

Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:00pm, 16th February 2023 Finham Primary School

Present:

Councillor Ann Bush	Councillor Angela Fryer
Councillor Anthony Dalton	Councillor James Morshead
Councillor Paul Davies (Chairman)	Councillor Richard Baker
Councillor Stan McCarthy	Councillor Kate Taylor

Coventry City Councillors: Councillor Sawdon, Councillor Blundell

Residents: 4

In Attendance: Jane Chatterton, Clerk & RFO

245. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mattie Heaven.

246. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

247. Chairman's Update

Welcome to February's Finham Parish Council meeting.

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

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

Additionally, I ask all councillors to speak loudly and clearly as some parishioners have been finding it difficult to hear what is being discussed.

248. Minutes of previous meetings:

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th January 2023 were received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th January 2023 were approved.

249. Matters Arising not listed on the agenda

There were no matters arising.

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

Councillor Sawdon said that in his opinion if politicians don't keep their promise, then they should be punished, the same should be said for Officers who don't keep their promise.

Initialled

Road markings – Almost 2 years ago, it was stated that, the lane markings should be completed by the beginning of this year, the work remained outstanding. Councillor Sawdon had emailed the Officers responsible, but no reply had been received.

No U-Turn Signage on St Martins Road – Councillor Sawdon confirmed he had not received a response to his emails chasing an update and no work had been completed.

Kings Hill – nothing new to report.

Footway on Brentwood Avenue – it was confirmed that the repairs were scheduled for March.

Councillor John Blundell

Pollution tubes – Councillor Blundell confirmed that there was no further news on the pollution tubes and no further data was available. The data for other areas in Coventry had been looked at. CCC had confirmed that they were not willing to re-site the pollution tubes as they considered they were in the correct place. It was stated that they were the experts. It appeared that there were places in Coventry that do exceed the recommended levels eg Holyhead Road. It was noted that it remained to be seen if the scheme being installed made any difference.

Councillor Mrs Bush added that Daleway Road and Erithway Road was blocked solid with traffic for an hour in the mornings and the evenings due to the amount of vehicles on the school run.

It was reported that there was an experiment currently near Templars School which limited vehicles around the school at certain times of the day. If this was successful then this could be looked at in other areas in Coventry.

ACTION: Councillor Blundell to ask what the criteria was for placing pollution tubes in areas. Rationale to be shared with the FPC.

251. Planning

Nothing to consider.

252. Correspondence

Nothing to consider.

253. Finance

253.1 to approve payments

2022-23

DATE	REF	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
02.01.23	E94	SPS Payroll	Invoice 10268 Dec	£18.00
10.01.23	E95	J Chatterton	Clerk Salary January	DPA
10.01.23	E96	HMRC	Tax & NI Clerk	DPA
10.01.23	E97	J Chatterton	Expenses January	£41.80
26.01.23	E98	J Chatterton	Office 365 Renewal	£59.99
24.01.23	E99	Finley Gibbs	Kings Hill Film	£250.00
24.01.23	E100	J Chatterton	Meeting expenses	£44.58
24.01.23	E101	J Chatterton	Paperstone Stationery	£91.89
24.01.23	E102	J Chatterton	Stamps	£91.20
24.01.23	E103	NEST	Clerk Pension	DPA
24.01.23	E104	ICO	Membership	£35.00

				Initialled
05.02.23	E105	SPS Payroll	Invoice 10440 Jan	£19.41
05.02.23	E106	J Chatterton	Clerk's Salary Feb	DPA
05.02.23	E107	HMRC	Tax & NI Clerk	DPA
05.03.23	E108	J Chatterton	Expenses Feb	£41.80
08.02.23	E109	SPS Payroll	Invoice 10358 Dec	£18.00
08.02.23	E110	Zurich	Parish Insurance	£351.87

RESOLVED THAT the payments be approved.

254. Kings Coronation

The King's Coronation would take place on Saturday 6th May.

ACTION:

- (i) Find out what events were planned for Finham including Finham Primary School.
- (ii) Agenda item for March's meeting.

255. Brentwood Avenue/Hadleigh Road traffic calming

Councillor Morshead had suggested 8 ideas for discussion.

