

ILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall Committee Room on Wednesday, 25th January, 2012.

Present: Messrs. F.J. Edmunds, D.V. Sabin, M.P. Taylor and A.G. Wilkins (Chairman). Also present were County Cllr. I. Seccombe, District Cllr. C.J. Saint, Mr. Bruce McFarlane and Mr. Clive Johnson.

Apologies were received from Mrs. P.J. Maguire and Mrs. A.D. Wright.

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

VILLAGE WEBSITE

Mr. McFarlane reported that he had been asked by a number of people who ran their own businesses and lived in the village whether it was possible to have a mention on the village website, and if so whether he should ask for a nominal payment. The present cost to the Parish Council for running the site was about £50 per annum. It was agreed that there was no objection to this, and that it should be left to Mr. McFarlane about what to charge for the mention.

MATTERS ARISING

1. Flood Defence Grants. Mrs. Wright had asked that Cllr. Saint be reminded that he should be meeting her to discuss the ditch at No. 1 Cross Leys. Cllr. Saint said that there had already been one meeting, and that he was liaising with Cllr. Seccombe to arrange another meeting with Mrs. Wright. The Clerk asked whether there was still work to be done on the flood defences, and the Chairman said that part of the retaining wall in the Middle Street ditch needed repairing. He had asked Mr. Geoff Davies if he could do the work, and it would be done eventually.
2. Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. Mr. Edmunds, as Chairman of the Jubilee Committee, reported on the progress to date. They now had a secretary, Mr. Steve Rowan, and had opened a bank account at Lloyds. The Clerk handed over to Mr. Edmunds the £75 in donations which she had received from two parishioners. There would be a house to house bucket collection round the village soon. Mr. Sabin proposed, seconded by Mr. Taylor and agreed, that the Parish Council should give a donation of £2,000 to the Jubilee Committee to help cover the expenses.
3. Severn Trent Water bill. There was nothing to report.
4. Playground Equipment. A working party to do minor repairs would be organised in the spring.
5. Severn Trent and Highways water leaks. These had both been satisfactorily cured.

6. Affordable Housing Scheme. Mr. Neil Gilliver of the Warwickshire Rural Housing Association had reported that the County Council had asked them to revisit the originally proposed 14 housing scheme, i.e. 10 affordable and 4 local market homes. This would allow some subsidy to be channelled from the local market homes to ensure the viability of the affordable homes. However, in his letter Mr. Gilliver had said that if the planning application for three market houses in Frog Lane was approved, this could affect the viability of the whole Armscote Road scheme. The Parish Council could not see how these two applications were connected. At the request of Mr. Gilliver a letter was sent to him confirming the support of the Parish Council for the Armscote Road scheme, even if the proposals to build three market homes in Frog Lane secured planning permission.

7. Annual Inspection of Play Areas. Letters had been sent to Digley Associates and ROSPA asking for quotes for this work. These had been received and the one from Digley Associates of £38.00 plus VAT, who had already been carrying out inspections in Ilmington for several years, was much lower than that from ROSPA of £63.00 plus VAT. The Digley Associates quotation had therefore been accepted

CORRESPONDENCE

1. As a result of a request from Mrs. June Hands about the speed of traffic going along the Armscote Road in the mornings, Shipston police were contacted. As a result an item was put on the village website and it was suggested that Ilmington should get up a petition to Shipston police by the end of February, asking for the traffic speed to be monitored. Mrs. Wright agreed to organise this with the help of Mrs. Hands. Cllr. Seccombe said that if the Armscote Road housing scheme was approved, then some sort of traffic management such as a mini roundabout could be incorporated into the scheme. This would help to reduce the speed of traffic using the road.

2. A letter from the County Council Rights of Way department, asking for any claims towards the cost of maintenance of rights of way to be forwarded by 20th February. The Parish Paths Partnership and the grant for expenditure on public rights of way would be replaced with the County Council Volunteer Partnership. This would be effective from 1 April 2012.

3. An email from Andy Bacon of Resilient Ltd., asking if a group from Shipston High School could have permission to camp on the Parish playing field on the night of Thursday, 12th April. The young people were participating in their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award practice expedition. It was agreed that they could use the playing field.

4. A letter from the District Council asking for the Parish Council to confirm the amount of precept required for 2012/13 and the date when the decision was agreed. This had been done.

FINANCE

The following cheques were agreed, signed and were within budget:-

(1) G.V.S. Righton, mowing playing field	£ 72.00
(2) District Council, election expenses	£ 557.00
(3) Bruce McFarlane, domain name for website	£ 6.67
(4) S.M. Gardner, Clerk's salary & expenses	£ 543.14
(5) D.G. Kerby & Son, hedgecutting	£ 120.00
(6) A.G. Wilkins, Rights of Way maintenance	£ 100.00
(7) A.G. Wilkins, mowing in village 2011 season	£ 842.50

PLANNING

1. 11/02605/TREE. Notice of consent with conditions from the District Council for tree work at Dundas, Campden Hill.
2. 11/02556/TREE. Notice of consent with conditions from the District Council for tree work at The Grey House, Grump Street.
3. 11/02522/FUL. Notice of Permission with conditions from the District Council for a single storey extension at Rose Cottage, Frog Lane.
4. 11/02645/FUL. Application for construction of three dwellings with associated works at Clifford Orchard, Frog Lane. A Planning Sub-Committee meeting was held in the Pavilion on Tuesday 13th December 2011, attended by Cllrs. Maguire, Wright, Sabin, Edmunds and Wilkins, to discuss this application. It was open to the public, mainly for people from the Frog Lane area to make their views known. Many were there, and also Steve Chance, the architect of the application for these houses. After considerable discussion the public were asked to leave and the following decision was made:- "The Parish Council recommend that this application be approved as it meets the village design statement. However they suggest that there should be a condition that the car parking area should be sufficiently constructed before building work commences to enable the contractors to park their vehicles and materials on site, thus leaving the road clear."
5. A retrospective planning application was awaited for a new garage and store at The Hill, Back Street. Building work was proceeding which was not in accordance with the approved plans, and the Enforcement Officer had visited the site.
6. 11/02530/FUL. Application for proposed replacement porch to front of 15 Cross Leys. The Parish Council had no representations to make.

PLAYING FIELD

There were no items.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Mr. Edmunds reported that there were still potholes in the middle of Featherbed Lane, opposite No. 4 Washbrook Place, and the Clerk was instructed to inform County Highways.
2. Cllr. Saint reported that the Council Tax had not yet been set. There should be a reduction of 1%. The County Council were planning a freeze on their tax, but it was not certain that the Police Authority would agree to do the same.
3. Cllr Saint also reported that there should soon be a letter from Sue Nash of the District Council about a new core strategy. This was very important for Parish Councils and should be studied carefully.
4. The Chairman said that a letter should be sent to Mrs. Judy Maguire, extending the sympathy of the Parish Council on the death of her husband.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Date

Chairman