

Finham Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:00pm,
16th January 2025 Finham Park School**

Present:

Councillor Paul Davies (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs Bush
Councillor Mrs Fryer
Councillor Rambir Khatkar
Councillor Siddhanth Sharma

Councillor Kate Taylor
Councillor Sanjay Behal
Councillor Anthony Dalton
Councillor Ben Gough

Coventry City Councillors: Councillor Tim Sawdon

Residents: 5

Attendance: Jane Chatterton, Proper Officer

Giga Factory - Baginton

Andy Williams, Director of Regeneration and Economy & Executive Sponsor for Race at Work attended to discuss the proposed Giga Factory.

- First of its kind site offers an all-in-one solution for battery research, manufacturing and recycling.
- Up to 5,700,000 sq.ft (530,000 sq.m) of development opportunities positioned within 15 minutes of M40, M6, M45 and M69 motorways



- 6,000 direct new jobs in Coventry, plus indirect jobs
- Deliver energy and make batteries required for the industry
- Sits inside an investment zone – only one in the UK
- CCC has simply brought the site forward and will continue to bring those investors to the UK

- Companies have located at University of Warwick who want to be part of this
- Part of the CCC long term strategy
- Skilled engineers and manufacturing, HR, purchasing
- Region is home to a number of other sectors – transferable skills
- Policies of social value to ensure they are maximised with local people
- Must benefit local people
- Transport assessment has been done and more to follow when they know who will be on site
- No investor at the moment – when they know they will return and follow up
- Environmental impact – a lot of work has been done along with mitigation work
- Work around biodiversity ensures we still see the green areas
- Number of work streams – working to talk to oversee manufacturers
- Having conversations in earnest since September 2024
- Will see work starting to happen during 2025 as they start to look at the infrastructure
- Very aware around the challenge around manufacturing batteries and will ensure that the safety is well thought through and will ensure H&S is the best
- Very aware that through the works and employment there will be challenges around traffic and rat runs and CCC will look at that to ensure they avoid rat runs and create the right infrastructure

- Biodiversity net gain was discussed
Any development inside the Coventry Boundary developers should deliver the biodiversity within the City Boundary. They don't have to, but CCC are going to try and ensure this is within the City Boundary
- PC requested the figures to understand the scope?
- PC requested a habitat development within the boundary of Finham
- Closest areas would be Cheylesmore and Finham

- Substation – which are you targeting to connect to?
Confirmed would connect to Berkswell. Working a plan with National Grid.

- Air ambulance – confirmed that there is a new site (not Wellesbourne)
- Power supply – mainly coming in under ground
- Timing – number of phases. CCC are making the site ready. Start seeing activity on the ground this year.
- Construction traffic – will this be directed away from site? Will come back on the answer
- Increase in air pollution – desk-based study and they will need to look at a specific plan with any constructor that moves to the site. They will need to ensure that they are below the levels that they need to be.

It was confirmed that Andy would return to a future meeting along with a Colleague from Transport.

The Chairman thanked Mr Williams for attending the meeting.

Mr Williams left the meeting.

549. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor James Morshead and CCC Councillors Blundell and Heaven.

550. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

551. Chairman's Update (Councillor Davies)

Happy New Year to everyone and welcome to our first monthly meeting of 2025.

I hope that this year will be a good one, even though it appears to have started badly from a national point of view.

Can I remind everyone that parishioners are only allowed to speak when Standing Orders are suspended but I do try my best to allow everyone to have a say on any issue during the meeting.

Additionally, there is a Public Participation opportunity towards the end of the meeting which is a chance for anyone here to make any comments or suggestions or to ask questions.

I have always liked the two-way flow of opinions and comments made during this part of the meetings, but it is not the official format and due to the experiences of the last two meetings, procedures are now to be more formal.

Each parishioner will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes to make representations and/or answer questions.

Any representation or question requiring an answer from the Parish Council may not receive a response on the night of that meeting but at a time in the future.

This change to the standard more formal approach is not intended to stifle parishioner participation but to improve the quality of our meetings.

