

BETLEY, BALTERLEY & WRINEHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2010

PRESENT

Cllrs Robert Bettley-Smith, Steven Ball, Seb Daly, Simon Harrison, John Price and Chris Watkin.

IN ATTENDANCE

County Councillor Frank Chapman
Gwyn Griffiths (Clerk)

154/10 Apologies for absence were received and accepted as valid reasons for absence under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 from Cllrs Berrisford (family commitment), Jo Cameron (holiday), David Hales (work), Richard Head (work) and Mark Morris (work).

An apology for absence had also been received from Borough Cllr David Becket who was attending a meeting in London.

155/10 Members considered the declaration of interests in agenda items.

Cllr Daly declared a personal interest in planning application 10/00299/FUL (St Margaret's House) as his (rented) business premises overlooked the site.

156/10 **RESOLVED** that subject to the addition of the following minute – ‘153/10 Date of next meeting Thursday 24th June’ – the minutes of the meeting of 27th May 2010 be approved as a true record and be signed by the Chairman.

157/10 There were no members of the public in attendance to engage in public participation.

158/10 The Chairman reported on his activities since the last meeting.

Walking through the village after a recent heavy rain shower he had noted water running on the highway between the Village Hall and the centre of the village with none of the relevant gullies taking the flow of water.

He had attended a further meeting of the Rural Runabout; it was well used, running well and covering its costs.

He noted that members of the Working Group had carried out planting at the Memorial Garden on Sunday.

159/10 The Clerk reported the following two items:

The Borough Council had agreed to provide and service a dog waste bin in Balterley, and had undertaken to consult the Parish Council on its precise siting;

As requested at the last meeting he had checked whether the school had a nomination in mind for the vacancy for a school governor. In fact, a nomination had already been made on behalf of the school and there was therefore no need for any further action by the Council.

160/10 County Councillor Chapman reported on the following issues:

Committee responsibilities. He had now been appointed as a member of the Police Committee; in consequence he had also been placed on the community and social scrutiny committee;

Highway faults reporting. He urged members to use the Clarence system (0800 232323) to report faults, rather than contacting him directly as he would only be able to carry out the same reporting i.e. through Clarence;

Camera sign. Objections had been raised to the installation of the 'speeding camera' sign at Wrinehill, and it had therefore been removed.

161/10 Members considered the following planning application:

10/00225/FUL Retention of covered decking area, The Steps, Main Road, Wrinehill

RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the application and notes that the covered decking area appears more attractive than the existing concrete roof.

162/10 Members considered the following planning application:

10/00299/FUL Single storey rear extension, St Margaret's House, 10 Chamberlain Court, Betley

RESOLVED that the Parish Council notes that this is a significant development. The Parish Council has no objection, but asks that the Borough Council satisfies itself that the development is appropriate in terms of location, size and scale.

163/10 The Clerk reported that although the Council no longer seemed to receive written copies of decision notices he had learnt through various sources that the following decisions had been reached:

A revised planning application for a new extension to Betley Primary School had been approved, though the Parish Council did not appear to have been invited to comment.

Application 10/00187/FUL (Replacement Joinery Workshop, Cracow Moss) had been refused.

RESOLVED that in respect of the Primary School application the Clerk be asked to write to the County Council asking to see a copy of the revised application, which had not been seen by the Parish Council.

164/10 The Council considered area issues raised by members.

RESOLVED that the Clerk advise the owners of the Blue Bell regarding the use of the car park for the overnight parking of HGVs; that the Council monitor the use of the parking area at the junction of Post Office Lane with the A531, Balterley.

165/10 In considering highways issues members noted that there had been some progress in the Lakeside/ Roger Avenue, with a slight improvement as a number of potholes had now been filled. The Clerk advised members that he had contacted Highways and the County Councillor regarding the poor condition of the carriageway in Common Lane.

166/10 The Clerk submitted details of correspondence received since the last meeting which included an approach from the Land Registry, offering the opportunity to register any land holdings at a special rate.

