

MINUTES OF THE 35th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
MAPPLEBOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 3rd AUGUST 2009
at 8.15pm at THE VILLAGE HALL

1. THE CHAIRMAN OPENED THE MEETING AT 8.15pm
2. PRESENT - Cllrs. M. Green, J. Fitzhenry, Nor O'Neill Thomas, A. Crichton
3. APOLOGIES – Cllr. Topham
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – none
5. PUBLIC FORUM – No members of the Public wished to speak
6. THE MINUTES OF THE 34th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 3rd August 2009 were accepted as a true record and signed.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION – Matters arising from the last Parish Council Meeting
- SPEED/SIGNAGE

The Parish Clerk reported that work at Gorcott Hill had been completed. The Parish Councillors agreed it seemed to be having an effect although some concern was expressed regarding the positioning of the 'speed warning sign' as it could distract from awareness of vehicles exiting from Ankcorn House.

The Parish Clerk gave dates for the next visits of SpeedAware at the Henley Road (30th July and 22nd September) and advised that the schedule can be found on W.C.C. website. No further dates had been scheduled as only advised two months in advance.

A meeting took place with Cllr. Crichton, the Parish Clerk and Richard Elbourne of W.C.C. (joined later by Cllr. O'Neill Thomas) at the Village Hall to discuss the Speed Review in the Village. The need for a check was pinpointed for Haye Lane and Pratts Lane and also to look at Abbeyfields Drive. When the results are through, Mr. Elbourne would contact the Parish Clerk and probably attend the next Parish Council Meeting in October. He would be considering bringing a 30mph limit on the two lanes and also possibly moving the 40mph back up the Henley Road nearer to the Village sign.

- DUAL FLASHING LIGHTS

Richard Elbourne is now responsible for this project. The Parish Clerk had chased him on this matter and he reported that this work is booked and arrangements being made with the Lighting Team to install on the Henley Road and Birmingham Road. Work should take place before the Speed Review results. The Parish Councillors present hoped this would help cut speed on the Henley Road.

- LIGHT REPAIR AT VILLAGE HALL

Cllr. Green abstained from discussion. The Parish Clerk had arranged insurance cover on the light. She had been awaiting an invoice from the Village Hall Committee for the cost of repair to the light by G.S. Adams which was carried out with other

electrical work at the Hall. The Village Hall Treasurer emailed and asked that the email be taken as a Request for Payment. Agreement to pay the cost (£187.45) was made at the Parish Council Meeting on 6th April. Cllrs. Fitzhenry, O'Neill Thomas and Crichton confirmed that the email could be accepted. The Parish Clerk suggested making an annual payment in line with W.C.C. charge for their annual check, when next due.

- GRASS CUTTING

The Parish Clerk advised that there was a new contact at W.C.C. responsible for Highways and she had emailed him regarding the repairs to the Dog Island edge. She raised the question of the poor cutting standards and had contacted Robert Weeks (following an email draft letter to Parish Councillors). He replied that an approach be made to the Community Forum where representatives of W.C.C. and S.D.C. would be present. This she would do on 13th August. She reported poor cutting around the troughs on the Henley Road and by the Dog Island and asked the Parish Councillor if Dave Bennett could be asked to include these in his cuts. He had already trimmed the one by the Dog Island free of charge. The crossing points around the island also have tall weeds and she asked if these could be cleared by Mr. Bennett. The Parish Councillors present all agreed to have the cutting done. Cllr. Green, however, said that Mr. Bennett was probably not covered to use pesticides on weeds. Parish Clerk to check.

- NOTICE BOARD REPAIR

The Parish Clerk had received no response to requests from the original supplier of the Notice Board at Abbeyfields Drive for a replacement door. She had contacted Dot Mitchell, at Studley Parish Council, who gave her the name of the person they use. The Parish Clerk was arranging to meet this man and the Parish Councillors present agreed that she should go ahead with the repair to a maximum of £50/£60.00.

- CONTACT SHEET

The Parish Clerk circulated a copy of the proposed updated sheet. Cllr. O'Neill Thomas asked for her email to be altered. Cllr. Green advised that the Church website is now up and running and should be included on the sheet. The sheet was approved by all Parish Councillors present. The Parish Clerk would finalise the details to include new 'useful' numbers received from S.D.C. and would email the Parish Councillors prior to printing. Distribution would be as before – by hand.

- PURCHASES

The Parish Clerk said no projects were in the pipeline so far despite putting notices on the Websites and Notice Boards for suggestions from Residents. The Parish Councillors said the problem is there is no 'centre' to the Village. The Village Hall is the obvious one. Various ideas were raised –

- contribution to the Village Hall to clear the land at the rear for Village use for Residents to hold 'events' (Cllr. Green abstained from this part of the discussion)
- something in the Village to mark 2012 Olympics
- benches

Parish Councillors would give more thought to ideas.