Additionally, I must remind everyone that this meeting is being recorded due to events that happened last year, of which most of you are aware.

A more usual and formal meeting process will be followed, mirroring most of the other Parish Councils around the country. Again, this is due to recent events which the council would like to avoid in the future.

551. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st November 2024 were received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st November 2024 be approved.

552. Matters Arising not listed on the agenda

Bus service –

Councillor Khatkar updated that he is still waiting on a response.

553. Planning

The lists have been circulated.

553.1 Application **PL/2024/0001900/FUL**
 Site 249 Green Lane

RESOLVED THAT: the Parish Council **OBJECTS** to the application.

554. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

555. Finance

555.1 to approve payments

2024-25

DATE	REF	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
20.11.24	E68	NEST	Clerk Pension	DPA
02.12.24	E69	Topsource	Payroll Inv 005817	£20.72*
04.12.24	E70	J Chatterton	Expenses December	£71.56*
09.12.24	E71	J Chatterton	Clerk Salary December	DPA
09.12.24	E72	HMRC	Tax & NI Clerk	DPA
18.12.24	E73	NEST	Clerk Pension	DPA

*including VAT

RESOLVED THAT the payments be approved.

555.2 Bank Reconciliation 31st December 2024

The Bank Reconciliation 31st December 2024 was received and discussed.

Balance per bank statements as at 31 st December 2024:	£	£
	£66,535.16	
		£66,535.16
Petty cash float (if applicable)	£0.00	£0.00
Less: any un-presented cheques at 31 st December 2024	£0.00	
	£0.00	
		£0.00
Add: any un-banked cash at 31 st December 2024	£0.00	
		£66,535.16

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

CASH BOOK

Opening Balance 1 st April 2024 (Prior year Box 8)	£61,171.18
Add Receipts up to 31 st December 2024	£24,501.88
Less: Payments up to 31 st December 2024	(£19,137.90)
Closing balance per cash book as at 31 st December 2024	£66,535.16

RESOLVED THAT the Bank Reconciliation 31st December 2024 be approved.

555.3 Quarterly Report 31st December 2024

The Quarterly Report 31st December 2024 was received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the Quarterly Report 31st December 2024 be approved.

556. Budget and Precept 2025-26

The Clerk updated that we have now received the grant and Tax Base figures from CCC.

Figures for comparison:

	2024-25	2025-26
Grant	£2,768.00	£2,525.00
Tax Base figure	1564.8	1585.7
Precept	£21,320.00	£21,474.00
Band D	£13.62	£13.54

2025-26	COST PER ANNUM
Band A	£9.03
Band B	£10.53
Band C	£12.04
Band D	£13.54
Band E	£16.55
Band F	£19.56
Band G	£22.57

It was noted that there had been a reduction in the grant figure and an increase in the Tax Base figure.

RESOLVED THAT the Precept for 2025-26 be agreed.

557. Defibrillator

The Chairman updated that so far, his efforts to find an agreed and suitable site for a second defibrillator have come to nothing.

Gaining a response from some has come as a secondary success.

However, he had received an email from BP with regard to the proposal to site a unit on one of the petrol station’s walls from a lady who is a HSE & C Advisor based in Milton Keynes.

She has stated:-

Given the nature of our operations, the unique safety considerations associated with a petrol station and having reviewed the guidelines provided by the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health, which advises against installing defibrillators at petrol stations due to the specific risks posed by such environments, we will not be in a position to accommodate this request.

The Chairman thanked her for her response which was not as curt as this paragraph might suggest. The search goes on.

ACTION: Chairman to put a Notice on Pride in Finham for a volunteer host site.

558. Brentwood Avenue/Hadleigh Road traffic calming

It was reported that the electronic speed signs have gone up. Other updates to be completed.

Accident – It was reported that an accident had occurred at the bottom of Daleway Road, a speeding vehicle had hit a wall on the edge of the driveway and then hit a car on the drive. The wall had been destroyed and the car damaged.

ACTION: Raise the concern of speeding again.

559. Kerb stones

Nothing to report.

