

WALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Wall Parish Council held on Wednesday 26 July 2017 at 7:30 pm at Wall Village Hall

Present: Councillor M J Crowe (Chairman) and Cllrs R Barker, J Linney, P Sampson, C Rubisch and A Ryman.

In Attendance: Peter Young (acting clerk) and one member of the public.

Apologies: None.

23. Declarations of Interest:

Councillor A Ryman declared an interest under Appendix A of the Council's Code of Conduct with respect to planning application 17/00908/FUL. He left the meeting at that point and took no part in the consideration or voting on that matter.

24. Minutes

Minutes of the: a) Annual Council Meeting 24 May 2017; b) Special Council Meeting 21 June 2017; and c) Special Council Meeting 5 July 2017, as circulated with the agenda were approved and signed as a correct record.

25. Matters Arising on the Minutes

Min 5 - inconsiderate parking by the Trooper. The parking issues appeared to be getting worse.

Min 6 - flooding problems on Watling Street between Ashcroft Lane and the Watling Street railway bridge. Reported to SCC on 21 June. Reply 3/7/17 *"A highways inspector has visited and assessed the site. The reported issue is not currently considered to be a risk to public safety and no works will be carried out at this stage. However, the report will remain on our records and the location will be routinely inspected for any changes in the level of risk."*

Min 6 - Speeding problems eastwards on Watling Street. This matter had been reported by email to PCSO Brian Harben on 21 June – no reply.

Action: PCSO Brian Harben be requested to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

Min 8a - Road gullies blocked outside Wall Village Hall. Reported to SCC on 21 June. Reply 3/7/17 *"A highways inspector has now assessed the site and arranged for repairs to be carried out. The reported issue is not considered to be a high risk to public safety and so the repairs will be grouped with similar works in the area in order to be as efficient and cost effective as possible."*

Action: SCC be asked to give advance notification of when the works will take place so that the parked cars can be removed.

Min 8b - Longstanding smell of gas in Ashcroft Lane just south of the junction with Raikes Lane. Reported by email to Cadent Gas 21 June as non-urgent. Reply same day that engineer would attend within the hour. Excavation works had recently taken place, but there was still a smell of gas.

Action: report again.

Min 8d - Hilton residents would like a post box with a larger aperture to replace one in situ that can only take very small letters. Reported to Royal Mail 21 June. Reply received 18 July *"... the above-mentioned area does not warrant the installation of a larger post-box at this time."*

Action: Pursue further as the post box is too small.

Min 14 - The annual return had been submitted to Grant Thornton with accompanying reports etc. and receipt acknowledged by Grant Thornton on 14 June.

Min 22 - Trooper Licence Variation – Objection letter sent. Reply received 12 July that a hearing will be held on 22 August at 10:30 to which all persons who made representations are invited to attend.

26. Public Session: The meeting adjourned for the public session.

A member of the public raised the following:

- How long could a marquee (at the Trooper) be in place without planning permission? The Chairman responded that if it was moved periodically this could avoid requiring planning permission.
- Speeding was a problem on Claypit Lane from the Watling Street crossroads to Fosseyway. It needed to be 30 mph. The Chairman reported that Fosseyway Lane issues would be discussed later in the meeting when the Council considered the proposed residential development at Deanslade Farm.
- Wall Island was confusing for motorists, and the white lines to show lane markings had badly faded. **Action:** Clerk to report the faded lane markings to Highways England.

The Meeting reconvened.

27. District and County Councillors' comments: None present.

28. Reports from Chairman, Councillors and Clerk (including correspondence received)

- a) Email from LDC seeking information on the progress of a Wall Neighbourhood Plan.
Action: reply to LDC that a Neighbourhood Plan was not being progressed at the current time.
- b) Email from LDC regarding Equalities training session but date clashed with next parish Council meeting on 27 September.
- c) The Clerk reported that the Council was now registered with Government Gateway for PAYE etc.
- d) A daytime closure of Market Lane from 7 September to 9 September for pole replacement works was noted.
- e) SCC bus subsidy consultation – **Action:** details to be circulated to members.
- f) The Chairman reported on his attendance at the LDC Parish Forum and the matters discussed which included radicalisation prevention, and dog fouling issues. The cuts affecting principal authorities meant that parish councils were increasingly likely to be called upon to provide services such as verge mowing from their own resources.
- g) SCC's Safer Roads Partnership was providing, through a bidding process, £200k over the next 2 years in the form of the Road Safety Grant Fund and was keen to support locally driven community road safety activities which should aim to address an identified road safety issue.
Action: seek funding for mobile speed watch signs, possibly shared with Shenstone Parish Council.
- h) A member suggested moving the Public Forum to the end of the meeting. This was not agreed.

