

MINUTES OF THE 21st PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
MAPPLEBOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 2nd APRIL 2007
At 8.15pm at THE VILLAGE HALL

1. PUBLIC FORUM – Mrs. Berry enquired if anything had been heard from English Heritage regarding the derelict farm at the Dog Island. The Parish Clerk had not had any contact since the last correspondence informing her that the decision of de-trunking of the A435 was being awaited. Cllr. Helen McCarthy reported that Warwickshire County Council are fighting regarding concerns over possible housing within this ‘By-pass corridor’. Properties here are believed to be being offered to tenants to buy (question whether to original tenants?). The Parish Clerk was asked to write to English Heritage again expressing concerns over the condition of the derelict farm buildings and ask if any plans for the site have been decided on.
2. CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING OPEN AT 8.30pm
3. APOLOGIES – Received from Cllrs. Ian Salmon and Shaun Regan. Cllr. Jo Fitchett was not present.
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – none
5. MINUTES OF THE 20th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 5th February 2007 were accepted as a true record and signed.

6. MATTERS ARISING

- PILLAR BOX

The Parish Clerk had chased both Nick Wild (W.C.C.) and Joe Cox (Royal Mail). She spoke to Mr. Cox on 2nd April for update and was told he had proposed siting the box on the telegraph pole by the school but permission had not been given. There had since been a hold on such work but now with the new Financial Year, he would request this at a meeting to take place on Wednesday, 4th April. He expected installation before the summer. Parish Clerk to follow-up.

- WEBSITE

Parish Clerk gave out a list of expenditure allocated to website set-up, purchase of Laptop etc. and training to date. She had written to Awards For All with a copy and asked if the balance could go to running costs in the new Financial Year. She also requested a further grant for development of the site, further training and storage facilities for Parish Council records.

Regarding storage facilities, these were as discussed previously to be within Ankcorn House. The Chairman asked the Parish Clerk to write to the Church regarding this as work is due to commence shortly on a refit at Ankcorn House.

The Parish Clerk asked the Councillors how long they thought Minutes, Agendas and Planning Applications should remain on the Website. It was agreed Minutes – one year, Agendas until the meeting was over, Planning Applications until they had been passed.

- FLOWER TROUGHS

Parish Clerk had obtained the brass plaques for the troughs outside the Village Hall and would arrange fitting.

- DOG WASTE BINS/LITTER BIN

Parish Clerk reported these had proven to be troublesome. Faulty fixings, followed by incorrect sitings, non-collection of litter resulting in spread of litter, plus dumping of rubbish around the site and fly-tipping to the north end of Haye Lane. Both the Chairman and the Parish Clerk had been in contact with Stratford District Council. To date the rubbish had been cleared but the Dog Waste Bin still required moving. Parish Clerk would chase this up and the situation needs monitoring. She would also raise the subject again of re-siting the Dog Waste Bin at Abbeyfields to the correct area.

- DONATIONS

Parish Clerk had received an email from Mrs. Hayton, Head Teacher at the School requesting a donation towards the cost of clearance of the woodland area behind the playing fields. It was agreed to donate £250.00 – this was proposed by Cllr. Fitzhenry and seconded by Cllr. O'Neill Thomas.

The Parish Clerk reminded Councillors of a previous request from Studley Cricket Club for a donation. It was agreed to discuss this at the next Parish Council Meeting.

She also mentioned that whilst the Church had acknowledged their donation, nothing had been received from the Village Hall or Studley Juniors Football Club.

- PUBLIC FOOTPATH TO THE REAR OF THE CHURCH

Parish Clerk had been in touch with Warwickshire County Council requesting advice on marking of the path. Michael Storey of W.C.C. Pathways, had visited the site and checked the marking post put up by the Tenant Farmer. He requested contact details of the Farmer in order that he may contact him with his obligations to mark the path on the ground especially when in crop. W.C.C. do not put posts up within fields but way-mark on the entrance.

- MR. DIXON

A further copy letter had been received from Mr. Dixon. An email from Nick Wild at W.C.C. had also been received implying W.C.C. do not know who is responsible for the verges which is back to square one. In confusion, the Parish Clerk had written back and copied Cllr. Helen McCarthy. Cllr. McCarthy had responded by chasing W.C.C. Legal Dept. stating the frustration over W.C.C. not willing to say who is responsible. She is continuing to follow this up to try and get it resolved finally in order that Mr. Dixon can be advised to whom his complaint should be addressed.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Clerk read out the list of Applications received since the last Meeting and results of others:

07/00097/FUL	The Elms, Common Lane	Granted
07/00013/FUL	Mr. Berry, Cross Road Bungalow	Granted
06/03061/FUL	Dodd Homes, Falconhurst	Granted
07/00740/FUL	Mr. S.W. Coley, Hill Crest Farm - Family garage unit and garden store	No recommendations

A copy of Longbridge Area Action Plan Preferred Options Consultation document had been received from Bromsgrove District Council and had been available for viewing at the meeting.

8. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- CHURCH ENTRANCE

The Parish Clerk had been in contact with Chris Cunliffe of AmeyMouchel regarding the removal of the small raised concrete kerb partly across the entrance to the Church and also to the front of Church Cottage. The Church originally requested removal of this because of problems with large vehicles turning and having to cross the centre of the carriageway. Parish Clerk had been advised that removal would take place probably towards the end of April. However, she had requested a meeting first with all parties concerned to discuss either shortening of the kerb or if removed, replacing with a bollard to stop unwanted parking/driving in front of Church Cottage. Mr. Cunliffe responded saying the situation after removal would be monitored to see if a bollard was necessary. Mr. & Mrs. Smart of Church Cottage are not happy with this situation. Parish Clerk has written again to Chris Cunliffe but no reply to date.

- WASTE

Parish Clerk raised the question of problems that could occur now Redditch waste facility was not

available to residents of Mappleborough Green/Studley. Concerns were heightened following the fly-tipping in Haye Lane. Cllr. McCarthy reported that W.C.C. are talking to Worcestershire C.C. re possible permits/charges for Warwickshire users. Parish Clerk reported that Studley Parish Council are also concerned and considering options. She was asked to post the telephone number for Fly-tipping on the Website and Notice Boards.

- PLAYGROUND

Parish Clerk had been in touch with Stratford District Council regarding who is responsible for the insurance and maintenance of the Play Area at Abbeyfields.

Mr. Dave Wright of S.D.C. confirmed this is covered by their insurance. He personally checks the area three times a year, plus one other annual visit. It is also checked weekly by their contractors. He said if we felt any of the equipment needed replacing (he said it was looking a bit tired) or if there was a problem, then they would budget for this. The Chairman asked the Parish Clerk to speak to Cllr. Regan regarding this.

- CILCA COURSE

The Parish Clerk had emailed the Councillors giving details of this course run by WALC. It is the Certificate in Local Council Administration. She is interested in taking this and feels it would benefit her and the Parish Council in more efficient running. It was agreed by all present that if she felt it a good thing and was prepared to do it, to go ahead. She suggested that money from Awards For All grant could fund this. She would contact WALC further on this and report.

- SPEEDAWARE

Parish Clerk had been chasing regarding the fixed sign but received an email on 13th February saying there had been problems and it would possibly be a further two months. She was following this up. Cllr. O'Neill Thomas raised the subject again of speed limits on Pratts Lane and Haye Lane. Cllr. McCarthy would look into this again.

9. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr. Helen McCarthy handed out a written report.

Cllr. Topham was not present.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter received from the Audit Commission advising that Clement Keys had been appointed at External Auditors to Mappleborough Green Parish Council.
- Letter received from PostWatch – support for campaign against closures of rural Post Offices
- ‘Parish Bap’ produced by Local Biodiversity Action Plan Steering Group 2007
- ‘IN2Sport’ magazine from S.D.C. – Chairman and Cllr. Regan had copies, copy to go the school.

11. CIRCULATION

12. DELEGATES REPORTS

Parish Clerk had attended a Free Seminar at Warwick on 20th February organised by WALC discussing Local Councils and Local Government White Paper. She would produce a report for the next meeting.

13. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

The Chairman said as the next meeting would be preceded by the A.G.M. thought should be given to its contents.

The Councillors present said that it was in order for the Parish Clerk to email Agendas rather than personally deliver them as long as the Councillors confirmed receipt to the Clerk. The Agenda appeared on the Website and Notice Boards.

14. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAID/FOR PAYMENT

The Parish Clerk distributed a Balance Sheet to date and the following cheques were presented for signing:

Cheque 100128	Amin. Exps. March	£81.15
Cheque 100129	Staples / Flash Drive	£36.96
Cheque 100130	Parish Clerk – March	£351.23

She would produce a spreadsheet at the next meeting.

15. CHAIRMANS BUSINESS

The Chairman reported that he had been accepted to attend the Royal Garden Party on 10th July – all present congratulated him.

16. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING/A.G.M.

The next Meeting will be Monday, 4th June at the Village Hall. This would be preceded by the Annual General Meeting at 8.15pm.

- Meeting closed at 9.40pm -