Signed

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- DOG FOULING SIGNS

The Parish Clerk had met Sophie Peacock the Dog Warden for S.D.C. and obtained self-adhesive signs which she had put in various places around the Village. Metal signs are available for putting on approaches to Public Footpaths. These are £5.00 each and would be installed by Sophie. Cllr. Green suggested one be put at the footpath by The Boot Inn. The other Parish Councillors agreed and Parish Clerk would arrange.

- EMERGENCY PLAN

The Parish Clerk had emailed copies of the proposed updated Plan with the new layout supplied by W.C.C. She asked if Parish Councillors could give her their mobile numbers (not for publication) just for the Parish Council to have if needed. The Emergency Plan suggested having walkie-talkies for the Emergency Co-ordinators (Parish Clerk and Cllr. Green). This was agreed by all Parish Councillors present. Cllr. Green asked that she check the range and price and report back. Other items were also suggested for inclusion in the Emergency Box which is under the sink in the Village Hall Kitchen – it currently contains a small supply of emergency blankets and dayglo tabards. Discussion took place regarding the size format of the Plan and it was agreed to have A4 copies as they would be clearer. Cllr. Crichton suggested having details of any First Aider (qualified) within the Village – the Parish Clerk would put an appeal on the Website.

- ADVERTISING ON THE WEBSITE

Ian Geddes who alters the Website for the Parish Council, had approached the Parish Clerk regarding putting details on the Website of a Literary Competition to encourage people to use writing skills. Studley Parish Council were doing this for which they received £5.00 per month. The question was raised was this a profit making organisation running the competition. The Parish Clerk would check before any decision be made. It was felt this could lead to other advertising requests.

- NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

In updating the Contact Sheet, the Parish Clerk had found that the Neighbourhood Watch was now down to about 2/3 names and as such she would leave off the sheet as not all of the Village was not covered. It was felt that encouragement was needed for new members. Cllrs. Crichton and O'Neill Thomas expressed their willingness to be involved as did Ann Bicknell (member of the Public at the Meeting). The Parish Clerk advised that prior to the commencement of the Community Forum (next one being 13th August) there is always a Police Surgery. She suggested that attendance at this be worthwhile to discuss the Neighbourhood Watch - she would go on behalf of the Parish Council. Ann Bicknell advised that she would also attend. Existing members of the Neighbourhood Watch need to be kept informed.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Clerk had obtained a copy of the Local Plan Review for reference. Cllr. Crichton took this to refer to. Certain 'policies' within it had expired and a list had been received to file with it.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS continued

The Parish Clerk distributed a list of Planning Application Notices/Decisions received since the last Meeting (Appendix 1). She had received an email advising that decisions would now be sent electronically although she had still be receiving hard copies.

9. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS – None received

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Acknowledgements of donations received from the Church and Studley Cricket Club had been received. The Cricket Club advised that an Abbeyfields Resident had promised a donation and therefore the new boundary netting had been ordered.

An email had been sent to Cllr. Green and Parish Clerk from Mr. Graham Masefield advising that he is developing a News Email list for items of possible interest within the Village. This would give details of weddings, births, deaths etc. which may be of interest to Residents. The Parish Clerk acknowledge this but stressed that she is always asking for anything Residents want including on the Website but with no response. Cllr. Green had copied Mr. Masefield's email to some of his contacts. Cllr. Crichton suggested the Parish Clerk contact Mr. Masefield to suggest he be careful publicising/obtaining peoples details – permission would be required.

Correspondence was received from the British Youth Council regarding a 'Local Councillor Shadowing Programme'. This gives the opportunity for young people (13-19) to be involved in Local Government. None of the Parish Councillors expressed a wish to take part.

11. FOR CIRCULATION

The Parish Clerk distributed an up-to-date list of Parish Council contacts. Cllr. O'Neill Thomas said she had no objection now to her address being included.

A Consultation Document/Questionnaire had been received from S.D.C. on the Local Development Framework Core Strategy re Housing Growth. The Parish Clerk distributed copies for consideration and completion.

W.C.C. Local Transport Plan 3 / Questionnaire had been received and because of the shortness of time for response, the Parish Councillors asked Cllr. Fitzhenry to complete and respond on behalf of the Parish Council. She would email the completed form to the Parish Councillors/Clerk.