560. Finham Festival

Councillor Khatkar updated on the following:

Contact had been made with the Lead of the Earlsdon Festival, they are going to share a layout to share with CCC for approval.

Councillor Khatkar to liaise with the CCC Event’s Team – (need to find out who is in charge).

Contact has been made with St Martins Church who wish to work with us – meeting to be arranged.

Finham Library Group – have contacted Councillor Khatkar in the last week for an update.

ACTION:

- (i) Councillors Bush and Fryer to speak to Finham Primary School.
- (ii) Further update at February’s meeting.

561. Bridge on the A46

Carry over.

562. Task groups & Working Parties

To receive reports from Task Group and Working Party leads

- **Highways – Councillor Morshead**

Nothing to report.

- **Schools – Councillor Mrs Bush**

Children have only just returned after the Christmas Break. No update report available.

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

Figures for November 2024

Public order	3
Shoplifting	2
Violence and sexual assault	7
Other crimes	1

Total **13**

Police Liaison meeting due to take place yesterday was cancelled. Waiting on a new date.

- **Kings Hill – Councillor Davies**

The timetable published last March for the South Warwickshire Local Plan states:-

Stage 3 - Preferred Options – Public Consultations – November 24 to January 25

Stage 4 – Public Consultations – October to December 25

Stage 5 – Submission to the Secretary of State – July 26

Stage 6 – Examinations – August 26 to March 27

Stage 7 – Consultation on Proposed Modifications – July to August 27

Stage 8 – Adoption – December 27

By courtesy of the diligence of Warwick District Cllr Pam Redford I have been invited to a Teams meeting for affected Parish Councils in the – North of Kenilworth South of Coventry districts on Tuesday 11th February 2025.

Along with the anticipated update, it will be interesting to hear the views of other parish councils in this immediate area who are affected and also have the opportunity to put the case for Finham which is of course affected by the proposed development on Kings Hill.

If anyone would like me to ask a question or put forward a suggestion at this Teams meeting, please let me know either directly or via Jane our Clerk and Proper Officer.

As stated in my November report and I think is worth repeating as activity seems to be on the rise, any papers for the Joint Cabinet meeting of Stratford and Warwick District Councils will be published and available to view at:-

https://estates8.warwickdc.gov.uk/cm/Committees/tabid/103/ctl/ViewCMIS_CommitteeDetails/mid/529/id/131/Default.aspx.

The SWLP consultations will be publicised on the [South Warwickshire Local Plan consultation portal](#).

Anyone wishing to receive updates can register through:-

<https://www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/stay-in-touch.cfm>

There is no reference to Kings Hill on the agenda of the last Warwick District Council Planning Committee Meeting held on 14th January 2025 and no published agenda for February's meeting schedules for 11th February 2025.

563. Councillor's reports and items for future Agenda:

- Finham Sewage works
- Defib Policy and check list
- Finham Festival

The Chairman suspended the Standing Orders

**564. Coventry City Councillors
Councillor Sawdon**

It was noted that issues were relatively quiet at the moment. Howes Lane had flooded due to a burst water main.

Councillor Morshead – November's minutes need updating.

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

PC agendas & minutes -

ACTION: Add parishioner (RG) to agenda and minute circulation list.

Brentwood Avenue – it was noted that this is still a rat run and causing issues for residents.

Community Watch CCTV – finally West Midlands Police have decided it is a good idea. Currently there are 420 members on the database. Others are welcome to join. It was noted that it was also a good idea to join the West Midlands database. Completely GDPR compliant.

Planning application - PL/2024/0001900/FUL

Change of use to a Nursery – it was noted that local residents were opposed to the development due to noise nuisance, increased traffic on a road which was already subject to heavy traffic. The Parish Council's views were sought. It was noted that the Parish Council were OBJECTING to the application in support of residents.

Pollution study – Councillor Heaven detailed a pollution study and data gathering project some time ago. The results of which were questioned.

ACTION: Councillor Sawdon to raise with Councillor Heaven.

666. Date for the next meeting

The date for the next formal meeting was **Thursday 20th February 2025** Finham Park School.

Meeting closed at 8:25pm