RESOLVED a) that the registration of the Council's interest in the Memorial Garden be approved in principle, to be considered further at the July meeting, and that the report prepared on 8th April 2006 be updated as necessary to form the basis of such a registration;

b) that consideration of possible registration of the Council's ownership at Laudy Croft be deferred, and that the Clerk be asked to investigate possible legal implications of such a course of action;

c) that Cllrs Daly & Harrison be asked to consider the Community Wildlife Funding Initiative, and whether it might be applicable to the Parish.

167/10 Members considered a quotation received to supply a replacement bench in Church Lane, Betley.

RESOLVED that the Clerk be authorised to obtain the bench on the terms outlined.

168/10 The Clerk advised members that there had been no response to the notice posted at Balterley, inviting comment on the suggested provision of a bench at the junction of Post Office Lane with the A531. A notice would also be appearing in the July issue of the Barthomley Parish Magazine, which covered Balterley.

RESOLVED that further consideration be deferred to the July meeting.

169/10 Members considered progress on the development of a community website. The Clerk outlined the response he had received to the questions raised by members at the May meeting, which seemed to address the concerns expressed. Members were also asked to consider the most appropriate name and address for the website.

RESOLVED a) that the Clerk be authorised to progress the website;

b) that funding provision be made and approved at the sum of £1,071 in Year 1 (to include set-up costs) and £360 in Year 2;

c) that the website address be www.betley-balterley-wrinehill.org.uk.

170/10 Members considered a Forward Plan for the business of the Council.

RESOLVED a) that the draft submitted by the Clerk be approved, subject to the following amendments:

i) that the July meeting consider "Future arrangements for Parish Council News";

ii) that the Review of Standing Orders be moved from the September meeting to October's;

iii) that Christmas Arrangements be brought forward to the September meeting; that the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee be invited to attend; and that the school be advised of the plans with an invitation to participate if so wished.

b) that the Forward Plan be reviewed on a quarterly basis.

171/10 The Council considered the report of the Memorial Garden Working Group, including recommendations and actions taken in respect of the provision of a water supply. Members also expressed their appreciation to those who had assisted with the planting out of the Garden.

RESOLVED a) that the provision of a water supply be pursued through the water company;

b) that the actions of the Working Group in investigating the issue, and in submitting an application for a quotation be endorsed and approved as an

emergency action given the loss of the previous access to a supply and recent weather conditions;

c) that the payment already incurred by a member in submitting the application for a quotation be reimbursed by the Council.

(Cllr Daly declared a prejudicial interest in respect of Section c) of the resolution, withdrew from the meeting during its consideration, and took no part in the discussion)

172/10 The Clerk advised members that one application had been received under the Community Chest scheme.

RESOLVED a) that the applicant be advised that the Council would intend to consider the application of funding for 2010-11 at its September meeting;

b) that the applicant be asked to respond to two further questions to inform the Council's considerations:

i) whether any consultations had taken place with other potential users of the facility e.g. the tennis club;

ii) how many of the organisation's members were resident within the area of the Parish Council.

173/10 The Clerk submitted to members a list of invoices to hand and payments due, and the Financial and Bank Statements to date. Members were advised that a VAT refund had been secured, together with a reimbursement from County Highways of the sum expended on trimming the epicormal growth at the Wilderness in August 2009. He also noted that only two members were present who were also signatories to the bank account.

RESOLVED a) that the Council authorises payment of the following:

St Margaret's Parochial

Church Council	churchyard maintenance	£500.00	903
DT Askey	Memorial Garden maintenance	£135.00	904
SPCA	membership subscription	£332.00	905
G Griffiths	salary & expenses	£788.10	906
S Daly	reimbursement – application to Severn Trent Water	£123.67	907

b) that the Clerk be authorised to sign cheques 903-905 and 907, and be authorised to seek the signature of another qualified member of the Council to sign cheque 906;

c) that the Financial Statement be received;

d) that the Bank Statements be noted, and the reconciliation verified;

e) that the potential use of the highways account monies be considered at the July meeting.

174/10 Members of the Laudy Croft Working Group reported that no further maintenance work was currently required.

175/10 Members considered issues relating to communications.

176/10 Date of next meeting Thursday 22nd July