TOTAL	30

Police Liaison Meeting on November 23rd

Main issue at this meeting was about the low number of police officers available particularly in the evenings and at night. If there is a serious problem outside our immediate area then the officers assigned to us are sent there. This could result in no officers working in this area.

There are discussions about bringing the organisation of police officers back to Coventry rather than Birmingham so that the Chief Constable for Coventry can utilise available police more effectively.

Most people worry about their homes being broken into and Neighbourhood Watch has issued advice.

They use the acronym WIDEN

- **W: WINDOWS:** Keep your windows locked
- **I: INTERIOR:** Put inside lights on a timer/smart bulb
- **D: DOORS:** Double or deadlock your doors
- **E: EXTERIOR:** Put outside lights on a sensor
- **(N): NEIGHBOURS:** Keep an eye out for your neighbours

We are fortunate in Finham / Green Lane to have support from a strong Neighbourhood Watch coordinated by Tony Swann who keeps a secure database of CCTV cameras in the area so that reported crimes can be backed up by camera footage.

- **NHP - Councillor Davies**

Nothing to report.

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

Letter to Councillor Hetherton – Councillor Heaven advised the Clerk to send a copy of the email to her for progression.

Brentwood Avenue – Parishioners thanked Councillor Sawdon. Brought an issue about someone travelling at 5am on a motor bike. Issue had been sorted.

Traffic on Brentwood Avenue/Hadleigh Road – parishioner raised question about the traffic calming measures proposed for Brentwood Avenue/Hadleigh Road. Chairman confirmed that there needed to be dialogue between CCC and the Parish Council, as to date, this had not occurred. The Parish Council had requested an update from the Highway's Portfolio Holder in relation to what is proposed, timescales and costings. A response was awaited. This would be discussed further at February's meeting.

It was confirmed that the Parish Council agreed that safety was important and would work with CCC to help find a positive solution.

245. Date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 16th February 2023 at 7:00pm at Finham Primary School.

Meeting closed at 8:45pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAIN
COUNCILLOR PAUL DAVIES

16th February 2023