It was noted that FPC were in full support of some form of traffic calming measures, and measures were needed to slow down the traffic down. People were using the roads as a shortcut on their commute. Needed to change the balance so that it was quicker to go the right way rather than use a residential shortcut.

The Parish Council had been quoted as willing to provide a financial contribution to any scheme installed by CCC. The Clerk had emailed Councillor Hetherington several times to ascertain what was being discussed. Sadly, to date, no reply had been received. Clearly Councillor Hetherington felt there was no need to work with the Parish Council.

It was noted, however, that CCC needed to inform FPC what they were planning, and the cost involved. It was agreed that should CCC put the measures in place then FPC could make a small donation to the scheme. Consideration needed to be taken into account that other roads within Finham require similar schemes and the Parish Council needed to be fair to all residents.

256. Defibrillators

Councillor Baker updated that he had spoken to the Manager at McColls, who had been very helpful. They would be willing to help out with siting a defibrillator on the outside of the shop wall. She would report back after she had spoken to the landlord.

ACTION: Councillor Baker to chase a response.

257. Cycleway

Councillor Morshead updated that he had made contact with an organisation called Cycleways who were based in Kenilworth. This was an active group who were good at campaigning for cycleways.

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

Councillor Morshead had requested a meeting with officers at CCC to discuss the numerous issues with regards to the junction near the BP Garage. One included the installation of a yellow box, to allow traffic to get out of Erithway Road, the timing of the traffic lights needed review, the Traffic light filter was not working. Due to the increase in traffic a request to be made for the lights on the island to be on all the time.

ACTION: Invite Highways (Ian Lewis) to March's meeting.

• Kings Hill – Councillor Davies

On Saturday 21st January I attended the first of two public consultations in Leamington, which took place to provide the public with an opportunity to discuss and ask questions about the South Warwickshire Local Plan which embraces the whole of Warwick District Council and Stratford-on-Avon District Council areas in a joint exercise for the development, mainly to address the need for new housing.

The representative I spoke with acknowledged the error of the Office for National Statistics population projections up to the year 2031 for Coventry but advised me that the Census 2021 had shown that the population expectations for the South Warwickshire area exceeded previous estimates and therefore Kings Hill might not be required for Coventry 'overspill' but for Warwickshire overspill.

Either way Kings Hill will be developed in the near future, no timing having been given to date but it will be for Warwickshire housing requirements and not for Coventry.

This change raises all sorts of questions of how Kings Hill will be developed as it was the wish of Coventry to have up market housing as this was perceived to be the most urgent shortage but Warwick District Council have a need for affordable housing and have stated in the past that at least 40% of the site will be reserved for this purpose.

Since Kings Hill is no longer a Coventry requirement, how will the need for schooling be addressed. Will the plan to demand more places at our two Finham schools still stand. We need to know.

There are many other answers we need to know. Whatever is decided for the future of Kings Hill, some of those decisions will undoubtedly affect the lives of Finham residents.

For instance, the estimated increase in vehicles using the immediate area exceeds 8,100, which is Coventry City's estimate. How will the roads in this area cope. At peak times they are at gridlock now.

As far as we know, there is no infrastructure plan to improve the roads in the area to manage such a huge increase in traffic. Kings Hill, when house building is completed will be 2½ times the size of Finham.

To date Warwick District Council has shown a willingness to converse with the Parish Councils affected by the plans and appear to show an eagerness to know what we think and take on board measures to minimise the short-term disruption and long term effects which are inevitable and to help maintain our standards of living as much as it is possible to do so.

Initialled

The Finham Parish Council are currently awaiting a second invitation to attend a meeting of Parish Councils in the Town Hall, Leamington. Hopefully it will be held in the very near future so that we might learn more of what is to befall us and have some influence on the decisions made.

The FPC is determined to make sure no construction traffic is allowed to use Green Lane. The ancient hedgerows are preserved. The TPOs (Tree Preservation Orders) are honoured, the 23 ponds are not removed. There is a green barrier between the hedgerows and the development, the bus gate plans are eliminated, the roundabout at the bottom of Green Lane junction with Howes Lane is changed for the benefit of local residents etc. etc.