The latest issue of 'Parish Talk' had been received and emailed to the Parish Councillors. The Clerk pointed out various items of interest including contact numbers for reporting problems – these she would include in the new Contact Sheet and also put on the Website and Notice Boards. There was also information from the NHS on 'Swine Flu' – this would also put on the Website/Notice Boards.

Notice had been received from Bromsgrove District Council regarding adoption of the Development Plan for Longbridge.

Signed

12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAID/ FOR PAYMENT – FINANCE
The Parish Clerk distributed a list of payments made since the last Parish Council Meeting and cheques due for signing (Appendix 2) She also raised a cheque for £187.45 for the Village Hall light repair. The cheques were approved and signed.

Bank Statement Balance Sheet (nos. 56-59) was also distributed showing a balance of £14,653.03.

The Parish Clerk suggested that a Review of the Financial Procedures and Fixed Asset Values be put on the Agenda for the next meeting, This was agreed by all Parish Councillors present.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
The next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Monday, 5th October at 8.15pm at The Village Hall.

- The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.45pm -

Signed

APPENDIX 1.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS NOTICES RECEIVED/
NOTICE OF APPLICATION DECISIONS
SINCE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 18th MAY 2009

NOTICES FROM PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- No. 09/00643/FUL Les Topham Garden Centre – Application to go to the Planning Committee Meeting on 10th June, 2009.
- No. 09/00489/FUL Dr. and Mrs. Crisp – Application withdrawn
- No, 08/02118/LDE M. Crisp – Appeal withdrawn.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

- No. 09/00905/FUL Mr. S. Coley, Hill Crest Farm, Pratts Lane, Mappleborough Green
Proposed: Change of use of existing Coach House and Stables to Office use.

Comments from Parish Council – Opposed.

Notice from Planning Department 22.6.09. – Application to go to the Planning Committee Meeting on 1st July 2009.

Granted with conditions – 1.7.09.

- No. 09/01080/FUL Mr. Roger Dior, Jalna, Pratts Lane, Mappleborough Green
Proposed: Two storey rear extension with 2 no. balconies.

Comments from Parish Council – No Representation.

- No. 09/01221/FUL Mr. Nigel Pitt, The Forge, Birmingham Road, Mappleborough Green
Dated 1.7.09. Proposed: Change of use of former hire shop to motorcycle MOT's and repair centre.

Comments from Parish Council – No objections. 1 comment that noise levels are kept low and within normal business hours only. Site is used only for purposes applied for.

- No. 09/01025/FUL Mrs. Alison Foxon, Gorcott Hall, Gorcott Hill, Beoley
Dated 2.7.09. Proposed: Change of use of existing buildings from a single residence to a mixed use of single residence and venue for weddings, events and dinner parties.

Comments from Parish Council – No representations.

DECISIONS RECEIVED

- No. 09/00738/FUL Ms. Debbie Morris re Land South of Haye Lane, Mappleborough Green
Dated 3/6/09/ **Granted with conditions**

- No. 09/00643/FUL Les Topham Garden Centre, Birmingham Road, Mappleborough Green
Dated 12.6.09. **Granted with conditions**

APPENDIX 2.

PAYMENTS MADE SINCE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 18th MAY 2009

Cheque No.	Description	Amount	Date Paid
100297	Donation – Studley Cricket Club (new nets)	£200.00	28.5.09.
100298	Parish Clerk – Wages May + Broadband less PAYE	£365.78	29.5.09.
100299	D.J. Bennett – Landscaping May	£115.00	29.5.09.
100300	Allianz Ins. – extra cover for lighting	£58.27	3.6.09.
100301	2GeeDesign – Website updates April/May	£49.50	3.6.09.
100302	BRT – Sign for Notice Board	£86.25	29.6.09.
100303	Vince Ellicott – Internal Audit	£70.00	29.6.09.
100304	Parish Clerk - Stationery (June) /Mileage (May)	£59.20	29.6.09.
100305	Parish Clerk – Wages + Broadband June less PAYE	£297.98	29.6.09.
100306	PAYE April/May/June	£256.47	29.6.09.
100307	Cancelled		
100308	Computers At Home – repair to Laptop	£65.00	17.7.09.
100309	D.J. Bennett – Landscaping June	£130.00	17.7.09.

CHEQUES FOR APPROVAL AND SIGNING

100310	D.J. Bennett – Landscaping July	£115.00	3.8.09.
100311	2Gee Design – Websites updates June/July	£39.00	3.8.09.
100312	Admin. Expenses July	£26.97	3.8.09.
100313	Parish Clerk – mileage costs Planning Mtg.	£12.00	3.8.09.
100314	Parish Clerk – Wages July + Broadband less PAYE	£381.18	3.8.09.

Signed