29. Highways & Open Spaces

- a) Best Kept Village Competition 2017 – no great expectation for success in the absence of the Community Payback team.
- b) Paths – various signs etc needed attention
- c) Churchyard Maintenance – issues regarding the standard of maintenance were discussed, which were pertinent because the parish council provided substantial funding towards the costs. It was reported the PCC had indicated that extra work will take place. A member also reported that the wall by the steps needed repair.
- d) The gullies on Ashcroft Lane near Chesterfield Farm needed attention. **Action:** report to SCC.

30. Planning:

a) **17/00624/FUL** and **17/00625/LBC** Wall Farm, Green Lane. Two storey extension to rear to form sun room, cloak room, and dining room at ground floor level and 2no en-suites and dressing room at first floor level; erection of outbuilding to form three car garage, and associated works.

Resolved: No objections provided that all conditions/constraints regarding work to the listed building are complied with.

b) **17/00908/FUL** Manor Farm, Wall Lane, Wall. Demolition of existing building and erection of office building (Use Class B1(a)) and associated works.

Resolved: The site is within the former Roman settlement of Wall where Roman archaeology may be present at a very shallow level. The Council has no objections to this application subject to the following conditions:

i.) that the scheduled ancient monument consent is updated to reflect any additional or deeper excavations works that may be required for footings/drainage/car parking etc. associated with providing a new building on the site rather than the previous consent which related to the conversion of the existing building.

ii.) that an archaeological watching brief take place during any excavations works on the site.

iii.) that there is no widening of the existing entrance onto Watling Street where there is an old stone wall which is a feature of the village and is built directly above the remains of the old Roman road.

c) **17/01010/OHL** Walsall Road, Pipehill. Replace existing OH line with fewer supports and increased operational clearance (amended route from previous application 16/01343/OHL)

Resolved: No objections.

d) **17/00980/TRC** Works to trees Littlefield House, Market Lane. It was noted that works to trees with a TPO had recently started to appear on the LDC lists of planning applications. **Action:** these to be reported to members to comment if they wished.

e) **Proposed development of up to 475 houses at Deanslade Farm, Lichfield.** Members considered the proposals which had been announced by Taylor Wimpey, although no formal planning application had yet been submitted. In particular it was felt that the proposed access from the development onto Claypit Lane could considerably worsen the traffic problems on Claypit Lane creating a 'rat-run' through Wall. The solution could be the closure of Claypit Lane to through traffic. **Action:** Although the development itself was not in the parish, the parish council needed to be included in the consultations on this development in view of its likely impact on Wall.

f) **Lichfield City Neighbourhood Plan** - It was noted that this was currently out for public consultation, but its proposals had no direct bearing on Wall parish.

31. Police and Fire Service Consultation:

It was reported that the Police Commissioner was currently consulting on a proposal for the possible merger of the Staffordshire Police Service and the Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service. For various reasons members did not support this proposal. **Action:** The Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman should submit a response, objecting to the proposals.

Accounts for Payment: Resolved: payment of the following accounts:

Date	Chq	Payee	Details	TOTAL
14/06/2017	696	Greenland Garden Services	Grass Cutting	200.00
14/06/2017	697	A Toplis Associates	Internal Audit 2016/17 accounts	48.00
05/07/2017	698	Wall Village Hall	Room Hire 21/6/17 and 5/7/17	18.00
26/07/2017	699	Greenland Garden Services	Grass Cutting Invoice 42 (3 July cut)	200.00
26/07/2017	700	P Young	Net Salary 24/4/17 - 31/7/17 + expenses £22.33	743.84
26/07/2017	701	HMRC	PAYE on salary	180.20

Members noted the receipts & payments schedule and the bank reconciliation at 30 June 2017

32. Confidentiality: Resolved: That by reason of the confidential nature of the business next to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the Meeting.

33. Staffing matters

It was agreed that Mr Peter Young continue as acting Clerk for the time being. The Chairman and acting clerk to continue to seek recovery of the Council's minute books and accounts books.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:45 pm

Chairman:

Date: