

## Finham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:00pm,  
20<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Theatre, Finham Park School

**Present:**

Councillor Paul Davies (Chairman)  
Councillor James Morshead  
Councillor Richard Baker

Councillor Angela Fryer  
Councillor Kate Taylor

**Coventry City Councillors:** Councillor Tim Sawdon

**Residents:** 12

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

**318. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Bush and Dalton and CCC Councillors John Blundell and Mattie Heaven.

**319. Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

The Chairman suspended the Standing Orders.

Rachel Goodyear – Head of Traffic, Road Safety and City Centre from Coventry City Council attended the meeting to provide an update on the proposed traffic calming measures on Hadleigh Road and Brentwood Avenue.

**Updates provided:**

- Unfortunately, CCC did not have the funds to pay for substantial traffic calming measures.
- CCC had carried out Speed Surveys and it was noted that the data collected confirmed that there was potential to reduce the speed limits of the roads to 20mph.
- The request to look at a wider area had been noted and this could include some of the surrounding roads.
- This was of benefit as the more roads in the area on the 20mph zone, then the less signage installation would be required.
- The proposal was made to have 20mph markings.

**VAS signage:**

- CCC has VAS signage and this can be moved around the City.
- There are 18 wards in Coventry, sharing the VAS signage.
- Currently there is a set in Finham Parish sited on Green Lane.
- FPC could purchase 2 signs which could be moved around Finham Parish under the control of CCC.

**Other points:**

- CCC were looking to see if they could get any money from any large developments (s106 funding).
- Also looking at whether to change the traffic priority for Hadleigh Road.
- No funds have been allocated for anything at the moment.
- Money has been allocated for drop kerbs on Brentwood Avenue/Hadleigh Road area – (£19,000).

**Electric Charging points**

Electric charging points had been installed by CCC in the parish. These had taken up a total number of spaces in the bay (6 bays).

**ACTION:** Rachel Goodyear will chase up the outstanding approved work.

Parishioner thanked Rachel for attending the meeting. However, was bitterly disappointed that when the petition was submitted 12 months ago, he was encouraged. He doesn't believe that what is being suggested will make any difference. Drivers will not adhere to the 20mph markings. Expectations were high and he was disappointed beyond measure.

Rachel reiterated that CCC doesn't have endless funds and there are other roads in the City with reported speed related accidents and there have been casualties and fatalities. CCC had to spend the money where there were the most accidents.

Warwick Road had the newly installed speed humps, Rachel confirmed that they were put in because there had been accidents/collisions. There are 39 roads in Coventry which would be given priority because of the number of personal collisions.

Question was asked if portable planters to offset the road and slow down the traffic down could be installed.

**ACTION:**

- (i) Rachel would look at the costings for the installation of portable planters.
- (ii) Rachel to provide the Clerk with the cost of purchasing two VAS signs.
- (iii) Rachel to be invited to a future meeting to provide an update.

The Chairman thanked Rachel for attending.

The Chairman reinstated the Standing Orders.

**320. Chairman's Update**

Welcome everyone to the July meeting of the Finham Parish Council which is the last one until September as the Clerk and all Councillors will be taking a well-earned rest from the challenges and pressures of addressing the issues that concern the residents of Finham.

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July I made a speech at Broadgate in the centre of the city about Severn Trent Water Authority which as everyone knows is very topical at the moment.

Unlike Thames Water, STWA only has debts of £7.14bn but in common with all the water authorities in the country oversees all the lakes and rivers in its defined area and also in common with all other authorities does not control a single one that is classified as being in good health.

Initialled

The immediate concern is the Finham Sewage Treatment Works which still stinks to high heaven at times, even in cold and damp weather which suggests the treatment process is struggling to cope.

Additional concern comes when you consider STWA has stated in the recent past that this facility can cope with all the new developments in and around Coventry and Kenilworth, including of course Kings Hill which is intended to add another 4,500 dwellings to the list.

**321. Minutes of previous meetings:**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were received and discussed.

**RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were approved.

**322. Matters Arising not listed on the agenda**

There were no matters arising.

**ACTION:** Councillor Ian Davidson – email again.

**323. Councillor Vacancies**

The Clerk had sent out application forms to interested parishioners.

**ACTION:** Clerk to chase a response.

**324. To receive updates from Coventry City Councillors**

Councillor Sawdon updated:

The New Chief Executive – the new Chief Executive was Julie Nugent and she would be doing a tour of Wainbody Ward.

Ash Tree – the Ash tree was still standing. The petition would be heard by the relevant Cabinet Members.

Road markings on the roundabout – it had been promised that there would be 3 lanes coming down from the Leamington Road. Ended up with 2 but this seems better.

**325. Planning**

To Consider Planning Applications received since the last meeting.

**325.1 HS2 planning application for 30-hectare compound at Stoneleigh**

**RESOLVED THAT:** No comment.

**326. Highway verges – “No Mow May”**

CCC were supposed to cut the verges in the parish roads every 20 days. Parishioners had expressed their disappointment in the mess left from No Mow May and the lack of cutting in June and July.

**ACTION:** Obtain costings for cutting the Parish.

**327. Correspondence**

Nothing further to raise.

**328. Finance**

328.1 to approve payments

**2023-24**

DATE	REF	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
09.06.23	E21	Top Source	Payroll Inv 001996	£7.00*
13.06.23	E22	Mr Kerry Blakeman	Drone footage	£300.00
12.06.23	E23	NEST	Clerk Pension	DPA
01.07.23	E24	J Chatterton	Domain registration	£8.39*
01.07.23	E25	SLCC Training	Invoice BK211101-1	£36.00*
07.07.23	E26	Top Source	Payroll Inv	£19.41*
07.07.23	E27	J Chatterton	Clerk Expenses July	£59.00
07.07.23	E28	J Chatterton	Clerk Salary July	DPA
07.07.23	E29	HMRC	Tax & NI Clerk	DPA
07.07.23	E30	SLCC Training	Invoice BK211150-1	£54.00*
07.07.23	E31	SLCC Training	Invoice BK211149-1	£36.00*

\*INCLUDING VAT

**RESOLVED THAT** the payments be approved.

**328.2 Bank Reconciliation 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

The Bank Reconciliation 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 was received and discussed.

Balance per bank statements as at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023:	£	£
	£74,301.08	
		<b>£74,301.08</b>
Petty cash float (if applicable)	£0.00	£0.00
Less: any unpresented cheques at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	£0.00	
	£0.00	
		£0.00
Add: any un-banked cash at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	£0.00	
		<b>£74,301.08</b>
Net balances as at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023		<b>£74,301.08</b>

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

**CASH BOOK**

Opening Balance 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023 (Prior year Box 8)	£55,541.64
Add Receipts up to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	£24,815.18
Less: Payments up to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	(£6,055.74)
	£74,301.08
Closing balance per cash book as at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	<b>£74,301.08</b>

**RESOLVED THAT** the Bank Reconciliation 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 be approved.

**328.3 Quarterly report 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

The Quarterly Report 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 was received and discussed.

**RESOLVED THAT** the Quarterly Report 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 be approved.

**328.4 Audit 2022-23**

It was reported that we were at the end of the Public Rights period which finished on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The Internal Auditors had undertaken the review with no issues.

A parishioner had exercised their right to inspect the accounts and this had taken place on 13<sup>th</sup> June. Unsatisfied with the information provided they had raised a complaint with the External Auditors and this was now in for review. To date, the expenditure incurred in satisfying the demands is circa £400.00.

Further update at September's meeting.

**329. Brentwood Avenue/Hadleigh Road traffic calming**

Covered earlier in the meeting.

**330. Drone footage**

A meeting had taken place earlier this evening to discuss the drone footage. It had been agreed to put the information on the Parish Council website with a link to the footage so residents can go and look at the footage.

**ACTION:**

- (i) Chairman to liaise with the Drone operator in relation to the next footage being made.
- (ii) Agenda item for September's meeting.

**331. Website**

The domain name "finhamparishcouncil.org.uk had been purchased. This should make the website easier to find and identifiable. Migration to the new domain had not been possible due to the challenge on the accounts. The name of the website must remain the same during the investigation period.

This had also meant that the parish council newsletter had not been distributed as the information contained in it would be incorrect.

**332. Defibrillator**

Work on the installation of the defibrillator was planned.

**ACTION:** Arrange a training session once installed.

**333. Cycleway**

Councillor Morshead updated that he had tried to make contact with Cycleways but had not heard back. Will try again.

**334. Task groups & Working Parties**

- **Highways – Councillor Morshead**

Nothing further to report.

• **Kings Hill – Councillor Davies**

This is the time of the year when things go very quiet, and politicians like to release into the public domain notifications and announcements that they deem to be unpopular which will include issues they want to pass through council with the minimum of opposition from the victims of their actions.

Of course, this all includes Warwick District Council and Coventry City Council who have brought us to the point whereby the next step for Kings Hill would be full planning permission for the first allocation of housing.

It is at such a time when the Kings Hill group has to keep a particularly watchful eye on the Planning Department of WDC in case it grants full planning permission for an initial number of houses without notifying us.

It is crucial we are involved in the early discussions of how building is to be executed and how monies are to be allocated as Finham is by far and away the most affected of all surrounding areas by this huge development.

So far nothing to be seen on the WDC website which might have something to do with the current state of the housing market and the ONS’s exaggerated population projections.

As reported last month, we are hoping to hold a meeting with the new leader of the WDC, Cllr. Ian Davidson of the Green Party to ascertain his views by which time it is hoped he will have his feet under the desk. From the minutes of May’s Planning Committee Meeting, which he attended, he is taking a personal interest in building developments in south Warwickshire.

As always, the FPC will update everyone at the monthly meetings, our next one being in September due to the holiday break.

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

The Crime Figures for Green Lane/Finham for **May 2023**

Burglary	1
Drugs	1
Other theft	3
Robbery	1
Shoplifting	2
Vehicle Crime	1
Violent Crime	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>

Tony Swann have been informed that these may be the last crime figures available until September due to some work being done on the West Midlands Police server.

There is a Police liaison meeting next week so I will ask for further information from Sgt Darren Betts.

If there are any issues that you wish me to raise at the meeting, please email the Parish Clerk.

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

- Boundary Review – review the Ward Boundaries – link on the CCC website.
- Planning Dept starting to undertake a review of their Local Plan – link to register and can read all the documentation and comment – **ACTION:** website and Pride in Finham.

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

Postbox Green Lane – **ACTION:** chase it up.

Parking issues – install bollards on the road next to the Pizza Shop (Daleway Road), the bend on Droylesdon Park Road and Green Lane outside the school. **ACTION:** Councillor Morshead.

Pollution Tubes – up to date status of the pollution tubes requested. **ACTION:** Councillor Sawdon to obtain the most up to date data for September's meeting.

Mowing the Parish verges – paid for by CCC through Council Tax and why would the Parish Council then raise a precept to cut the verges themselves. Request to avoid taking on this service.

Howes Lane – footpath is overgrown and needs cutting back. Between Jacklin Drive and Mill Hill. **ACTION:** Parishioner to send the photos to the Clerk to progress.

**ACTION:** Riparian Responsible leaflet to be sent to Councillors and put on the Website.

**337. Date for the next meeting**

The date of the next formal meeting was confirmed as Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 at Finham Primary School

Meeting closed at 9:10pm

SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN  
Councillor Paul Davies

21<sup>st</sup> September 2023