We have to live with this development, let's all make it as palatable as possible.

Be in no doubt, Kings Hill will be affecting our lives and the lives of those who live in this area long after we have gone. We owe it to future generations to make sure that the decisions made now are for the benefit of those who live here and not for the profit motive of developers.

On a lighter note, the Kings Hill Film, a record of Kings Hill now before the development, was posted on Pride in Finham with the able assistance of Tony Swann who showed me how to do it. Again, our thanks go to Fin Gibbs who produced it.

ACTION: Councillor Davies to make arrangements for a drone to film over Kings Hill.

- **Schools – Councillor Mrs Bush**

Lower Phase

In the last 4 weeks the children have had an amazing time in KS1. The highlight for Year 1 had to be the amazing Space Day.

The children's costumes were incredible and added an extra buzz of excitement to the year group. The children had a chance to make rockets, jet packs and even a space jail during the junk modelling sessions. The children also had to launch rockets into the air, but these were carbon neutral and only powered by wind.

The work on display in the Key Stage 1 corridor is really incredible, you might even say out of this world! Year 2 have been very busy this week with a fabulous Inspire workshop. Thanks had been extended to all the parents and carers who were able to attend.

World Book Day 2023

Once upon a time, children used to go to school knowing lots and lots of fairy tales and traditional tales off by heart.

As the years have passed, fewer and fewer children are familiar with these wonderful stories.

This year, as a whole school they will be revisiting as many of these tales as they can. In order to help us prepare for this week. Parents and carers are being encouraged to share some of these stories at home. The children are then being encouraged to share in school their favourite fairy tale and instead of dressing up children are being asked to take one thing in from home that is related to their favourite fairy tale.

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

The Crime Figures for Green Lane/Finham for December 2023 are...

Drugs	1
Public Order	2
Shoplifting	2
Violent crime	6
Other theft	1
TOTAL	12

Peter Sturgeon the Officer for Neighbourhood Watch has sent a message reporting that there has seen an increase in incidents of break-ins to sheds and outbuildings. Please can we ask you to review the security on your outbuildings. It is important you see your shed or garage as an extension of your house and afford it the same levels of crime prevention.

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

If you are not already members of a local scheme please consider joining.

- **NHP - Councillor Davies**

Nothing to report.

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

March Agenda items:

- Children's play area
- Coronation Event funding – Pride in Finham – Paul to advertise

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

Roadworks - Question was raised if there were any roadworks locally that were causing an increase in traffic on St Martins Road. It was confirmed that Stoneleigh Road had been closed off and people were appearing to be re-routing and using St Martins as an alternative.

Kings Hill - In December 2019, 100 residents attended CCC Planning Committee in relation to the Kings Hill Development. We are now in 2023 the question was asked, what is causing the delay in the development starting? It was confirmed that the reason for the delay or the proposed start date was unknown.

Councillor Sawdon reported that he had spoken with the developers and suggested that they meet after the Easter break, this is when they would be getting together their plans to put into WDC. He also confirmed that he had attended several meetings with Councillor Day and intended to have many more.

Speed watch – Councillor Sawdon confirmed that Officer Darren Betts had informed him that there would be a police speed watch in Gretna Road.

ACTION: Clerk to email Darren Betts to ensure that Tony Swann Finham Neighbourhood Watch and Councillor Mrs Fryer (FPC Police liaison) be kept better informed.

ACTION: Councillor Blundell to send the Clerk the list of dates for Speedwatch.

Police Liaison Committee – the next police liaison committee meeting had been arranged for 21st March but this was the same date as a Full Council meeting so the meeting may be moved.

Tony NHW – there had been an incident a week ago involving pupils from Finham Primary School. Within 24 hours the snap shot had been shared with the school and the matter dealt with. Thank you to the 2 Councillors with their speedy assistance.

Brentwood Avenue – parishioner thanked the FPC for the support of the traffic calming initiative. As far as his efforts were concerned he had sent his opinion of the options to CCC. He had received correspondence from Councillor Hetherton which was supportive.

261. Date for the next meeting

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

Meeting closed at 8:20pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN
Councillor Paul Davies

16th March 2023